



Guide Youth To Balance Nature, Development: Sinha To Academia

Addresses Foundation Day Ceremony of University of Jammu

FE NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha delivered the keynote address at Foundation Day ceremony of University of Jammu.

In his address, the Lieutenant Gov-

ernor called upon Jammu University to leverage innovation and cutting-edge technology for conservation, integrating sustainability in education and preparing students to address emerging challenges to build Viksit Bharat.

“Our youth must drive development that meets societal needs without compromising ecosystems and optimize the use of resources through modern

innovation. We need to adopt a multi-dimensional approach to make the earth better for the future generations,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor urged the faculty members to guide and lead youth in their responsibility to balance

innovation. We need to adopt a multi-dimensional approach to make the earth better for the future generations,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

“Today’s occasion is also an opportunity for self-analysis, self-exploration, and self-introspection. I am proud of the exceptional accomplishments of

He observed that the process of change in the campus should continue uninterrupted so that the students remain determined, eager to learn and do something new and have the passion to face the future challenges.

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“Our youth must drive development that meets societal needs without compromising ecosystems and optimize the use of resources through modern innovation. We need to adopt a multi-dimensional approach to make the earth better for the future generations,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

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“Real world experience bridges the gap between theory and application. Classroom must be transformed into a thinking room, a room full of curiosity and creativity.

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AAP MLA Mehraj Malik ‘Imminent Threat’ To Peace: J&K Police Dossier

FE NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Spreading misinformation, glorifying terrorists, and using abusive language against women are among the charges that form part of a dossier on Jammu and Kashmir Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief and MLA Mehraj Malik detained under the Public Safety Act (PSA) on Monday, officials said.

Malik was taken into custody in his Doda constituency on Monday under the stringent law, which permits detention without charge or trial for up to two years in certain cases.

The dossier, compiled by Doda Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, details a series of allegations against the legislator.

According to the dossier, Malik is considered an “imminent threat” to the peaceful existence of the community. It also claims he has a “regular habit of issuing

threats and carrying out physical assault of people, including government officials”.

Singh said multiple FIRs have been registered against him for unlawful acts, including forcibly locking government



offices and verbally and physically attacking public servants on several occasions.

“The subject’s provocative speeches and ‘Facebook Lives’ have been

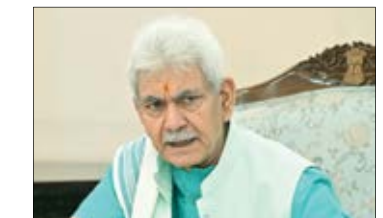
■ See On P/6

...50 MBBS Seats for SMVDIME

LG Expresses Gratitude to PM, Union Health Minister

FE NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The newly established Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence (SMVDIME) has been sanctioned 50 MBBS seats, with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressing



gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Health Minister J P Nadda. A new medical college

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2 Soldiers Martyred, 2 Terrorists Neutralised In Kulgam Encounter

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KULGAM: Two terrorists, including a foreigner, were killed while two Army soldiers also lost their lives in an encounter in



the Guddar forest area of South Kashmir’s Kulgam district on Monday, officials said.

An official said, that following a “specific intelligence input” about the presence of terrorists, a joint team of Police, Army’s 9 Rashtriya Rifles, and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) launched a cordon-and-

search operation in Guddar area this morning. “The search operation turned into an encounter after the terrorists opened fire on the security forces,” he said.

The official added that one Pakistani and one local terrorist have been killed and the operation is on. “Three soldiers sustained injuries in the encounter and were shifted to an Army hospital, where two of them succumbed,” he said.

“Despite heavy rain and dense foliage, the operation continued throughout the day and is expected to go on through the night. There is a possibility of more terrorists. Searches are on and the operation will continue until the area is fully cleared,” the official said.

The Kashmir Zone Police wrote on X: “Based on specific intelligence, an encounter has started in the Guddar forest of Kulgam. SOG of J&K Police, Army and CRPF are on the job. Further details to follow.”

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CM Omar Reviews AIIMS Awantipora Progress, Calls For Timely Completion

FE NEWS NETWORK

AWANTIPORA: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah chaired a meeting at Awantipora, Pulwama, to review



the progress of ongoing works at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Kashmir.

The Chief Minister, accompanied by Minister for Health & Medical Education Sakina Itoo, Advisor to

the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta, Executive Director AIIMS Awantipora Dr. S.

executing agency NCC Ltd, inspected the site and took a detailed review of the project.

Reviewing the status of infrastruc-

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Omar Abdullah emphasized that **AIIMS Awantipora** must be commissioned as a single integrated unit, with both **OPD and IPD services** made operational simultaneously for the **benefit** of the general public.

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ture development, procurement of machinery, workforce mobilization and allied works, the Chief Minister stressed that strict

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CS Reviews Implementation Of Mission YUVA

Calls for greater focus on Quality, Capacity Building and Timely Credit Flow



SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chaired the Apex Level Committee meeting of Mission YUVA in Jammu, during which the progress of the mission was comprehensively reviewed and key directions

were issued to further accelerate its implementation across the Union Territory.

The meeting besides Secretary, Labour & Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan was attended by Principal Secretary, Finance, Santosh D. Vaidya; Vice-Chancellors of Universities; Commissioner Secretary, of H&UDD; Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce; Commissioner Secretary, Cooperatives; Secretary, RDD; Director, IIM Jammu;

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Bottimline

J&K Rainfall 41% Above Normal in 3-Month Span

■ Isolated Rains to Continue in J&K This Week

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Amid frequent flood threats Jammu and Kashmir has received an excess rainfall of 41 per cent from June to September this year.

According to the Meteorological department (MeT) data, five stations in Jammu region have recorded the large excess rainfall from June 01, 2025 to September 03, 2025. The stations include Udhampur, Samba, Rajouri, Ramban and Doda. (Areas where rainfall exceeds 60% above the normal are categorized as experiencing ‘Large Excess Rainfall’.)

The large excess rainfall came at a time when the region experienced back-to-back years of deficit rainfall.

Pertinently, Jammu and Kashmir experienced its driest year in five decades in 2024, witnessing a significant deficit of 29%. In 2023, J&K recorded 7% deficit, in 2022 16% deficit, 2021 saw 28% deficit

and 2020 experienced 20% deficit.

The data reveals that Srinagar & Jammu, summer and winter capitals of Jammu and Kashmir, are among the five stations where excess rainfall has been recorded during the period. The other three stations include Anantnag, Pulwama and Reasi. (Areas where rainfall exceeds 20% to 59% above the normal are categorized as experiencing ‘Excess Rainfall’.)

Seven stations including Budgam, Ganderbal, Bandipora, Baramulla, Kulgam, Kathua and Poonch recorded a normal precipitation in this season, the data reveals. However, it shows that the two stations including Kishtwar, Kupwara and Shopian have recorded a deficit rainfall of 33 per cent, 20 per cent and 57 per cent respectively.

Meanwhile, the weatherman has predicted more spells of rain and thunder till September 12th.

Director MeT, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad told KNO that generally cloudy weather was expected today with one or two spells of light rain and thunder at many places of J&K with possibility of brief moderate showers over isolated districts of Jammu

Director MeT, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said, that generally cloudy weather was expected today with one or two spells of light rain and thunder at many places of J&K with possibility of brief moderate showers over isolated districts of Jammu division.

division.

From tomorrow, he said that generally hot & humid conditions are expected with brief spells of rain and thunder at a few places till September 12th evening.

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HC Donates Rs. 54,40,500 To CM’s Relief Fund

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In a gesture of solidarity and compassion, the High Court today handed over a cheque of Rs. 54,40,500/- to the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund (CMRF) for the rehabilitation and welfare of those who have suffered due to recent devastating floods in the region.

The Judiciary took this noble step with an aim to support the people affected by the recent devastating floods in the region. The cheque was formally presented to the Chief Minister, with an assurance that the contribution, though modest, reflects the heartfelt support of the entire judicial fraternity. Collective action, the Court emphasized, is essential to rebuild lives and restore normalcy in the flood-ravaged areas.

The contribution symbolizes the concern and commitment of the institution towards the larger cause of public welfare. The floods, which

left many families displaced and caused significant damage to property and livelihood, have deeply impacted the socio-economic fabric of the Union Territory. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, the High



Court has expressed its empathy with the affected families and assured that every possible effort will be made to stand by them in this hour of distress.

This gesture from the Judiciary of the J&K and Ladakh not only highlights the spirit of compassion but also reinforces the message that during times of adversity, unity and shared responsibility can help overcome the greatest challenges.

Special Train Launched on Katra-Sangaldan to Aid Stranded Passengers

Jammu: The Northern Railways on Monday started a special local train service between Katra and Sangaldan to facilitate stranded passengers in the wake of the closure of the Jammu-Srinagar national highway in Udhampur district.

This is the first-ever local train from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi railway station in Reasi district to Sangaldan railway station in Ramban, aimed at ferrying hundreds of people stranded in Jammu and Ramban belts due to the highway closure, besides facilitating students, and employees between these areas.

The train track distance between Katra and Sangaldan is 63 km and commuters will be charged only Rs 20.

The two local passenger trains will connect twin stations via Reasi, Bakkaal, and Dugga stations, and back, from September 8 to September 12, a railway official said.

“On the request of the administration, the Railways Board decided to run the train service for five days to facilitate stranded passengers, patients with health issues, and others in the area. So the first train left Katra for Sangaldan at 8:40 am,” a senior railway official said.

Restoration of roads, power and water supply in full swing across Reasi District: DC

REASI: Deputy Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik, who also serves as Chairperson of the District Disaster Management Authority, chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess restoration works across the district. The review focused on restoration of road connectivity, power and water supply, ration availability and relief distribution in the subdivisions of Katra, Mahore and Dharmari.

The Deputy Commissioner directed JPDCL to ensure adequate electricity supply in Chassana and Gulabgarh to address network issues flagged by SDM Mahore. The Jal Shakti Department and Health Department were instructed to intensify water testing and ensure chlorination in relief camps and storage areas to prevent waterborne diseases. The Chief Medical Officer and Jal Shakti officials were also directed to submit regular reports on water testing across the district.

Highlighting the availability of essential supplies, DC Malik informed that ration has been delivered to seven locations in Mahore where scarcity was reported. The

SDMs have been tasked with monitoring ration and essential supply distribution

being utilized to ensure timely delivery. On road connectivity, the DC noted



on a daily basis. She further added that ration for Sawalkote is being supplied by special trains running for four days, until road connectivity is fully restored. For Sarhi Bhomag, the administration has taken up the matter with the Army and higher authorities to arrange airlifting of ration; meanwhile, manual routes are

that while most roads have been reopened, a few including Sarsot, Bagodas and Gulabgarh (under PMGSY) remain blocked. Contractors were directed to deploy adequate machinery for early restoration. XEN PMGSY Mahore informed that six roads are expected to reopen by this evening, facilitating vehicle movement.

In Dharmari subdivision, the Kantha and Sawalkote roads remain closed but are also expected to reopen by the evening. The DC assured that ration supplies in these areas are sufficient and water supply restoration is underway.

Reviewing relief disbursement, the Deputy Commissioner informed that 115.5 lakh has been disbursed so far. She instructed all SDMs to expedite relief case processing to ensure timely financial assistance to affected families.

On the education front, the DC reviewed the status of safety audits in schools. The Chief Education Officer Reasi reported that 191 schools have been audited so far. The DC directed that all remaining schools must be audited before reopening.

Deputy Commissioner Malik reiterated the administration's commitment to restoring essential services and ensuring timely relief to all affected communities.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samyal, ADC Rakesh Kumar, ACR Nitin Verma, XENs, CEO and other concerned officers.

Labour Department conducts joint inspections to ensure compliance with Labour Laws

JAMMU: The Labour Department, Jammu conducted joint inspections of various establishments and industrial units to ensure strict compliance with provisions of various labour laws.

The inspections were carried out by the team comprising of the Deputy Labour Commissioner Jammu, Inspectors of Factories, Asstt Labour Commissioner Jammu along with Labour officers as per the directions of worthy Commissioner Secretary Labour and Employment under the overall supervision of the Labour Commissioner J&K with the objective of safeguarding the rights of workers, ensuring occupational safety and promoting fair working conditions across workplaces.

The inspection focused on Checking mandatory registrations; Payment of

minimum wages to workers; Maintenance of statutory records and registers; Compliance with working hours and leave

legal action will be initiated. The Department has also appealed to employers to voluntarily comply with the



provisions; Implementation of safety measures under the Factories Act and provision of welfare amenities to workers.

On spot notices were issued to establishments found violating statutory provisions, and they have been directed to rectify the shortcomings within the stipulated time frame. In cases of serious violations, appropriate

labour laws and urged workers to report any grievances to the Labour Office for prompt redressal.

Moreover to bring more workers under the ambit of social security an awareness among the gig/platform workers was generated to get themselves registered under E Shram and PYMSYM.

Aadi Karmayogi Abhiyan: 3-Day District Process Lab Training Programme commences at BGSBU Rajouri

RAJOURI: A three-day District Process Lab Training Programme, under the Aadi Karmayogi Abhiyan, commenced at Baba

areas. He emphasized that meaningful outcomes can only be achieved through concerted efforts and collaboration to



Ghulam Shah Badshah University. The training programme, being held from September 08 to 10, is designed to build the capacity of field staff to strengthen governance and development initiatives in tribal areas.

The programme was inaugurated in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma. In his address, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the shared responsibility of all stakeholders in uplifting tribal

bridge gaps in key development indicators.

Reiterating the district's vision for tribal empowerment, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the need to create self-reliant, resilient and inclusive communities across all 104 tribal villages of Rajouri.

He underlined that ensuring every household benefits from government schemes will significantly improve governance outcomes and foster holistic tribal

development.

The training programme places special focus on capacity-building through skill development workshops, interactive sessions, and the implementation of the Dharti Aabha Plan for sustainable and inclusive tribal growth.

It also emphasizes grassroots participation by involving Aadi Karmayogis, Aadi Sahayogis and Aadi Saathis in the effective execution of welfare schemes and programmes.

Serving as a platform to align strategies and build the capacities of frontline staff, the three-day District Process Lab is expected to ensure last-mile delivery of services and promote inclusive growth in tribal areas.

The event was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development, Auqil Nuavid; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Sheraz Chowhan; District Social Welfare Officer, Abdul Raheem; Chief Agriculture Officer, Madan Gopal Singh; Chief Medical Officer, Dr Manohar Rana and other officers and officials.

30 new ventures sanctioned under KVIB scheme in Poonch with 35% subsidy boost



POONCH: In a major push to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship, 30 loan cases have been approved under Jammu and Kashmir Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP) being implemented by Jammu & Kashmir Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB).

The interviews for these cases were conducted here at the Dak Bungalow, where applicants applied for establishing a variety of business and industrial units.

The interview panel comprised District Social Welfare Officer Khalil A Bandy, Project Manager District Industries Centre (DIC) Jagdeep Singh, Superintendent ITI, representatives from the banking sector and the District Head KVIB. Their collective expertise ensured transparency and fairness in the selection process.

The government sponsored scheme provides financial assistance with a 35% subsidy component, enabling aspiring entrepreneurs to set up viable units while reducing the burden of capital investment. The initiative is expected to benefit a large section of the population by creating new livelihood opportunities, encouraging youth entrepreneurship and strengthening the local economy. The approved units will not only support self reliance but also contribute to the district's overall industrial and economic growth.

One Day Capacity Building Workshop organized to mark Int'l Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies

JAMMU: To mark the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, the Department of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing (DEERS) – EIACP Hub, J&K, in collaboration with the Directorate of Industries & Commerce, Jammu organized a One-Day Capacity Building Workshop here at Bari Brahmana Industries Association (BBIA), SIDCO Industrial Complex.

The programme began with a plantation drive led by dignitaries of the event.

The programme was attended by ESC Jammu/Coordinator EIACP Programme of MoEF&CC Dr. Rajan Singh; President BBIA Lalit Mahajan; Vice President Ajay and General Secretary Viraj, Functional Manager Bharat Bhushan; Functional Manager Pankaj Singh Jasrotia; Functional Manager Amit Kumar Digra; Industrial Promotion Officer Rajeshwar Singh; Range Officer DEERS Anil Sharma; Programme Officer EIACP Dr. Kirti and owners of Industrial Units. The Coordinator Dr Rajan

Singh delivered the welcome address and explained about the air quality which is closely linked to the earth's climate and ecosystems globally and importance of the day.

The workshop commenced with an enlightening lecture by Divisional Nodal Officer, NPCCHH DHS Jammu Dr. Rashmi Sharma, highlighting the serious health implications of air pollution, including respiratory disorders, cardiovascular diseases and increased vulnerability to climate related illnesses.

Associate Professor, Central University of Jammu Dr. Ankit Tandon spoke on "Targeting Clean Air for Blue Skies: Role of Industries in Mitigating Aerosol Pollution", stressing that aerosols were one of the main causal agents of air pollution.

He emphasized that construction, vehicular, biomass burning etc. emissions contribute significantly to air pollution and climate change, leading to rising temperatures, extreme weather events and ecosystem

degradation.

The Speakers further highlighted that Air pollution is contamination of the both indoor and outdoor environment and it can be due to any chemical, physical or biological agent that modifies the natural characteristics of the atmosphere.

Household combustion devices, motor vehicles, industrial facilities and forest fires are common sources of air pollution.

Pollutants of major public health concern include particulate matter, carbon monoxide, ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide.

Outdoor and indoor air pollution cause respiratory and other diseases and are important sources of morbidity and mortality.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr Kirti PO underlined the need for collaborative efforts to reduce air pollution, build climate resilience and ensure sustainable development.

Relief Camp held at Ghatti to support flood-hit families

KATHUA: To provide timely succor to calamity-affected households, the District Administration Kathua organised a relief distribution camp at Manhas Mohalla Ghatti which was presided over by Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma. Families that suffered losses due to incessant rains and flash floods were provided relief material comprising dry ration, blankets, mattresses and tents to ease their immediate difficulties. Interacting with locals, the Deputy Commissioner said the administration is afoot to reach out to all affected families, even in the remotest corners of the district to provide immediate relief and support for rehabilitation under SDRF norms. The DC disclosed that out of approximately 1200 partially or fully damaged houses reported across the district due to incessant rains and landslides. The administration has already extended financial assistance to over 500 families under SDRF, while the process is on to clear remaining cases. He further informed that machinery has been pressed into service to retrieve remains from damaged properties, enabling affected households to begin restoration where possible. He said such relief camps are being organised at subdivision levels, while parallel efforts are underway to restore road, power and drinking water connectivity disrupted by rains and floods. The Deputy Commissioner reiterated that early restoration of essential services, timely disbursement of relief assistance and addressing public grievances remain top priorities of the administration. ADC Kathua Vishavjeet Singh and other revenue officials were present during the camp and also interacted with the affected families to take stock of their concerns.

DLIC approves 200 cases under Mission YUVA in Ramban

RAMBAN: Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Aiyas Khan today chaired the meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) under the ambitious Mission YUVA initiative. The meeting was convened to evaluate applications and extend financial support to local youth for establishing viable business ventures, thereby giving a major push to self-employment in the district.

The Committee undertook a detailed block-wise review of applications received under Mission YUVA, scrutinizing them for eligibility and project feasibility. A roadmap was also charted to empower the district's youth with sustainable

livelihood opportunities.

The meeting was attended by GM DIC Ravinder Anand; Assistant Director Employment



& Career Counseling Officer Amit Kumar; Lead District Manager Ramban and other concerned officers.

As many as 200 applications, verified by the Small Business Development Unit (SBDU), were placed before the committee. After comprehensive evaluation,

based on eligibility norms, project feasibility and socio-economic background of applicants, all 200 cases were

approved for financial assistance and mentorship support under the Mission.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner termed Mission YUVA "a ray of hope for the youth" and said that by providing access to credit facilities and handholding

support, the Government aims to nurture entrepreneurship and reduce dependency on government jobs. "The district administration is committed to reaching every eligible youth and fostering a culture of self-reliance," he added.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the District Nodal Officer (JKEDI) and the General Manager DIC to fast-track preparation and verification of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to ensure pending applications are processed without delay.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner informed the Deputy Commissioner that so far 907 cases have been approved under Mission YUVA in Ramban district.

“Voices Unheard, Now Empowered: Awareness on Menstrual Health & Malnutrition in Kupwara”

Piramal Foundation brings dignity and awareness to adolescent girls and mothers at Shat Muqam, Drugmulla

Kupwara: In a remarkable step towards empowering women and adolescent girls, Tawheed UI Islam, Gandhi Fellow, Piramal Foundation Kupwara, conducted an impactful awareness session on Menstrual Health, Malnutrition, Maternal Care, and Mental Well-being at Anganwadi Centre Shatmuqam 2nd, Block Drugmulla. The program witnessed the active participation of more than 50 community members, including lactating mothers, pregnant women, adolescent girls, and beneficiaries of both AWC Shatmuqam 1st and 2nd.

The main focus remained on adolescent health, addressing some of the most sensitive yet critical issues of women's well-being. During the session, families were sensitized on the dangers of Severe and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (SAM/MAM), the importance of balanced diets, and the use of locally available foods to fight undernutrition.

Pregnant and lactating mothers received guidance on safe motherhood, antenatal care, and nutrition, with special emphasis on iron, folic acid, and protein-rich foods, as well as the need to avail government schemes and Anganwadi services.

A dedicated discussion on Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHM) created a safe space where adolescent girls openly shared their experiences and questions. Myths and taboos were scientifically



clarified, while practical demonstrations on safe menstrual practices and hygiene were conducted to empower girls with dignity and confidence.

The session also addressed mental health and stress management, underlining that emotional well-being is as important as physical

health, with simple techniques shared to help reduce daily stress.

The success of the session was made possible with the support of frontline workers ASHA worker Gulshana Begum and Anganwadi workers Zubaida Begum and Tasleema Begum who mobilized the community and encouraged open participation.

The awareness program at Shatmuqam turned into more than just an event—it became a movement of empowerment and openness. For the first time, many women and adolescent girls spoke freely about issues often hidden in silence. One mother expressed with emotion, "Today, we felt heard. These discussions give us courage to care for ourselves and our daughters."

Encouraged by the overwhelming response, Tawheed UI Islam shared that similar sessions will be conducted in other parts of Block Drugmulla in the coming months, ensuring wider outreach and healthier communities.

With the collective involvement of District Administration Kupwara, line departments, Piramal Foundation, frontline workers, and the community, Kupwara is steadily moving towards a healthier, more informed, and dignified tomorrow.

Ayush Department Doda organizes medical camps to promote health & wellness

DODA: Ayush Department Doda successfully organized a series of medical camps across the district.

On the directions of Health Secretary J&K, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh and the Directorate of Ayush J&K, the camps were held at six Ayush Health and Wellness Centres located at Neota Bhaderwah, Udayanpur, Thandapani, Dongroo Thathri, Trown, and Goshti Chirala. The camps were held under the supervision of District Ayush Officer Dr. Ajay Kumar Tickoo. A total of 529 patients were examined by Ayush Medical Officers and provided with free Ayush medicines. The medical teams also distributed awareness material and delivered health talks focusing on the importance of personal hygiene, safe drinking water and preventive healthcare practices, especially in the aftermath of recent rains and floods.

In addition to treatment and medicines, the Ayush teams emphasized the role of Ayurveda, Yoga and other traditional systems of medicine in strengthening immunity and improving overall well-being. The initiative aimed not only to provide immediate relief to patients but also to promote long-term health awareness in the community. The Ayush Department reaffirmed its commitment to bringing healthcare services to the doorsteps of people in rural and far-flung areas. The dedication of Ayush Medical Officers and staff played a vital role in ensuring the success of this outreach program, which received appreciation from the local population.

ADDC tours flood-affected areas in Lassana Block- Poonch

POONCH: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Pankaj Magotra today conducted an extensive tour of Seri Khawaja, Hari Buddha Upper and Hari Buddha Lower Panchayats to assess the damages induced by recent rains and floods. During the tour, the ADDC inspected the PWD (R&B) road at Kattiwala Seri Khawaja, reviewed damages to school buildings and also visited various houses affected by landslides. He took stock of the condition of flood-affected roads and interacted with local residents to understand their pressing issues, assuring that their genuine concerns would be addressed in a timely manner. The visit to Seri Khawaja village proper, however, could not be undertaken due to constraints.

The ADDC emphasized that the district administration is committed to restoration of damaged infrastructure and providing necessary relief to the affected families. He was accompanied by BDO Lassana, District Social and Education Officer (DSEO), Junior Engineer PWD (R&B), Naib Tehsildar and field staff of the Rural Development Department.

CM reviews preparations for Kashmir Marathon-2025, launches promotional video

Event scheduled for November 2, will host different formats and other attractions

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah chaired a meeting to review preparations for the upcoming Kashmir Marathon-2025, a flagship sporting event aimed at promoting sports, fitness, tourism, and Kashmir's vibrant culture.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to the CM, Nasir Aslam Wani; Additional Chief Secretary to the CM, Dheeraj Gupta; Additional Chief Secretary Tourism; Principal Secretary Finance; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Secretary IT, Information and GAD; and other senior officials.

Director Tourism, Kashmir made a detailed presentation on the preparations and proposed plan of activities for the marathon.

The Chief Minister emphasized that the marathon must go beyond being a sporting event to become a holistic cultural and tourism experience.

He directed officials to tie up with hotels, restaurants, and local businesses to provide special packages for participants and visitors, allowing them to explore Kashmir's hospitality, cuisine and heritage during their stay.

He also suggested introducing 10 km and 5 km runs for local participants in addition to the full and half marathons, thereby expanding community engagement and encouraging



youth participation.

Stressing the importance of sustainability, he called for efforts to secure a title sponsor for the mega event to ensure financial viability and greater brand visibility.

Taking into account the Delhi Marathon and Diwali festivities, Omar Abdullah instructed that the Kashmir Marathon-2025 be



scheduled on November 2 (Sunday), 2025, instead of the earlier proposed 19 October date.

Director Tourism Kashmir briefed about the scale and structure of the event. The second edition will feature Full Marathon (42.19 km), Half Marathon (21.09 km), and a 10 km Run, covering iconic locations of Srinagar including Poloview, Rajbagh, Lal Chowk, TRC,

Nishat Garden, and SKICC, offering participants the breathtaking autumn backdrops of Kashmir.

The event will be supported by a professional event management agency, responsible for logistics, branding, athlete facilities, and post-event management.

The marathon will also be featuring a Marathon Expo and a Gala Cultural evening, aimed at engaging athletes, tourists, and locals, while showcasing Kashmiri art, culture, and traditions.

Importantly, the event is being aligned with eco-friendly practices.

The marathon will encourage youth involvement through school-level activities and fun runs, while NGOs and local volunteers will be engaged as "eco-volunteers" for route clean-ups and sustainability initiatives.

On the occasion, the Chief Minister launched the promotional video of Kashmir Marathon-2025 and was presented with his participation certificate from last year's edition, in which he himself successfully completed the half marathon.

Reiterating his government's commitment, Omar Abdullah said the Kashmir Marathon will be positioned as a world-class sporting spectacle that celebrates the Valley's scenic beauty, promotes tourism, and fosters a spirit of health, wellness, and community togetherness.

J&K Legislative Assembly Secretariat denies endorsing PSA against MLA Mehraj Malik: J&K Assembly Secretariat

Says it has no role in it

SRINAGAR: In an official communique, the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Secretariat informed that "It has been highlighted/ reported in some media reports, social media Platforms, X (formerly Twitter) that the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly



Secretariat has endorsed the slapping of provisions of Public Safety Act 1978 on Shri Mehraj Malik, Hon'ble MLA (52-Doda Assembly Constituency) which is factually incorrect and baseless as the Secretariat has no role in it."

It further reads that, "However, this Secretariat was under an obligation in terms of Rule 260 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly to inform all the Hon'ble Members of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly about the aforesaid Arrest/detention of the Hon'ble Member."

The Assembly Secretariat clarified that, Rule 260 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly reads as "As soon as may be, the Speaker Shall, after he has received a communication referred to in Rule 258 or Rule 259 read it out in the House, if in Session or if the House is not in Session direct, that it may be Published in the Bulletin for the information of the Members."

Midterm review meeting of UT-level Apex Committee on HADP commences at SKUAST-K



FE News Network

SRINAGAR: The UT-level Apex Committee for the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) convened for a three-day midterm review (2023-2025) meeting at the

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Kashmir here. The meeting aims to evaluate the progress of the Rs 5012 crore program and strategies for the remaining period.

The meeting was presided over by Chairman, Apex Committee, Dr Mangla Rai, renowned agriculture scientist and former

DG ICAR.

Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Shailendra Kumar and other committee members including Dr PK Joshi, Secretary NAAS; Dr HS Gupta, former Director IARI; Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai; Vice Chancellor SKUAST-J, Dr BN Tripathi and Dr. JP Sharma, former VC SKUAST-J.

The meeting is also being attended by key stakeholders, including directors from various line departments, directors and deans from SKUAST-K, Principal Investigators (PIs) of the 29 HADP projects, and other senior officials

from SKUAST-K.

In his remarks, Chairman Dr. Mangla Rai presented several suggestions to further enhance the program's implementation and impact.

ACS, Shailendra Kumar, during the meeting talked about the various initiatives taken by the APD. He said HADP is reaching out to people and uplifting farmers.

Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, while welcoming the apex committee members, gave an overview of the HADP and the meeting's objectives.

Mission Director HADP, Sandeep Kumar, presented a comprehensive two-year progress report on the program's initiatives before the committee.

The Apex Committee is the governing body of HADP responsible for overseeing the implementation of the program through comprehensive agricultural development strategies aimed at transforming the agricultural sector and improving the socio-economic conditions of farmers.

The committee will continue its deliberations over the next two days to ensure the successful achievement of all HADP goals.

Earlier in the day, the committee members led by Dr Mangla Rai, conducted a field visit to Ganderbal. They visited FPO Facilitation Centre for Aromatic Plants and Medicines at Nunar, as well as the Faculty of Forestry, SKUAST-K. The visit was aimed at assessing the progress and potential of these initiatives in promoting high-value agriculture and rural development.

DC Kupwara reviews Implementation of Vibrant Villages Programme-II

FE NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, chaired a detailed review meeting to accelerate the implementation of the Vibrant Villages Programme Phase-II.

The session focused on strategizing the holistic



development of identified villages through enhanced infrastructure and connectivity.

Speaking on the occasion, DC underscored the critical need for inter-departmental convergence to ensure the successful execution of the central government's initiative.

These efforts are aimed at significantly improving the quality of life for residents in these remote border villages and integrating them into the mainstream of development.

To ensure a systematic and data-driven approach, detailed booklets containing a comprehensive questionnaire were distributed to the nodal officers for conducting field visits for creating baseline survey of status of existing facilities and implementation of various schemes.

IMCT Assesses Impact Of Flood Across Shopian District Also review relief, rehabilitation measures

FE News Network

SHOPIAN: The Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) deputed by the Union Government held a review meeting to assess the damages caused by recent floods and incessant rainfall across district Shopian as well as relief and rehabilitation measures carried out by district administration.

Deputy Commissioner, Shopian, Shishir Gupta, presented a detailed assessment of damages suffered in Shopian district before the IMCT members which included senior officials from NDMA, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Jal Shakti, MoRTH, Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Power and Finance.

During the meeting, DC Shopian gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation covering the disaster preparedness framework. He informed the team that Shopian, spread over seven tehsils, although comparatively less vulnerable to floods than



other districts, has suffered damages to public infrastructure including Roads, Bridges, Water Supply Schemes, Power assets and standing crops and houses of lower riparian villages in Zainapora sub division.

DC Shopian also briefed on immediate restoration of services which were disrupted during floods and relief and rescue measures carried out in the district.

DC Shopian informed the IMCT that in Shopian district, 2 out of 6 major 33 KV lines, 16 feeders, 13 transformers and 19 electric poles were affected and

have been restored; 55 out of 92 drinking water supply schemes were impacted and all have been restored, 25 roads were damaged of which 24 stand restored and 1 is under restoration besides PMGSY road length of about 860 metres was damaged.

The DC also apprised the IMCT that Mughal Road at KM 24 witnessed severe damage due to sliding and efforts are on to keep it open 24*7.

It was further informed that 28 villages in low lying areas covering 4284 hectares with a population of 17,200 were impacted, 4 villages namely Hydergund, Zainapora,

Melapura/Wandina and Reshipora were directly hit, 21 shelter sheds were established, 129 families evacuated and 644 persons rescued.

The DC also briefed that 11 residential houses have been damaged while crop and orchard losses are being assessed.

The DC informed the team that Shopian administration has already initiated both short-term restoration measures and long-term

resilience planning. He added that protective and restoration works like crate bunds, embankments and flood protection measures have been initiated at Hydergund, Zainapora, Safanagri and other vulnerable spots.

Addressing the officers, the IMCT directed for department-wise damage details be compiled for submission to GOI and assured that recommendations will be included in their report to enable immediate relief as well as long-term resilience planning for Shopian district.

Attendance must for all classes particularly 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th: DSEK Stresses proactive steps to foster supportive & engaging environment that encourages students to attend classes regularly

Warns of disciplinary action against non-compliance with the attendance directive

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has issued a vital directive mandating regular attendance of students in all high and higher secondary schools, with special emphasis on classes 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th, in strict alignment with the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020).

This step is designed to promote holistic development, hands-on learning, and overall academic growth.

Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G N Itoo stated, "Ensuring students presence in classrooms is foundational to building their intellectual curiosity, creativity, emotional intelligence, and ethical awareness. NEP 2020 envisions education as a transformative journey, and regular attendance plays a crucial role in making that vision a reality."

"Every missed day in school is a missed opportunity for skill-building and personal growth. It is our shared responsibility to ensure that classrooms are spaces where

students feel motivated, engaged, and eager to learn," Dr. Itoo emphasized.



The circular issued in this regard calls for strict enforcement of attendance using modern systems like the VSK Attendance Chatbot and Aadhaar-based attendance tracking, applicable across all government and private schools. Principals are instructed to ensure that practical classes, particularly in science subjects, are conducted regularly to enhance hands-on learning.

Moreover, the circular stresses that principals and faculty members must take

proactive steps to foster a supportive and engaging environment that encourages students to attend classes regularly. This includes creating interactive academic spaces, promoting peer engagement, and offering guidance that builds confidence and participation.

Dr. Itoo added, "Teachers are mentors and motivators. By creating a positive environment where students feel supported and encouraged, we can inspire them to attend classes regularly and pursue excellence in academics and beyond."

All Joint Directors, Chief Education Officers, Cluster Heads, and Zonal Education Officers have been tasked with personally monitoring the implementation of this directive and ensuring full compliance.

The circular also issues a clear warning that non-compliance with the attendance directive will be treated as a serious matter and may invite disciplinary action as deemed necessary. Meanwhile, Directorate has urged all stakeholders viz. educators, parents, and the wider community to work collectively to ensure that the goals of NEP 2020 are realized and that students across the region benefit from comprehensive, hands-on education.

IMCT visits Anantnag, takes stock of relief, rehabilitation measures Also conduct spot-visit of flood affected areas

FE News Network

ANANTNAG: The Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT), constituted by the Central Government today visited Anantnag to assess the damages caused by recent heavy rainfall and natural

calamities in the district.

The team also held a brief meeting with the district administration and held detailed deliberations on the relief and rehabilitation measures being carried out in the district.

During the meeting, Deputy

Commissioner, Anantnag presented a detailed briefing to the team covering the extent of damages, relief measures undertaken like evacuation of vulnerable families, provision of temporary shelters, restoration of connectivity, and health and sanitation interventions as well

as the requirements for long-term rehabilitation.

During the meeting, a comprehensive plan for flood mitigation and resilience-building was also discussed to strengthen long-term disaster preparedness in the district.

The IMCT, along with district officials, thereafter conducted a spot visit to various affected areas to assess damages on the ground, including river embankments, roads, nallahs, and public infrastructure, besides reviewing immediate restoration priorities.

The IMCT, during the visit, highlighted that the Union Government is closely monitoring the situation at the highest levels and will extend full financial and logistical support for relief, rehabilitation, and long-term mitigation measures in Anantnag district

Editorial

Of Procedure and Principle

The recent detention of Aam Aadmi Party MLA Mehraj Malik under PSA has ignited a familiar firestorm in UT. However, a clarifying intervention by the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Secretariat has added a new, procedural dimension to the debate, one that deserves our full attention. The Secretariat felt compelled to issue a formal communique, refuting claims that it had endorsed the MLA's detention. Its role, it clarified, was not executive but procedural, dictated solely by Rule 260 of its rulebook. This rule mandates the Speaker to inform all members of the Assembly about the arrest or detention of a fellow legislator, a necessary function for transparency within the legislature itself. This distinction is not semantics, but, is very bedrock of a democracy that separates the powers of the executive from the legislature.

This clarification is vital. In an era where misinformation travels at the speed of a social media post, the Secretariat's statement is a welcome effort to uphold institutional integrity and prevent the narrative from being hijacked by baseless claims. This, however, does not automatically sanctify the executive's decision to invoke the PSA. The charges detailed in the dossier compiled by DC Doda are grave indeed. Accusations of spreading misinformation, glorifying terrorists like Burhan Wani, inciting violence, and most deplorably, using abusive and threatening language against doctors, paint a picture of a public representative who has chosen the path of perpetual agitation over constructive politics. Such behaviour is not just unbecoming of an MLA, but it is a fundamental betrayal of the oath to uphold the law and serve the people.

Yet, herein lies the perennial dilemma. The existence of multiple FIRs against Malik, as cited, suggests a history of alleged misconduct. While the admin has a duty to maintain public order and safety, this must be balanced meticulously against the fundamental rights. The Assembly Secretariat has done its duty by clarifying its role. The executive must do the same, subjecting its decision to the court of public opinion and, inevitably, to the scrutiny of a court of law. The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve both security and liberty; the constant challenge for the administration is to prove, in each difficult case, that it is not sacrificing one for the other.



DR SATYAWAN SAURABH

India has made its technological mark globally by taking historic steps in the field of semiconductor manufacturing. Chip parks in Gujarat and Karnataka, foreign investment and active participation of educational institutions have accelerated this campaign. At the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit 2025, India described technology as the basis of a shared future by emphasizing on the three pillars of security, connectivity and opportunity. This chip revolution is not only paving the way for economic development, but is also giving a new flight to national security, innovation and self-esteem.

India is passing through a historic phase where dreams are no longer just dreams, but have taken the form of a new reality. The country that was considered only a consumer in the field of technology for decades, is today rapidly moving on the path of becoming a manufacturer, supplier and innovator. India's efforts towards semiconductor and chip manufacturing are the strongest testimony to this change. This is not only a sign of technological development, but also a flight of national self-esteem, self-reliance and self-confidence.

Chip or semiconductor is the most essential axis of today's era. Just as oil drove world politics and economy in the twentieth century, similarly in the twenty-first century chip has become the basis of global power balance. No area of modern life is untouched by it. Mobile phones, computers, smart devices, vehicles, railways, airplanes, defense equipment, satellites, advanced healthcare equipment, artificial intelligence and robots - the necessity of chip is clearly visible in every field. That is why the nation which is self-reliant and strong in this field will play a decisive role in the world politics and economy in the coming times.

India's position remained weak in this field for a long time. India kept lagging behind due to reasons like heavy capital investment, continuous need of energy and water resources, lack of trained human resources and neglect of research. Countries like China, Taiwan, America and Korea took advantage of this situation and established dominance over the global market and India started being seen only as a huge consumer market. But there come such moments in the life of nations when circumstances force one to take a changed path. For India too,

India's Chip Dream Takes Root

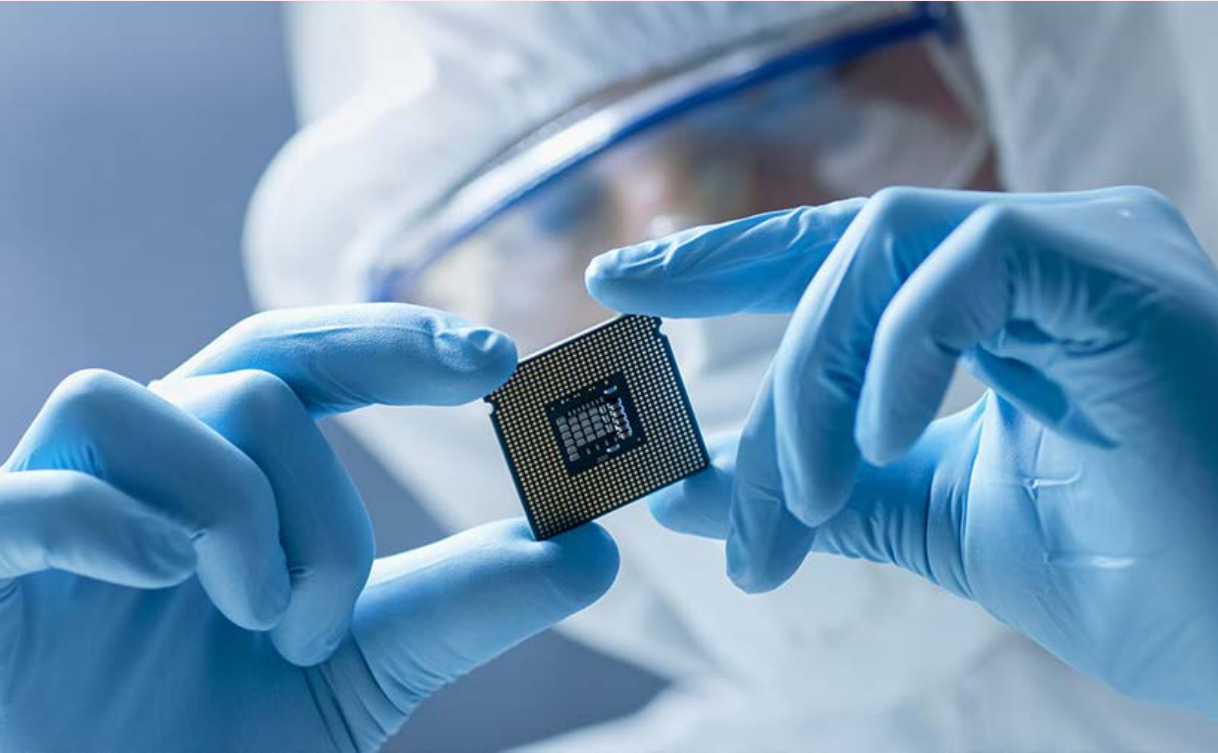
such an opportunity came in the last few years and it resolved to turn the challenge into an opportunity.

Campaigns like 'Digital India', 'Make in India' and 'Startup India' launched under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi aroused new enthusiasm towards

year 2025 was extremely important in this context. India clarified its vision here and presented the three pillars of security, connectivity and opportunity. India said that technology is not just a matter of trade and industry, but is the basis of shared security, permanent connectivity and collective op-

but also economic self-reliance.

An important aspect of this campaign is also related to national security. Increasing self-reliance in defense equipment and satellite technology will strengthen India's strategic position. India's influence will also increase in artificial intelligence and cyber



technological self-reliance. These campaigns gave the message that India will now become not only a consumer but also a manufacturer. The India Semiconductor Mission announced in the year 2021 provided a solid foundation to this resolution. Under this, work started towards setting up chip manufacturing parks in Gujarat and Karnataka. Companies from Taiwan, Japan and America expressed their desire to invest and co-operate in India. Investment proposals worth billions of dollars came and research institutes were directly linked to this campaign.

The Covid pandemic exposed the weaknesses of the global supply chain. When factories in China and Taiwan shut down, there was a crisis of mobile, vehicle and electronic devices all over the world. Prices rose, production halted and consumers faced huge difficulties. In that difficult period, India realised that technological self-reliance is not just a matter of convenience, but also a question of national security and economic independence. Only then did India recognise this opportunity and take steps towards making itself a reliable centre of the supply chain.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit held in Tianjin, China in the

portunity. India's call to make semiconductor development and digital innovation a collective priority was the most important achievement of this summit. This vision of India was reflected in the Tianjin Declaration, which proved that the world community is acknowledging India's growing technological importance.

India has not limited this effort to industry alone. Educational institutions, research centres and startups are also being connected to this campaign. Courses related to chip designing, nanotechnology and embedded systems have been started in IITs, NITs and other universities. Youth are being motivated towards research and innovation. Thus, solid preparations are being made to hand over technological leadership to the coming generation.

India's campaign in the semiconductor sector will also become the basis for job creation and industrial development. It is estimated that this sector will create more than one million direct and indirect employment opportunities in the coming ten years. New industries and startups will emerge at the level of manufacturing, designing, testing and distribution. This will be a historic step towards not only technological development

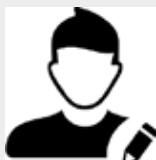
security. It is clear that chip manufacturing is not only a need of the industry, but is also deeply linked to the security and sovereignty of the nation.

However, challenges still remain. Hurdles like sustainable supply of electricity and water, continued investment in research, competition in the global market and environmental balance can make this journey difficult. But with the joint efforts of the government, industry and society, these challenges will definitely be resolved. The confidence and determination with which India has started this journey makes it clear that it is not going to look back.

Today, India's chip revolution is not just a story of technological self-reliance, but it is also a saga of self-esteem, self-confidence and self-reliance. The chip of hope has truly given wings to courage. Just as oil changed the world order in the twentieth century, similarly in the twenty-first century, chips and technology will determine global leadership. India has firmly stepped up its steps in this field and now its dream is slowly coming true.

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A Lifetime To Earn And Moment To Erase



DR. REYAZ AHMAD

Respect and honour are two of the most valuable currencies in human life. They are not bought, inherited, or imposed—they are earned gradually, through consistent conduct, honesty, and character. Yet, despite years of careful cultivation, they remain fragile. A single misstep, a careless word, or one unethical act can shatter the image that took decades to build. This fragility makes respect and honour both powerful and perilous, demanding constant vigilance and humility.

The Nature of Respect and Honor

Respect is essentially the recognition of one's values, actions, or position by others, while honour reflects the moral esteem attached to a person's integrity. Unlike wealth or status, which can be inherited or acquired suddenly, respect and honour are cumulative. They are built slowly—through reliability, fairness, kindness, and credibility. However, because they rely on the perceptions of others, they are highly vulnerable to human judgment, memory, and social reputation.

Why Are They Fragile?

1. Trust Is Hard to Earn, Easy to Lose
Trust underlies respect. When someone lies, cheats, or breaks a promise, the trust that anchors respect collapses.
2. Memory of Wrongdoing Is Stronger Than Good Deeds
Human psychology tends to magnify mistakes more than virtues.
3. Social Amplification
In today's age of social media, even small errors are magnified, leading to instant loss of credibility.
Scenarios and Perspectives
1. Professional Life
In workplaces, respect is built on performance, integrity, and relationships. A manager who consistently supports the team earns honour.

But one instance of favouritism or misconduct can permanently tarnish their image.

Global Example: In 2017, Uber's co-founder and CEO, Travis Kalanick, resigned after allegations of toxic workplace culture, despite his success.

Indian Example: Vijay Mallya, once admired as the "King of Good Times" for his business empire and flamboyant lifestyle, lost respect rapidly when his financial scandals and defaults surfaced, turning him from a celebrated

Global Example: Richard Nixon's legacy was overshadowed by the Watergate scandal.

Indian Example: Lalu Prasad Yadav, once hailed as a champion of the poor in Bihar, lost much of his honour after the infamous "fodder scam" corruption case, despite years of political influence. Similarly, Jayalalithaa, a beloved leader in Tamil Nadu, faced periods of diminished respect due to corruption charges, even though her supporters remained loyal.

4. Religion and Spiritual Life



entrepreneur to a fugitive in the public eye.

2. Family and Personal Relationships

Within families, respect comes from love, sacrifice, and responsibility. Yet, betrayal—such as dishonesty or neglect—can damage relationships irreparably.

Global Example: Tiger Woods's personal scandal ruined years of admiration.

Indian Example: Bollywood star Salman Khan, despite decades of fame, has often seen his public respect shaken due to controversies ranging from hit-and-run cases to alleged violence. His fans still admire him, but his mistakes have left permanent marks on his image.

3. Politics and Leadership

Political leaders are judged not only by their policies but also by their character. A lifetime of service may be undone by one corruption case or personal scandal.

Clergy or spiritual leaders gain honour through moral authority. But one immoral act often leads to disillusionment among followers.

Global Example: Scandals in the Catholic Church have damaged centuries of trust.

Indian Example: Self-styled "godmen" like Asaram Bapu and Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh were once revered by millions, but criminal charges and convictions destroyed their reputations completely, leaving followers disillusioned.

5. Sports and Public Persona

Athletes are celebrated for discipline, excellence, and national pride. But one misstep can tarnish their legacy.

Global Example: Lance Armstrong's doping scandal erased decades of admiration.

Indian Example: Mohammad Azharuddin, former Indian cricket captain, was respected

Respect is essentially the recognition of one's values, actions, or position by others, while honour reflects the moral esteem attached to a person's integrity. Unlike wealth or status, which can be inherited or acquired suddenly, respect and honour are cumulative. They are built slowly—through reliability, fairness, kindness, and credibility. However, because they rely on the perceptions of others, they are highly vulnerable to human judgment, memory, and social reputation.

for his batting skills, but his involvement in the 2000 match-fixing scandal damaged his reputation and shocked the nation, even though he later entered politics.

6. Social Media Age

In the digital era, mistakes travel faster than ever. Celebrities and influencers can lose millions of followers over a single insensitive tweet.

Global Example: Comedian Kevin Hart lost his Oscars hosting role due to resurfaced tweets.

Indian Example: Kangana Ranaut, admired for her acting talent and fearless voice, often sees her respect fluctuate because of controversial social media statements that overshadow her professional achievements.

Lessons and Reflections

1. Consistency Is Key
Respect and honour are not secured once; they require ongoing commitment to integrity and humility.

2. Mistakes Are Human, but Responses Matter
While mistakes are inevitable, owning up, apologizing sincerely, and rectifying wrongs can mitigate the damage.

3. Balance Between Self-Respect and Others' Respect
While external honour is fragile, self-respect—rooted in one's conscience—provides stability. Losing external respect may be painful, but losing self-respect is devastating.

Conclusion

Respect and honour are fragile treasures. They demand years of honesty, humility, and service, yet they can crumble in a moment of weakness. Whether in family, profession, politics, religion, or public life, history shows that one mistake—if not handled wisely—can erase a lifetime of achievements. In an age where every action is magnified, especially in India where public opinion shifts quickly, we must remember: true honour lies not only in earning respect but also in preserving it through consistent integrity.

(The author works at the Faculty of Mathematics, Department of General Education SUC, Sharjah, UAE)

Secretary RDD&PR reviews progress of UT CAPEX, SASCI

Stresses On Timely Execution Of Works

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (RDD&PR), Mohammad Aijaz Asad, chaired a high-

(PRIs), Block Development Councils (BDCs), and District Development Councils (DDCs). The meeting also reviewed progress

He stressed that allotments be issued immediately and works already tendered must commence without further delay. "As we are already running

er conditions in Kashmir could hamper construction activity making timely execution of projects even more exigent.

During the meeting, it was informed that under UT CAPEX, 1,069 works have been completed in Kashmir division and 865 in Jammu division. Additionally, 27 infrastructure works for DDCs, BDCs, and PRIs stand completed.

While reviewing SASCI, it was informed that loan assistance of Rs 21.10 crore has been sanctioned for projects of Rural Development Department.

The Secretary underlined Finance Department directives mandating utilization of 75% of sanctioned assistance by December and immediate surrender of non-viable projects for reallocation of funds.

He further reiterated that under SASCI, departments must demonstrate the capacity to incur at least Rs 2 crore expenditure within the financial year, failing which funds may be withdrawn.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Director RDD Kashmir, Shabir Hussain Bhat; Director RDD Jammu, Shehnaz Akhtar; Director Finance, Umar Khan; Assistant Commissioners Development (ACDs) and Executive Engineers.



level review meeting to assess the physical and financial progress under the Union Territory (UT) CAPEX and the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI).

The review laid special emphasis on accelerating infrastructure development for Panchayati Raj Institutions

on ongoing works such as residential accommodations for PRI members, DDC offices, and other related infrastructure.

Emphasising speedy execution, the Secretary directed officers to clear approvals within 2-3 days and ensure that projects reach the tendering stage within this week positively.

late, it is critical to pick up the right momentum and pace so that targets are achieved on time," he said.

The Secretary urged officers to maintain accountability, transparency, and pace in execution.

Highlighting region-specific challenges, he cautioned that Winter weath-

IMCT Visits Kulgam, Chair Review Meeting On Relief, Rehabilitation Measures

FE NEWS NETWORK

Also conduct tour of various flood affected areas

KULGAM: The Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) deputied by the

uraisa, Regional Officer, MoRTH Jammu; Arti Singh, Deputy Director Ministry of Power; Dr Vikram Singh, Joint Director, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Shachi Jain, Director Ministry of Jal Shakti; Kandarp V Patel, Deputy Secretary FCD and Rakesh Kumar, Under Secretary, Min-

Aamir Khan; Senior officers of district administration and engineers from key departments like PWD (R&B), Jal Shakti, Irrigation & Flood Control, KPDCL, PMGSY, and senior officers of Health, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, FSC, and Revenue departments.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner presented an overview of the recent flood situation in the district.

Addressing the officers in the meeting, the IMCT said that the observations and recommendations as well as damage report will be shared with the Union Government to ensure immediate relief as well as long-term resilience planning for the district.

Later, the IMCT team also visited various flood affected areas of the district including Khudwani and Qaimoo to gather on-ground assessment of the damages caused.

The team also interacted with the general public and took stock of their demands and suggestions.

They assured the locals that these observations and suggestions will be shared with the Government of India to ensure immediate relief as well as long-term resilience planning for Kulgam district.



Union Government, today visited Kulgam and held a review meeting to take stock of relief, rehabilitation and restoration measures in the aftermath of recent floods in the district.

The team comprised of Col. K.P. Singh, Joint Secretary & Advisor (Ops & Comm), NDMAI; Navin Kumar Cha-

istry of Rural Development.

During the meeting, the team took detailed assessment and review of damages caused by recent floods, cloudbursts, and landslides in the district.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Athar

DLSA Srinagar observes 'International Legal Literacy Day'

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A comprehensive legal awareness programme was organized by the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar, to observe International Legal Literacy Day, at Government S.P Higher Secondary School, Srinagar.

The initiative was aimed at sensitizing students about their legal rights and the importance of understanding the law, thereby promoting awareness and empowering the youth with crucial legal knowledge.

The programme was conducted under the chairmanship of Tasleem Anief, Principal District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar, and held under the supervision of Sajad Ur Rehman, Sub-Judge/Secretary, DLSA Srinagar.

During the session, Zeenat Nazir, Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel (LADC), delivered an insightful presentation on important legal issues such as Child Custody and Guardianship, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, and Drug Abuse.

She elaborated on the legal framework that governs child custody and guardianship disputes, the provisions and procedures under the POCSO Act aimed at safeguarding children against sexual offences, and the laws relating to the prevention of drug abuse and its social consequences.

Her session provided the students with a detailed understanding of their rights and the legal measures in place to protect vulnerable individuals.

Additionally, Sehar Nazir, Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel, addressed the audience on the broader topic of International Legal Literacy Day. She highlighted the significance of knowing one's legal rights and responsibilities as an informed citizen and emphasized the role of law in promoting justice, equality, and social welfare.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from the students, who actively engaged with the resource persons. Their curiosity and thoughtful questions created a dynamic atmosphere, allowing for productive discussions.



TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan: DC Srinagar Reviews Progress In Testing, Tracking & Treatment

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: In order to review the progress towards Tuberculosis-Free Srinagar under the TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan in the district and assess the measures taken to achieve the goal of a TB Free status, a meeting of District TB Control Society was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar Akshay Labroo (Chairman District TB Control Society) here on Monday at meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

At the outset, DC took a Medical Zone/Block wise appraisal of key performance indicators including TB notification rates, early detection and treatment adherence, implementation of Ni-Kshay Mitra initiative aimed to provide additional patient support to improve treatment outcomes of TB patients.

During the meeting, DC was given a

detailed overview about the availability and utilisation of diagnostic equipment,

Bharat Abhiyan. He called for intensified screening drives, particularly targeting



screening mechanisms and treatment facilities in all Medical Zones and Blocks of the district. On the occasion, Labroo laid emphasis on coordinated efforts, community engagement and optimal utilisation of resources to achieve the objectives of the TB Free Srinagar under TB Mukht

vulnerable sections of the population to curb the spread of TB.

DC pressed for optimised resource utilization to deliver timely diagnosis and ensure effective treatment regimens to the TB patients. He stressed the importance of home visits by ASHA workers to extend

'at-home' support to patients and enhance recovery rates.

He said though the efforts of the administration are yielding significant results, the District TB Society has to further intensify efforts under the TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan and work collectively towards achieving a TB-Free Srinagar in alignment with national health goals.

DC assured all required support from the District Administration to District TB Control Society to further strengthen its functioning and improve testing measures to achieve required screening.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Chief Medical Officer, Dr Tahir Sajad, all Zonal Medical Officers, Block Medical Officers, Medical Superintendents of SKIMS, Soura, SMHS, Hospital, JVC Bemina, JLNH Hospital, Gousia Hospital, CD Hospital and other concerned.

DC Baramulla chairs meeting on implementation of Vibrant Villages Programme 2.0

FE NEWS NETWORK

Directs grassroots planning, nomination of officers for identified villages, saturation of key interventions

BARAMULLA, SEPTEMBER 08: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, today chaired

closely with mainstream progress.

Highlighting the importance of grassroots planning, DC instructed all concerned departments to nominate dedicated officers for 18 identified villages who will be tasked with conducting baseline surveys and village assessments to identify infrastructural gaps and prepare comprehensive development plans in coordination with local communities. Minga Sherpa further directed the appointed



a meeting at Dak Bungalow, here for the implementation of the Vibrant Villages Programme 2.0 (VVP-II) in the district.

During the meeting, it was informed that 18 strategic villages in the border areas of Baramulla district have been identified under VVP-II for targeted and holistic development.

The programme aims at achieving the saturation of 10 key interventions, encompassing livelihood generation, financial inclusion, infrastructure strengthening, skill development, tourism promotion, education and other crucial sectors to uplift border and remote habitations.

Speaking during the meeting, DC emphasized that VVP-II is not just a developmental initiative but also a strategic effort to ensure inclusive growth in border villages, thereby integrating them more

Nodal Officer to ensure proper training of these members so that the planning and execution process remains efficient, and need-based.

Meanwhile, DC directed that the concerned department shall host cultural festivals, outreach activities, and Gram Sabhas in all identified villages to generate awareness among people about the beneficiary schemes and benefits available under the programme.

Stressing on transparency, DC directed all officers to ensure that field-level data submitted must be accurate and free from discrepancies, as this would form the foundation for effective planning and timely execution of interventions.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer Baramulla, Nisar Ahmad; Sub-Divisional Magistrate Uri, and other district and sectoral officers.



SWD organizes Vocational Training programme at GGHSS- Raj Bagh

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: A Vocational Training programme was organized by the Social Welfare department at GGHSS- Raj Bagh to equip students with different courses/ opportunities available in the field of skill development.

Vocational Training programmes enable students to become self-employed or find employment in government or private sectors. It empowers individuals to become financially independent by providing those means to earn a living after completing their education.

Speaking at the event, Shabnum, Lecturer Government Women Polytechnic College, Bemina mentioned the need of acquiring Skill based education and modelling career based on the skill and then turning them into successful entrepreneurship.

Saba, Project Manager DIC discussed the number of opportunities available and also encouraged the students to orient their careers based on the need of the market.

Gender Specialist and Specialist in Financial Literacy from SANKALP Hub for Empowerment of Women- Mission Shakti, Srinagar also provided detailed information regarding livelihood opportunities and various skill courses offered by the Social Welfare department under Mission Shakti.

Coordinator Child Helpline also provided information about the services offered by Mission Vatsalya and Juvenile Justice Act in the interest of girls.



Central Bureau of Investigation. Government of India, Anti-Corruption Branch, Srinagar.

Near Guest House No.6, Near MLA Hostel, MA Road, Srinagar-190001.

Phone/fax: 0194-2455514, email :- hobacsgr@cbi.gov.in

No. 166/PA/Misc/CBI,ACB-Srinagar

dated.08-09-2025.

MESSAGE

DO NOT PAY BRIBE TO ANYONE, IF ANY GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, EMPLOYEES OF GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS PERFORMING PUBLIC DUTIES DEMANDS BRIBE FROM YOU OR IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE CORRUPTION OR IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF CORRUPTION, PLEASE MAKE A COMPLAINT TO DIG, ANTI-CORRUPTION BRANCH, CBI SRINAGAR LOCATED NEAR MLA HOSTEL SRINAGAR ON PHONE NO'S (LAND LINE) 0194-2455514 AND (MOBILE NO.) 9419900977. YOU CAN ALSO SENT YOUR COMPLAINT ON EMAIL ID-HOBACSGR@CBI.GOV.IN. IDENTITY OF THE INFORMER WILL BE KEPT SECRET AND NOT DISCLOSED. SAY NO TO CORRUPTION. BE A LEADER TO ERADICATE THE MENANCE OF CORRUPTION. ISSUED IN PUBLIC INTEREST.

Sd/-(Raman Kumar Meena) IPS DIG & Head of the branch, CBI ACB Srinagar

DIT/KM/8/25

COMPLIMENTARY

Sinha

Experience-based, interdisciplinary, life-skills & project-based education should be our focus to prepare youth for the unpredictable world,” the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor exhorted the University to start short-term professional programs to deal with climate challenges and research on floods and landslides.

“Today the whole world is affected by natural disasters. There was massive destruction of infrastructure and loss of lives in Jammu Kashmir. The Government of India is fully committed to ensure that normal life resumes once again and the affected people are rehabilitated properly.

Once the road connectivity is completely restored, the university administration must send groups of students to serve in different areas and prepare a team of volunteers who will assist and help the district administration in relief and rehabilitation of families affected due to recent natural calamities in the UT,” he said.

The Lieutenant Governor felicitated the Alumni of the University of Jammu and called upon them to make their valuable contribution to the progress of the University.

NSS and NCC Volunteers, retired teaching and non-teaching staff of the Jammu University were also felicitated on the occasion.

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (Northern Region Transmission System – II) handed over PA System and Streetlights to University of Jammu under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.

Justice Tashi Rabstan, former Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh High Court; Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu; Tarun Bajaj, Executive Director, Power Grid; Dr Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies; Prof. J.P Singh, Dean Academic Affairs; Dr Neeraj Sharma, Registrar, distinguished alumnus, faculty, staff and students of Jammu University were present. (DIPR)

LG Expresses

owned by the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) commenced its operations last year in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district, with the medical college set to start imparting education for the first batch of MBBS students in the academic session 2025-26.

“Grateful to PM Narendra Modi Ji and Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, J P Nadda Ji for sanctioning 50 MBBS seats for the newly established Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence (SMVDIME),” the L-G said on X.

The L-G added that this decision not only fulfils the resolve of the SMVDSB to provide world-class medical education in J&K but also meets the objective of improving healthcare access and increasing highly skilled medical professionals in underserved areas.

The shrine board, in its 71st meeting held on August 19, 2023, had granted in-principle approval for the establishment of a 50-seat medical college at Kakryal, with a long-term plan for upgradation to a 100-seat medical college subsequently.

“Our aim is to help more MBBS aspirants study in the UT, and we have made significant strides in this area by increasing MBBS seats in the past few years. These achievements will ensure greater access to specialised care and build a stronger healthcare system,” Sinha said.

“The session is set to begin as counselling is going on,” Executive Director SMVDIME Dr Yasपाल Sharma told PTI.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence – Medical College started its operations in the administrative block of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University at Kakryal in November last year.

The SMVDIME Medical College is expected to be completed with all facilities soon. (PTI)

CS Reviews

Deputy Commissioners; Director, Colleges; CEO, CiTAG; representatives from J&K Bank, NABARD, IIT Jammu; and other concerned officers.

Reviewing the mission's performance, the Chief Secretary underscored the importance of targeting specific potential groups such as college students, Self Help Group members (especially Lakhpati Didis), Vishwakarma-sponsored artisans, and existing nano-enterprises for their upgradation.

He directed departments to ensure that Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are meticulously prepared to minimize the risk of business failure and stressed the need for continuous capacity building of applicants. He also emphasized hiring skilled manpower for the Project Management Unit (PMU) to ensure professional execution of the mission. Calling upon banks to clear existing pendencies at the earliest, he urged them to play a proactive role in assisting applicants in DPR preparation, noting that the quality of DPRs is pivotal in translating ideas into sustainable enterprises.

He further asked financial institutions and departments to fast-track sanctioning and disbursement of loans so that eligible youth do not face delays in setting up their ventures.

Expressing satisfaction over the progress achieved so far, the Chief Secretary directed all stakeholders to work in synergy to scale up the mission's outreach and impact.

Principal Secretary, Finance, Santosh D. Vaidya, in his remarks, underlined that the programme's success hinges on three pillars including that of skilling of youth, financial support through banks, and strong market linkages. He stressed leveraging existing institutional mechanisms to ensure the goals remain practical and achievable.

Director, IIM Jammu, highlighted the need for a year-long activity calendar for capacity building of stakeholders, with timely listing of training topics and resource persons from reputed institutions.

Presenting the progress report, Secretary, Labour & Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, informed that Mission YUVA has so far received 42,334 applications including 36,951 for nano enterprises, 1,557 for new MSMEs, and 210 from existing MSMEs.

He further added that the mission has also recorded 90,611 registrations on the YUVA portal, of which 20,304 applications have been verified by Single Business Development Units (SBDUs) and 15,438 approved by District Level Implementation Committees (DLICs).

At the banking level, 15,771 applications involving projects worth Rs 1,071.43 Cr have been submitted. Of these, 4,190 applications have been sanctioned and 2,087 projects disbursed, reflecting strong momentum in youth-led entrepreneurship.

The average project cost, supported under the scheme, was said to stand at Rs 6.3 lakh, with banks sanctioning projects worth Rs 264.47 Cr, disbursing Rs 133.46 Cr, and subsidies worth Rs 23.18 Cr claimed so far.

Director, Employment, Shahzad Alam, further highlighted the strong digital engagement of the mission, with the YUVA mobile app crossing 50,000 downloads and the portal recording over 9 lakh visitors, positioning it as one of the most transparent and accessible platforms for youth empowerment in the UT. (DIPR)

CM Omar

adherence to timelines is critical for commissioning this prestigious project. He directed the executing agency to expedite all pending works and ensure their completion within fixed deadlines.

Omar Abdullah emphasized that AIIMS Awantipora must be commissioned as a single integrated unit, with both OPD and IPD services made operational simultaneously for the benefit of the general public.

To facilitate this, he instructed the executing agency to fortnightly review status of the progress of works.

The Chief Minister also called upon the executing agency to mobilize additional manpower and machinery to accelerate the pace of work. He reviewed in detail the physical and financial progress of the project, including the construction of the main hospital building, priority building works, approach road, water supply, final master plan, routes to emergency department and other allied facilities.

He further impressed upon them the need to ensure proper stabilization of the surrounding areas, especially in view of the recent heavy rainfall and the institution's location on hilly terrain.

Earlier, Executive Director AIIMS, Dr. Mohanty, briefed the meeting on the progress achieved so far, informing that MBBS courses are scheduled to commence in July 2026, while OPD and allied services are expected to become functional early next year, with the institution fully operational by the end of the same year.

Later, the Chief Minister inspected the site, the premises and perused master plan of the institution. (DIPR)

2 Soldiers

Meanwhile, Chinara Corps said that two terrorists were killed in the encounter while a Junior Commissioned Officer sustained injuries. Security forces are working to ascertain the identities of the slain terrorists as the operation continues.

“Vigilant troops observed suspicious movement and upon being challenged, terrorists opened fire, prompting a fierce exchange of gunfire. During the encounter, two terrorists were eliminated while a JCO was injured,” it said on X.

Later in the evening Army wrote on X: “Chinara Corps honours the supreme sacrifice of the bravehearts, Sub Perbhat Gaur and L/Nk Narendra Sindhu, in line of duty for the Nation. Their courage and dedication will forever inspire us. Indian Army expresses deepest condolences and stands in solidarity with the bereaved families. Operation continues.”

The operation is being monitored by senior police and Army officials. Director General of Police (DGP) J&K, Nalin Prabhat, also visited the site of the ongoing encounter in south Kashmir's Kulgam district—(KNO)

J&K Rainfall

He also said that a fresh spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower is expected at many places of J&K towards early morning and morning hours on September 13—(KNO)

Mehraj Malik

continuously misused by him to spread misinformation and provoke the public to cause public order issues.

“Every lawful action by administration aimed at creating law based society, whether conducted in district Doda or in Jammu, gives the subject an ‘opportunity’ to spread lies and provoke public especially youth to cause large scale breach of peace,” the deputy commissioner said, citing registration of various FIRs against him in Doda and Jammu.

The dossier specifically accuses Malik of inciting the public to ‘act as Lashkars like Burhan

Wani’ to have their demands met. Burhan Wani was a poster boy of the banned Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist group.

The document said that Malik “openly issued threats to government officials” and sought to “incite public hostility against the administration” during Operation Sindoor.

It said Malik has a “documented history of associating himself with proscribed terrorists such as Burhan Wani through provocative social media posts” and also alleged that he issued a public call to “burn down government offices”.

Citing an FIR registered in May this year, the dossier alleges that Malik “does not even respect the dignity of women” and has made “repeated derogatory, threatening and misogynistic remarks against women doctors serving at GMC Doda, threatening to ‘drag and undress’ them at his will”.

The document stated that his “irresponsible remarks against females” coupled with abusive language have degraded the “ethical conduct of society”.

The deputy commissioner's report said that despite multiple legal actions, Malik has not changed his behaviour, and his actions have the potential to “alienate the youth from adopting legal means”.

The detention is justified as a necessary measure to balance individual liberty with the “safety of the community”, especially given that the MLA “openly questions law of land, repeatedly terming himself above law and resorting to violence and instigation to pull youth towards disorder”. (PTI)

Dy. CM reviews status of restoration work of road infrastructure, NH's across J&K

Directs for immediate restoration of damaged infrastructure for free movement of people, goods & services

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary chaired a meeting and held a detailed review of restoration of road infrastructure including National Highways and critical roads of Jammu & Kashmir damaged due to recent floods.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary PW(R&B), Chief Engineers of all wings of PWD, Superintending Engineers, Executive Engineers, RO NHAI, Chief Engineer BEACON, Chief Engineer SAMPARK Project Direct NHID-CL and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, Principal Secretary PWD gave a power presentation about the overall road infrastructure maintained by various agencies. It was informed that out of total road length of 42000Kms, around 12000Kms have suffered damages due to recent floods/ flash floods.

The Deputy Chief Minister was apprised that the department has put in place men and machinery on war footing for temporary restoration of the road connectivity.

The RO NHAI informed that NH44 has suffered major damages in Udhampur- Ramban stretch which will be restored by today evening while on the Dhar- Udhampur stretch, the traffic will be through for one way movement by tomorrow. The RO also apprised that out of total 105 Bridges at NH44, 03 bridges were damaged which have been restored.

Taking serious note on the damage caused to Seri-Kath Bridge at Kathua, the Deputy Chief Minister asked NHAI authorities the reason for Seri-Kath bridge collapse in the recent floods despite having been constructed only few years back. He directed the NHAI to conduct the design/ structural audit of the all bridges constructed by the agency. (DIPR)

CS meets IMCT; Seeks Central Assistance for restoration of flood-hit infrastructure



SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo held a detailed meeting with the Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) that arrived in the Union Territory to assess the damages caused by the recent floods. The deluge affected several districts, damaging homes, infrastructure, standing crops and horticultural produce.

While no casualties were reported in the Kashmir Valley, the mountainous districts were deeply affected by flash floods, leading to the loss of human lives and extensive damage to public assets. The agriculture and horticulture sectors have also suffered heavy losses, with vast stretches of paddy fields and apple orchards bearing the brunt.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary made a strong pitch for immediate central assistance to restore vital infrastructure such as power supply lines, water supply schemes, schools, roads, bridges and other public utilities. He underscored the need of a comprehensive safety audit of critical public infrastructure, particularly schools, healthcare facilities, bridges and roads, to ensure their resilience for their utility for continuous public use.

The Chief Secretary also sought special relief for farmers whose crops or agricultural lands were damaged due to the floods. He proposed that the Central Government

bear the farmers' share of premium too under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) so that the affected growers can avail insurance cover for their crop losses.

Highlighting the issue of connectivity, he pressed for immediate directives to central road agencies to undertake swift restoration of damaged roads and support new connectivity projects in flood-hit districts that remain cut off.

The Chief Secretary later took note of the restoration measures taken in Jammu division. He took detailed appraisal first from Divisional Commissioner Jammu and then enquired from each Deputy Commissioner about the status of essential amenities there along with relief and rehabilitation measures initiated to bring respite to the locals in terms of connectivity, power, water and other public infrastructure.

The IMCT has already visited several worst-affected areas of Jammu region, which has borne the maximum brunt of the recent floods and landslides. Over the past month, inclement weather has left J&K reeling, with around 150 people losing their lives and key roads, including the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, frequently blocked, thereby affecting the movement of traffic on these roads here. (DIPR)

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW(R&B) DIVISION CHRARI-SHARIEF

NOTICE INVITING FRESH E-TENDER Single cover system

Fresh E-NIT No.25/ RNB/CHRAR of 2025-26 Dated:06/09/2025

Executive Engineer PW (R&B) Division Charari-Sharief on behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K UT invites percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for the following works from the eligible and approved contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State Governments.

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (incl. cost of Bitumen and GST (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest money CDR/ FDR/B G (Rs)	Time of Comp lection (days)	Major Head	Class of Contrac tor
1	Improvements/Upgradation of Kanidajan Pehlipora Khahdab road	58.17	1600/-	116340 /-	25	POTHOL E 2025-	A
2	Improvements/Upgradation of interior roads at Karpora Shankerpora and Charipora	39.18	1100/-	78360/-	20	POTHOL E 2025-26	A/B
3	Improvements/Upgradation of interior roads at Pakherpora & Mohanpora	38.80	1100/-	77600/-	20	POTHOL E 2025-26	A/B
4	Improvements/Upgradation of Malpora Dardpora link road at Charisharief	29.39	1100/-	58780/-	20	POTHOL E 2025-26	A/B
5	Improvements/Upgradation n of Interior roads at Sani Darwan (Balance portion)	29.08	1100/-	58160/-	20	POTHOL E 2025-26	A/B

Project Authority: PW (R&B) Department Kashmir

Position of AAA: Accorded

Position of TS: Sanctioned

Position of funds: Committed /Available

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.iktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06/09/2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	06/09/2025
3	Bid submission Start Date	06/09/2025
4	Bid Submission End Date	15/09/2025 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	16/09/2025 11:30AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Charisharief

2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Charisharief(Tender Inviting Authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the Tender Receiving Authority, i.e. Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Charisharief. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the totalcost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

4. The date and time of bid opening shall be notified on the Web Site www.iktenders.gov.in and automatically communicated to bidders via an e-mail message sent to their e-mail address. Responsive bidders' bids will be opened online on the same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Charisharief(Tender Receiving Authority).

5. Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

i) Bidders are advised to download the bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as the "Bidders Manual Kit" option on the website www.iktenders.gov to familiarize themselves with the bid submission process.

ii) In order to participate in the bidding process, bidders must obtain a 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' under the Information Technology Act of 2000. Any approved Vendor can provide bidders with a digital certificate.

iii) Bidders must submit their bids in electronic format with a digital signature online. No physical bids will be accepted.

iv) Bids will be opened online in accordance with the time schedule specified in Para-1.

v) Bidders must upload online scanned copy of all required documents (within the document upload limits) with their technical bid.

i) All other terms and conditions will be as per PWD Form 25 and CPWD General Conditions of Contract (CPWD G.C.C)

ii)

No.: 2438-47
Dated: 06/09/2025

DIPK-5994/25 Dt: 08-09-2025

Sd/-
Executive Engineer

 								
Government of Jammu & Kashmir								
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER								
R&B DIVISION GUREZ								
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS								
Fresh (R&B) E-NIT No. 38/2025-26/EE/R&B/Grz/3941-48/E-tendering /Dated:- 06-09-2025								
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K-e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-:								
S. No	Name of Work	Estimate d Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Time of Completi on	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Major Head of Account	Class of Contrac tor	Project Authority
1	Face-lifting and Fencing of Tourist Hut Tamam Gurez.	21.70	800 (indicate name of work with NIT serial no. on TR)	10 Months	43400	SSY	CEE/ BEE/	District Development Commissioner
2	Development of Lawn and Fencing of Community Centre at Tamam Gurez	24.65	800 (indicate name of work with NIT serial no. on TR)	10 Months	49340	SSY	CEE/ BEE/	District Development Commissioner
Position of AAA:- (Accorded)								
Position of TS:- (Accorded)								
1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q). Set of terms- and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.iktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:								
S. No.	Particulars			Dated				
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice.			06-09-2025				
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents			From 08-09-2025 (10:00 AM) To 15-09-2025 (04:00PM)				
3	Bid submission Start Date			From 08-09-2025 (10:00 AM)				
4	Bid Submission End Date			To 15-09-2025 (04:00PM)				
6	Date and time of opening of bid (online)			In the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Gurez				
Sd/- Executive Engineer								
DIPK-6008/25 Dt: 08-09-2025								

Space Must Empower Every Sector And Serve Common Citizens: Dr Jitendra Singh

SRINAGAR: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that India is entering a transformative phase in its space journey, with ambitious goals ranging from a Bharatiya Space Station by 2035 to landing an Indian astronaut on the Moon by 2040. He was speaking virtually at the inaugural session of the International Conference on Space 2025, themed “Harnessing Space for Global Progress: Innovation, Policy, and Growth.”

Highlighting recent milestones, the Minister referred to the success of Chandrayaan-3, which placed India among the leading spacefaring nations by becoming the first to land near the lunar south pole. He also pointed to the achievements of Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, the first Indian Air Force officer to travel to the International Space Station, and outlined India's upcoming exploration missions to Mars, Venus, and asteroids, alongside the human spaceflight programme Gaganyaan.

Dr. Jitendra Singh underscored the role of reforms initiated under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, which have opened the sector to private



participation, startups, and academia. Over 300 startups are currently active in areas including launch vehicles, satellites, and ground systems. This, he said, is not only fostering innovation but also generating jobs, investments, and opportunities for young professionals.

He noted that the true value of space lies in its applications across everyday life — from agriculture and health to

education, urban development, and governance. “Space must empower every sector and serve the common citizen,” he said.

The Minister also emphasized India's commitment to international collaboration. He cited recent partnerships such as the joint NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission with the United States, and the upcoming Chandrayaan-5 lunar mission with Japan. Such cooperation, he added, demonstrates how space can serve as a powerful platform for global engagement.

Skill development, he said, remains a critical pillar of India's space strategy. Through ISRO outreach programmes, academic Centres of Excellence, and industry-academia collaborations, the country is nurturing talent in fields such as satellite design, propulsion, AI-driven applications, and space law.

The conference, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), has drawn over 500 delegates from India and abroad, including government representatives, academics, industry lead-

ers, and startups. Dr. Jitendra Singh commended CII for creating a platform that brings together stakeholders to discuss innovation, policy, and growth in the sector.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision that the 21st century belongs to India, with space emerging as a frontier where the nation's leadership will be globally recognized. He stressed that the application of space technologies will not only transform agriculture, health, and education but also strengthen governance and public service delivery. The Minister welcomed the formation of CII's National Committee on Space, which he said would serve as a vital platform to bring together established enterprises and new-age startups for building a stronger ecosystem. Concluding his address, the Minister reiterated India's vision of using space for sustainability, equity, and global progress. “India's space journey is one of perseverance and innovation. Let us dream together, innovate together, and build together — transforming space from a distant frontier into a shared horizon of unity and progress,” he said. (PIB)

India's unemployment rate lowest among G20 nations, says Mansukh Mandaviya citing WEF

NEWDELHI: Quoting the World Economic Forum's “The Future of Jobs Report 2025”, the Union Minister for Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya stated that India's unemployment rate is 2%, which is the lowest among the G20 nations. He highlighted how employment generation



has taken place across sectors in tandem with India's rapid economic growth, and underlined the enabling government schemes that have contributed towards the same.

The Union Minister was addressing the gathering in New Delhi today at the signing of Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Labour & Employment and ‘Mentor Together’ and ‘Quikr’ for enhancing employment opportunities as well as youth employability on the National Career Service (NCS) Portal. The MoU was signed in the presence of Union Minister for Labour & Employment, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya and Union Minister of State for Labour & Employment, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje.

In his address, Dr. Mandaviya said, “The National Career Service (NCS) platform, with nearly 52 lakh registered employers, 5.79 crore job seekers and over 7.22 crore vacancies mobilized, is now evolving to offer not just job listings, but as a one-stop solution for all employment-related services. Currently, there are over 44 lakh active vacancies on the portal. Over the past year, the Ministry has signed MoUs with ten key organisations, including Amazon and Swiggy. These partnerships have already mobilized nearly five lakh vacancies.”

Highlighting the Government's renewed focus on youth, Dr. Mandaviya recalled that, at the

very start of its third term, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced a package of five flagship schemes with a total budget of 2 lakh crore to support employment, skilling, and opportunities for 4.1 crore youth. A key highlight of this package is the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY), with an allocation of 99,446 crore, aimed at incentivising the creation of over 3.5 crore jobs in two years, of which 1.92 crore will benefit first-time entrants to the workforce.

The Minister further underscored the importance of employment creation through the growth of services, manufacturing, and agriculture, noting that the Government has launched transformative schemes such as MUDRA and PM SVANidhi to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship.

Welcoming the collaboration between the Ministry and the two organisations, Dr. Mandaviya said that these partnerships would make suitable employment opportunities as well as structured mentoring available to job-seekers, particularly in light of the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana coming into effect in August this year. These collaborations, in turn, will benefit not only the youth, but the nation at large, he added. “It will ensure that the future of this country, and of its youth, is bright,” he stated.

Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje noted that NCS has emerged as India's premier platform for digital employment facilitation, offering job matching, counselling, and skilling at one place. “This partnership will not only facilitate our young people in securing employment, but also make the right kind of handholding available to them,” she said.

The partnership with Mentor Together is expected to reach two lakh youth in its first year, including one lakh from NCS and one lakh Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana entrants, delivering personalized career mentoring with city- and district-level outreach, so that no jobseeker is left behind. It will also enable first-time job seekers, particularly those from underserved backgrounds, to access personalized guidance from over 24,000 trained professionals. (PIB)

China's export growth slows in August as US tariffs and trade tensions bite

BEIJING: China's exports grew last month but at a slower pace than in recent months, the country's customs agency said Monday.

Exports reached \$321.8 billion in August, a 4.4% increase compared to the same month last year. That was down from a 7.2% jump in July. Meanwhile, imports totalled \$219.5 billion, a 1.8% rise.

China's large trade surplus has become a contentious issue with major trading partners including the US and the European Union. Low-priced Chinese imports are a boon for consum-



ers but can lead to job cuts in manufacturing.

In the first eight months of the year, China's exported \$785.3 billion more in goods than it imported from other countries, the monthly customs data showed.

President Donald Trump has imposed 30% in additional tariffs on imports from China since taking office early this year. He backed down from even higher tariffs after China retaliated with import taxes of its own. The two countries are in talks to try to reach a trade agreement.

The tariffs from both sides and the possibility they could be raised again are having an impact on two-way trade. Chinese exports to the U.S. plunged 33% in August to \$47.3 billion, while its imports from the U.S. dropped 16% to \$13.4 billion.

Exports to the EU rose 10.4% to \$46.8 billion, while imports from the 27-member bloc edged down slightly to \$22.8 billion.

Overall, China's exports grew at the slowest pace since the January-February period, when they rose just 2.3%. The first two months of the year are reported together to smooth out distortions from the long Lunar New Year break.

China's exports of rare earths rose on a monthly basis to \$55 million in August, up from \$41 million in July, but down 25.6% compared to the same month last year.

Rare earth magnets, which can withstand high heat, are vital to many products including washing machines, cars and fighter jets.

China dominates the global market for processing rare earths, and a clampdown on their export in April temporarily halted production at some factories in Europe and the US and raised fears of shutdowns at others. (PTI)

Govt Slashes GST Rates for Heavy Industries; Automobiles, Tractors, Buses to Become Cheaper

NEW DELHI: In a major decision expected to boost demand across heavy industries, the government has announced significant reductions in Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates for automobiles, tractors, buses, trucks, and auto components. The move is aimed at making vehicles more affordable, stimulating manufacturing, and creating large-scale employment opportunities.

According to PIB, the revised tax structure will have a wide-ranging impact on the automobile and ancillary industries, which directly and indirectly employ more than 3.5 crore people in manufacturing, sales, financing, logistics, and services. Officials said the cuts will also benefit farmers, gig workers, small traders, and daily wage earners by reducing costs of mobility and improving access to affordable transport.

Two-wheelers up to 350 cc will now attract 18% GST, down from 28%, making bikes more affordable for youth, rural households, and gig workers. Similarly, small cars in the affordable segment will also see GST reduced to 18% from 28%, while large cars will be taxed at a flat 40% without cess, simplifying the structure and allowing full input tax credit (ITC) benefits.

For the agriculture sector, tractors below 1800 cc will see GST fall from 12% to 5%, while road tractors with higher engine capacity will attract 18% instead of 28%. Tractor parts will also be taxed at 5%, which officials said would strengthen India's position as a global tractor manufacturing hub. The government expects this to boost farm mechanisation, lower costs, and increase productivity of key crops like paddy and wheat.

Buses with seating capacity of more than 10 persons will now attract 18% GST against the earlier 28%, a change that is expected to lower acquisition costs for fleet operators, schools, and state transport undertakings. Officials said the move will encourage affordable fares, promote public transport usage, and reduce congestion and pollution.

Trucks and delivery vans, which form the backbone of India's supply chain carrying nearly 70% of goods traffic, will also see GST reduced from 28% to 18%. This is expected to cut freight costs, reduce inflationary pressures, and improve export competitiveness. Third-party insurance of goods carriage will also attract only 5% GST with ITC, further easing logistics costs in line with the government's PM Gati Shakti and National Logistics



Policy.

The government also announced that auto parts and components will now attract 18% GST, benefiting MSMEs in the ancillary industry that produce tyres, batteries, engines, plastics, and electronics. Officials said rising vehicle sales will create a multiplier effect across the supply chain, generating fresh employment in dealerships, logistics, maintenance, and informal sector jobs such as mechanics and service garages.

Additionally, transport services for both goods and passengers will now have the option to be taxed at either 5% or 18%, depending on business requirements.

According to officials, the rationalisation of GST rates will encourage investment in Make in India, boost financial inclusion through vehicle financing, and support a shift towards cleaner, fuel-efficient mobility as old vehicles are replaced with new models. (PIB)

Jaishankar holds talks with Iowa Governor on India-US economic ties

NEWDELHI: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday held talks with the Governor of Iowa, Kim Reynolds, in Delhi.

Jaishankar said that the two discussed India-US ties. In a post on X, he said, “Met Governor Iowa Kim Reynolds in New Delhi today. Discussed India-US economic ties and its potential.”

Earlier on Saturday, EAM commented on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's response to US President Donald Trump's remarks on the India-US relationship.

“PM Modi attaches enormous importance to our partnership with the US. Where President Trump is concerned, he (PM Modi) has always had a very good personal equation with President Trump. But the point is that we remain engaged with the US, and at this time, I can't say more than that. But that's really what I would say,” Jaishankar said.

His remarks came shortly after Prime Minister Modi responded warmly to Trump's affirmation of India-US ties, expressing that he “deeply appreciates and fully reciprocates” the US President's sentiments and positive assessment of the bilateral relations.

PM Modi noted India-US ties as “forward-looking” towards a “Comprehensive and Global Strategic Partnership”.

“Deeply appreciate and fully reciprocate President Trump's sentiments and positive as-

essment of our ties. India and the US have a very positive and forward-looking Comprehensive and Global Strategic Partnership,” the Prime Minister wrote in a post on X.

Earlier on Friday (local time), President Trump at the White House, called the India-US ties a “very special relationship” and affirmed that



he and PM Modi would always be friends, asserting that there is “nothing to worry about”.

However, he expressed displeasure over what “he (PM Modi) is doing” in contemporary times.

When asked by ANI, “Are you ready to reset relations with India at this point?”, US President Trump said, “I always will. I'll always be friends with (PM) Modi. He's a great Prime Minister. I'll always be friends, but I just don't like what he is doing at this particular moment. But India and the United States have a very special relationship. There is nothing to worry about. We just have moments on occasion.” (ANI)

India Stands United To Overcome Global Challenges

Focus on Swadeshi and Atmanirbhar Bharat essential: Union Minister Piyush Goyal

NEWDELHI: No matter how big the problem arises in the global situation, India stands together as a nation said Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, while addressing the 56th EEPIC India National Awards. He added that the country has the strength to overcome any crisis. Goyal further emphasised that businesses should focus on swadeshi products, as this will not only help India's growth but also strengthen the country's financial security.

He cautioned that recently it has been seen that any country can impose export controls or restrict important products from reaching India, which can create hurdles for businesses. Therefore, he said, there is a need to focus more on Atmanirbhar Bharat. He described it as a call to action

that everyone must accept.

Goyal also recalled that on 15th August, Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave a clarion call for swadeshi products, stressing the importance of innovation. He said that India's 1.4 billion people, businesses and trade should focus on Made in India products. Businesses that are import dependent, he suggested, can look into products that can be procured and made in India.

The Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In her address, she spoke about India's engineering exports and their advancement over the decades. She emphasised the importance of exports in strengthening the country's economy and enhancing India's global standing.

Goyal highlighted that India's strength relies on trade and the MSME sector, which form the backbone of the country's businesses. He said that India's self-confidence is so strong that it will only grow stronger and will not bow in front of anyone. Referring to EEPIC's journey, he pointed out that in 1955 exports were at USD 10 million, while today they stand at USD 116 billion. With time, he said, the engineering sector will grow further with bigger goals and greater strength.

The Minister said that he has full confidence that India, with the motto of “Zero Defect, Zero Effect,” will grow bigger. He underlined the need to ensure that good quality products are made in India and sold across the world. He added that the world today considers India a trusted



partner, and it is important to maintain that status. He also stated that India is a nation conscious of sustainability. As a responsible global citizen, India is mindful of Mother Nature, and with its NDC

commitments under COP21 in Paris, India has ranked in the top three for consecutive years in global sustainability efforts.

Goyal said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has transformed from a fragile five economies to one of the top five economies. He noted that India has been the fastest growing economy for the last four years. In the last quarter, the country achieved 7.8 percent GDP growth, which he described as a world record.

The Minister said that with GST rate cuts and simplification, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a boost to domestic demand. He noted that new opportunities for employees and increases in income will follow. He further said

that when infrastructure spending and consumer demand grow on the strong base of the economic system, no power in the world can stop India from becoming a world power.

Piyush Goyal concluded by stating the importance of equitable economic benefits, he highlighted that the advantages of GST rate cuts must be fully passed on to consumers, ensuring that growth reaches every citizen and strengthens the foundation of India's economy. The Minister said that when India works together as a united family, supporting each other across sectors, inclusive growth will naturally follow. He expressed confidence that the country can become a global role model for sustainable and inclusive development. (PIB)

WAZWAN DELIGHTS

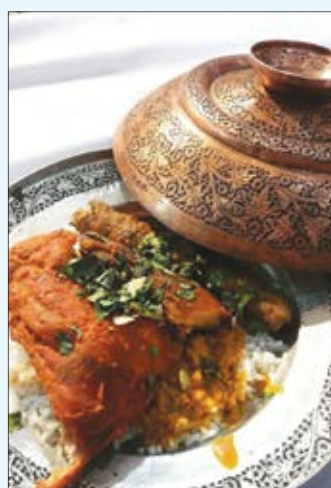
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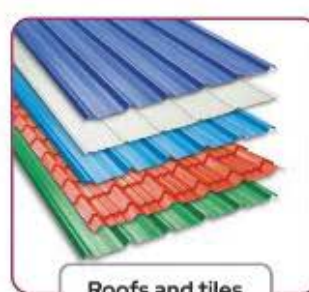
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