



LG Sinha Flags Off First Cargo Parcel Train From Kashmir Valley To Delhi

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Expresses gratitude to PM Modi for ushering new era of trade, business for apple growers



SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first dedicated Parcel Train from Budgam to Adarsh Nagar, New Delhi.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for ushering a new era of trade and business for apple growers and traders of the Valley.

"It will significantly reduce transit time and increase income opportunities for thousands of farmers and boost

the agricultural economy of the region," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also congratulated the Indian Railways for dedicated freight train service between Budgam to New Delhi.

"The new freight train service is a big step for the apple growers of the Union Territory to transport their

port apples and other perishable goods every day, he said.

The Parcel train Service (Joint Parcel Product-Rapid Cargo Service) will be operational on all days and is suitable for all parcel commodities. The eight-Parcel-van coach train has the total weight capacity of around 180 tonnes (23 tonnes each coach). The

and Election Departments; Vivek Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager, Jammu; Dr Manoj Singh, Additional Member Railway Board (Marketing & Business Development); Anshul Garg, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; VK Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Shri Vivek Gupta, IGP Railways; Dr. Bilal

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He Said The **Disruption** Of Movement At National **Highways**, Due To Topography And Heavy Rains, Causes Damage To **Fruit Growers**. The Freight Train Service Starting From Today Will **Transport Apples** And Other Perishable Goods Every Day, He Said.

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Mohiuddin Bhat, Deputy Commissioner, Budgam; Dr GV Sundee Chakravarthy, SSP Srinagar; Uchit Singhal, senior Divisional Commercial Manager and other senior officials of Railways, Civil and Police administration were present.

PM Modi Lauds Security Forces, Demands Swift Military Reforms

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KOLKATA: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday hailed the Armed Forces for the success of 'Operation Sindoor', and urged the defence ministry to implement steps to achieve greater self-sufficiency and innovation to meet future challenges, an official said.

Inaugurating the 16th Combined Commanders' Conference (CCC) at the Eastern Command headquarters of the Army at Vijay Durg, the erstwhile Fort William, here, the PM reviewed the reforms implemented in the last two years, and the plan for the next two years.

Modi also unveiled the 'Indian Armed Forces Vision 2047' document.

He was briefed on the operational readiness of the forces in the context of the "new normal" created by Operation Sin-

door, future of warfare amid emerging technology and tactics, an official statement said.



"The Prime Minister complimented the Armed Forces for the success of Operation Sindoor," it said.

Operation Sindoor was launched in May in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, which

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Events Like Jashn-e-Dal act as bridge between police and public: DGP

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SRINAGAR: Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Monday said that sports events such as Jashn-e-Dal play a vital role in strengthening the bonds between the Jammu and Kashmir Police and the public.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of



Jashn-e-Dal here, DGP Prabhat, said that the annual event has been witnessing greater participation with each

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Div Com Assures Evacuation Of Stranded Fruit-Laden Trucks

Says loaded vehicles will be allowed to move along NH 44, Mughal Road

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Mon-



day assured that the administration is taking all necessary measures to facilitate the evacuation of stranded fruit-laden trucks through both the National Highway and the Mughal Road.

He also stated that all valley-bound vehicles

carrying essential commodities, including petrol, diesel, and LPG are being facilitated through an SoP to address the requirements of the general public.

Div Com made these remarks while chairing a high-level meeting with representatives from various trade bodies and fruit growers' associations.

The meeting was convened to address the challenges faced by the horticulture industry due to the prolonged closure of the National Highway.

On the occasion, he said restoration work on the National Highway is progressing at full pace and that the status will be shared with stakeholders.

During the meeting, traders and growers highlighted the severe losses being incurred as harvested apples remain

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Omar Abdullah Emphasizes Equal Opportunities In Government Schools

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Highlights education as key to global competitiveness at Techno-2025

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said that it is the responsibility of his government to ensure that students studying in government schools have access to the same facilities and opportunities as those in private institutions.

"I would like to see even more participation from government schools in such events. Ultimately, it is our responsibility to ensure that government school students have access to the same facilities and opportunities as those in private schools. They must be prepared to compete not only with children across India, but with children across the world," the Chief

Minister said while addressing the concluding day of Techno-2025 organised by Delhi Public School (DPS) Srinagar.

The two-day event witnessed enthusiastic participation from sev-



eral schools across the Kashmir Valley, along with teachers and faculty members. He applauded the students' creativity, including their Humanoid Robot, and em-

phasized the Government's commitment to modern learning, knowhow of AI, and innovation-driven education.

“

He emphasized that **education** must adapt to this changing environment. While **acknowledging** that some schools have **advanced rapidly**, he stressed that others continue to **lag behind** and need urgent attention.

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Chairman DPS Srinagar Vijay Dhar, Principal Shafaq Afshan, Vice Principal DPS Srinagar, students and staff were also

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2025 Waqf Law...

SC Stalls Key Provisions But Refuses To Stay Entire Law



dedicate a property as Waqf, but refused to stay the entire law.

"We have held that presumption is always in favour of constitutionality of a statute and intervention (can be done) only in the rarest of rare cases," a bench of Chief Justice B R Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih said in its interim order on the intensely debated issue.

The apex court also pressed pause on the powers given to a collector to adjudicate the status of waqf properties and ruled on the contentious issue of non-Muslim participation in Waqf Boards, directing that

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Bottimline

LG Manoj Sinha Urges Athletes To Steer Youth Away From Drugs

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SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha attended the closing ceremony of Jashn-e-Dal, a Water Sports event organized by Jammu Kashmir Police, at Dal Lake, Srinagar.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor congratulated the Jammu Kashmir Police for playing a significant role in nation-building, upholding rule of law, ensuring public safety and order and fighting terrorism.

"Jammu Kashmir Police's proactive engagement with communities and empowerment of youth is laudable. It has been working with integrity and dedication to protect the nation's internal security," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also commended the J&K Police for organising the annual sporting tournament at iconic Dal lake with the main objective of youth engagement and to foster unity, harmony and camaraderie among athletes.

"Jammu and Kashmir Police is serving as a guardian for the youth of Jammu

Kashmir. It is committed to provide opportunities, resources, support, and mentorship to the youth, fostering a sense of civic responsibility and inclusive devel-



opment. Events like Jashn-e-Dal, Pedal for Peace, and various marathons, football, and cricket tournaments are more than just sports activities. Each tournament

is a symbol of a new and positive chapter for our youth," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor, in his address, called upon the athletes to inspire young people to pursue their goals and stay away

"Jammu Kashmir Police's proactive engagement with communities and empowerment of youth is laudable. It has been working with integrity and dedication to protect the nation's internal security," the Lieutenant Governor said.

from drug menace.

"Sports is a unifying force. I want our youth to act as powerful agents of change by leveraging their energy, discipline, perseverance and

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LoP Sharma Meets HM Shah

Discusses Political, Security Situation Of J&K

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) senior leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Sunil Sharma, today met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi and held a detailed discussion on

maintain peace and stability through effective governance, strengthening democratic institutions, and ensuring people's participation in the developmental process. He also flagged concerns related to internal security, emphasizing the importance of coordinated efforts to counter emerg-



the prevailing political and security scenario in Jammu & Kashmir. He also apprised the Home Minister of the destruction caused by the recent floods and submitted a comprehensive ground assessment report.

During the meeting, Sharma highlighted the evolving political and security dynamics in the Union Territory. He underlined the need to

ing challenges and safeguard the interests of the people.

Sharma briefed the Home Minister about his extensive visits to flood-affected areas and interactions with the local population. He reported large-scale losses, including damage to roads, schools, healthcare facilities, homes, and crops, along

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Congress on verge of extinction in country: Jitendra Singh

JAMMU: Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Sunday claimed that the Congress is on the verge of extinction in the country.

Singh made the remarks while addressing the BJP's one-day organizational workshop at party headquarters here.

"Every Indian is strongly connected both politically and emotionally with J&K, and hence the responsibility of J&K BJP cadre is even greater," the minister said, asking all party leaders to be prepared to deliver to the people and to get to the roots of people's issues.

He also stressed that since 2014, when Narendra Modi took oath as Prime Minister, every region of J&K is being developed equally.

"Once the Congress mocked the BJP for its low numbers in Parliament, but now as it stands exposed, it is on the verge of extinction," Singh said.

The workshop was among others attended by BJP's national general secretary and in-charge J&K Tarun Chugh, J&K unit president Sat Sharma, and Leader of Opposition in J&K

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Give your best to steer our nation ahead in growth & development: Deputy CM to Engineers, Technologists

Addresses 58th Engineers' Day at IEI Jammu Local Centre

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister of J&K Surinder Choudhary addressed the 58th Engineers Day celebrations at Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu Local Centre here. Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation Dr. Devansh Yadav; Er. Anil Verma, FIE; Chairman, Er. Avneet Gupta, MIE; Honorary Secretary of IEI, Jammu Local Centre and large numbers of engineers from various departments and other organizations were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy CM paid rich tributes and honoured the legacy of Bharat Ratna, Sir M. Visvesvaraya, the visionary engineer whose birth anniversary marks this day. He called upon the engineers to imbibe the exceptional qualities of Sir M. Visvesvaraya in their day-to-day works and design solutions that are innovative, sustainable and technology driven so as to provide a better future for generations to come.

Highlighting the qualities of Sir M. Visvesvaraya like austerity, integrity,

competence and discipline, the Deputy CM also insisted the young and serving engineers to work with dedication, zeal and enthusiasm and don't feel shy to take guidance from the senior engineers. He

highlighted the contributions of Sir M. Visvesvaraya. He informed that Sir Visvesvaraya was not just an engineer but a nation builder.

He added that Sir Visvesvaraya



also requested the IEI to conduct more and more training programme for budding engineers.

The Deputy CM further maintained that decade ahead must be technology driven with sustainable contributions of Engineers & Technologists.

He exhorted on them to give their best to steer our nation ahead in growth and development.

Dr. Devansh Yadav in his address

pioneered various projects laying the groundwork for India's industrial might.

He called upon the engineers to learn the ideals of honesty and integrity from him so as to overcome the day-to-day challenges by blending technology and innovation so as to provide a sustainable future.

Earlier, during the welcome address on the theme "Deep Tech and Engineering Excellence: Driving India's Techade," Er.

Anil Verma said that today India stands at the threshold of becoming a global technology leader and this theme resonates stronger than ever.

On the occasion, the Deputy CM honoured Former Chairman, IE (India), Jammu Local Centre, Er. B. B. Sharma with IEI Award (Posthumously) for his outstanding services rendered to the engineering. Former Honorary Secretary, IEI Jammu Local Centre, Er. Mohinder Singh was also honoured with "D.K. Gupta Memorial Engineer of the Year award for his meritorious services rendered throughout his professional career till date.

Moreover, R.L. Sharma Memorial gold medal was given to Er. Ranjeev Sawhney for presenting the best technical paper, Rudra Bhagwati silver medal to Er. P. K. Nanda for presenting 2nd Best Technical Paper and Bronze Medal to Er. Anil Kumar for presenting 3rd Best Technical Paper during the year 2024-25.

The Deputy CM also released first issue of 23rd Volume of quarterly newsletter 'IEI Jammu News' of Jammu Centre. A book titled "Musings Unabated" authored by Er. L. K. Mengi, Former Managing Director, J&K Housing Board was also released on the occasion.

DC Reasi chairs SPCA meeting to review Animal Welfare initiatives

REASI: Deputy Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik chaired a meeting of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) to review and strengthen animal welfare initiatives in the district.

During the meeting, DC held a detailed discussion on the establishment of a veterinary facility and shelter home for sick and injured animals in collaboration with People for Animals Public Policy Foundation and Vantara.

The proposed facility will serve as a one-stop center for treatment and rehabilitation, ensuring comprehensive care and shelter for animals in need.

A parcel of land belonging to the Animal Husbandry Department at Parathal village (Serwad), Tehsil Katra has been selected for the project.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the Chief Animal Husbandry Officer to obtain a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the department to expedite

the setting up of the veterinary hospital on the site.

She further highlighted that the facility will be constructed, managed, and operated by People for Animals Public Policy

to addressing animal welfare across the entire district.

DC Nidhi Malik also instructed officers to conduct a comprehensive performance review of all cow shelters



Foundation and Vantara.

During the meeting, a new SPCA Committee was also constituted in line with the latest guidelines. As per the new structure, the Deputy Commissioner will serve as the Chairperson, the CAHO as the Member Secretary, with the ACR and all SDMs as members.

Ms. Malik emphasized that while the SPCA's role is particularly critical in Katra, given the extensive use of horses and mules during the Yatra, its mandate must extend

operating in the district, including those situated on state lands and present a detailed status report in the next meeting.

Additionally, the Deputy Commissioner directed officials to submit a financial audit report of the SPCA, covering its existing funds and overall financial status, in compliance with prescribed guidelines and bylaws.

The meeting was attended by SDM Katra Piyush Dhotra, DySP Vishal Singh Jamwal, Tehsildar Katra, CAHO, EO MC Katra and other concerned officers.

GCOE Jammu celebrates Hindi Diwas

JAMMU: The Department of Hindi and IQAC Government College of Education organized a series of engaging events, including a Poetry Recitation and Slogan Writing competition to celebrate Hindi Diwas. The events, aimed at promoting the richness and significance of the Hindi language, were a resounding success, with enthusiastic participation from students and faculty alike.

The event saw impressive participation, with students delivering powerful poetry that celebrated Hindi's cultural and literary heritage. The Slogan writing competition was equally compelling, with students displaying creativity and passion in their thought-provoking slogans on the theme of "Koti Koti Kantho ki Madhur Swaradhara, Hindi Hai Humari, Hindustan Humara."

The program was inaugurated by the College Principal, Dr. Jyoti Parihar, who congratulated the Department of Hindi for organizing the series of events that not only highlighted the importance of the Hindi language but also encouraged students to

actively participate in preserving and promoting their cultural heritage.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Satish Sharma,

career paths.

Dr. Suraj Prakash from the Urdu department said that Hindi also symbolizes the composite culture of India. It is a symbol of



a respected linguist and faculty member, who spoke about the enduring significance of the Hindi language in shaping India's national identity.

The events were skillfully organized by Prof. Balwan Singh, the program coordinator, who also took the opportunity to inspire students with valuable insights on the career opportunities available to those proficient in Hindi.

Prof. Singh emphasized the growing demand for Hindi professionals in various fields such as publishing, media, translation, content writing and academia. He encouraged the students to harness their linguistic skills and pursue diverse

Ganga-Jamuna Tahzeeb.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Balwan Singh. Dr. Shalini Rana, IQAC Convener lauded the efforts of the department and emphasized on the relevance and beauty of the Hindi language. Dr. Rajinder Kour and Dr. Rakesh Bharti also expressed their views on Hindi Language and Literature. The program was attended by Prof. Sunanda Kumari, Dr. Shalika Gupta, Dr. Sushma Bala, Dr. Shubhra Jamwal, Dr. Shallu Jasrotia, Prof. Priyanka Mahajan, Prof. Chanchal Singh, Prof. Deepali Devi, Prof. Kiran Thapa, Prof. Roopa Kumari, Dr. Ambica Sharma and Dr. Sonam Gandotra.

DC Kathua reviews preparations for Sewa Parv, Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Campaign

KATHUA: Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma chaired a meeting of District Officers to review and finalize preparations for the upcoming Sewa Parv and Swasth

plantation drives and awareness campaigns on various citizen services. Similarly, he asked the District Forest Officers (DFOs) to initiate community tree plantation drives. Educational



Nari Sashakt Parivar campaign to align with national-level initiatives.

The meeting focused on formulating an integrated plan that addresses key areas such as health, sanitation, services delivery and financial inclusion across all blocks and panchayats.

Emphasizing the importance of seamless coordination, Deputy Commissioner Sharma directed all departments to work in synergy for the successful execution of these programmes. He underscored that the initiatives are a prime opportunity to bring governance closer to the people, ensure inclusive development and promote culturally rooted nutrition practices within the district.

Under the Sewa Parv banner, the DC issued clear instructions for a series of community-centric activities. Block Development Officers (BDOs) and the CEO of the Municipality were directed to launch extensive Swachhata (cleanliness) drives in all panchayats and urban wards.

Simultaneously, they are to conduct community tree

institutions, including Degree Colleges and Higher Secondary Schools, were directed to play an active role by organizing donation drives for books and stationery, undertaking campus beautification and arranging voluntary extra classes for students.

Besides, the Social Welfare Department was directed to prioritize social outreach by engaging with vulnerable sections of society. This includes visiting old-age homes and orphanages, interacting with the elderly, donating assistive devices like wheelchairs, hearing aids and organizing community meals for the needy.

Regarding the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar campaign, the Deputy Commissioner detailed a multifaceted approach to promote women's health and well-being. This will be achieved through extensive outreach programmes, health check-up camps, nutrition counseling, and awareness sessions on critical topics such as anaemia prevention, maternal health and menstrual hygiene, with the active participation of

Self-Help Groups (SHGs).

To strengthen health services and financial literacy, the Health Department was tasked with organizing health check-ups and blood donation drives across all blocks.

It was also informed in the meeting that a district-level program will be held at the SDH Parole on September 17, in sync with the national launch by the Prime Minister, ensuring maximum community participation.

To ensure the messages reach every citizen, the Information Department was tasked with undertaking a robust publicity campaign, utilizing both traditional and social media platforms.

Other line departments were also instructed to hold awareness camps on flagship schemes such as PM-Kisan, Ayushman Bharat - PM-JAY, PM Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Atal Pension Yojana and other financial inclusion initiatives.

Pertinently, the Sewa Parv, a nationwide citizen-centric initiative, will be observed in the district from September 17 to October 2. Running concurrently, the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar campaign will continue for a month, from September 17 to October 16. These initiatives seek to mobilize communities and bring governance closer to the people through a series of integrated activities focused on health, sanitation, service delivery and financial inclusion.

Among others, ADC Kathua Vishavjeet Singh, Chief Planning Officer Ranjit Thakur, ACD Akhil Sadotra, and other district heads were present in the meeting, while ADCs and SDMs joined virtually.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri reviews working of the Child Welfare Committee

RAJOURI: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma chaired a meeting of the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) to review the progress and activities carried out during the last financial year.

The meeting discussed the implementation of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. It was informed that the CWC has provided assistance to 23 victims under the POCSO Act, ensuring timely support and rehabilitation for the affected children. The Committee has also made significant strides in preventing child marriages, with 29 cases successfully stopped, besides rescuing and rehabilitating 17 children forced into child labour. Furthermore, 13 cases involving runaway or kidnapped children were resolved, ensuring that these children were safely reunited with their families.

The placement of eligible children in Child Care Institutions (CCIs) was also highlighted, with 10 children successfully placed in appropriate care facilities.

Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma expressed his appreciation for the dedicated work of the CWC and emphasized the importance of continuous efforts in child protection. He directed the Committee to keep working towards the betterment of children's welfare, ensuring their safety, education and rehabilitation at all times.

The meeting was attended by District Social Welfare Officer, Abdul Raheem and members of the Child Welfare Committee.

Jammu Municipal Corporation conducts anti-defacement drive to restore city aesthetics

JAMMU: In a continued effort to maintain the cleanliness and aesthetic appeal of the city, the Enforcement and Revenue Wing of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), on the directions of Commissioner, JMC and under the direct supervision of Joint Commissioner (R&E) and Deputy Commissioner (North/South), conducted a comprehensive anti-defacement drive.

The operation was carried out in key areas including the stretch from Bikram Chowk to Panama Chowk via University Road and from Panama Chowk to Railway Station and Trikuta Nagar.

The drive, a crucial part of the ongoing

anti-defacement campaign, aimed to remove unauthorized banners, posters and advertisements that disfigure public walls, electricity poles, buildings, flyovers and footpaths. This initiative is in strict accordance with the provisions of the J&K Public Property Act, 1985 and is a response to numerous complaints regarding the defacement and disfigurement of public spaces.

The JMC enforcement teams systematically removed a large number of illegal hoardings, flex boards and other advertising material. The drive is part of a scheduled action plan to address the issue of visual pollution and restore the civic

aesthetics of Jammu. It is not a one-time



event; the JMC is committed to a sustained

campaign to ensure public spaces remain clean and free from defacement. During Swachhta Hi Seva Campaign and Sewa Parv till 2nd October 2025, these anti-defacement drives will be intensively carried out in all wards of Jammu City.

The Jammu Municipal Corporation urges all citizens, commercial establishments and organizations to cooperate by refraining from putting up unauthorized advertisements. Violators will face strict action as per the law. The JMC remains dedicated to creating a cleaner, more beautiful and well-organized city for all its residents and visitors.

Labour Department conducts UT wide special inspection drive to enforce Labour Laws, protect Workers' rights

JAMMU: In a significant move to uphold the rights, welfare, and dignity of workers, the Labour Department of Jammu and Kashmir, under the supervision of Labour Commissioner J&K S Charandeep Singh, conducted a comprehensive Special Inspection Drive across all districts of the Union Territory today.

The proactive initiative is in line with the Department's commitment to ensuring safe, fair, and legally compliant working conditions for all categories of workers.

The inspection drive was executed in a coordinated manner by field-level officers, including Assistant Labour Commissioners, Labour Officers and Labour Inspectors.

More than 100 shops and commercial establishments were inspected during the operation.

The drive aimed to ensure compliance with key labour legislations, discourage exploitative practices, and raise awareness among employers and employees regarding their rights and responsibilities under labour laws.

The inspections were carried out as per the joint inspection format, covering several critical labour laws such as the Payment of Wages Act, Minimum Wages Act, Payment of Bonus Act, Payment of Gratuity Act, Equal Remuneration Act, Maternity Benefit Act, Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act and the Factories Act.

These laws are vital for safeguarding worker interests, promoting gender equality, ensuring timely payments, and regulating employment

conditions.

During the drive, multiple irregularities and violations of statutory provisions were identified in various establishments. In response,



the Labour Department issued inspection notes and served notices to violators with strict instructions to ensure immediate compliance. In cases of severe and repeated violations, prosecution has been initiated under the relevant provisions of law.

Employers have been directed to rectify the shortcomings and submit compliance reports within a specified time frame.

Failure to do so will attract legal action as per applicable labour

laws.

Prominent commercial establishments that were part of the inspection include M/S Kawal Food and Spices (Anantnag), Rainbow Educational Institute (Shopian), Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity (Jammu), M/S Jamkash Vehicleless (Kupwara), Asha Ali Academy (Kulgam), Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. (Poonch), Saint Joseph Hospital (Baramulla), Lazat Restaurant (Ganderbal), Urban Money Pvt. Ltd. (Srinagar), Iquasar Solutions (Budgam), Muslim Educational Institute (Pulwama), International Delhi Public School (Bandipora), Chenab Textile Mill (Kathua), Doon International School (Rajouri), NHI Tunnel Construction Site (Ramban), Mahavir International School (Samba) etc.

Officials from the Labour Department emphasized that the purpose of these inspections was not solely punitive but also educative.

The Department seeks to promote a culture of lawful and ethical employment practices, encouraging employers to adopt best practices in industrial relations and workforce management.

The initiative is also designed to enhance awareness among workers about their entitlements and empower them to seek redressal in cases of exploitation.

The Labour Department reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to protecting the interests of the workforce and reiterated that such inspection drives will continue as part of a sustained campaign to strengthen labour law enforcement and promote equitable work environments across Jammu and Kashmir.

Health Department Doda organises Medical Camps as part of public outreach programme

DODA: As part of the Public Outreach Programme and on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner and Director Health Services Jammu, the Health Department under the guidance of Chief Medical Officer Doda, Dr. Om Kumar, organized a series of medical camps in Doda district, today.

The camps were held at Village Dashnan and Bagairni under the supervision of Block Medical Officer Ghat, Dr. Abdul Gafoor Ahmed.

At Dashnan, the medical camp was attended by around 60 patients who were screened and treated by the health team comprising Dr. Younas Saleem (MLHP), Nusrat Aaliya (FMPHW) and the local ASHAs of the area.

Similarly, a medical camp was held at Bagairni where nearly 50 patients were examined by the RBSK team including Dr. Touseef Aslam and Dr. Nusrat Mumtaz.

The Patients were provided free medicines and Oral Rehydration Solutions (ORS) and imparted awareness on health, hygiene and prevention of water-borne diseases.

The initiative aimed to bring healthcare services to the doorstep of people living in far-flung areas and to spread awareness regarding preventive health measures.

Javid Dar reviews status of NH-44 restoration

Stresses On Priority Movement For Fruit-Laden Trucks



FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, undertook an extensive tour of National Highway-44 (NH-44) to assess the status of fruit-laden truck movement and review infrastructure

of the highway in Udhampur district, reviewing ongoing repair works and coordination between agencies to ensure smooth and safe traffic flow.

DIG Udhampur Sridhar Patil and other senior officers briefed the Minister about the restoration works and traffic clearance in Udhampur particularly the Tharad-Balli Nallah stretch where extensive damages have occurred SSP Udhampur Amod Ashok Nagpure; SSP Traffic Adil Hamid and several prominent citizens were also present during the visit of Minister.

Earlier, during the tour, the Minister also chaired a review meeting at DC Office Ramban, which was attended by DDC Chairperson

Dr. Shamshad Shan; MLA Banihal Sajjad Shaheen; MLA Anantnag East-Shangus, Reyaz Ahmad Khan; MLA, Anantnag West, Abdul Majeed Bhat; Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mohammad Alyas Khan, SSP Ramban Arun Gupta and other senior officers.

The Deputy Commissioner briefed the Minister on measures taken to ease congestion, particularly between Banihal and Nashri, and on arrangements made for meals and support services to stranded drivers and passengers by the district administration, J&K Police, and NHAI.

Minister Dar urged the Deputy Commissioner and SSP to personally monitor traffic management on NH-44 and ensure uninterrupted passage for fruit-laden trucks, reiterating the government's commitment to minimizing losses to the farming community.

challenges affecting transportation.

The Minister interacted directly with truck drivers, traders, and transport officials at Qazigund, emphasizing the need to give top priority to fruit-laden trucks to prevent delays and safeguard the interests of farmers and traders.

During the visit, he also inspected damaged stretches

Committee on Petitions calls for stringent action against food adulteration, spurious drug sale in J&K

Stresses revival of slaughterhouses, strengthening of checkpoints, strict monitoring of food supply

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: The Committee on Petitions held a meeting to deliberate upon a petition on "Widespread Adulteration of Essential Food Commodities including Mutton, Fish, Chicken, Milk, Wheat, and other Processed Food Items within the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir."

The meeting was chaired by Chairman, Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah, and attended by members including Mushtaq Guroo, Salman Sagar, Mian Mehar Ali, and Thakur Randhir Singh.

Also present were the Commissioner, Food and Drugs Authority, J&K; Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation; Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir; Director, Animal Husbandry, Kashmir; Commissioner, Excise and Taxation, J&K; Controller, Legal Metrology, J&K; and Food Safety Officers.

At the outset, the Chairman called for rigorous market checking drives across Jammu and Kashmir and strict monitoring of the sale and supply of food items to the region. The committee deliberated on measures to curb the supply of substandard mutton, fish, and chicken. The Chairman instructed that all laid-down guidelines be implemented in letter and spirit, and stringent action be taken against those involved in the sale of rotten meat or adulterated products. He further directed the



concerned authorities to ensure the revival and proper functioning of slaughterhouses across J&K, strengthen checkpoints at Lakanpur, Udhampur, and other strategic locations, and monitor the entry of adulterated food items and spurious drugs into J&K. "Supply of rotten meat and other food items to J&K is a sensitive and serious issue which must be investigated with utmost urgency so that strict action is taken against the offenders," the Chairman emphasized. Members of the Committee expressed concern over the rising number of cases of foodborne illnesses in J&K and urged for aggressive market inspections, regular sample collection, and testing to ensure the sale of safe food products across the region.

DC Srinagar convenes DLSCC meeting

Fresh cases for compassionate appointment of terror victims under SRO-43 recommended

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: In a continued effort to swiftly resolve and dispose-off cases filed under SRO-43 by the next of kins (NoKs) of terror-affected victims in Srinagar district, a meeting of the District Level Screening-cum-Coordination Committee (DLSCC) was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo on Monday in his office chamber.



Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Sandeep Chakravarthy was also present in the meeting.

The meeting focused on reviewing applications filed under SRO-43 and to recommend eligible individuals for compassionate appointments in accordance with laid guidelines.

At the outset, the Committee conducted a comprehensive review of the cases/claims submitted under SRO-43 by NoKs of those affected by terror related incidents in Srinagar district.

After a detailed scrutiny of the applications/cases, the Committee recommended fresh cases of Srinagar district to the Government for consideration for compassionate appointment under the provisions of SRO-43.

On the occasion, DC emphasized the importance of timely and transparent processing of such cases. He directed all concerned officers to ensure speedy disposal in a time-bound manner so that victim families receive relief without any delay.

Underscoring the importance of a transparent and expeditious process, DC instructed the stakeholder departments to expedite the examination of remaining cases, complete all necessary formalities, and ensure timely verification to facilitate swift appointments in favour of the victim families.

The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Aadil Fareed; SP Headquarter, Umar Shah; Additional SP CID, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, District Social Welfare Officer, all the Tehsildars, senior officers from security agencies, besides other concerned.

Oral health an overlooked aspect of healthcare, but it plays a critical role in preventing systemic diseases: Sakeena Itoo

Inaugurates four days Oral Health Awareness Programme-'Bright Smiles, Happy Lives' at GDC Srinagar



Also flags off Dental Awareness Rally on Oral health hygiene

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo inaugurated four days 'Oral Health Awareness Programme - Bright Smiles, Happy Lives' at Government Dental College (GDC) here.

The event, organised by department of Public Health Dentistry of GDC Srinagar, aims to raise awareness about the importance of oral hygiene, preventive dental care and the overall impact of oral health on general well-being of an individual.

Speaking during inauguration ceremony of the event, the Health Minister highlighted that oral health is often an overlooked aspect of healthcare, yet it plays a critical role in

preventing systemic diseases like diabetes, cardiovascular ailments and respiratory infections. "Oral health is not just about a bright smile, it is integral to the overall health of every citizen," Minister Sakeena stated.

The Health Minister added that in recent years oral hygiene practices and dental check-ups have emerged as an essential routine for people, especially the young generation. She urged the public to adopt regular oral hygiene practices and make dental check-ups an essential part of their healthcare routine.

The Minister further said that the present Omar Abdullah led government is giving major thrust for development of medical infrastructure across the length and breadth of Jammu and Kashmir. She added that dialysis facilities have been established at all SDHs, besides MRI, CT scan and other advanced medical facilities have been established in various GMCs and hospitals to provide best and quality medical care services to people. Minister Sakeena, in her address, also called

upon the administration of GDC Srinagar to carry awareness regarding Oral Health and Hygiene in rural and far-flung areas by organising camps, so that the people in these areas are made aware about dental health care and wellbeing associated with it.

Commending the medical fraternity for significant improvements in healthcare system, the Minister said that being a doctor is not only about wearing white apron and stethoscope around neck,

but remaining committed to the welfare of common masses with the motto of 'Equal Treatment for All'. In her welcome address, Principal of GDC Srinagar, Dr. Sandeep Kour Bali highlighted that the programme is designed to reach out not only to students and healthcare professionals but also to the general public. She added that the goal of this programme is to bridge the knowledge gap regarding oral diseases, their prevention and treatment options. The Principal also gave a brief about the services being provided at the Dental college and other achievements. On the sidelines of the event, Minister Sakeena also flagged off Dental Awareness Rally, aimed to hold interactive sessions, live demonstrations of correct brushing techniques, awareness workshops, and distribution of informative literature on oral hygiene best practices to the general public. Later, the Health Minister also inaugurated Multi Disciplinary Research Unit (MDRU) at the Central Library of the GDC Srinagar.

Empowering Youth: 352 Entrepreneurship cases approved under Mission YUVA at Baramulla

KC NEWS NETWORK

BARAMULLA: In a progressive step towards empowering the youth and fostering economic self-reliance, the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC), Baramulla, has approved 352 entrepreneurship proposals under the flagship Mission YUVA initiative.



This achievement reflects the district's unwavering commitment to creating sustainable livelihood opportunities and nurturing entrepreneurial spirit among its youth.

The meeting, presided over by Deputy Commissioner (DC), Minga Sherpa, witnessed the approval of 347 cases under the Nano scheme, 03 cases under the MSME scheme, and 02 cases under the Existing Enterprises scheme. These projects will receive comprehensive financial and institutional support, enabling young entrepreneurs to translate their ideas into viable enterprises across sectors such as services, retail, manufacturing, and innovation-driven businesses.

DC emphasized that youth are the cornerstone of socio-economic progress and called upon all concerned departments to work in synergy to ensure efficient implementation, timely release of funds, and sustained mentoring support. He encouraged all stakeholders to actively contribute towards enabling young innovators to become catalysts of growth and development in the district.

The meeting was attended by ADC Baramulla, Assistant Director Employment, Functional Manager DIC, Lead District Manager, Cluster Head J&K Bank Baramulla, Career Counselling Officer, and Employment Officer, DE&CC Baramulla.

Chief Secretary reviews restoration of NH-44

Directs unhindered transport of essentials and apple produce through rail & roads

FE News Network

JAMMU: In view of frequent disruptions on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44) due to inclement weather, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, convened a high-level meeting



to review restoration measures, assess supply chain management, and ensure seamless movement of essential commodities across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Home; Principal Secretary, Public Works Department (PWD); Commissioner Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA); Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; IG, Traffic; Director, FCS&CA Kashmir; Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur/Doda; and representatives from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

The Chief Secretary sought a detailed appraisal from the Divisional

Commissioner, Jammu regarding the present status of NH-44. He was informed about the partial restoration of traffic on a single-lane stretch that had been severely damaged by flash floods, as well as diversion of vehicular movement through Mughal Road.

The Chief Secretary also took note of the number of vehicles crossing daily and emphasized the need to expedite restoration works so that traffic flows smoothly on both lanes in the shortest possible timeframe. He directed that the restoration process be closely monitored at the divisional and district levels, with daily reports to be submitted on both traffic movement and progress of repair works.

Acknowledging the critical importance of NH-44 as the lifeline of J&K, the Chief Secretary stressed the need to prioritize movement of trucks carrying essential commodities. He instructed that fruit-laden trucks from the Valley, vehicles carrying perishable food items from Jammu, and petroleum

and LPG tankers be given precedence to prevent any shortage of supplies.

Taking stock of the availability of fuel and foodgrains in the valley, the Chief Secretary was assured by the Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA that the stock position was comfortable and sufficient. It was further informed that additional supplies of petroleum products and essential foodgrains have started reaching the valley since the partial reopening of the highway.

The Chief Secretary also reviewed the arrangements for transportation of apple produce through parcel trains from the Valley to markets outside J&K. He instructed the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir to ensure that produce from all apple-growing areas is ferried smoothly through this rail link.

He further directed that fruit growers and traders be provided full assistance so that they can transport their produce without any hindrance, thereby safeguarding their economic interests during this harvesting season.

Reiterating the urgency of fully restoring NH-44, the Chief Secretary impressed upon the NHAI to mobilize all available resources and ensure completion of repair and restoration works within the shortest possible time. He emphasized that meticulous use of every working hour was essential, given the highway's critical role as the primary connectivity corridor linking Kashmir with the rest of the country.

MD JJM inspects, assesses availability of Ductile & Galvanised pipes at store Pampore



FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Mission Director (MD), Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Jammu & Kashmir, Khurshid Ahmad Shah inspected the pipe store Pampore, to review and assess the available stock of Ductile Iron (DI) and Galvanized Iron (GI) pipes.

MD was accompanied by the Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti department, Kashmir; Technical Advisor, Kashmir; Superintending Engineer, Mechanical and other officers.

During the visit, officers conducted a detailed inspection of the inventory to ensure that the required materials are adequately available to support ongoing and upcoming projects under the Jal Jeevan Mission. The review was aimed at strengthening supply chain management, identifying gaps, and ensuring timely availability of materials for rural water supply schemes.

MD emphasized the importance of maintaining proper stock levels to meet project deadlines and ensure uninterrupted progress towards providing functional household tap connections in rural areas. Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti, assured that all necessary steps will be taken to streamline procurement and distribution processes.

Div Com Kashmir reviews preparations for 'Sewa Parv' celebrations

Stresses convergence of activities for tangible impact

FE News Network

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg, today chaired a high-level meeting to review preparations for the upcoming celebration of 'Sewa Parv' across the Kashmir division.

The meeting aimed to ensure coordinated efforts by district administrations and line departments for impactful execution of activities.

The meeting was attended by all Deputy Commissioners besides heads and representatives from departments including Rural Sanitation, Urban Local Bodies, Social Welfare, Education, Health, Horticulture, Agriculture, AACL, Information, Skill Development, Police, and Forest.

Addressing the meeting, Div Com underscored the importance of a focused and result-oriented approach to achieve tangible outcomes during the 'Sewa Parv' period.

He called for convergence and synchronization of departmental activities, programs, and awareness campaigns for effectiveness, as per the directions of Hon'ble LG.

To ensure effective monitoring, he directed each district to nominate a Nodal



Officer, while Deputy Director Planning, Ashiq Hussain Malik, was appointed as the Divisional Level Nodal Officer to oversee coordination and monitor daily progress.

He emphasized the uploading of targets achieved, photographs, and videos on the web portal developed by the IT department.

He laid focus on various activities to be planned during the period which include Social Security Initiatives, Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Financial Inclusion Drives, Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan, Poshan Abhiyan, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Nasha Mukta Abhiyan, Grievance Redressal Mechanisms, Plantation Drives, and Health & Nutrition Initiatives etc.

Editorial

Of Tracks
And Orchards

In a development that could change the economy of the Kashmir Valley, the first dedicated parcel train left Budgam station on Monday, headed for the markets of Adarsh Nagar. This is not just another freight service, it marks an important step forward that tackles a long-standing problem for the apple industry. For many years, the success of Kashmir's apple harvest has depended on the unreliable national highway. The difficult journey through hilly terrain, at risk of landslides, bad weather, and heavy traffic, was always a gamble. Perishable goods often suffered, causing financial losses for thousands of farmers. The new freight train service, officially launched by LG Manoj Sinha, offers a practical and effective answer to this ongoing issue. The benefits are immediate and clear. Reducing transit time from days to a reliable overnight journey means apples will arrive fresher, which allows for better prices in the market. The economic advantage is twofold, it is faster and cheaper than road transport. This leads to more income opportunities for farmers, letting a larger share of the consumer's money return to the orchardists in the valley.

By strengthening these market connections, the railways are not just moving goods; they are driving prosperity. The credit for this initiative, as noted by the LG, goes to a vision for overall connectivity that includes more than just passenger travel. It understands that for a region's economy to flourish, its goods need reliable and efficient access to national markets. This train service proves that understanding. However, the real measure of any policy is its execution and accessibility. The administration must make sure that the booking process, whether online for full vans or offline for smaller shipments, is simple, clear, and friendly for farmers. Small and marginal farmers, who are essential to the industry, should be able to use this service without obstacles. This initiative should not just benefit large-scale traders. The Budgam-New Delhi parcel train is more than a logistical upgrade. It is a symbol of resilience and a brighter economic future. It shows how focused infrastructure can impact lives and livelihoods. As this service becomes part of daily life, it can become the lifeline of Kashmir's HORTICULTURE economy. It ensures that the valley's prized apples reach dining tables across the nation in the best possible condition. For the farmers of Kashmir, this train carries not just apples, but hope.

Hives Of Industry, Hearts Of Solitude



PRIYANKA SAURABH

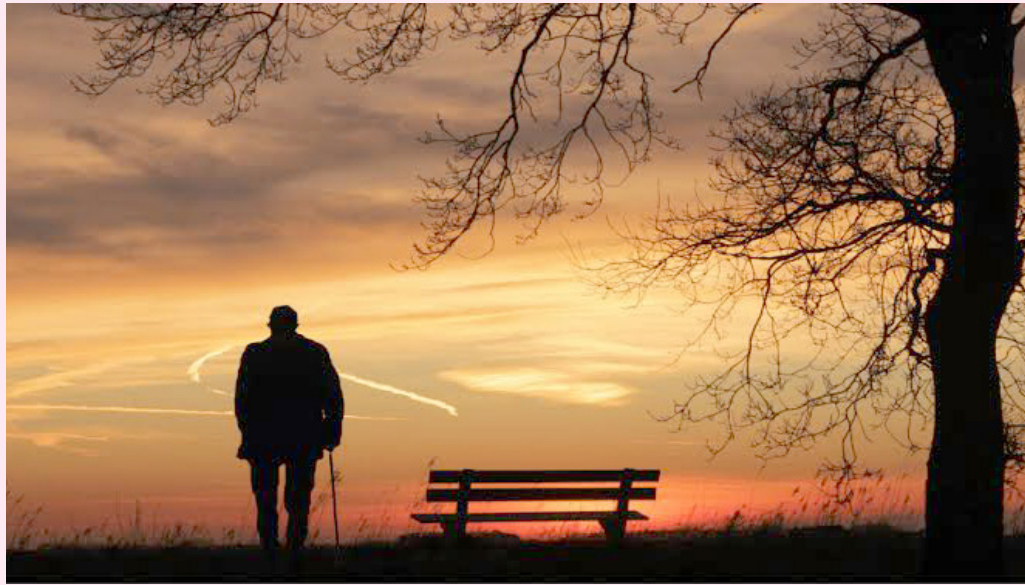
Millions of people live in metros, but most do not even know their neighbors. According to a survey, about 40 percent of urban Indians admitted that they feel lonely. This statistic shows that modern urban life may have given

like Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Kolkata have world-class hospitals, universities and cultural centres. These places not only provide services but also become platforms for the exchange of knowledge and ideas. This is why urban life is called the engine of modern India. Its residents come from different linguistic, religious and cultural backgrounds, which leads to the experience of diversity and develops a sense of tolerance.

Additionally, cultural richness and civic consciousness are strong in urban life. Activities such as art galleries, libraries,

distrust of the "other" begins to grow. This trend weakens the spirit of collective trust and cooperation in society.

Another major problem of urban life is loneliness. Despite the crowd and busyness, people become personally isolated. Millions of people live in metros, but most do not even recognize their neighbors. According to a survey, about 40 percent of urban Indians admitted that they feel lonely. This statistic shows that modern urban life may have given us material comforts, but it has weakened us emotionally and socially.



us material comforts, but it has weakened us emotionally and socially. Technology has also increased this loneliness. Dependence on smartphones and social media has limited real human interaction. While traveling in the metro or bus, people often do not communicate with each other, but remain immersed in the mobile screen.

Urbanization has deeply affected India's social life and human relations. It is not only a means of economic progress but also a social change that has changed the nature of our traditional relationships, trust and cooperation. The pace of urban life, diversity of opportunities and easy access to services have certainly given new options to citizens, but at the same time this process has also been challenging human sensibilities and community relations.

The growth of cities brought people closer to opportunities such as education, health and employment. While earlier access to these facilities was difficult in rural India, urban areas made them easier. Metropolises

theatre, literary gatherings and mass movements have been the hallmark of cities. Whether it is the Academy of Fine Arts in Kolkata or the India Habitat Centre in Delhi—these spaces promote collective dialogue and creativity. Additionally, the IT industry and startup culture in cities like Bengaluru have opened up new possibilities for professional collaboration and networking. Citizens also organise themselves and raise their voice for their rights and amenities. Examples of this are the campaigns against waste management and waterlogging by the Resident Welfare Committees of Gurugram.

But amidst all these positive aspects, urbanisation has another face, which points to a much deeper social crisis. The biggest challenge is the erosion of community bonds. While in villages there are strong ties between neighbours and relatives, people living in cities often experience a sense of alienation and distance. Gated societies and high-income colonies have fragmented social life. People become confined to their small circles and

Technology has also increased this loneliness. Dependence on smartphones and social media has limited real human interaction. While traveling in the metro or bus, people often do not communicate with each other, but remain immersed in the mobile screen. This trend proves the observation of sociologist George Simmel in which he called modern cities a symbol of "loneliness in the crowd".

At the same time, the congestion and scarcity of resources of urban life have also given rise to tensions and conflicts. Fights over issues such as water, electricity, traffic and parking have become common. In cities like Delhi, parking disputes often escalate to violence. Vehicle pollution and road accidents also add to the insecurity of civic life. Safe spaces for pedestrians are shrinking, thereby diminishing shared public life. This decline directly impacts social capital, because open and safe public spaces give rise to dialogue and cooperation among people.

Thus, urbanization has had a two-pronged

impact on India's social capital. On the one hand, it provided opportunities for education, health, diversity and cultural advancement, while on the other hand, it made relationships superficial, unstable and distrustful. In the pace of economic development, we left behind emotional and community life.

Technology has also increased this loneliness. Dependence on smartphones and social media has limited real human interaction. While traveling in the metro or bus, people often do not communicate with each other, but remain immersed in the mobile screen. This trend proves the observation of sociologist George Simmel in which he called modern cities a symbol of "loneliness in the crowd".

It is necessary that urban planning should not be limited to the physical structure but should also give place to the dignity of human relations and restoration of community life. We need public places where people can meet and communicate easily. Residential welfare committees should not be considered only administrative units but should be made a platform for social gatherings and community festivals. Festivals, fairs and cultural programs should be promoted in cities so that people can come closer to each other. Along with this, policies for affordable and inclusive housing should be prepared so that class-based divisions can be reduced.

India's future will undoubtedly be urban, but this future can be sustainable and prosperous only when urbanisation becomes a driver of not just economic but also social capital. We must ensure that the fabric of relationships is not broken in the race for development. Cities will become truly progressive only when they not only deliver prosperity and opportunities, but also keep alive the spirit of trust, cooperation and collective well-being.

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Afsanvi Sadaein: Stories That Mirror Society



RAYEES AHMAD KUMAR

Each year, Wullar Urdu Adbi Forum Kashmir—a vibrant and esteemed literary organization—conducts Afsana (short story) events, where fiction writers from across the subcontinent participate by sharing their short stories. These sessions are enriched by critical commentary from distinguished litterateurs and short story writers of the valley as well as abroad.

The Forum was founded by Raja Yousuf, Tariq Shabnum, Dr. Riyaz Tawheedi, and S. Mashouq Ahmad, who tirelessly dedicate their time to the propagation and promotion of Urdu fiction. By positively utilizing social media, they organize afsana events on Facebook and actively share updates about literary happenings from across the globe.

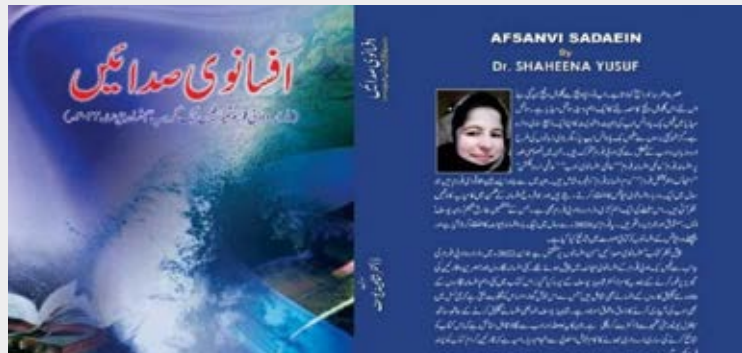
In 2022, one such remarkable event was organized where thirty-one fiction writers presented their meticulously crafted stories. These were later compiled into a book edited by Dr. Shaheena Yusuf, an emerging literary voice of North Kashmir.

The anthology, titled Afsanvi Sadaein, spans over 180 pages and was published by the renowned Educational Publishing House, New Delhi. Dr. Shaheena Yusuf has dedicated this collection to all those creative writers who, through fiction, have held a mirror to society.

The book opens with a proem by Prof. Khwaja Akramuddin of Jawaharlal Nehru University, who reflects on the relevance of fiction in today's fast-paced world. He highlights the history of Urdu short story writing and its evolving techniques. An extensive essay by Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Wani, former HOD of Urdu at Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri, further enriches the book. He outlines the significant role of Wullar Urdu Adbi Forum Kashmir in

uplifting and promoting Urdu fiction.

Dr. Wani observes that, compared to Jammu, Kashmir has nurtured a greater number of literary organizations, writers, poets, and critics. He commends Dr. Shaheena Yusuf for her meticulous editorial effort in compiling this volume. In her foreword, Dr. Shaheena Yusuf traces the historical background of Wullar Urdu Adbi Forum Kashmir,



especially its efforts during the pandemic to connect writers across the globe at a time when the world was locked down.

The collection opens with "Wapsi", a powerful story by legendary fiction writer Noor Shah. Set against the backdrop of the world-famous Dal Lake, the story highlights how divisions have emerged within a community that shares the same faith, symbolized through the proliferation of separate mosques.

The second story, "Aaw Ab Nikah Kar Lein" by Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Wani, uncovers the rising immorality among youth stemming from unchecked social media use. It narrates the tale of two strangers who grow intimate over Facebook and WhatsApp, meeting frequently in parks and hotels to fulfill their desires. However, when the female protagonist, Sadai Saher, expresses her wish to marry, she is devastated to learn that the man she loved is already the father of three children.

Phoolaur Khushboo, In this story, Dr. Tawheedi

sensitively explores the essence of divine love. Through the journey of a staunch believer, he illustrates how meditation, devotion, and the guidance of a spiritual master can draw a soul closer to the Creator. Love, mysticism, and spirituality merge seamlessly, leaving readers immersed in a reflective and soulful experience.

Dusra Shouhar, Dr. Nazir Mushtaq, a renowned



fiction writer of the valley, has long been admired for weaving medical and psychiatric themes into his narratives. In Dusra Shouhar, he portrays the silent suffering of a woman who has endured mental and emotional distress for years.

With subtle strokes of fiction, he once again brings the struggles of psychiatric patients into the literary spotlight, blending empathy with art. Yaar Zinda Subhat Bari, Raja Yusuf's story is a poignant reminder of friendship and fate. Two childhood friends, separated by distance and circumstance, grow into strangers to each other. Yet, destiny intervenes during the devastating floods of 2014 in Srinagar. One, a doctor stranded in a Rajbagh building, is rescued heroically by the other. In this moving tale, Yusuf captures not just reunion but also the power of human connection rekindled in times of crisis.

Shakoor Bangi, Tariq Shabnum through the character of Shakoor Bangi, a cannabis addict often ridiculed for neglecting religious obligations, Tariq Shabnum delivers a thought-provoking

narrative. When Shakoor's name repeatedly emerges in a lottery draw at a mill, astonishment grips everyone. The revelation of his quiet, selfless humanitarian acts—performed without fanfare—stuns even the mill manager. The story urges readers to look beyond appearances and recognize the hidden virtues in human beings. Kish koul Ki Qeemat, by Wajida Tabassum Gurkhor reflects a strong feminist voice from Kashmir.

With great tact, she has crafted this short story to highlight how lascivious men prey upon the chastity of impoverished and destitute families. Khushboo, by Prof. Neelofer Naz Nehvi once again shows why her short stories often receive accolades from eminent writers. This piece too is commendable, as it unveils an important social issue we often ignore—renting out rooms to strangers without knowing their background.

In the story, a lady rents a room: one day, when the owner's wife is away at her paternal home and her husband is at work, she arranges a secret meeting with a stranger in the house, taking advantage of the situation to fulfil her desires. Sarhad Ke Us Par, by Mohd Shafi Sagar is an evocative tale that paints a poignant picture of life on both sides of the border.

The story captures the impoverished and melancholic existence of people, where mothers endlessly wait for their missing sons and separated families yearn to reunite with their loved ones. Qatil, by Dr. Shaheena Yusuf, the editor of this anthology, is a meticulously written story about a family with a lone son.

Brilliant in studies, the boy becomes increasingly drawn to his friend's home, where he spends most of his time. Sadly, the influence of bad company and being away from parental supervision push him towards a tragic end—he ends his life by drowning in a river.

The story movingly portrays the shock and devastation of his parents, left shattered by the loss. Aur Shah Din Mar Gaya, S. Mashooq Ahmad has beautifully crafted this story, centering on an elderly man who deceitfully lures a young teenage girl. Though she was sent to him to learn, he schemed relentlessly to make her his life partner. The narrative skillfully weaves together

themes of beauty, misplaced faith, and the weight of social stigmas. Taskin-e-Dil, This story, penned by myself, sheds light on the sensitive issue of childless couples.

Such couples often suffer silently in sorrow and depression. Yet, when one observes how some children indulge in illicit and immoral

Phool aur Khushboo, In this story, Dr. Tawheedi sensitively explores the essence of divine love. Through the journey of a staunch believer, he illustrates how meditation, devotion, and the guidance of a spiritual master can draw a soul closer to the Creator. Love, mysticism, and spirituality merge seamlessly, leaving readers immersed in a reflective and soulful experience.

activities, bringing shame and defamation to their parents, a thought emerges: perhaps it is better to remain childless than to endure the anguish of raising children who tread devilish paths.

Wullar Urdu Adbi forum Kashmir deserves all praise and applauds for conducting such events annually and then compiling all stories into an anthology.

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District NCORD meeting: DC Srinagar reviews anti-drug measures

FE NEWS NETWORK

Emphasises unified strategy to tackle drug menace



SRINAGAR: A meeting of District Level Committee on Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) was held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo here to review anti-drug measures and strategies.

emphasizing further intensifying efforts against drug abuse and trafficking in the district. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Sandeep Chakravarty was also present in the meeting. The meeting deliberated on key

through coordinated and intensified efforts. In addition, efforts of district administration towards enhanced treatment and rehabilitation facilities for people affected by substance abuse were also

DC emphasized for intensifying sustained IEC campaigns across the district to sensitize masses particularly youth about detrimental and harmful effects of drug abuse. He also laid stress on strengthening Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) at SMHS and SKIMS Bemina to ensure better treatment facilities and proper rehabilitation of drug victims.

He also stressed that curbing the menace requires a comprehensive approach involving strict enforcement, preventive measures, community awareness and effective rehabilitation.

During the meeting, it was informed that efforts are underway to achieve 100% computerised billing at retail and wholesale pharmacies across the City. While security measures are also being enhanced at ATFs in the district.

Superintendent of Police emphasised that as many as 89 cases have been registered in Srinagar district during current year and 165 drug peddlers have been arrested including 46 PITs. Large quantities of contraband substances were also seized/recovered including brown sugar, Heroin, Charas, Psychotropic Syrup bottles, PSY capsules/tablets, Fuki, bang/poopy straw/cannabis were destroyed, in addition to the cash recovery from the drug peddlers.

discussed.

At the outset, DC laid emphasis on implementing a well-coordinated and unified approach to effectively address the drug menace and protect society from its detrimental effects.

issues, including intensifying anti-drug awareness campaigns, further strengthening enforcement measures against drug peddlers and its trafficking to curb drug abuse more effectively and tightening the noose around drug peddlers

Principal Secretary, Culture inaugurates Hindi Pakhwada at K.L. Saigal Hall

FE NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Principal Secretary, Culture, Brij Mohan Sharma inaugurated "Hindi Pakhwada" Celebration Programs



Principal Secretary announced that a calligraphy centre will shortly be established to train the younger generation in writing Hindi, Urdu, and other languages, thereby enriching

Prof. Chanchal Dogra presented a scholarly paper on the status of Hindi in the contemporary world, its relevance in education, technology, and administration, and its role in fostering

during the inaugural event organised by Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) at K.L. Saigal Hall, here. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from writers, scholars, academicians, and admirers of Hindi language and literature. In his address, Brij Mohan Sharma lauded the role of JKAACL in documenting and promoting Hindi language and literature through its journals, books, and other publications. He recalled that in 2020, the Government of J&K declared Hindi as one of the official languages alongside Urdu, Kashmiri, Dogri, and English. Underscoring the importance of Hindi as a symbol of unity and identity,

the visual art scene of J&K. He further emphasized the responsibility of institutions like JKAACL in creating platforms for young writers and scholars to contribute to the growth of Hindi literature.

Earlier, in her welcome address, Secretary JKAACL, Harvinder Kour, extended greetings on Hindi Diwas and highlighted its historical significance, recalling that on 14 September 1949, Hindi was adopted as the official language of India. She also underlined the Academy's ongoing efforts to promote and preserve Hindi alongside other regional languages of Jammu & Kashmir.

cultural harmony. Dr. Nirmal Vinod, in his paper, spoke on the literary traditions of Hindi, stressing the need to preserve its classical heritage while embracing modern creative expressions.

Earlier, the programme began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries, followed by the felicitation of guests. To invoke divine blessings, Dr. Chanchal Sharma, Editor Hindi JKAACL, rendered a soulful Saraswati Vandana.

The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks presented by Sonali Arun Gupta, Additional Secretary JKAACL, who expressed gratitude to the Chief Guest, distinguished speakers, writers, media, and the audience.

Engineers' Day Celebrated at NIT Srinagar

"Creativity and ethics must guide future engineers": Director

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The Students' Chapter of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar organized Engineers' Day celebrations on Monday.

The program featured a keynote address by Mr. Rajat Srivastava from the Ministry of Good Governance, who highlighted the role of engineers in shaping the future of the nation. "Engineers are the backbone of development. From infrastructure to digital innovation, their contributions define the progress of society," he said.

In his remarks, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia said Engineers' Day was an occasion to reflect on the vision and values of Sir M. Visvesvaraya.

"As an institute of national importance, NIT Srinagar must ensure that our students are not only technically competent but also socially responsible and innovative in addressing the challenges of the 21st century," he said.

Registrar Prof. Atikur Rahman emphasized the

importance of nurturing young talent through such platforms. "Our students have immense potential. Competitions like the Idea-thon and quiz bring out their creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, which are essential for tomorrow's leaders," he said.



The event featured a Quiz Competition focused on critical thinking and general awareness in engineering, where teams of students competed enthusiastically.

The highlight was the Idea-thon, in which students presented innovative proposals to tackle pressing issues such as renewable

energy, smart infrastructure, and digital inclusion. The Idea-thon was judged by Dr. Pankaj Kumar and Dr. Pramod Kumar.

Coordinator of the event, Dr. Iqra Geelani said the purpose of the celebration was to engage students beyond classrooms. "It is about connecting technical knowledge with real-world issues. The quality of ideas presented today shows the innovative spirit of our students," she added.

DC Kupwara reviews implementation of Financial Inclusion schemes

• Stresses on maximum coverage during Seva Parv-2025

FE NEWS NETWORK

KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse chaired a comprehensive review meeting today focusing on the progress and effective implementation of key financial inclusion and social security schemes across the district.

At the outset, DC assessed the status of beneficiary enrolment under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY) and Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY). Lead District Manager presented scheme wise progress achieved so far from April 2025. Detailed discussions were held on strategies to be adopted to maximise registrations in coming months to achieve targets.

DC emphasized that these financial inclusion initiatives are vital for extending



social security coverage, offering life and accidental insurance as well as pension

benefits to economically disadvantaged sections of society.

Programme Officer ICDS, CPO, CMO, CEO, ACD, LDM and other concerned officers.

Banks and relevant line departments were instructed to intensify awareness and registration campaigns, ensuring that more eligible citizens are brought under the scope of these schemes.

During the meeting, DC also directed to ensure maximum registrations under these schemes as part of the celebrations for Seva Parv-2025. Special camps shall be organised during Seva Parv for enrolments.

The meeting saw participation from key officials, including

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JKEDI conducts Startup Idea Challenge (Boot Camp) at GDC Women Pulwama

FE NEWS NETWORK

PULWAMA: Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Pulwama, hosted a Startup Idea Challenge (Boot Camp) today at Government Degree College (Women), Pulwama, under the J&K Startup Policy 2024-2027.

The event aimed to inspire entrepreneurship, foster innovation, and highlight opportunities within Jammu & Kashmir's vibrant startup ecosystem.

Presided over by Prof. Dr. Sami Jan, Principal of GDC (Women) Pulwama, the event emphasized the significance of the J&K Startup Policy and the pivotal role of youth in driving regional innovation.

Raiyees Manzoor, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Pulwama, engaged with participants, praising their innovative ideas and urged them to pursue their entrepreneurial dreams with passion.

Syed Gulzar (Associate Professor, Physics), Dr. Tanveer Bilal (Head, Department of Bioresources), Suraya Yousuf (Assistant Professor, Commerce) from GDC Pulwama (Women), and Ansar Ullah Machloo (Head, Centre for Startup Finance, JKEDI), alongside faculty and JKEDI officials were present on the occasion.

The event featured an engaging startup pitching session, where six innovative ideas were registered, and four participants showcased their concepts to a panel of experts. Selected participants were honored and advanced to the next stage of the challenge.



Sakeena Itoo flags off group of MBBS students for All India Educational Tour

Urges students to make most of this opportunity for professional development

FE NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo flagged off a group of pre-final batch MBBS students of Government Medical



College (GMC) Srinagar to 15 days All India Education Tour from college premises here.

Principal, GMC Srinagar, Dr. Iffat Hassan Shah; Administrator Associated Hospitals, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak; HoDs of various departments, faculty members, doctors and large number of students were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Health Minister said that this educational tour will mark a transformative chapter in the academic journey of our future doctors and give them exposure to diverse medical practices, advanced research environments and interaction with leading medical experts from reputed health institutions they are visiting across the country. She added that this exposure tour will not only broaden their clinical perspectives but also nurture their holistic growth as healthcare leaders of tomorrow.

The Minister further said that this initiative un-

derscores Government's commitment to strengthening medical education by providing students with real-world exposure beyond classroom teaching.

While extending her wishes to students and accompanying faculty members for the tour, Minister Sakeena urged them to make most of this opportunity to enrich their knowledge and experiences.

Interacting with the Health Minister on the occasion, the students expressed immense gratitude

and excitement about the journey ahead, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in their professional development.

Pertinently, this 15 days comprehensive educational tour is designed to provide the students with a unique opportunity to visit some of the nation's most prestigious medical institutes, hospitals and research centers in New Delhi, Kerala, Goa and other places.

During the tour, the students will traverse several states, engaging in academic interactions, hospital rounds, workshops and seminars that cover a wide spectrum of medical disciplines and emerging healthcare technologies. They will also participate in interactive sessions with eminent medical researchers, observe cutting-edge medical procedures, engage in hands-on workshops and attend lectures on advancements in medical science, public health policy and medical ethics.

CM Omar calls for reducing power losses and enhancing hydropower generation to strengthen J&K's economy

■ Addresses 58th Engineers' Day at SKICC

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah underscored the need for Jammu & Kashmir to reduce its power losses and then focus on harnessing its vast hydropower potential to strengthen Jammu and Kashmir's economy.

Addressing the gathering at the 58th Engineers' Day at Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC), the Chief Minister said that electricity generation and efficient distribution hold the key to economic prosperity in J&K. The event was

held to honour the legacy of Bharat Ratna Sir M. Visvesvaraya for his pioneering contribution to engineering in India.

Advisor to the CM Nasir Aslam Wani, President All India Power Engineers' Federation Shailendra Kumar Dubey, President J&K Electrical Engineering Graduates Association (JKEEGA) Pirzada Hidayatullah and General Secretary JKEEGA Sachin Tickoo also addressed the gathering. Managing Directors of Kashmir Power Distribution Limited and J&K Power Transmission Corporation Limited, besides senior engineers were also present on the occasion.

Emphasizing the critical role of the power sector, Omar Abdullah said, "This is the only way to change the financial situation of Jammu and Kashmir. We should generate electricity and sell



The Chief Minister reaffirmed that tariff rationalisation should be guided by people's capacity to pay, ensuring that the rich contribute more while the poor pay less. He assured the engineers

that their demands and suggestions would be taken up in earnest, adding that by next Engineers' Day, "there should be no need for you to repeat the same demands."

Explaining his decision to personally retain the Power portfolio, Omar Abdullah said, "I chose to hold this department because if we really want to make J&K prosperous, the most important sector is the Power Development Department. I request you to maintain the momentum in reducing losses and improving efficiency."

The Chief Minister lauded landmark hydropower initiatives like the Baglihar project, which transformed J&K's power scenario despite challenges, including lack of counter guarantees. Dispelling speculation about privatisation of power, Omar Abdullah categorically stated, "We are not talking about privatisation. If we reduce our losses, improve billing efficiency and enhance revenue generation, there will be no need for it. My vision is to strengthen and reform the power sector in J&K."

PM Modi

claimed the lives of 26 people.

It was conceived as a punitive and targeted campaign to dismantle the terror infrastructure across the Line of Control and deeper inside Pakistan, showcasing a calibrated, tri-services response embodying precision, professionalism and purpose, the defence official said.

Addressing the conference, Modi also praised the integral role played by the Armed Forces in nation building, anti-piracy, safe return of Indian citizens from conflict zones, as well as providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) assistance to friendly countries.

"In line with 2025 being the 'year of reforms' in defence, the Prime Minister instructed the Ministry of Defence to swiftly implement concrete steps to achieve greater jointness, atmanirbharta and innovation to meet future challenges and to prevail against any eventuality," the statement said.

The conference is being attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, and Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, among others.

Held once in two years, the three-day Combined Commanders' Conference is the apex-level brainstorming forum of the Armed Forces, which brings together the nation's top civilian and military leadership to exchange views and lay the groundwork for the future development of India's military preparedness.

Focusing on reforms, transformation and change and operational preparedness, the theme for this year's conference is 'Year of Reforms - Transforming for the Future', in line with the ongoing modernisation and transformation of the Armed Forces, the statement said.

Over the next two days, the conference would conduct a holistic review of various structural, administrative and operational matters based on the feedback from across the forces, preparedness of the forces in the face of increasing global uncertainties, it said.

Deliberations were held on a wide range of strategic issues, including force modernisation, jointness, integration and enhancing operational readiness for multi-domain warfare.

The CCC was last held in Bhopal in 2023, which was inaugurated by Modi.

The PM, who arrived in Kolkata on Sunday evening from Assam, left the city in the afternoon for Purnea in Bihar.

This was Modi's fourth visit to Bengal in the past five months and the second within a month. (PTI)

Events Like

passing year. "The enthusiasm shown by participants and spectators has made the entire Dal Lake vibrant. Such programmes act as a bridge between the police and the public," he said.

The DGP also lauded the achievements of police personnel in sports, citing the recent feat of a J&K Police constable who won the Ladakh Marathon. "Our men are not only ensuring peace and security but also excelling in the sporting arena, inspiring the youth to channel their energies in the right direction," the DGP said.

Highlighting the force's commitment to youth engagement, he said that besides Jashn-e-Dal, the J&K Police regularly organizes cricket and football tournaments and other sporting events. "Sports tournaments play a crucial role in bringing youngsters together and encouraging them towards healthy and constructive activities," he added.

DGP Prabhat maintained that such initiatives reflect the police's vision of building stronger community ties while promoting talent and discipline among the younger generation—(KNO)

SC Stalls

the Central Waqf Council should not have more than four non-Muslim members out of 20, and State Waqf Boards not more than three of 11.

The CJJ said the bench has considered the "prima facie challenge" to each section in the new law and found that "no case was made out to stay entire provisions of the statute".

"However some sections need some protection," he said.

The bench made clear that its directions were prima facie and interim in nature and they would not prevent the petitioners or the government from advancing full arguments on the constitutional validity of the law at the stage of final hearing.

The detailed judgement is awaited.

CJI Gavai then referred to the provisions which have been interfered with or stayed by the interim order.

"The requirement that a person has to be a practicing Muslim for the last five years before he can dedicate a property as waqf (Section 3(r)) has been stayed until the state governments rules are framed for examining whether a person is a practicing Muslim or not. Without any such rule/ mechanism, the provision will lead to an arbitrary exercise of power," the order said.

One of the most significant interventions came in relation to Section 3C, which had vested powers in designated government officers to determine the status of Waqf properties.

The bench stayed a proviso to Section 3C(2) of the law, which said a property would not be deemed Waqf until a government officer's report confirmed no encroachment. It also stayed the operation of section 3C(3), which authorised the officer to declare a property as government land and alter revenue records.

The order stalled Section 3C(4), which required the state government to direct the Waqf Board to correct its records on the basis of the officer's findings.

"Permitting the collector to determine the rights is against the separation of powers; the executive cannot be permitted to determine the rights of citizens," it said.

The bench clarified that until the title to a property is finally adjudicated under Section 83 by the Waqf Tribunal, and subject to appeal before the High Court, neither the possession of the Waqf nor its records would be disturbed.

However, during the pendency of inquiry, no third-party rights could be created in such properties, it said.

On the non-Muslim participation in Waqf Boards, the bench declined to stay the provisions but imposed limitations.

While not striking down Section 23, which deals with the appointment of chief executive officers (CEOs), the bench said, "As far as possible, efforts should be made to appoint the CEO, who is also the ex-officio secretary of the board, from the Muslim community."

It, however, refused to interfere with the provision mandating registration of Waqfs, observing that it was not a new requirement and had existed under earlier legislations of 1995 and 2013.

According to the Act, Waqf refers to an endowment made by a Muslim for charitable or religious purposes, such as building mosques, schools, hospitals, or other public institutions. "Another defining feature of a Waqf is that it's inalienable - which means it cannot be sold, gifted, inherited or encumbered," it states.

On May 22, the Supreme Court reserved its orders on three key issues, including the power to denotify properties declared as "waqf by courts, waqf-by-user or waqf by deed", which cropped up during the hearing of pleas challenging the validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025.

Apart from the issue of denotification, petitioners raised questions over the composition of state waqf boards and the Central Waqf Council, where they contended that only Muslims should operate except ex-officio members.

The third issue relates to a provision that says a waqf property will not be treated as a waqf when the collector conducts an inquiry to ascertain if the property is government land.

On April 25, the Union Ministry of Minority Affairs filed a preliminary 1,332-page affidavit defending the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 and opposed any "blanket stay" by the court on a "law having presumption of constitutionality passed by Parliament".

The Centre notified the Act on April 8 after it got President Droupadi Murmu's assent on April 5.

The Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha passed the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025 on April 3 and April 4 respectively. (PTI)

Congress

Assembly Sunil Sharma.

J&K BJP office bearers, morchha presidents, district prabharis, district presidents, and district seh-prabharis participated in the workshop.

Chugh said the entire nation stands in solidarity with the people of J&K and other northern states which have witnessed huge losses due to heavy rains and flash floods.

"The BJP leadership from other states has started pouring in relief material to J&K for the flood-affected areas," he said and asked the BJP cadre to understand the socio-political scenario of J&K in more depth to resolve the diverse issues faced by the people.

He lambasted various political parties for working for their own benefits and not for the nation.

J&K BJP president Sat Sharma said there should be a complete synchronization among all party leaders at every level.

"The workshop should serve the purpose of setting goals for all leaders with renewed energy," he said, complimenting party leaders and activists for being at the forefront in helping flood-affected people. (PTI)

LoP Sharma

with the displacement of several families. Many remote areas, he noted, remain cut off due to damaged connectivity and broken communication lines.

Sharma stressed the urgent need for a coordinated relief and rehabilitation programme, coupled with long-term measures such as climate-resilient infrastructure, stronger disaster response mechanisms, and the setting up of early warning systems. He also apprised the Home Minister of the relief efforts undertaken by BJP cadres in flood-hit regions.

Home Minister Amit Shah assured his full support to the people of Jammu & Kashmir, reiterating the Union Government's commitment to strengthening security, promoting political stability, and enhancing disaster preparedness in the region.

Sharma expressed his gratitude to Amit Shah for his visionary guidance and unwavering support. He reaffirmed the need for close collaboration between the Centre and the Union Territory administration

to ensure peace, stability, and progress in Jammu & Kashmir, along with timely relief for flood-affected communities.

CM Omar

present on the occasion.

Reflecting on the rapid pace of technological change, the Chief Minister said that education has evolved remarkably since his own school days. Citing the example of Albania appointing an Artificial Intelligence (AI) being as a minister, he noted how AI is reshaping the world.

"This shows us the pace at which technology is moving. Already, jobs that were once taken up by young graduates in areas such as business process outsourcing and data management are increasingly being handed over to AI systems. Even software development is now being carried out by AI tools. With the latest version of ChatGPT, even someone with no knowledge of coding can generate code. That is how transformative this technology has become," Omar Abdullah observed.

He emphasized that education must adapt to this changing environment. While acknowledging that some schools have advanced rapidly, he stressed that others continue to lag behind and need urgent attention.

"I am heartened to see that DPS Srinagar is not only helping its own students but also supporting initiatives like Techknow-25, where even government school students have participated," he added.

Sharing a word of advice with the students, the Chief Minister said: "Always keep asking questions. It is curiosity that drives progress, and it is questions that create the answers of tomorrow."

On the occasion, Omar Abdullah felicitated the schools that participated in Techknow-2025. Earlier, he took a round of the DPS Srinagar premises where he visited the computer labs, Atal Tinkering Lab, Innovation Hub, Junior School, and Learning Resource Centre, among other sections of the institution. (DIPR)

LG Sinha

creativity," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor encouraged the youth to take an active role in community development, nation-building, and addressing climate change.

He said the public participation in preserving lakes, rivers, and natural resources has shown positive results over the past few years. This change is a reminder to the young generation that ponds, rivers, lakes are integral part of our life and necessary for our existence, the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor also called upon the youth to lead the community service campaign during the 'Sewa Parv' starting from September 17th, 2025.

He emphasized that the young volunteers, along with J&K Police, should be ready for community initiatives like cleanliness campaign, tree plantation program, and helping the weaker sections of the society.

At the closing ceremony, the Lieutenant Governor took the ceremonial salute at an impressive pedal pass and also felicitated the winners of Jashn-e-Dal.

The three-day event witnessed the participation of around 750 athletes in different water sports disciplines.

DGP, Nalin Prabhat; S.J.M. Gillani, Special DG Coordination PHQ; ADGP Armed, Anand Jain; senior officials of Police and Civil Administration; members of various water sports associations and sports clubs; prominent sports personalities, and youth in large number attended the closing ceremony. (DIPR)

Div Com

stranded in orchards and vehicles.

They urged the administration to take swift action to minimize the damage to the region's vital horticulture industry.

They raised various issues including immediate evacuation of stranded trucks, implementation of one-way traffic on alternate days on the National Highway and Mughal Road, formation of a committee to assess losses suffered by growers and traders, reduction in transportation costs and exemption of GST on perishable goods, railway connectivity between fruit mandis and markets across the country and resolution of issues faced by traders at Azadpur Mandi Delhi.

Additional Member (Marketing & Business Development), Railway Board, Dr. Manoj Singh (IRTS) briefed the stakeholders on the features of the New Parcel service and sought their active collaboration in making the best use of the same for transportation of fruit from valley to Delhi.

While welcoming the initiation of Parcel train services, the stakeholders reiterated the need for stronger logistical linkages and policy support to safeguard the horticulture sector.

The meeting was attended by IGP Traffic Kashmir, Director FCS&CA, Deputy Commissioners of Srinagar and Budgam, Director Industries & Commerce, SSP Traffic Rural, and senior officials from Horticulture, BRO, NHIDCL, and representatives from various trade and fruit growers' associations. (DIPR)

PAR 3 MASTERS Makes History: Kashmir Hosts Its First-Ever Pitch & Putt Golf Tournament at Royal Springs Golf Club

SRINAGAR: Kashmir witnessed a historic sporting milestone as the scenic Royal Springs Golf Club hosted the valley's first-ever Pitch & Putt golf tournament, marking the launch of Season 2 of the India Tour of PAR3 MASTERS. Set against the breathtaking backdrop of Dal Lake and the Zabarwan Hills, the event brought together members of RSGC for a day of competitive spirit, camaraderie, and celebration of this exciting short-format version of golf.

The tournament drew 64 participants across categories, including amateurs, seasoned golfers, and lady players. A specially designed Par 3 course layout provided a unique challenge, testing precision, short game, and nerves under pressure. The Royal Springs Golf Club team, under the leadership of Ghalib M. Shah, ensured world-class playing conditions for the participants.

Dr. Farooq Abdullah emphasized the importance of the event, stating: "The remarkable response to the PAR 3 MASTERS in Srinagar reflects the rising enthusiasm for Pitch & Putt in India. Hosting Kashmir's first tournament at the prestigious Royal Springs Golf Club is a moment of pride, and we are confident it will inspire many more players in the region to embrace the sport." His participation added great motivation for the players, as he not only graced the event but also played and enjoyed the format himself.

Rajan Sehgal, President of the Indian Golf Tourism Association, added: "The PAR 3 MASTERS is India's premier Pitch & Putt tournament series, designed to bring the thrill of short-format golf to players of all levels. Focused on accessibility, inclusivity, and skill-building, the series is driving the growth of Pitch & Putt across the nation while also promoting golf as a sport and tourism opportunity."

Mr. Mushtaq Burza, Chairman of Ahad Group of Hotels and hospitality partner for the event, remarked: "Such events send out a strong message to the world that Kashmir is once again a land of complete peace. We want to welcome more and more visitors to the Valley, encourage

ing them to play and discover its beautiful golf courses, including the picturesque Pahalgam Golf Course and many others."



In the Men's Category, Ghalib M. Shah emerged as the champion, with Dr. Altaf Ramzan finishing runner-up. In the Female Category, Reem Khanday claimed the title, while Rubina Farooq secured the runner-up spot, marking strong performances in this landmark debut.

Adding to the excitement, the "Accuracy Drive - Closest to the Pin" contest was won by Qazi Fasi, showcasing precision and skill.

The event was organized by Can and Able Entertainment, one of India's leading sports and entertainment management companies with Royal Ranthambore as the Celebrations Partner and IGP as the Gifting Partner.

Munish Arora, Founder of Can and Able and President of the Indian Pitch & Putt Association (IPPA), said: "With its remarkable success, the PAR 3 MASTERS has set the stage for more innovative golfing experiences, paving the way for the future of Pitch & Putt in India. Now that we are officially approved and recognized by FIPPA, we are ready to take this sport to the next level with specially crafted Pitch & Putt courses in the pipeline."

The Srinagar edition not only celebrated competitive golf but also highlighted Kashmir's immense potential as a golf tourism destination, showcasing its world-class infrastructure and scenic beauty. With this historic debut, the PAR 3 MASTERS has firmly established its presence in North India and set the foundation for more Pitch & Putt events across the country. (PR)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION CHADOORA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

ENIT NO. 44 OF R&B/CHADOORA/ 2974-83 of 2025-26 DATED: 15/09/2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In double 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 the following works:-

SN	Nome of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of comple- tion (days)	M.H OF Account	Class Of Contacto r
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Development of Road from panchayat ghar upto crusher plant at Summerbugh.	5.00	200.00	10,000.00	15	PRI	DEE
2.	Development of public park at Summerbugh.	5.00	200.00	10,000.00	15	PRI	DEE
3.	Development of road from Gopalepora to Summerbugh.	5.00	200.00	10,000.00	15	PRI	DEE

Project Authority:

Position of AAA :

1. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, 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.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	15/09/2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	15/09//2025
3	Bid submission Start Date	15/09/2025
4	Bid Submission End Date	22/09/2025 upto 05.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids.	22/09/2025 at 5:00 PM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of **Treasury Challan (deposited in MH: 0059)** in favour of **Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora** (tender inviting authority) and **Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG** pledged to **Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora** (tender receiving authority).

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and Earnest Money / Bid security must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. **Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.**

2.1. **The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG** in favour of **Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora** within 07 (Seven) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank Guarantee should be valid till DLP period.

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 R&B Division Chadoora.** 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 total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period. In case of failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non

responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor for a period of 01 Year be forwarded to Higher Authorities.

No. 2974-83
Dated: 15/09/2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer

DIPK-6244/25 Dt: 15-09-2025

Sustainability non-negotiable in India's growth journey: Piyush Goyal

NEWDELHI: Sustainability is non-negotiable in India's growth journey, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal said while addressing the inauguration of the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) General Meeting Exhibition organized by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) today. Goyal said that India is very focused on sustainability as the pillar of growth because every Indian intrinsically believes in respecting nature, being born into a culture and tradition where harmony with the environment is a way of life.

He said that India believes in learning from the developed world, particularly from the high-quality standards that have helped economies across the globe to grow and prosper. He emphasized that such high standards are central to India's own growth as the world's fastest-growing large economy.

The Minister highlighted that initiatives such as the International Electrotechnical Commission General Meeting provide a valuable platform for the exchange of ideas, systems, and methods to decide on standards. When countries come together to develop such standards,

they not only help harmonize practices and bring them to a high minimum level, but also create opportunities for stronger economic cooperation. The



Minister underlined that good standards are the need of the hour for a developing country like India, as they provide the foundation for growth both at the national level and for contributing to international progress.

Goyal noted that harmonizing global standards not only enhances product

quality but also facilitates free trade, opens markets, and promotes wider international collaboration. He said that such initiatives will help expand

open markets, encourage free and fair trade, and provide a level playing field for businesses. Referring to the participation of international experts at the IEC General Meeting, he expressed confidence that they would delve into new ideas and explore ways forward to promote the adoption of standards. He added that with many experts coming from engineering backgrounds, the deliberations at the exhibition would enrich the global conversation on standards.

He reiterated that the promotion of high-quality standards is essential for ensuring consumer welfare, driving demand, and sustaining long-term growth.

The Minister highlighted India's strong commitment to meeting its nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement, and further improve

ments made through different COP announcements. He stressed that India does this not because of external force or pressure, but as a responsible global citizen, out of belief in sustainability itself. He added that India is deeply committed to the principles of a circular economy, reducing waste, and conserving resources, and sees these principles as central to its long-term development journey.

Goyal stated that standards play a critical role in building India's future. He pointed out that India has thousands of technical bodies and committees that work on setting standards across different sectors. In the early years, the focus was more on creating standards and allowing their voluntary implementation. Over time, however, experience taught that stricter adherence to standards was necessary, leading to the introduction of Quality Control Orders in critical areas. He cited the example of QCOs for toys, which have had a transformative effect by putting an end to substandard products in the market, encouraging the manufacturing of high-quality toys in India, and ensuring the safety of children. (PIB)

Women-led Development Central to Viksit Bharat: Lok Sabha Speaker

Tirupati: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Monday said that sustainable economic empowerment of women is a key pillar in India's roadmap to Viksit Bharat by 2047, as the first national conference of Parliamentary and Legislative Committees on Women Empowerment concluded in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, with the adoption of the Tirupati Resolution.

Delivering his valedictory address at the conference, Birla stressed that women's empowerment is not only a social imperative but also an economic necessity. He said that by investing in women's health, education, skills and entrepreneurship, India can unlock a vast reservoir of human potential and build a resilient and inclusive development model. The Governor of Andhra Pradesh, S. Abdul Nazeer, also addressed the session and praised the conference for providing a platform for legislators from across the country to share experiences and chart a common roadmap.

Marking the International Day of Democracy, the Speaker said that democracy in India is not merely a political arrangement but a civilisational value woven into the country's cultural and social fabric. Referring to India as the "Mother of Democracy", he said the nation has for centuries upheld the principles of equality, dialogue and participation.

Birla underlined that women's empowerment must not be viewed only as welfare but as the foundation of national development. Recalling the role of reformers like Savitribai Phule, he cited examples of initiatives that educated women in rural Maharashtra, noting how such efforts continue to inspire contemporary policies. He said the achievements of women from rural and underprivileged backgrounds in education, entrepreneurship and community leadership demonstrate that opportunities, when provided, lead to transformational outcomes.

Highlighting Gender Responsive Budgeting as a socio-economic model, Birla called for institutionalising gender budget cells in ministries and state departments, enhancing allocations for women's healthcare, education, skills and entrepreneurship, expanding access to credit and monitoring outcomes through gender-disaggregated data. He said budgets must serve as instruments of social justice, ensuring equal access to opportunities for women and mainstreaming their concerns into national development planning.

On the challenges of emerging technologies, the Speaker stressed that women must not be left behind in the digital era. He called for bridging the digital divide, ensuring cyber safety, promoting participation in STEM fields and launching dedicated digital literacy missions for women to enable their full participation in the knowledge economy. (PIB)



UK PM Starmer Fights Back Over Sacking Of His Envoy To US

LONDON: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Monday fought back against a growing challenge to his leadership from the Opposition Tories and his own Labour Party backbenchers over the sacking of Peter Mandelson as the UK's ambassador to the US.

Starmer admitted being aware of damaging emails that indicated Mandelson's closeness with convicted American paedophile Jeffrey Epstein. However, the Prime Minister stressed that he was not aware of the "nature and extent" of the veteran Labour Party politician's relationship with Epstein, who died in a New York prison six years ago.

"Had I known then what I know now, I'd have never appointed him," Starmer told reporters from 10 Downing Street.

"What emerged last week were Bloomberg emails which showed that the nature and extent of the relationship that Peter Mandelson had with Epstein was far different to what I had understood to be the position when I appointed him," he said.

"On top of that, what the email showed was he was not only questioning but wanting to challenge the conviction of Epstein at the time that, for me, went and cut across the whole approach that I've taken on violence against women and girls for many years, and this government's approach," he stated.

Questioned over why he chose to stand by his envoy in Parliament even after extracts of Mandelson's exchange with Epstein were published, Starmer said he was awaiting answers to more detailed questions he had put to the now-fired ambassador.

"It was only very late on Wednesday when Peter Mandelson replied to the questions that had been put to him by government officials. And it was on that, basically, I took my decision that he should be removed," he said. Starmer claimed that before the Prime Minister's Questions session last week, during which he told the House of Commons that Mandelson was "playing an important part in the UK-US relationship", he had not yet received the responses due to a time lag between the two countries.

The scandal coming close on the heels of the resignation of Angela Rayner as his deputy prime minister over underpaid property tax has cast a shadow over Starmer's future as Labour leader. His own backbench MPs have called his judgment into question, with the Opposition parties seeing it as their opportunity to go after the government.

Over the weekend, Tory leader Kemi Badenoch accused Starmer of covering up what



he knew about Mandelson's links to Epstein and said he had "very serious questions to answer".

The fiasco has been playing out at a particularly inopportune time for Downing Street, which is preparing for a historic second State Visit of Donald Trump on the invitation of King Charles III this week.

The US President and First Lady Melania Trump are set to arrive on Tuesday evening before receiving a grand welcome at the royal residence of Windsor Castle. They will be greeted with a ceremonial guard of honour at the Castle, where they are being hosted by the King, Queen Camilla and the Prince and Princess of Wales – William and Kate.

Trump will address a state banquet with tech entrepreneurs and senior Cabinet ministers on Wednesday evening before travelling to the prime ministerial retreat of Chequers on Thursday for a business reception, working lunch and press conference with Starmer. (PTI)

Amit Shah Hails Security Forces After Rs 1-Crore Bounty Naxal Commander Neutralized in Jharkhand

NEW DELHI: In a major counter-insurgency success, security forces neutralized Sahdev Soren alias Parvesh, a top Naxal commander carrying a bounty of 1 crore, along with two other wanted extremists in Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand on Monday.



The joint operation by the CoBRA battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Jharkhand Police marks a decisive blow to the Maoist network in the state, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah declaring that Naxalism has now been eradicated from the Bokaro region of northern Jharkhand.

The two other Naxals killed in the encounter were identified as Raghunath Hembram alias Chanchal and Birsan Ganjhu alias Ramkhalawan, both carrying rewards on their heads. Officials said the trio were part of the top command structure of the CPI (Maoist) in the region and were instrumental in orchestrating extortion, recruitment, and attacks on security forces.

Announcing the success in a post on X, Home Minister Amit Shah praised the coordinated action of the CoBRA battalion and state police. "The notorious Naxal commander with 1 crore bounty, CCM Sahdev Soren alias Parvesh, has been neutralized. Two other bounty Naxals have also been eliminated. Following this, Naxalism has been completely eradicated from the Bokaro region. Soon, the entire country will be free from the menace of Naxalism," he wrote.

Sahdev Soren, a Central Committee Member (CCM) of CPI (Maoist), was among the most wanted Naxal leaders in Jharkhand. With a reward of 1 crore announced by both state and central agencies, Soren was believed to have masterminded several ambushes and attacks on security forces in Jharkhand and neighbouring states. He had been active for over two decades and was seen as a key link between the Maoist leadership in central India and local units in Jharkhand.

Security officials said his neutralization is a symbolic and operational setback to the Maoist organization, which has been steadily losing ground in the state due to sustained counter-insurgency operations.

The CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action), a specialized anti-Naxal unit of the CRPF, has been at the forefront of operations against left-wing extremists in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Bihar. Known for their jungle warfare skills and high-risk operations, CoBRA commandos have achieved multiple breakthroughs in the past, including the recovery of weapons, explosives, and the arrest or elimination of senior Maoist cadres.

Officials said the latest operation in Hazaribagh was the result of precise intelligence and swift execution, highlighting the synergy between central and state security forces.

The Union Home Ministry has consistently maintained that the footprint of Naxalism is shrinking in the country. From a spread across nearly 200 districts at its peak in the early 2000s, Maoist influence is now confined to pockets in less than 50 districts, with Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha accounting for the bulk of incidents.

In Jharkhand, sustained operations have already cleared several regions once dominated by Maoists. The Bokaro belt, long considered a sensitive corridor due to its connectivity to coal-rich zones and neighbouring states, is now reported to be free of Naxal presence.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has repeatedly stressed the government's determination to eliminate left-wing extremism through a two-pronged strategy of aggressive security operations and development initiatives in affected areas. Monday's operation, officials said, is a strong indication that the Maoist movement in Jharkhand is on the verge of collapse.

For local residents, particularly in Bokaro and Hazaribagh, the elimination of top Maoist leaders comes as a relief. Villagers in these areas had long suffered from Maoist extortion, forced recruitment of youth, and restrictions on movement. With security forces tightening their grip and developmental projects gaining pace, officials believe the local population will increasingly resist attempts by extremists to regroup. (PIB)

1,116 public grievances addressed by Ayush Ministry's Special Campaign 4.0

NEWDELHI: The Ministry of Ayush has reaffirmed its commitment to efficiency, transparency, and cleanliness through the successful implementation of Special Campaign 4.0. Conducted between November 2024 and August 2025, the campaign focused on streamlining operations, improving workplace environments, and addressing pending matters with renewed urgency.

During this period, the Ministry achieved significant progress by disposing of 56 references from Members of Parliament, 12 Parliamentary Assurances, 9 State Government References, 10 PMO References, 1116 Public Grievances, and 121 Public Grievance Appeals. These achievements underscore the Ministry's continued dedication to strengthening citizen services and institutional effectiveness.

Notably, the Ministry of Ayush has consistently upheld high standards in grievance redressal. It has maintained its position in the Top 10 ranking for Grievance Disposal among Central Ministries, reflecting its strong commitment to citizen-centric governance and timely resolution of public concerns. This milestone highlights the Ministry's proactive approach to meeting the expectations of the people while building trust in public service delivery.

Looking ahead, the Ministry is now preparing for Special Campaign 5.0, with a sharper focus on sustainability, cleanliness, and robust grievance redressal mechanisms. As part of this effort, Ayush institutes, research councils, and na-



tional organisations will step up cleanliness drives across campuses and public areas, including herbal gardens, water bodies, bus stations, and community spaces. Senior officials and Ayush community members will also lead dedicated initiatives at Ayush Bhawan and its surroundings, reinforcing the Ministry's vision of contributing to a cleaner, efficient, and waste-free India. (PIB)

China accuses US of 'bullying' in push for tariffs over Russian oil purchases

BEIJING: Beijing on Monday described the US call to G7 and NATO countries to impose tariffs against China and other countries importing Russian oil as a "typical act of unilateral bullying" and "economic coercion", and threatened countermeasures if Washington's call is heeded.

China's rejection of the US push came even as the Chinese and US delegations reconvened in Spain on Monday for the second day of their talks on economic and trade issues.

At a regular news briefing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said that China's normal economic and energy cooperation with countries around the world, including Russia, is legitimate, lawful, and above reproach.

He made the remarks when asked to comment on reports that the US has

asked G7 and NATO members to collectively impose additional tariffs on China for purchasing Russian oil to pressure Beijing to play a role in ending the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

"The US move is a typical act of unilateral bullying and economic coercion, which seriously undermines international trade rules and threatens the security and stability of global industrial and supply chains," Lin said.

"Facts have proven that coercion and pressure are unpopular and will not solve the problem. China's position on the Ukraine crisis is consistent and clear. Dialogue and negotiation are the only viable way out," he said.

US President Donald Trump on Saturday said NATO countries should impose 50 to 100 per cent tariffs on China and stop buying oil from Russia to help end the Ukraine conflict.



On the same day, Treasury Secretary

Bessent, during a call with G7 finance

ministers, reiterated President

Trump's call to the bloc's partners

about joining the US in imposing tariffs on countries purchasing oil from Russia to end the war in Ukraine.

Lin said since the very first day of the Ukraine crisis, China has been taking an objective and impartial stance, promoting peace talks.

"We firmly oppose parties directing the issue at China and firmly oppose the imposition of unlawful, unilateral sanctions and long arm jurisdiction," he said, adding that if China's legitimate rights and interests are harmed, it will take resolute countermeasures and firmly safeguard its sovereignty, security and development interests.

He said, "The majority of countries, including the US and Europe, continue to engage in trade with Rus-

sia. The normal exchanges and cooperation between Chinese and Russian enterprises comply with WTO (World Trade Organisation) rules and market principles, are not targeted at any third party, and should not be subject to interference or influence from any third party."

On Saturday, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi also rebuffed the US call to G7 countries, saying that war cannot solve problems and sanctions only complicate them.

While Bessent's statement did not name any country, the US has often blamed India and China for purchasing Russian oil even when there are no tariffs on Beijing for it.

The Trump administration has imposed 50 per cent tariffs on India, including 25 per cent for Delhi's purchases of Russian oil. (PTI)

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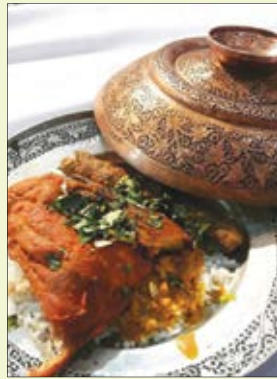
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Sub Junior Basketball JKBA To Hold Trials On 15-16 September



Jammu and Kashmir Basketball Association shall hold trials on September 15 and 16 at MA stadium basketball arena to select probable boys and girls for the J&K UT Basketball teams which shall participate in the 50th National Sub Jr basketball championship to be held at Dehradun Uttarakhand from 4th to 10th October, 2025.

Players born on or after January 1st, 2012 are eligible to participate.

The players have been asked to report at the venue at 5 PM on both days and carry their Aadhar card, Date of birth certificate and bank details along.

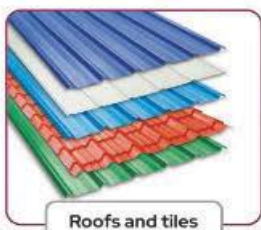
The trials shall be over seen by Sushma Jamwal, Chief Basketball Coach J&K Sports Council and Chairperson selection committee JKBA. (ADVT)

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