



Take An Iron-Clad Vow To Exterminate Terrorists, Their Networks: LG to Army Officers

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday emphasised the collective resolve to eliminate terrorism and dismantle terror networks that pose a threat to national security and development.

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"I **congratulate** and thank the outstanding officers of the three services for keeping all citizens safe and **safeguarding** the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the Country. We must vow to eliminate every terrorist and terrorist organization that **threatens** our **safety, security** and prosperity," the **Lieutenant Governor** said.

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Interacting with officers attending the Higher Command Course-54 at the Army War College, Mhow, LG Sinha addressed them at Srinagar's Raj Bhawan. The event was attended by senior officers of the armed forces, including



Lt General Harjeet Singh Sahi, Commandant of the Army War College, faculty members, and top security officials.

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our safety, security and prosperity," the Lieutenant Governor said. LG Sinha addressed the officers and

faculty members of Army War College at Raj Bhawan and discussed

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Banks Mull Aid For Pahalgam Attack-Hit Businesses

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a major step towards economic recovery, the Union Territory Level Bankers Committee (UTLBC) is mulling a package for revival of businesses affected by Pahalgam terror attack and Indo-Pak conflict during April and May this year.

The UTLBC- the apex level forum of bankers / financial institutions operating in J&K- passed resolutions during its 16th meeting held on June 21 for revival/ rehabilitation of the affected businesses.

According to record note of the UTLBC meeting, the committee passed a resolution that J&K government shall declare the incidents of Pahalgam terror attack and Indo-Pak conflict as disturbances across UT of Jammu & Kashmir and issue a notification in this regard.

It also passed a resolution that rehabilitation plan for revival of businesses affected due to the terror incident and

conflict thereon, to be invoked under chapter VII (RIOTS AND DISTURBANCES) of RBI Master Direction FIDD.CO. FSD.BC No.9/05.10.001/2018-19 dated October 17, 2018.



The UTLBC further resolved to form a committee, comprising members from three major banks, for finalizing the parameters of the proposed rehabilitation/ revival plan.

As per minutes of the meeting, the committee was informed about the

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Omar Pays Tribute To Mahatma Gandhi At Sabarmati Ashram

FE NEWS NETWORK

AHMEDABAD: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at the Sabarmati Ashram, and said his teachings ring true even today.

Abdullah placed a khadi garland on the statue of Mahatma Gandhi and tried



operating a 'charkha' or spinning wheel. "My visit to Ahmedabad is now complete. I feel both humbled

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Indo-Pak Tensions Escalate Post Pahalgam Attack: Centre

FE NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: The Government of India has informed the Lok Sabha that following the April-May 2025 military clashes with



Pakistan, relations between the two countries remain strained.

In response to the 22 April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack, carried out by Pakistani terrorists, India launched "Operation Sindoor," targeting terror infrastructure in Pakistan

and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The information was provided in a written reply by Minister of State for External Affairs, Kirti Vardhan Singh, to a question raised in the Lok Sabha. The response detailed a series of diplomatic and military measures taken by India following the attack that resulted in multiple civilian casualties in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to the ministry, India undertook decisive diplomatic initiatives following the incident and launched a targeted military operation named Operation Sindoor. The operation focused on dismantling terror launchpads and related infrastructure across the Line of Control.

On 10 May 2025, the Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of Pakistan contacted his Indian counterpart requesting an end to firing and cross-border

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Rajnath Singh praises MoD's back-end support for Operation Sindoor's success

FE NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday emphasised the importance of civil-military synergy in safeguarding national interests, highlighting the exceptional back-end support provided by different departments of Ministry of Defence (MoD) to the Armed Forces as key to Operation Sindoor's success, said a statement from Ministry of Defence.

He was addressing the 84th Armed Forces Headquarters (AFHQ) Civilian Services Day event at DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi on August 01, 2025.

Defence Minister asserted that a war is fought not just by the military, but the entire country, and in today's rapidly changing security sce-

nario, there is a need to move ahead with dynamism and innovative spirit while making constant improvements according to the evolving needs. "We cannot leave scope



for even the slightest negligence or mistake," he added.

Emphasising that a robust administrative system is integral for a strong military power, Shri Rajnath Singh commended the AFHQ Civilian Services for playing an important role in strengthening

the country's security system during war as well as peace-time.

"AFHQ Services acts as an institutional memory for the Ministry

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"Emerging technologies, new challenges and changing global scenario indicate that training should not be just a formal process, but a continuous **cycle of development**. Skill upgradation, ethical orientation and **behavioural excellence** need to be added as integral parts of training," he said.

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of Defence (MoD). It provides consistency, domain expertise and uniformity in the administration, while playing a key role in

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MBBS seats increased in J&K, Ladakh gets first Medical College: Govt



SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) has released state-wise data on MBBS seats for the academic year 2024-25, revealing a significant boost in

medical education capacity in Jammu & Kashmir and the long-awaited inclusion of Ladakh.

According to the data, Jammu & Kashmir has seen its MBBS seat capacity increase from 1,135 in 2020-21 to 1,385 in 2024-25, adding 250 new seats over five years.

In a significant development, the Union Territory of Ladakh, which had no medical college until now, has been allotted 100 MBBS seats for the first time.

The region had long demanded

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2nd Chinara book fest to start at SKICC today

■ Multilingualism, Culture And Youth Connect Key Focus

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The second edition of the Chinara Book Festival is all set to commence from today at SKICC Srinagar.



The event will bring together publishers, writers, students and cultural performers from across the country.

"This festival is much more than a literary gathering. It reflects the spirit of learning and cultural pride in Kashmir," said Dr. Amit Wanchoo, Chief Convener

of the festival as per the details collected.

He said that the book festival will unite all writers, readers and thinkers.

Director Information, Nitish Rajora during the Press Conference with regard

he said.

He added that the festival will feature a variety of sessions, including book discussions and literary talks. "This year, we are highlighting the diverse languages of Jammu and Kashmir, such as Dogri,

Director Information, Nitish Rajora during the Press Conference with regard fest said the Chinara Book Festival at SKICC will be held from August-2 to 10 and is open to all with free entry.

Kashmiri, Urdu, and others with a strong focus on books written in and about these languages," Rajora said.

"Cultural activities, along with participation from renowned writers,

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CS reviews readiness for the launch of 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Campaign

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a high-level meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo to review the preparedness for the nationwide 'Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2025', scheduled from 2nd to 15th August as part of the ongoing Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Culture; Commissioner Secretary, GAD; Administrative Secretaries; Senior Police functionaries and several Heads of Departments.

The Chief Secretary emphasized the need to make this campaign a mass movement, urging departments to ensure widespread participation across urban and rural regions. He called for involving school children, youth, and citizens from all walks of life to strengthen the message of national pride, unity, and patriotic consciousness.

Following the remarkable success of the campaign over the last three

years, this year's edition aims to deepen its impact through community-led, culturally enriched activities that will be held across panchay-



ats, urban wards, educational institutions, and key public spaces throughout J&K.

During this meeting the Principal Secretary, Culture, Brij Mohan Sharma revealed that the 'Har Ghar Tiranga 2025' campaign will be carried out in three distinct phases between 2nd and 15th August, ensuring broad-based public participation across the UT.

The initial phase scheduled from 2nd-8th of August aims

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3.8 lakh cases pending in J&K, Ladakh courts: Govt data

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh together have over 3.8 lakh pending cases across various courts, according to the latest government data presented in the Parliament.

As per the Ministry of Law and Justice written reply to Lok Sabha on August 1, 2025, there are 3,35,513 cases pending in the district and subordinate courts of Jammu and Kashmir, while 1,417 cases are pending in the courts of Ladakh.

In Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, a total of 45,296 cases remain pending as of July 28, 2025.

In its response, the Government said, it is cognizant of the issue of case pendency at various levels of the judiciary. While the disposal of cases lies within the purview of the judiciary, the Government said it remains committed to strengthening the justice delivery system by providing necessary resources, infrastructural support and policy interventions.

To address delays and facilitate faster disposal of cases, the Government cited several initiatives under

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Kishtwar gears up for Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign-2025

DC reviews preparations, activity plan

KISHTWAR: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma chaired a review meeting to assess the preparedness for the upcoming Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2025, scheduled to be held from August 2, to August 15, 2025.

The campaign will be conducted in three phases from Aug 2 to August 8, August 9 to August 12 and Aug 13 to Aug 15.

At the outset, Additional Deputy Commissioner Pawan Kotwal shared detailed insights into the activities planned across the three phases. Events such as Rangoli Competitions, Tiranga Rakhi Making Workshops, and Tiranga Bike Rallies are scheduled to be held at different venues across the district.

In conjunction with the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, a week-long Swachhta (Cleanliness) Campaign will also be launched. Cleanliness drives will be

conducted across all Panchayats in the district, with a special mega cleanliness event scheduled at



the historic Chowgan Grounds, the meeting was told.

Emphasizing that it is a national campaign, the Deputy Commissioner directed all Heads of Departments (HODs) to ensure maximum public participation. He also stressed the importance of inclusive celebrations, urging everyone to participate in the campaign with unity and patriotic spirit. Furthermore, the DC directed the stakeholder departments to organize flag

hoisting ceremonies and illuminate government buildings, educational institutions, offices,

He urged everyone to celebrate the campaign with full fervor, enthusiasm and national spirit.

The Deputy Commissioner also took a detailed review of the arrangements related to essential services and commodities including Health, PHE, PDD, Sanitation and others to ensure the smooth conduct of the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign.

The concerned departments were instructed to maintain a high level of preparedness and coordination, ensuring that all necessary infrastructure and support systems are in place well in advance of the campaign's commencement.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal, ASP Kishtwar Pardeep Singh, POICDS Kishtwar Rishi Kumar Sharma, ACR Kishtwar Idrees Lone, SDMs besides other senior officers and concerned staff.

NEP Utsav 2025: Day- 4 celebrated as Cultural Day at GHS Meen Sarkar

SAMBA: The fourth day of NEP Utsav 2025, commemorating the 5th Anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, was celebrated as "Cultural Day" at Government High School Meen Sarkar.

The 5 day celebrations were inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma on July 29, 2025 in the presence of Chief Education Officer Kewal Krishan.

Chief Education Officer Kewal Krishan was the Chief Guest at the Cultural Day event, which was hosted by ZEO Purmandal Nizaam ud Din, ZEPO Rashid Alam and Cluster Head Principal GHSS Jakh Shiv Rachna. The presence

of PRI members, educationists and civil society members added prestige to the occasion.

School Students from across Zone Purmandal showcased the rich cultural diversity of India through traditional dance performances, representing different states and ethnic identities.

The young performers captivated the audience with their colorful attire, expressive dance moves and rhythmic grace.

In his address, the CEO emphasized the integration of cultural education with NEP 2020 and applauded the efforts of the organizing team. He highlighted the

significance of cultural exposure in shaping holistic, confident and value-oriented individuals as envisioned in the policy.

Cluster Head Shiv Rachna and ZEO Nizaam ud Din also addressed the gathering, encouraging students to actively participate in cultural events that promote unity in diversity and foster appreciation for traditional heritage. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by ZEPO Rashid Alam, followed by the presentation of certificates to all participants. The day left a lasting impression of pride and cultural unity, reinforcing the true spirit of NEP Utsav 2025.

Udhampur: 80 loan assistance cases approved under Mission YUVA scheme

UDHAMPUR: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai today chaired a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee for the Mission YUVA scheme to evaluate, screen and approve loan assistance applications for Nano and MSME and other enterprises. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Rajinder Singh; General Manager District Industry Centre Kishore Singh Katoch; Deputy Director

Employment Mohinder Sharma; Assistant Director Employment Priyanka Gupta, other concerned officers and representatives from the banking sector.

After a comprehensive scrutiny of the applications, the Committee approved 80 loan cases out of the total 84 applications put before the Panel.

While speaking at the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner underscored the

need to expedite the implementation process through effective coordination among all line departments. She directed the concerned officers to ensure 100 percent approval of eligible cases under the scheme.

DC emphasized the crucial role of Yuva Doots in information gathering of eligible beneficiaries and directed the stakeholder departments to enhance awareness by organizing special awareness camps.

Deputy Commissioner discusses arrangements for Har Ghar Tiranga campaign in Udhampur

UDHAMPUR: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai convened a meeting of officers

Katoch; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr. Umesh Shan; Chief Planning Officer Uttam Singh



of line departments to discuss the arrangements for effective implementation of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign in the district.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Rajinder Singh; Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh; PO Poshan Subash Dogra; GM DIC Kishore Singh

and other officers from line departments.

Speaking at the meeting, the DC informed that a series of activities, events and competitions will be organized under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to commemorate the spirit of independence and patriotism.

She emphasized that the Har Ghar Tiranga initiative aims to instill a deep sense of patriotism among citizens, foster respect for the National Flag and promote awareness about national symbols.

The DC directed all departments to complete necessary preparations well in advance to ensure the successful execution of the campaign. She added that the district administration has already put in place essential arrangements and urged all stakeholders to work in close coordination for the effective implementation of scheduled events.

She also stressed the importance of adhering to the Flag Code of India and following standard protocol to maintain the sanctity and honor of the National Flag.

Anil Gupta takes over as Director Agriculture Jammu

JAMMU: Anil Gupta assumed charge as the Director of Agriculture Jammu here at Krishi Bhawan Talab Tillo. His appointment is being widely welcomed and the stakeholders anticipate renewed growth and modernization in Jammu's agriculture sector under his leadership. With a wealth of experience and recognized expertise in the agriculture sector, Anil Gupta is poised to bring fresh energy and strategic direction to key initiatives aimed at promoting sustainability, diversification and enhanced farmer income.

A warm welcome was extended to Anil Gupta in a ceremonial programme organized at the Directorate of Agriculture. The event was attended by Joint Director Agriculture (Inputs) Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Joint Director (SLUB) Sohan Singh, sectoral heads, senior officers and staff members, who expressed their commitment to work collaboratively under his guidance to achieve new milestones in agricultural development.

Speaking on the occasion, Anil Gupta expressed gratitude for the warm welcome and shared his vision for inclusive and technology-driven agricultural development in the region. He emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts, timely implementation of government schemes and continuous engagement with farming communities to ensure that the benefits of policies and projects reach the grassroots level. He reiterated his commitment to improving service delivery, boosting productivity and supporting farmers through innovation and capacity building. He assured that all the service-related issues of all cadres will be resolved on priority.

Kathua admin rolls out Har Ghar Tiranga campaign plan

KATHUA: The District Administration Kathua rolled out a comprehensive plan for the upcoming Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, scheduled to be observed across the district from August 2 to August 15, 2025 as

phase from 13th to 15th August. Each phase will witness thematic and coordinated activities across urban and rural areas.

As part of the campaign, a range of patriotic activities have been planned including



part of the nationwide initiative.

In this regard, a preparatory review meeting was held in the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner Vishavjeet Singh. He elaborated on the phase-wise implementation of activities and underscored the collective role of all stakeholders in ensuring the campaign is celebrated in a befitting manner.

The campaign will be conducted in three phases. The first phase will run from 2nd to 7th August, the second phase from 8th to 12th August, and the final

decoration of houses, buildings, and offices; organisation of quiz competitions; rakhi-making and rakhi-tying events on 6th and 7th August; bike rallies; 'Selfie with Tiranga' initiative and ceremonial flag hoisting at various locations. The campaign will also feature illumination of government buildings and iconic landmarks in tricolour lighting.

The meeting deliberated on the campaign guidelines, which outline the responsibilities of various departments along with the active involvement of the general public.

The ADC emphasized

adherence to the Flag Code of India, urging all departments and educational institutions to uphold the dignity of the National Flag and observe proper protocols throughout the campaign duration.

Citizens have been encouraged to actively participate by hoisting the National Flag at their homes, offices and establishments. The administration also appealed to the public to purchase the Tricolour from local markets to support and promote the local economy.

Highlighting the spirit behind the initiative, the ADC said that Har Ghar Tiranga aims to instill a sense of patriotism among citizens and promote awareness about the National Flag.

The School Education Department and Degree Colleges were directed to conduct activities aligning with the campaign schedule. The ADC and ACP Kathua were also asked to organise similar programmes across the rural areas of the district.

The ADC stressed the importance of synergy and cooperation among departments, institutions and the public to make the campaign a grand success.

Among others, ACR Kathua Vishav Partap Singh, ACD Akhil Sadotra and other concerned officers were also present.

Mission YUVA: Awareness-cum-Registration programme held at Panchayat Rakh-Kathua

KATHUA: An awareness-cum-registration programme under Mission YUVA was conducted at Panchayat Ghar Rakh Lachhipur in Block and District Kathua in presence of the Joint Director, Employment, Jammu Paramjit Singh.

A large number of local youth attended the programme. They were briefed about the benefits of the Mission YUVA scheme and the features of the Mission YUVA Mobile App.

The participants were also made aware of the skill development courses being offered by the District Employment and Counselling Centre (DE&CC). They were encouraged to register for the Electrician and Solar Panel Technician courses designed to enhance employment opportunities for the youth.

Later, the Joint Director Employment Jammu chaired

a review meeting under Mission YUVA at DE&CC Kathua. The meeting was attended by Deputy Director DE&CC



Harvinder Singh and all SBDU members along with representatives from various departments including the designated Chartered Accountant. Several key directions were issued during the meeting to ensure the effective implementation of the Mission YUVA scheme.

They stakeholders were asked to ensure timely verification of applications at the SBDU level, setting

targets for preparation of Detailed Project Reports by the concerned departments and the Chartered Accountant. The representatives of banks were asked for early sanction and disbursement of loan cases. The DE&CC Kathua was asked to closely monitor and expedite the application verification process at the SBDU level.

The YUVA Doots were asked to proactively engage with the local youth and acquaint them with the process of establishing units under the Mission YUVA scheme. "This will help in avoiding any delays or difficulties during the loan sanctioning process by the banks," they were told.

The Joint Director called upon all stakeholders to work in coordination to achieve the objectives of Mission YUVA and to empower the youth of the district through sustainable livelihood opportunities.

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While speaking at the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner underscored the need to expedite the implementation process through effective coordination among all line departments. She directed the concerned officers to ensure 100 percent approval of eligible cases under the scheme.

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...Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan Awareness event on Drug De-Addiction organised at GMBHSS Samba

SAMBA: In a continued effort to combat substance abuse and promote a healthier youth community, an Awareness Programme on Drug De-Addiction was held today at Government Model Boys Higher Secondary School Samba under the banner of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan. The event was organised in collaboration with the District Administration and the school authorities. Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Addressing

the gathering, he highlighted the growing threat of drug addiction among the youth and urged students and educators alike to stay proactive in fostering awareness and resilience against this social evil.

The programme featured a series of impactful presentations by students, including powerful speeches, poetic recitations and a thought-provoking skit—all centered around the harmful consequences of drug abuse and the importance of choosing

a positive drug-free life.

The event saw the participation of the Assistant Commissioner Revenue, school faculty and a large number of students. The Principal of GMBHSS Samba expressed heartfelt gratitude to all dignitaries and contributors during the vote of thanks. The programme concluded on a strong note of collective commitment to a drug-free future, encouraging everyone present to become ambassadors of change within their communities.

Bhaderwah Admin conducts market inspection, issues public advisory amid heavy rainfall

BHADERWAH: Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhaderwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal today conducted a comprehensive inspection of local markets to ensure public safety, fair pricing, and hygiene standards. The continuous downpour has resulted in water-logging, road blockades and minor damages, particularly on the interior road, disrupting normal

life and causing concern among residents.

The ADC issued a public advisory urging the citizens to remain cautious and avoid movement in low-lying and flood-prone areas, especially near water bodies.

"The safety and well-being of the public remain our foremost priority. We are closely monitoring

the weather situation and market activities to ensure timely response and civic order," said the ADC during the inspection. To enforce traffic discipline and civic order, action was taken against violators. Individuals riding without helmets were fined, while vehicles parked in no-parking zones were removed. Several vehicles were also seized for

repeated violations. The inspection was carried out in the presence of Tehsildar, SDPO, Executive Officer Municipal Committee and representatives from various departments. The coordinated effort aimed to maintain essential services, uphold administrative vigilance, and address public concerns amidst the ongoing weather challenges.

CS Reviews Public Grievance Redressal Mechanism, Implementation Of PSGA



FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, chaired a meeting to assess the functioning and efficacy of the Department of Public Grievances (DoPG) in addressing the citizens' issues through the 'JK Samadhan' and CPGRAMS portals.

The meeting was attended by all the Administrative Secretaries and senior functionaries of the Department while Deputy Commissioners from across the Union Territory participated virtually.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary closely examined the upgrades underway on the JK Samadhan

portal aimed at making it more user-friendly and efficient in grievance resolution. A detailed district-wise and department-wise performance audit was undertaken to assess the grievance disposal timelines and effectiveness.

Emphasizing the importance of outreach, the Chief Secretary called for enhancing public participation in the system, noting that with around 21 lakh households in J&K, there exists a scope to take citizen registrations close to 20 lakh.

He directed the DoPG to make the portal's dashboard more insightful and analytical, capable of reflecting real-time grievance flow, response time at each administrative level and citizen feedback on grievance closure.

Administrative Secretaries and Deputy Commissioners were invited to offer suggestions for making the system more impactful and easier to navigate.

The Chief Secretary directed the DoPG to incorporate all such inputs into the next version of the portal before the subsequent review.

Secretary, DoPG, Niraj Kumar, informed the meeting that 13,73,252 citizens had registered on JK Samadhan, submitting 77,810 grievances, of which 62,370 had been resolved. On the CPGRAMS platform, he informed that out of the 9,022 grievances registered on this portal 5,628 stands resolved and 3,394 currently under process.

Later, chairing a separate meeting to review implementation of the J&K Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA), the Chief Secretary called for creation of a dedicated portal to monitor time-series data of service requests submitted under the Act.

He underlined that the portal should offer detailed insights into application processing times by the officers, enabling the administration to identify habitual delays and ensure greater accountability.

The Chief Secretary directed the General Administration Department (GAD) to establish a dedicated cell for the planning, development, and monitoring of this portal. He also emphasized that the new PSGA portal should be seamlessly integrated with the existing Single Window System (SWS) within a strict timeline of two months.

Commissioner Secretary, GAD, M. Raju, apprised the meeting of the current status of PSGA-covered services and proposed measures to strengthen its implementation.

He stressed the need for making service delivery outcome-driven and citizen-centric, in line with the objectives of the Act.

DC Kupwara reviews preparations for 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign 2025

FE News Network

KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan chaired a comprehensive meeting of officers to review the preparations for the upcoming 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign 2025 as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign 2025 is aimed to scale up public participation across all panchayats, urban wards, educational institutions and prominent locations. The celebrations shall commence from 2nd to 15th August in three phases.

In the first phase which shall be held from 2nd to 8th August, the activities will involve decorating of school walls, display of exhibitions; organizing Tiranga Rangoli competitions across schools, colleges, public places and other activities.

During the 2nd phase to be held from 9th to 12th August, a big event - Tiranga Mahotsav will be held with focus on local products, products of SHGs, sale of Tiranga color theme items, besides selfie-booths to be prominently displayed and facilitated with proper branding for encouraging selfie uploads on the harghartiranga website. Tiranga bike rally is also to be organized during the 2nd phase.

During the 3rd and last phase from 13th to 15th August, flag hoisting ceremonies and lighting of

government buildings, educational institutions, hotels, offices, bridges etc will be done.

During the meeting, DC emphasized the importance of widespread participation in the campaign. She directed all departments to ensure effective coordination for the distribution of flags, awareness generation, and mobilization at grassroots level.

She directed the officers to involve school



children, youth clubs, self-help groups, and civil society in awareness drives and flag-hoisting events across the district.

DC also reviewed logistics for procurement and distribution of national flags to households and public institutions, stressing transparency and efficiency in the process.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kupwara, Gulzar Ahmad; ACR Kupwara, SDM Lolab, ACD, CEO, Tehsildar, BDOs and other concerned.

Govt funds carding machine to revive Namdha Craft

Refurbished machine will reduce manual labour, meet local demand big time



FE News Network

SRINAGAR: In a significant step toward revival and promotion of the traditional craft of Kashmiri Namdha, the Government has approved funds for refurbishing and installation of a high-capacity Carding Machine at its UNDP wing.

This initiative falls under the larger objective of strengthening the infrastructure and sustainability of traditional handicrafts and handloom sectors in the Valley. Namdha, a Centuries-old craft involving felting and

embroidery of woollen fabric, has been witnessing a steady decline due to various constraints, notably the lack of wool processing facilities, high input costs, and time-consuming manual methods. The refurbishment of the Carding Machine under the Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) budgeting is expected to address these bottlenecks directly. In a press statement issued here today, Mirza Shahid Ali, Deputy Director, UNDP, stated that the availability of modernized carding facilities shall reduce

manual labour and processing time significantly, making the craft economically viable for artisans and increase production capacity, enabling them to meet the growing domestic and international demand. This step is also expected to attract younger artisans to the trade by improving working conditions and productivity. "This move aligns with the Government's broader vision to revive languishing crafts, with Namdha recognized as a flagship craft. We will ensure timely refurbishment, installation and operationalization of the machine while providing necessary training to the artisans to maximize utility," he added. This development is expected to breathe new life into the Namdha sector, preserve its rich legacy and improve the livelihoods of hundreds of artisans dependent on this culturally significant art form, which has a huge demand, both locally as well as in outside markets.

Sakeena Itoo reviews development scenario of Khan Sahib Constituency



FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review the developmental scenario of Khansahib Constituency of Budgam district.

The meeting was attended by MLA Khan Sahib, Saif-ud-din Bhat; Secretary School Education, Ram Niwas Sharma; Secretary Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah; Director School Education Kashmir, Director Health Services

Kashmir, Director Coordination New GMCs, Director Finance Health and Medical Education, Director Planning Health and Medical Education, CEO Budgam, CMO Budgam and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, the Minister took holistic assessment on the progress of various ongoing projects spanning healthcare, education and civic amenities.

The Minister emphasized the enhancing infrastructure at Primary Health Centres and local hospitals. She directed the health department to fast track ongoing proposals aimed at strengthening

the critical infrastructure like diagnostic facilities, dialysis centres as well as other facilities.

While reviewing education infrastructure in the Constituency, Sakeena Itoo directed the officers for renovating key schools and college facilities with main focus on developing basic amenities for the students. He also called for setting up ICT-ready classrooms and upgrading labs in various schools to meet current educational standards.

The Minister reiterated the Government's commitment to equitable and grassroots development across J&K. She reaffirmed that addressing gaps in critical sectors like healthcare and education and infrastructure remains priority of the Omar Abdullah led Government.

Sakeena Itoo further called for interdepartmental coordination to ensure seamless implementation of welfare and development schemes. He called for reestablishing monthly grievance forums at constituency level to ensure citizens grievances are addressed promptly.

DC Kulgam chairs DLIC meet, approves 53 cases under PMAY-U 2.0

FE News Network

KULGAM: A district level Implementation committee (DLIC) meet was held to review the implementation and progress under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)-U 2.0 in the urban areas of district Kulgam here in the meeting hall



of Mini-Secretariat Kulgam.

The meeting was chaired by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, who is also the chairman of the said committee.

At the outset, the chairman took a detailed appraisal of the implementation of PMAY-U 2.0 scheme in all the four Municipal Committees of the district.

With regard to the target achieved under Beneficiary Led Individual House Construction (BLIC), the meeting was informed that a total of 721 applications have been received for construction of houses under PMAY-U 2.0, out of which 173 cases have been approved in last DLIC and 53 new cases were approved in today's meeting. During the meeting, the DC stressed upon officers of ULB to identify the eligible cases under Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP) in Kulgam town as well. DC directed the concerned officers to ensure that the scheme guidelines are followed in letter and spirit so that all genuine eligible beneficiaries are covered under the PMAY-U 2.0 scheme in the urban areas of district. He impressed upon the field functionaries to follow the robust mechanism already put in place to ensure immediate verification and processing of cases at each stage of construction and consequent disbursement of payments to the verified beneficiaries under the scheme. Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Reyaz Ahmad Shah; Tehsildars of Kulgam, Waripora, Frisal and Devsar, EOs of MCS, DSEO, District Coordinator PMAY-U 2.0 and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

•Nasha Mukt J&K Abhiyan Awareness programme on drug abuse conducted at GGHSS Chanapora

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukt

J&K Abhiyan, Cultural Unit Srinagar of the Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), in collaboration with Government Girls Higher

Secondary School (GGHSS) Chanapora, held a stirring short play-based awareness programme focused on the menace of drug abuse.

The powerful performance by a local theatre group vividly portrayed the real-life consequences of substance addiction and left a deep



emotional impact on students and staff alike.

Students appreciated the meaningful content and conveyed their interest in witnessing more such thought-provoking events.

Sameena Wani, Principal of the institution, applauded the initiative and emphasized the importance of early intervention and awareness.

Burhan Hussain, Cultural Officer, DIPR, also addressed the gathering, highlighting the role of art in social reform.

The programme ended with a unified pledge against drug abuse, with a collective resolve to promote a healthy and addiction-free society.

DC Budgam visits historic Vasuki Mandir at Hushroo

Pays obeisance, reviews ongoing heritage upgradation works

Two-day annual Hawan conducted at the Temple after nearly 30 Years

FE News Network

BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat visited the ancient Vasuki Nag Temple in Hushroo village of Tehsil Chadoora, where he paid obeisance and inspected the ongoing developmental works being taken under the heritage conservation and religious infrastructure revival schemes.

The Vasuki Mandir, a revered site associated with the local Kashmiri Pandit community, holds deep religious and historical significance in the region. Known for its spiritual importance dating back centuries.

Today's visit by the DC coincided with the observance of a two-day annual Hawan, being conducted at the temple after nearly three decades, bringing back an atmosphere of devotion and community spirit.

The two-day annual Hawan, organised with the support of district administration, locals of area marks a spiritual homecoming and cultural continuity for many families. The large-scale ritual drew emotional responses from devotees and well-wishers alike.

DC inspected the developmental works and issued on-spot directions for early

completion of remaining tasks.

He called for coordination among executing agencies, and emphasized that quality and timelines must be strictly adhered to.

He said that revival of religious activity at



Vasuki Mandir after nearly 30 years reflects the resilience of our cultural identity and communal harmony. He further said, district administration remains committed towards facilitating the return of spiritual practices in an inclusive manner. He further added that the site is included in Budgam's heritage and spiritual tourism mapping and assured that all necessary civic infrastructure such as road connectivity, lighting, water supply,

and cleanliness will be strengthened around the temple premises.

DC lauded the formation of a local temple management committee comprising stakeholders from the community and local authorities to ensure long-term upkeep, cultural programming, and coordination with the administration. DC said, temple complex is undergoing renovation and upgradation under the J&K Government's heritage revival scheme, in coordination with the Department of Archives, Archaeology & Museums (Archies) and district administration. He further added that developmental works include structural strengthening, pathway construction, sanitation improvement, landscaping, fencing, and installation of public amenities to enhance accessibility and preserve the sanctity of the site.

The Hawan ceremony was attended by community elders, devotees, and local residents in a peaceful and spiritually uplifting atmosphere. The event symbolized unity, mutual respect, and revival of centuries-old traditions in the Kashmir Valley.

DC was accompanied by SDM Chadoora, officers from line departments and locals during his visit.

Rana applauds Mankote's grassroots transformation, national recognition under NITI AAYOG's ABP

FE News Network

POONCH: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, lauded the district administration Poonch and the local community including PRIs for their collective efforts in driving remarkable development in Block Mankote, which has earned national recognition under NITI Aayog's flagship Aspirational Block Programme (ABP).

Addressing a felicitation ceremony organized by the district administration at Dak Bungalow, Poonch, Rana celebrated the transformational achievements of Mankote Block, which, he said, has emerged as a leading example of successful grassroots governance and community-driven development.

The Minister underscored that Mankote's rise, from a remote, underserved block to one of the top-performing blocks in the country, epitomizes the power of focused implementation, responsive administration and local participation.

"Mankote's journey is not only a story of impressive rankings, it is a story of determination, of resilience and of belief. It reflects the commitment of our frontline workers, the synergy between the departments and the faith of the people that development



must be inclusive, equitable and far-reaching," the Minister said.

He highlighted that the transformation was significantly accelerated during the 90 days focused saturation campaign that aimed to achieve key development milestones across priority sectors such as health, nutrition, education, agriculture and financial inclusion.

The campaign was marked by high-level interdepartmental coordination and robust community engagement, resulting in measurable improvements on the ground.

Rana proudly noted that Mankote Block had secured the 9th rank among 500 Aspirational Blocks across the country and the top position

in the Jammu Division, a feat that can be described as a "milestone in Poonch's development trajectory."

However, the Minister cautioned against complacency, emphasizing that the recognition should serve as a springboard for deeper and more sustained development.

"This is not the end, it's the beginning of a renewed mission. Let this achievement inspire us to push further, reach higher and ensure that every household, especially in border and far-flung areas, feels the impact of governance," he said.

Reiterating the Omar Abdullah-led Government's unwavering commitment to rural transformation, Rana called for strengthening the institutional support for Self-Help Groups (SHGs), fostering convergence among line departments and investing in long-term sustainable livelihood models.

He affirmed that his ministries would provide full support in scaling up such transformative efforts to other underdeveloped blocks in the district.

Editorial

Broken Cold Chain

The recent seizure and subsequent destruction of 1,200 kilograms of decomposed meat in Srinagar, has exposed glaring deficiencies in Kashmir’s meat supply chain. This incident is not just a case of regulatory failure but a serious public health concern that demands urgent and systemic intervention. The primary reason for the meat’s decay was the lack of proper cold storage. In Kashmir’s fluctuating temperatures, maintaining the cold chain is non-negotiable. Yet, as officials noted, the seized consignment lacked proper packaging and labelling, indicating negligence at multiple levels. What is more alarming is that this substandard meat was still being transported for human consumption, raising questions about the accountability of suppliers, transporters, and vendors.

The Food Safety Department has rightly pointed out that the issue is not confined to Srinagar alone. Rural markets and small eateries across the Valley may also be at risk. The absence of stringent checks in these areas makes them vulnerable to the infiltration of spoiled meat, putting countless consumers in danger. If temperature abuse during transit and storage is a recurring issue, then the entire supply chain mechanism needs an overhaul. While some may speculate about an organized meat mafia, officials have termed this a “systemic failure” rather than a deliberate racket, for now. However, the fact that such large quantities of spoiled meat were being circulated suggests either complicity or extreme negligence in the supply chain. The claim by the godown owner that the meat was dumped without his knowledge is dubious at best and must be thoroughly investigated.

The department’s promise of intensified inspections is a step in the right direction, but reactive measures alone are insufficient. There must be regular audits of meat suppliers, transporters, and storage facilities as well as GPS-enabled refrigerated trucks and temperature logs to ensure compliance. Food safety is not a privilege but a fundamental right. Whether it’s a high-end restaurant or a roadside dhaba, the same hygiene standards must apply. The lure of cheap meat should not come at the cost of public health. The administration must act decisively, not just through seizures, but by fixing the broken system that allows such violations in the first place. This incident should serve as a wake-up call. Kashmir’s meat supply chain needs urgent reforms before another health crisis unfolds. The time for half-measures is over; only strict enforcement can ensure that what reaches our plates is safe and wholesome.

Chasing Shadows: The Real Meaning of a Fulfilling Life



VINOD CHANDRASHEKHAR DIXIT

It is rightly said that “Thinking: Ideas to succeed come from within” We all know that the world has always worshiped the rising sun. Nothing can defeat a man who is prepared to struggle on alone, with con-

balance, enviable mansions and cars, number of shares in all blue-chip companies, so many licenses and permits or your weight in Gold. But my friend you missed to mention the really most valuable possession. It is your mind, a serene and healthy mind. In reality it is the single most valuable possession any one can have. Rest everything is secondary. But very few people mind this aspect seriously. The mediocre majority consider outside possessions to be most valuable, with little regard for a sane and healthy mind. Remember, without serene and sane mind all your outside possessions

nancial independence. Everyone wants to make a difference in the world, to be significant, to have a positive impact on those around him or her. Everyone wants to do something wonderful with his or her life.

People who don’t realize its importance frequently feel it as a weight over their shoulders. But remember, the only reason we need the body is to carry the mind around. Such is the importance of your mind. Hence psychologists and philosophers concluded that the man is the mind. There is hue and cry over the indiscriminate use of all natural resources which are not going to last for

mountain, we can reach it only by climbing and not by sitting down idly and looking at the sighing for it. Not in enjoyment, non in luxury, not in wealth and power, not in rank and position, but in the performance of duty alone lies success. Life is not a bed of roses but a grim field of action.

No doubt, everybody may face defeating situation sometimes in life. It may require a little mental training to overcome them. If Mahatma Gandhi & Jawaharlal, Netaji and Bhagat Singh could shake the foundations of the British empire, it is because thy



fidence against odds, poverty, misfortune and hardships. For him, there are no “ifs” and “buts”. There are examples where people have started life as streets hawkers or sellers or penny novelties have risen to the position of multi-millionaires by dint of hard work and perseverance.

“Failure isn’t the end of life” but would further add that “Failures are the pillars of success”. The modern world is almost mad after the cult of success. Work is worship. One must take life as it comes. It is real, hard, solid work that takes a man to the peak of fame. Life is born out of pain and ends in pain. To attain glory no extraordinary merit or power is required except awareness and performance of duties. Many of character alone has vision, his perseverance alone is crowned with glory. Heaven helps those who help themselves by doing their duties. Obstacles melt before them making their path smooth.

If I ask what is that you consider to be your most valuable possession? This is a million dollar question. You will readily say one or the mother of the following. You may say an ever building purse, a fat bank

cars, shares, buildings and bank balances are of little avail. Being successful means the achievement of desired visions and planned goals. Furthermore, success can be a certain social status that describes a prosperous person that could also have gained fame for its favorable outcome.

Neither mother nor father nor any kind folk can do you so much service like a well-directed mind. So also one ill-directed mind can do you the greatest harm. Your mind is like a rich and great mine ever ready for exploitation. But no outsider can extract anything from the mine. You and you alone can take out how much you earnestly desire. It is a single possession that can’t be begged or borrowed, inherited, gifted, lent and none can steal it. Becoming successful is not about popular notions like personal productivity, habits, inspiration, emotional intelligence or positive thinking. It’s not about thinking like an entrepreneur or being a leader. For those who spend their lives doing what everyone else dreams or writes about, this is what being successful is really all about. Everyone wants to have a happy, healthy life, do meaningful work, and achieve fi-

ever. The single exception to it is mental energy for it is so much drawn. An average individual uses less than 10% of his mental energy.

Modern man is making strides in science and technology, art and architecture and exploration of outer space. But he is still a mediocre in the science of fulfillment, art of good living and in exploration of space within. The strides in the latter will give still greater and lasting rewards to the mankind. This elevates his position over and above creature. It will make him an artist rather than an artisan.

The mind over matter theory clearly states the greatness of mind over matter. By mastering the mind you can certainly master the matter. The real success in life comes to the man who masters his own mind. So pray the Almighty for serene and healthy mind, for success consciousness of super consciousness and not for cars or shares, building or bank balances, diamonds or gold.

“Success is achieved step-by-step.” Life is an uphill journey and at the top rests glory. If we want to reach the top of the

“Success is achieved step-by-step.” Life is an uphill journey and at the top rests glory. If we want to reach the top of the mountain, we can reach it only by climbing and not by sitting down idly and looking at the sighing for it. Not in enjoyment, non in luxury, not in wealth and power, not in rank and position, but in the performance of duty alone lies success. Life is not a bed of roses but a grim field of action.

were men of courage. If a person is very sincere in his work, he is bound to win the admiration as well as help of others. Man’s energies limited. If he goes on drifting from one aim to another, he is likely to achieve nothing. A rolling stone, they say, gathers no moss, in the same way man cannot have unity of purpose without clarity of vision. We should remember that fortune smiles only on those who strive hard.

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The Journey Of Cultural Identity



By Tamana Jeelani
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Kashmiri copperware is not only a local product — it is the voice of cultural awareness of the Valley. They are masterpieces in the real meaning of the term, which are at present facing the danger of encroachment by mass producers. Conservation of heritage is something that is most needed today, and Kashmiri copperware pots must be put in the limelight once again.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

As early as Persian-influenced Mughal-era art, Kashmiri copperware art has endured through the centuries. With time, they got interwoven into day-to-day and ceremonial use. From the exquisitely worked trami to serve the celebrated Wazwan to the small samovar to make tea from ancient days, all of them have their roots in deep within Kashmiri culture. Copperware also served as dowries and heirlooms for families, which were passed down from generation to generation. The symbolism of the copperware vessel extended beyond rituals, religious ceremonies, and social rituals, so that they became a part of the social life in Kashmir.

CRAFTSMANSHIP: THE SOUL OF COPPERWARE

The craft of making Kashmiri copperware is a painstakingly laborious process. Professional artisans, usually Khar community members, hand-set to engrave patterns in a method called naqashi. It is a traditional handicraft handed down from generation to generation, and a craftsman passes it on to the next generation, leaving behind an inscription on copper, and producing one genuine piece is as much as

the cost of days. Not only is it skill-driven in concept, but it also calls for profound awareness of artistic heritage. These skills are passed on by the older generation to craftsmen, usually through job-related apprenticeship from childhood.

THE THREAT OF MASS PRODUCTION

Today’s markets are full of mass-produced knives and forks, mainly from cities such as Moradabad. Although inexpensive, they are of poor quality as compared to the handmade variety. They are usually misstamped as Kashmiri pieces. Machine-stamped products can mimic antique designs but cannot mimic the finer details and human finishing of real Kashmiri copperware. Excess production of such products has also caused price inflation on real products, and most of the artisans have steered clear of adopting their traditional professions. Lower demand also lowers the number of trained artisans, and thus there is a likelihood of culture loss.

DISTINGUISHING THE GENUINE FROM THE SPURIOUS

Both genuine and imitation copperware is available, so it is a challenge to the buyers to find out the two. Genuine work is typically heavy, with uneven but attractive inscriptions. The flaws are a sign of the craftsman’s hand. Genuine Kashmiri work is reddish-gold in color as compared to machine work, which is light, glossy-colored. Buyers should purchase from known local sources and check for authenticity before purchasing. Labelling and consumer campaigns can help authenticate consumer choice and reduce the impact of fake copies.

OUR ROLE IN PRESERVATION

The preservation of Kashmiri copperware is not entirely the responsibility of the artisans or the merchants. We, as civilized consumers and citizens, need to be champions of original

work. Exhibitions, school visits to artisanal complexes, and workshop tourism can initiate awareness and rejuvenation. Colleges and schools can also group artisans to showcase their work, making students alert and even enthusiastic about traditional arts. Social media can also be



a further instrument of storytelling, where artisans can sell their products to individuals around the world.

HEALTH, HERITAGE, AND UTILITY

Copper has always been worth it for its health-giving quality. These vessels, far from just being ornamental objects, are actually used to hold water, help cook, and even induce well-being. Copper vessels are strongly advised in Ayurveda texts in order to restore dosha balance and facilitate digestion. Copper vessels are still an integral part of every Kashmiri home — right from conducting ceremonies and weddings to being included in daily meals. Water consumed from copper vessels is believed to increase immunity and purify the body — a custom which continues in most Kashmiri homes.

PROMOTION & PRESERVATION STRATEGIES

State patronage and NGO work also play a big role in keeping alive this very old craft. Financial grants, advertising support, and training courses for artisans all help to bring the public back into interest and infuse fresh energy into

the craft. Government Arts Emporium at Kashmir Haat in Srinagar regularly showcases authentic Kashmiri handicrafts — an open forum that can showcase copperware on an equal footing with renowned carpets and Pashmina.

Initiatives such as certified artisan cooperatives, niche market stalls, and certificates of authenticity can grant both protection and recognition to this vulnerable art. Additionally, incorporating weaving copper artisans into tourism operations — including handicraft village walking tours, live demos, or heritage museums — can raise awareness and revenue for the artisans.

EXPORT AND GLOBAL APPEAL

There is a growing global market for copperware-based handicraft, health-friendly, and eco-friendly products. Kashmiri copperware fulfills all three criteria. Export operations, participation in overseas exhibitions, and tie-ups with overseas décor companies would transform Kashmiri copperware into luxury handicrafts. Proper marketing and explanation of the cultural importance of these pots would turn them into collectibles and heritage items rather than just kitchen appliances.

LEARNING FROM OTHER CRAFTS

It is possible to learn from the manner in which other Indian crafts have been reenergized. Marketing Banarasi silk or Pashmina by Geo-

graphical Indication (GI) tagging and narrative campaigns has succeeded. It will be the same for Kashmiri copper craftsmen as well. Craft melas, movies, and artist-in-residence schemes will also engage new generations and save traditional wisdom.

THE WAY FORWARD
By Mr. Aubaid Akhoun – A Prominent Educator and Coaching Consultant from Kashmir

“A legacy is bequeathed to us from our ancestors. It is a rich and profound legacy of culture, tradition, and values, which is our identity. It enables us, and even inspires us to live, to help us navigate through the blueprints of life in the ever evolving and modern world of today.

With the modern world interacting more and more globally, especially now, the need to keep in touch with the previous dense roots is a need. One such is the art of copper ware Kashmir – A tradition which is not merely a craft, copper ware Kashmir is a source of pride and identity of our culture and society. Copper ware Kashmir is celebrated for its great beauty and artistry, but of such artistry is the work of Mir Syed Ali Hamadani, who brought copper art to Kashmir, and it has since become a part of our culture. Our great ancestors and the generations of people that not the artisan’s man but shape not only the bronze but the memories, and indeed the tradition. It is such a beautiful tradition that the survival is bound upon our choices. A profound overhaul is needed to embrace; imitative heritage is to give the support of the artisans. Educate for the younger thinkers and integrate heritage and artistry to redefine modernism.

It is a need of time to support awareness campaigns and avenues for sustainability that directly benefit our craftspeople. Through these efforts, we not only sustain a dying art form, but preserve the essence of our identity.”

The author is a student and can be reached at tamanajeelani85@gmail.com.

DC Budgam chairs preparatory meeting for Har Ghar Tiranga campaign-2025

FE NEWS NETWORK

Directs officers to ensure Janbhagidari and vibrant implementation of Har Ghar Tiranga campaign



BUDGAM: In view of the upcoming Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, 2025 under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, a preparatory meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, here in the conference hall of DC office, Budgam.

The meeting was aimed at reviewing preparedness, mobilizing inter-departmen-

tal coordination, and issuing detailed instructions for the smooth and impactful execution of the campaign across the district.

As per the National Implementation Committee (NIC) directives issued on July

Similarly, under Phase II which will commence from 9th and culminates on 12th August, Tiranga Mahotsav comprising Mela and Concert shall be held, besides display and sale of local Tiranga-themed products, organization of Tiranga Rallies, Cycle/Bike Yatraas, and lighting/decor of markets, Selfie booths to encourage mass participation via the national portal website, ie, www.harghartiranga.com

Also, Phase III from 13th-15th August will focus on Flag hoisting ceremonies at all government, institutional, and public places, mass upload of 'Selfies with Tiranga' by citizens etc.

On the occasion, DC emphasised that Har Ghar Tiranga is not merely a symbolic gesture, but a national movement that fosters unity, respect for the Tricolour, and a deep sense of patriotism among the citizens.

He directed all concerned departments and field functionaries to ensure active Janbhagidari through inclusive programs at every level.

Dr Bilal stressed for strict adherence to flag code and sensitise the public about its respectful use. He directed officers for facilitation of dedicated selfie booths and digital uploads to the national portal.

He nominated ADC Budgam as overall

nodal officer of the events in the district and also directed SDMs, ACD, and EOs of municipalities to look after the events in their respective jurisdictions.

DC further stated, "This is an opportunity for every household to become a proud participant in the nation-building narrative. We must make this campaign a mass movement in its true spirit."

Dr Bilal said that the district administration will ensure close monitoring of the campaign through designated nodal officers, while on-ground implementation will be regularly inspected in real time to ensure effective execution. Daily progress will be reviewed to ensure 100% coverage of activities and visibility in both urban and rural areas of the district, he stated.

On the occasion, SSP Budgam also apprised of the campaign framework and assured adequate security arrangements during Tiranga rallies, mega events, and public gatherings throughout the district.

The meeting was attended by SSP Budgam, Nikhil Borkar, ADC, GM DIC, ACR, ACD, Principals of all Government Degree Colleges of Budgam, Dy. CEO, DEPO, Principals of all Higher Secondary Schools, and ZEOs, District Youth Services and Sports Officer, District Information Officer Budgam, District Informatics Officer (NIC) Budgam, all BDOs, and representatives from the Culture department, NRLM, handicraft & handlooms and other concerned officials of the district.

B'la hosts felicitation ceremony under Sampoonnata Abhiyan to celebrate grassroots achievements

FE NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: District administration Baramulla organized the Sampoonnata Abhiyan Samaan

ulla, Minga Sherpa; Chief Planning Officer Baramulla, district and sectoral officers, field staff, frontline workers, who were felicitated for their contributions toward achiev-

poornata Abhiyan reflect the government's commitment to equitable development. Baramulla's performance is an encouraging example of what focused teamwork and



Samaroh at Dak Bungalow Baramulla to honor the outstanding achievements during the Sampoonnata Abhiyan, a landmark initiative held from July to September 2024.

The Sampoonnata Abhiyan focused on achieving 100% saturation of six key performance indicators in both Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks. Baramulla district successfully achieved this goal, earning a Gold Medal for its performance in both the Aspirational District Programme (ADP) and the Aspirational Block Programme (ABP). The event was attended by MLA Pattan, Riyaz Ahmad Bedar, Deputy Commissioner Baram-

ing 100% saturation of key indicators under the Sampoonnata Abhiyan.

During the function, a video message from the CEO of NITI Aayog was played, in which he appreciated the efforts of the district administration Baramulla for their exemplary commitment and results under the Sampoonnata Abhiyan. He stated that Baramulla has emerged as a leading district in the implementation of development programmes and serves as a model for other aspirational regions.

MLA Pattan, in his remarks, appreciated the work done by the administration and supporting staff. He said, "Programmes like Sam-

mission-driven governance can achieve."

Addressing the occasion, Deputy Commissioner acknowledged the efforts of the field staff, frontline workers, and officials for their coordinated work, which has led to tangible progress across various sectors. He added that the district administration remains committed to delivering inclusive development and effective public service delivery. The event provided an opportunity for departments to take stock of their performance under the Abhiyan and to continue efforts toward strengthening service delivery and improving developmental indicators across the district.

DC Kupwara reviews progress under PMAY-Urban 2.0

FE NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: To review progress on Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0) in the district, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan,



today chaired the District Level Committee meeting in the Mini Meeting Hall of DC office.

The meeting focused on scrutinizing applications received through the Unified Web Portal and assessing

implementation status.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, Fareed-ud-Din; ACR, Peerzada Muntaz Ahmad; Tehsildars of Kupwara, Handwara and Langate, CEOs of M.C Kupwara, Handwara, Langate along with other concerned officers.

During the review, DC examined the status of 538 applications received under the scheme, out of which 68 cases have been approved so far. She directed concerned officers to reach out to every pending beneficiary within the next two days, compiling detailed Excel reports documenting case-specific hurdles including reasons for non-responsive applicants within a week's time.

Further, she instructed officers to conduct rigorous field verification of pending cases while ensuring genuine beneficiaries aren't excluded due to procedural delays. She stressed inter-departmental coordination for swift case disposal, warning against any lapses in accountability during scrutiny of the remaining applications

DC Pulwama reviews preparedness for Har Ghar Tiranga campaign 2025

FE NEWS NETWORK

Ensure mass participation and festive environment across the district: DC to officers

PULWAMA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom chaired a comprehensive meeting at Circuit House Pulwama to review the action plan and arrangements for the upcoming Har Ghar Tiranga campaign 2025 and related activities.

At the outset, Additional Deputy Commissioner Pulwama presented a detailed PowerPoint presentation outlining the scheduled activities under the campaign. The chair was apprised that the plan spans from 2nd to 15th August divided into three phases and includes a wide range of initiatives such as wall paintings, flag hoist-



ing ceremonies, cultural programmes, Tiranga rallies, Tiranga Melas, and community engagement drives.

DC instructed all departments to ac-

tively coordinate for the smooth execution of planned activities and ensure wide public involvement. He stressed the need to create a festive and patriotic atmosphere

across the district through community mobilisation, inclusive participation, and fervent celebrations while adhering to flag code and other protocols.

Dr. Qayoom also directed the concerned departments to integrate activities such as Swachh Sujal Gaon pledges, community clean-up drives, cleanliness of WaSH assets, awareness programmes on sanitation and water conservation, culminating in flag hoisting ceremonies at key WaSH infrastructure sites including Amrit Sarovars and prominent public places.

Additionally, he directed that an adequate number of national flags be made available across the district by involving Self Help Groups (SHGs) in their production and distribution.

The meeting was attended by all district and sectoral officers, officers of Police and Paramilitary Forces and other stakeholders.

DC Kulgam felicitates champions of divisional level Kabaddi competition

FE NEWS NETWORK

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan felicitated the champion team of the divisional level Kabaddi competition held recently at Pulwama.

The tournament witnessed participation from all 10 districts across the Kashmir division, during which team Kulgam emerged victorious, lifting the championship title.

Upon their return, DC congratulated and felicitated all the players of the winning team, appreciating their remarkable performance and dedication.

He also appreciated the team Coach Sameer Sheikh, and Team Manager, Bashir Ahmad Palla, for their leadership and guidance.

Besides these, U/17 Girls base ball Team of Kulgam and their Coach Asif Ahmad were also felicitated for their outstanding achievement in the same divisional-level competition which was held days back at Ganderbal.

While concluding the felicitation ceremony, DC commended the efforts of the District Youth Services and Sports department, Kulgam, for nurturing young sporting talent and promoting physical fitness among the youth of the district.

Present on the occasion were ADC Kulgam, Viqar Ahmed Giri and other officers.



Kashmir's fruit growers secure early bookings as cold storage demand outpaces capacity

FE NEWS NETWORK

Seek more units; govt offers support for new projects

SRINAGAR: As the apple harvesting season nears in Kashmir, cold storage facilities are once again proving to be a lifeline for fruit growers who are securing early bookings to preserve their produce.

With a current cold storage capacity of around 4 lakh metric tonnes (MT) in the valley, growers and officials alike are calling for the expansion of storage infrastructure to meet growing demand.

Growers from various fruit-rich areas told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the existing units have helped them fetch better returns in the market, as storing apples for late-season sale significantly boosts prices.

They said there are about two months till the traditional apple season starts, but bookings have begun already as growers have benefited from cold storage units.

"Last year, I stored around 500 boxes of apples in a cold store and sold them in April. The rates were much higher than what I would have received during peak season," said Ghulam Rasool Wani, a grower from Shopian. "But many others couldn't get space due to limited capacity."

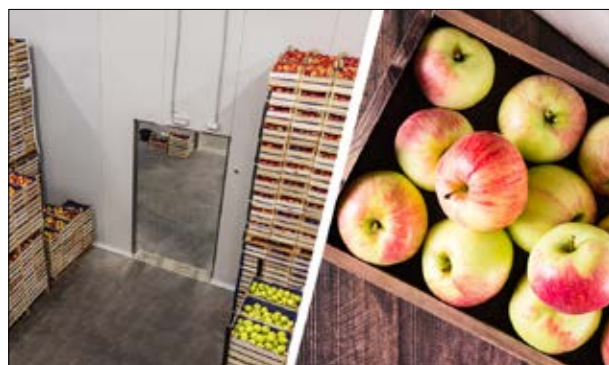
According to official data, there are around 85 cold storage units currently operating across Kashmir, mostly located in Pulwama, Shopian, Anantnag, and Srinagar districts. The combined capacity, however, is falling short of the valley's annual production, which crosses 20 lakh MT of apples.

"Every year, we receive far more booking requests than we can accommodate," said Fayaz Ahmad, manager of a leading cold storage unit in Lassipora. "This year, bookings started as early as July, with many units already partially booked."

Government officials admit the infrastructure

needs expansion to support Kashmir's horticulture economy. "Cold storage is vital for post-harvest management. We are encouraging private players and cooperatives to set up more units through subsidies and soft loans," said a senior official from the Horticulture Planning and Marketing Department.

Under the Mission for Integrated Development



of Horticulture (MIDH) and other schemes, the government is offering financial assistance of up to a 50% subsidy for setting up cold storage infrastructure, especially Controlled Atmosphere (CA) units.

"We are working to enhance cold storage capacity by another three lakh metric tonnes in the next few years to support growers and reduce post-harvest losses," the official added.

Growers have appreciated the government's support, but insist more needs to be done. "Without adequate storage, we're forced to sell apples at throwaway prices," said Bashir Ahmad Dar, an orchardist from Anantnag. "We urge the government to expedite the clearance process for new units and extend support to small growers forming cooperatives."

With apple production likely to be normal this year despite weather challenges, the demand for cold storage is only expected to rise.

Stakeholders believe that timely investment in this sector can significantly improve incomes and reduce distress sales, thereby strengthening the backbone of Kashmir's rural economy—(KNO)

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contemporary Geo-Political and Geo-Strategic Issues, besides Counter-Terrorism Strategy and whole-of-government approach to dismantle the terror ecosystem.

He also shared a range of key reforms and initiatives taken by the J&K UT administration and security apparatus in the past few years to ensure inclusive development, peace and prosperity.

Lt Gen Harjeet Singh Sahi, Commandant, Army War College, faculty members and senior officers of the Security Forces were present. (DIPR)

Banks Mull

financial stress caused to borrowers in tourism sector and in border areas due to Pahalgam attack.

“The House was apprised about the impact of the Pahalgam terror attack that took place on April 22, 2025 and Indo-Pak conflict thereon, on the economic pursuits and businesses across J&K UT that resulted in financial stress to all the sectors, especially the borrowers related to tourism sector and living in border area,” reads record note of the meeting.

The UTLCB was also informed that delegations of various trade associations/ bodies approached government authorities and J&K Bank management seeking rehabilitation and revival package for affected businesses. (KNO)

Omar Pays

& privileged to have been shown around the Sabarmati Ashram of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. His teachings ring true even today & point us in the direction we should take, but seldom do,” wrote Abdullah in a post on X.

In another post, he quoted Gandhi — “True democracy cannot be worked by twenty men sitting at the centre. It has to be worked from below by the people of every village”.

Sabarmati Ashram, also known as Gandhi Ashram, was established by Mahatma Gandhi in Ahmedabad in 1917.

Abdullah has been in Gujarat since Wednesday for a tourism event.

Earlier on Thursday, he visited the Statue of Unity and Sardar Sarovar Dam in Narmada district.

He also interacted with tour operators as part of his government’s exercise to boost tourism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had expressed happiness over Abdullah enjoying his visit to Gujarat and said his visit to the Statue of Unity will inspire fellow Indians to travel to different parts of the country.

In a post on X on Thursday, Modi said, “Kashmir to Kevadia! Good to see Shri Omar Abdullah Ji enjoying his run at the Sabarmati Riverfront and visiting the Statue of Unity. His visit to SoU gives an important message of unity and will inspire our fellow Indians to travel to different parts of India.” (PTI)

Rajnath Singh

policy continuity and establishing civil-military synergy. It is a strong pillar of a modern and integrated national defence system,” he added.

Raksha Mantri laid stress on capacity development, urging the AFHQ officials to assess and embrace the best practices being adopted by their counterparts in other Ministries and countries in the fields of training and capability enhancement.

“Emerging technologies, new challenges and changing global scenario indicate that training should not be just a formal process, but a continuous cycle of development. Skill upgradation, ethical orientation and behavioural excellence need to be added as integral parts of training,” he said.

Rajnath Singh added that training components must not be limited to technical proficiency, but also include value orientation, which can connect actions with national interests. This would make AFHQ a value-based institution along with an administrative structure, he said.

As part of the event, Raksha Mantri launched a redeveloped website of Office of Joint Secretary & Chief Administrative Officer (www.caomod.gov.in), which will provide all relevant information about the office to the employees and general public.

The employees would be able to get the latest orders and updates such as promotion, transfer, status of medical allowance, salary slips and Form-16 etc. Through the website, the employees can also apply for various training courses and workshops of Defence Headquarters Training Institute.

Rajnath Singh also released a book ‘Viksit Bharat@2047: Karmikon Ke Vichar’ and a magazine ‘Samvad’. The ‘Viksit Bharat@2047’ book comprises 40 articles written by employees of various ranks posted in Service Headquarters and Inter Service Organisations. The articles are on various topics related to Viksit Bharat such as digitisation, New Education Policy 2020, Artificial Intelligence, Aatmanirbharta in defence, Green Energy, and Poverty Alleviation. The 32nd issue of the ‘Samvad’ magazine contains travelogues, essays, articles, poems etc by the employees.

Raksha Mantri also presented awards to AFHQ personnel for their achievements in various fields such as sports, and some of the children of the employees who excelled in academics.

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan,

Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Secretary (Ex-servicemen Welfare) Dr Niten Chandra, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat and Financial Advisor (Defence Services) Dr Mayank Sharma and other senior officials of MoD were present on the occasion.

AFHQ Day is celebrated on 1st August in recognition of the role of civilian personnel functioning shoulder-to-shoulder with the Service personnel, primarily in the three Integrated Service Headquarters, HQ IDS and 24 Inter-Service Organisations of MoD. The purpose of observing AFHQ Day is to foster esprit de corps of the civilian employees of AFHQ cadres who play the role of a bridge between Service Headquarters and MoD. (ANI)

MBBS seats

a Medical College to address the shortage of doctors and improve healthcare infrastructure in the high-altitude Himalayan territory.

Officials say the increase in J&K’s seat count is the result of both the establishment of new medical colleges and the expansion of existing institutions under centrally sponsored schemes.

“This is a major step towards strengthening the healthcare system and addressing the doctor-patient ratio in both Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh,” a senior health official said.

In terms of total MBBS seats for the academic year 2024-25, Jammu and Kashmir ranks around 21st among all Indian states and Union Territories, with 1,385 seats.

This places it in the mid-tier range higher than smaller or north-eastern states like Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh and Meghalaya, but significantly behind leading states such as Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh—(KNO)

Indo-Pak

military action. The request was accepted the same day, resulting in a temporary cessation of direct military engagement along the border.

Despite the pause in active hostilities, India has maintained its policy position that terrorism and diplomacy cannot function simultaneously. The government reiterated that any future engagement with Pakistan depends on measurable and verifiable steps to curb terrorism.

Responding to a query on whether there has been a fundamental change in the relationship between the two countries post-conflict, the government stated that its long-term strategy is rooted in a firm approach against the sources of terrorism. “India has rejected any form of coercion or blackmail and has emphasized safeguarding national security.”

“As of now, Operation Sindoor continues. There has been no official confirmation of the possibility of resuming diplomatic dialogue with Pakistan in the near future. The government’s position remains that meaningful diplomatic engagement can only take place in an environment free from the threat of cross-border terrorism,” the reply reads.

The reply also clarified that all necessary steps would continue to be taken to protect Indian citizens and territory from external threats, with no compromise on the country’s security interests—(KNO)

CS reviews

at creating awareness through creative initiatives. It was revealed that as part of this phase educational institutions and public spaces will

be adorned with Tiranga-themed wall paintings, murals, and rangoli art. Exhibitions curated by the Ministry of Culture will be displayed in schools and government offices.

The second phase to be held between 9th–12th August will centre on mass mobilisation and celebration. Grand cultural festivals (Tiranga Mahotsavs) and melas will be organised, highlighting local arts, crafts, and products, especially those by Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Tricolour themes.

This phase will also witness bike and cycle rallies, youth parades, and community Tiranga Yatras aimed at enhancing public involvement. Markets and public areas will be decorated, and the distribution of National Flags will be facilitated primarily through SHGs.

The final phase to be celebrated between 13th–15th August will witness flag hoisting ceremonies, and illuminations of key government buildings, institutions, and public landmarks. Major flag hoisting events are scheduled in Srinagar and Jammu. Citizens will also be encouraged to participate in the popular ‘Selfie with Tiranga’ campaign, uploading their photos with the National Flag on the designated online portal.

About the salient features of this campaign, it was revealed that over 15 lakh National Flags are set to be distributed across the UT besides a dedicated digital portal will facilitate real-time monitoring and event reporting.

This year, the campaign highlights creative grassroots participation through art, music, traditional crafts, and cultural expression reinforcing the spirit of “Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.” In its true spirit. (DIPR)

3.8 lakh cases

Article 21 of the Constitution. These include the establishment of the National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms in August 2011, which focuses on reducing delays and enhancing accountability in judicial administration.

The Mission promotes structural changes, computerization, increased judge strength and re-engineering of court procedures.

Additionally, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Judicial Infrastructure, funds are being provided to States and UTs for the construction of court halls, residential quarters for judges, lawyers’ halls, toilet complexes and digital rooms.

As of June 30, 2025, a total of Rs 12,101.89 crore has been released under this scheme since its inception in 1993–94. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 in 2014 to 22,372—(KNO)

2nd Chinar

poets and scholars, will also be an integral part of the event,” he said.

He further mentioned that dedicated sessions for children will be organised to enhance their reading and writing skills in a fun and engaging way.

Notably, the nine-day festival is being organised by the National Book Trust (NBT), India is in collaboration with the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) and the District Administration Srinagar.

As per details, over 130 publishers and book-sellers from across India are participating in the fair. “From ancient scripts to modern publishing, we are creating spaces where heritage and innovation can go hand in hand,” said Prof. Milind Sudhakar Marathe, Chairman of NBT.

Yuvraj Malik, Director of the National Book Trust, said the festival aims to reach more readers, especially the youth. “After the success of the first edition, we have expanded the scope. With more participation and new ideas,

we hope to deepen the reading culture in J&K.”

Alongside book stalls, the festival features a national seminar on multilingual and Kashmiri literary traditions, including folk forms like songs, proverbs and Rajanama.

“Chinar Book Festival is a historic initiative that will give a new dimension to the promotion of book culture in J&K,” said Dr. Shams Iqbal, Director, NCPUL. “It fosters harmony among India’s many languages.”

Moreover, evenings at the festival are filled with cultural events including Kashmiri Chakri, Bhand Pather, Mushaira and theatre performances.

Students from institutions such as SKIMS Medical College, NIT Srinagar, Government Dental College and NIIFT are also participating. Also, prominent speakers are expected during the festival include Prof. Shakeel Romshoo, Prof. Neelofer Khan, Dr. Suresh Dutt, Mr. Waheed Jeevani and several others from the literary and academic community—(KNO)

1200 kgs of decomposed meat seized, destroyed in Srinagar outskirts

Seizure exposes chilling gaps in Kashmir’s cold chain, probe widens

SRINAGAR: Seizure of 1200 kilograms of decomposed meat and its destruction later at Zakura in Srinagar outskirts has exposed flaws in Kashmir’s meat supply cold chain with officials now widening their investigation beyond the city limits.

A top-ranking officer from the department overseeing the Kashmir region, while talking to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), revealed that while high-end restaurants were unlikely to have used such substandard meat, low-cost eateries and ‘informal vendors’ may have been the primary consumers of the contaminated stock. “We found the meat decomposed because it was not stored at the required cold chain temperatures. In this heat, meat left in unrefrigerated vehicles or ill-equipped storage units can easily spoil,” the officer said, citing the absence of proper packaging and labels on the

Revenue Department Identifies Link Road in Patlabagh under Tehsildar Pampore’s Supervision

Locals Begin Construction Work with Self-Raised Funds

PAMPORE: In a significant development aimed at improving connectivity in the Patlabagh area of Pampore, the Revenue Department—under the leadership of Tehsildar Pampore, Mr. Mohammad Asif—has successfully identified a link road. Responding proactively, local residents have taken the initiative into their own hands, pooling funds to begin construction work on the road.

The community’s efforts have drawn appreciation for BJP leader Mohammad Latief Bhat, whose continuous advocacy and engagement played a vital role in moving the project forward.

Locals also highlighted that 1.5 crore has already been deposited under the MGNREGA (NREGA) scheme for Patlabagh. Speaking on the matter, Latief Bhat emphasized that utilizing



a portion of these funds specifically for the development of the newly identified link road would be a highly effective use of resources. Grateful for the swift administrative

support, residents extended their thanks to both the Deputy Commissioner of Pulwama and Tehsildar Pampore for their timely intervention and dedication to local development.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE

(G&P) KASHMIR

GIST of e- Tender Notice No.25 of 2025

Dated:- 30/07/2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory, J&K, bids are invited (In Single Cover system) from the Registered Contractors/Firms/Bidders with J&K UT/Central Govt., CPWD for the following work:-

S.No.	Name of Work/Contract	Reserve Bid (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) @ 10 % (in Rs.)	Cost of Tender Documents in shape of Demand Draft (Non-Refundable) (In Rs.)	Validity of Contract
1	2	3	4	5	6
01.	Outsourcing of entry ticketing System of Ashmuqam Park Pahalgam	3,08,550.00	30,855.00	500/-	One (1) year from the date of award of contract

The bidding document(s) consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, BOQ (Bill of quantity) terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded through the website www.iktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Period of downloading of bidding document	30.07.2025 from 03:00 PM to 19.08.2025 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	30.07.2025 from 03:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	19.08.2025 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	22.08.2025 at 02:00 PM

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary)
Floriculture Department,
Kashmir.

DIPK-4670/25 Dt: 01-08-2025

DISTRICT POLICE

HQR’S ANANTNAG

Ct. Arshad ahmad Shah,
No. 1708/A, EXK196295
S/O Shareef-U-Din Shah
R/O Lalpora Lolab
P/S Lalpora
District Kupwara.

SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Whereas, you were earlier placed under suspension with simultaneous initiation of departmental enquiry for your involvement and arrest in case FIR No. 73/2023 U/S 8/21-29 NDPS Act of P/S Lalpora Kupwara, which has since been disposed off vide this office order No. 485/2025 dated 15/02/2025, wherein the penalty of forfeiture of three (03) annual increments was imposed upon you as a corrective measure. The said penalty was intended to act as a deterrent and reinforce the importance of maintaining the highest standards of discipline and integrity expected of a member of the police force.

Whereas, despite the aforesaid penalty and corrective opportunity, you were again arrested for your involvement in case FIR No. 04/2025 U/S 8/21/22/25/29 NDPS Act of P/S Bari Brahmana. Consequent upon your arrest, a departmental enquiry was initiated against you vide this office order No. 554/2025 dated 04/03/2025 and entrusted to DYSP Hqs. Anantnag as the Enquiry Officer.

Whereas, the Enquiry Officer, after meticulously examining the reply to the charge sheet submitted by you, evaluating the statements of Investigating Officers and witnesses and analyzing all facts and circumstances pertaining to the case, has concluded the departmental enquiry and submitted findings vide his office endstt. No. HQA/31/2025/8361 dated 26/07/2025 wherein you have been found guilty of sustained grave misconduct and have been recommended for removal from service under Article 311(2)(b) of the Constitution of India, read with Police Rules 336, 337 and 339, on the grounds of being unfit to serve in the disciplined police force.

Whereas, before a final decision is taken on the recommendations of the Enquiry Officer and in order to avoid any miscarriage of natural justice, you are hereby afforded one more opportunity, in light of Sub Rule (11)(2) of Rule 359 of the J&K Police Manual, to submit your defence/explanation as to why the recommendations made by the E.O should not be accepted and why the punishment of removal from service as recommended should not be inflicted upon you for your involvement in such heinous criminal case and grave service misconduct.

As such you are directed to submit your written defence within week’s time positively from the date of receipt of this notice or you may appear for personal hearing if you chose so, failing which it shall be presumed that you have nothing to submit in your defence and action under norms shall proceed based on the available records and the recommendations of the Enquiry Officer.

Sr. Superintendent Of Police
District Anantnag

No: Estt/E-02/50745-48
Dated: 31/07/2025
DIPK-4662/25 Dt: 01-08-2025

Rs 1 Lakh Crore Earmarked To Boost Private Sector: Dr Jitendra Singh

NEW DELHI: Reaffirming the Government's unwavering commitment to achieving self-reliance in emerging technologies, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh, reiterated that the 1 lakh crore fund will be dedicated to boost the private sector to drive India's sovereign technology ambitions.

Dr. Jitendra Singh made these remarks while addressing the ASSOCHAM Conference on "Sovereign Tech for India's Digital Transformation", held under the theme 'Bharat@100'.

The Government of India has launched the ambitious 1 lakh crore Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI) Scheme to transform private sector R&D, particularly in sunrise and strategic sectors. The scheme will provide long-term, low-interest loans and risk capital to support deep-tech, critical technologies, and transformative projects.

A dedicated Deep-Tech Fund of Funds will also be established to scale up private investment in innovation. The scheme will be anchored by the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) and implemented by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

To be set up as a Special Purpose Fund under

ANRF, the RDI Fund is expected to significantly boost India's innovation ecosystem, promote industry-led R&D, and advance the vision of Sovereign Technology Development.



The Science and Technology Minister highlighted the government's bold policy shift towards deeper collaboration with the private sector. Recalling the historic opening up of the Space and Nuclear sectors, once shrouded in secrecy, he noted how these reforms have catapulted India's space economy to \$8 billion, with projections to touch \$40 billion in the coming years.

"We appeal to the industry to come forward and harness the full spectrum of opportunities

opened up by the Government. India's technological footprint is expanding, and the world is watching," said Dr. Jitendra Singh.

Referring to India's rapid ascent as the world's 4th largest economy, Dr. Jitendra Singh asserted that the 3rd position is within reach, thanks to a decade of foundational reforms. He cited the 'Vaccine Maitri' success story, where India not only developed indigenous vaccines during the pandemic but also shared them globally, showcasing the strength of a ready and responsive industry ecosystem.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also underlined India's global visibility in advanced domains, citing the example of Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla participating in an international space mission—a testament to India being seen as a credible and equal technology partner on the world stage.

Speaking on Sovereign Technology, the Minister emphasized the urgent need to build indigenous data repositories rather than relying on foreign datasets which often lack the contextual understanding of Indian needs. He proudly shared the achievement of the Department of Biotechnology in setting up the Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC)—India's national

repository for genomic data, which includes over 10,000 whole-genome sequences from the Genome India project.

Dr. Jitendra Singh drew attention to the emerging startup revolution from India's heartland,

Dr. Jitendra Singh also underlined India's global visibility in advanced domains, citing the example of Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla participating in an international space mission—a testament to India being seen as a credible and equal technology partner on the world stage.

revealing that nearly 50% of Indian startups now hail from Tier-2 cities, with a significant number led by women entrepreneurs. This, he said, is a reflection of inclusive growth and democratization of technology. (PTI)

President Murmu Lauds IIT Dhanbad's Legacy at 45th Convocation

NEW DELHI: President of India Droupadi Murmu Friday attended the 45th convocation ceremony of the Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad lauding

ties of education and innovation are aligned with the needs of the people and aspirations of the citizens.

The President said that IIT-ISM has an



the institute's near century-old legacy and its evolving role in India's technological and social development.

Addressing graduating students and faculty, the President said IIT (ISM) Dhanbad began as a centre of excellence in mining and geology, and has now grown into a premier institution for higher education and research in diverse scientific and engineering fields.

According to Press Information Bureau (PIB), while speaking on the occasion, the President said that IIT (ISM) Dhanbad has a glorious legacy of nearly 100 years.

"It was established to produce trained experts in the field of mining and geology. Over time, it has broadened its academic horizons and has now become a leading centre of higher education and research in diverse fields. This institute has played a vital role in technological development and innovation," she said.

President was happy to note that IIT Dhanbad has developed an ecosystem where the objec-

"It was established to produce trained experts in the field of mining and geology. Over time, it has broadened its academic horizons and has now become a leading centre of higher education and research in diverse fields. This institute has played a vital role in technological development and innovation," she said.

important role in the overall development of the country. Apart from preparing excellent engineers and researchers, this institute also has to create compassionate, sensitive and purposeful professionals. "The future of our country is taking shape through the commitment of institutions like IIT-ISM, which are promoting cutting-edge research and innovation and guiding bright young minds".

The President further stated that the country and the world are facing many complex and rapidly changing challenges, from climate change and lack of resources to digital disruption and social inequality. In such a situation, the guidance of an institute like IIT-ISM is even more important. She urged IIT-ISM to play a leading role in finding new and sustainable solutions.

The President said that India's biggest strength is its vast human resources. The increasing access to technical education and the spread of digital skills are leading India towards becoming a technological superpower. Making India's education system more practical, innovation-focused and industry-friendly will give the right direction to the talent of the country's youth and allow them to move forward at the global level.

President Murmu said that there is a need to encourage patent culture along with promoting R&D and start-ups to compete at the global level. To develop holistic thinking among students and find creative solutions to complex problems, the adoption of an interdisciplinary approach in education is also very important.

She advised students not to limit their knowledge to personal advancement, but to make it a vehicle for public good. She urged them to use their knowledge to build a stronger and more just India – where opportunities to advance are available to all. She told them to use their knowledge to build a Green India – where development is not at the cost of nature, but in harmony with it. She said that whatever they do in the future, it should reflect their empathy, excellence and ethics along with their intelligence. Innovation driven by compassion, not just innovation, makes the world better. (PIB)

Russian, US space chiefs meet to discuss continued cooperation

MOSCOW: Russia's space chief has visited the United States to discuss plans for continued cooperation between Moscow and Washington on the International Space Station and lunar research with NASA's acting chief, the first such face-to-face meeting in more than seven years.

Dmitry Bakanov, the director of the state space corporation Roscosmos, met Thursday with NASA's new acting administrator, Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy, on a visit to attend the planned launch of a US-Japanese-Russian crew to the space station.

The launch was delayed by weather until Friday. Roscosmos said Bakanov and Duffy discussed "further work on the International Space Station, cooperation on lunar programmes, joint exploration of deep space and continued cooperation on other space projects."

Once bitter rivals in the space race during the Cold War, Roscosmos and NASA cooperated on the space station and other projects. That relationship was beset with tensions after Moscow sent troops into Ukraine in 2022, but Washington and Moscow have continued to work together, with US and Russian crews continuing to fly to the orbiting outpost on each country's spacecraft.

Plans for broader cooperation, including possible Russian involvement in NASA's Artemis programme of lunar research, have fallen apart.

As Russia has become increasingly reliant on China for its energy exports and imports of key technology amid Western sanctions, Roscosmos has started cooperation with China on its prospective lunar mission.

Speaking to Russian reporters after the talks with Duffy, Bakanov said that they agreed to keep working on keeping the space station in operation to the end of the decade. (PTI)



Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan Takes Over as Vice Chief of Naval Staff

New Delhi: Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan, AVSM, NM, assumed charge as the 47th Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS) on Thursday, bringing with him over 36 years of distinguished service in the Indian Navy.

An official spokesperson of Defence Ministry told Press Information Bureau (PIB) that Upon assuming the new role,



the Flag Officer paid homage to fallen soldiers by laying a wreath at the National War Memorial, New Delhi.

Commissioned on January 1, 1988, Vice Admiral Vatsayan is a specialist in Gunnery and Missile Systems and an alumnus of the 71st Course of the National Defence Academy, Pune. His naval career has been marked by a wide range of command, operational, and strategic staff roles.

At sea, he served aboard key frontline warships and held command of vessels including INS Vibhuti, INS Nashak, INS Kuthar, and the guided missile frigate INS Sahyadri, where he was the commissioning commanding officer. In 2020, he took over as Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet, leading vital deployments and exercises during a critical post-Galwan phase in India's maritime domain.

A graduate of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Naval War College, Goa, and National Defence College, New Delhi, Vice Admiral Vatsayan also held important appointments at Naval Headquarters such as Director Naval Plans and Principal Director Naval Plans, shaping long-term strategic initiatives.

Following his promotion to Flag Rank in 2018, he served as Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Policy and Plans), Deputy Commandant of the National Defence Academy, and later as Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command, where he oversaw operational readiness and infrastructure expansion.

Prior to becoming VCNS, he was serving as Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (DCIDS) at HQ IDS, where he handled key roles in operations, policy, planning, and force development, especially with a focus on tri-service integration and indigenisation.

For his exemplary service, Vice Admiral Vatsayan was awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2021 and the Nao Sena Medal earlier in his career.

He is married to Sarita Vatsayan, and the couple has a son, an MBA graduate from ISB, and a daughter with a degree in Humanities. (PIB)

Trump injects new dose of uncertainty in tariffs as he pushes start date back to Aug 7

WASHINGTON: For weeks, President Donald Trump was promising the world economy would change on Friday with his new tariffs in place. It was an ironclad deadline, administration officials assured the public.

But when Trump signed the order Thursday night imposing new tariffs, the start date of the punishing import taxes was pushed back seven days so the tariff schedule could be updated. The change in tariffs on 66 countries, the European Union, Taiwan and the Falkland Islands was potentially welcome news to countries that had not yet reached a deal with the US.

It also injected a new dose of uncertainty for consumers and businesses still wondering what's going to happen and when.

Trump told NBC News in a Thursday night interview the tariffs process was going "very well, very smooth." But even as the Republican president insisted these new rates would stay in place, he added: "It doesn't mean that somebody doesn't come along in four weeks and say we can make some kind of a deal."

Trump has promised that his tax increases on the nearly USD3 trillion in goods imported to the United States will usher in newfound wealth, launch a cavalcade of new factory jobs, reduce the budget deficits and, simply, get other countries to treat America with more respect.

The vast tariffs risk jeopardising America's global standing as allies feel forced into unfriendly deals. As taxes on the raw materials used by US factories and basic goods, the tariffs also threaten to create new inflationary pressures and hamper economic growth—concerns the Trump White House has dismissed.

Questions swirl around the tariffs despite Trump's eagerness

As the clock ticked toward Trump's self-imposed deadline, few things seemed to be settled other than the president's determination to levy the taxes he has talked about for decades. The very legality of the tariffs remains an open question as a US appeals court on Thursday heard arguments on whether Trump had exceeded his authority by declaring an "emergency" under a 1977 law to charge the tariffs, allowing him to avoid congressional approval.

Trump was ebullient as much of the world awaited what he would do.

"Tariffs are making America GREAT & RICH Again," he said Thursday morning on Truth Social.

Others saw a policy carelessly constructed by the US president, one that could impose harms gradually over time that would erode America's power and prosperity.

"The only things we'll know for sure on Friday morning are that growth-sapping US import taxes will be historically high and complex, and that, because these deals are so vague and unfinished, policy uncertainty will remain very elevated," said Scott Lincicome, a vice president of economics at the Cato Institute. "The rest is very much TBD."

The new tariffs build off ones announced in the spring. Trump initially imposed the Friday deadline after his previous "Liberation Day" tariffs in April resulted in a stock market panic. His unusually high tariff rates announced then led to recession fears, prompting Trump to impose a 90-day negotiating period. (PTI)

Over 1.4 Lakh Food Processing Projects Approved Under MoFPI Schemes to Boost Rural Economy

NEW DELHI: In order to enhance food processing infrastructure and to align with the vision of Viksit Bharat, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been incentivizing setting up/expansion of related infrastructure through its two Central Sector Scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) and Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) and a Centrally sponsored- Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme across the country.

Under PMKSY, MoFPI has approved 1134 food processing projects including 41 Mega Food Parks and 395 Cold chain projects across the country till 30.06.2025. Under PMFME Scheme, MoFPI has approved 144517 proposals across the country till 30.06.2025. Under PLISFPI, MoFPI has approved 170 proposals across the country till 30.06.2025.

MoFPI through its schemes, aims towards increasing preservation and processing capacities, reducing post-harvest losses, developing value-added products, bringing innovative technologies, enhancing productivity & efficiency in food processing, fostering entrepreneurship, providing job opportunities and skill development, which boosts economies and contribute in inclusive growth of the country.

Under these Schemes, MoFPI provides financial assistance for setting up of food processing related infrastructure across the



Ministry of Food Processing is implementing PLISFPI to support creation of global food manufacturing champions and support Indian brands of food products in international market. The scheme is being implemented over a six-year period from 2021-22 to 2026-27 with an outlay of Rs.10,900 crores.



country including Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh. Most of the projects approved by MoFPI are in rural areas and thereby supporting the local farmers. Under PMFME Scheme, MoFPI has

approved 261 proposals in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh till 30.06.2025. Kushinagar district in Uttar Pradesh has been identified for Banana Cluster under Operation Greens component scheme of PMKSY and Banana has also been



identified as One District One Product (ODOP) under PMFME Scheme.

MoFPI provides financial support in the form of grants-in-aid/ subsidy for setting up of food processing projects thereby creating both processing and preservation infrastructure facilities. The processing facilities created under the component schemes of PMKSY helps in value addition to raw farm produce, thereby fetching higher prices. Similarly, temperature-controlled transport facility, cold storage/ frozen storage/

controlled atmosphere storage facility, and irradiation facility helps in faster movement of raw & finished products thereby reducing post-harvest losses of farm produce and increasing the shelf life of the produce. These measures help in providing better returns to farmers and creating employment opportunities also.

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With the objective to boost investments and sourcing of Indian food products, MoFPI had organized three editions of World Food India (WFI) during the years 2017, 2023 and 2024 which serve a premier platform to highlight investment opportunities and advancements in food processing by facilitating their integration into domestic and international markets. The event brings global food processing companies, innovators, supply chain stakeholders, equipment manufacturers, etc. on a collaborative platform and provide foreign companies with tie-up/ business opportunities with its Indian counterparts. (PIB)

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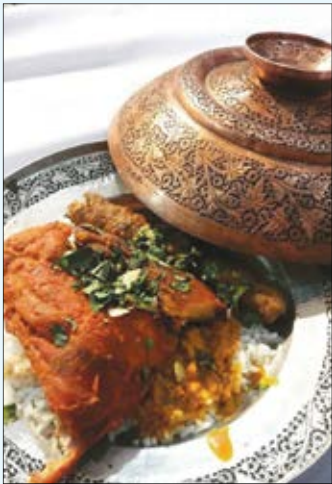
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