IT TUTORIAL
BATCHES AVAILABLE FOR
11TH & 12TH
8TH 9TH 10TH (All Subjects)
EXCLUSIVE BATCHES FOR STATE/CBSE
EXCLUSIVE BATCHES FOR STATE/CBSE
MEDICAL/ NON-MEDICAL
COMM/ NON ARTS
PARADE ROAD, KACHI CHAWNI, JAMMU

JAMMU | Saturday | November 22, 2025

Daily Jammu Diamond

@jammudiamond | @jammudiamond | YouTube @jammudiamond

War Against Injustice

Vol No. 14 | Issue No. 268 | RNI No. JKENG/2012/45433 | Pages: 12 | Price Rs. 2



3 DC Ramban finalises arrangements for District-level Padyatra

5 DC Bandipora conducts extensive Tour of Bandipora Tehsil, Inspects Developmental Works, Agricultural Institutions

11 Pant's wicketkeeping experience to aid India captaincy in Guwahati: Ricky Ponting

BRIEF

Two US-made M-series rifles recovered in Nowgam sector as forces foil terror plot

■ JD Correspondent

Srinagar: Security forces on Friday foiled an alleged terror plot by busting a hideout close to the Line of Control in Nowgam sector of Handwara sub district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The recoveries by joint team of Police and Army included two US-made M-series rifles with four magazines. Police

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Jammu administration retrieves state, custodian land from encroachers, NDPS Act offenders

■ JD Correspondent

Jammu: The Jammu District Administration today carried out an anti-encroachment and demolition drive and retrieved land worth crores of rupees at village Sikanderpur in Bishnah area on the outskirts of the city.

"The land measuring about 130 kanals had been under illegal

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

NIA counsel seeks time to take instructions on Er Rashid's bail plea

■ JD Correspondent

New Delhi: The National Investigation Agency on Friday sought time to take instructions on the plea of jailed Jammu and Kashmir MP Engineer Rashid, who sought to attend the upcoming Parliament session in December.

The counsel for the federal agency sought an adjournment

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Police carry out surprise checks of doctors' lockers, hospital staff in Ganderbal

■ JD Correspondent

Ganderbal: In line with ongoing efforts to strengthen security and maintain a safe and accountable environment within healthcare institutions, Police in Ganderbal carried out surprise checking of lockers belonging to doctors and staff members at various hospitals across the district, officials

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Electricity could become costlier in mornings, evenings in Kashmir Valley

■ JD Correspondent

Srinagar: Close on the heels of a massive controversy in Kashmir over the installation of smart meters, the Power Development Department (PDD) has proposed an extra 20 percent charge on electricity consumption during morning and evening hours in the Valley.

The Kashmir Power Development

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

LG Lays Foundation for 521 New Houses for Calamity-Affected Families in Poonch & Rajouri

■ It is being ensured that not a single family is deprived of their rights and fundamental needs: LG Sinha



■ JD Correspondent

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today laid the foundation stone for construction of new houses for families affected due to recent natural calamities and unprovoked Pakistani shelling during Operation Sindoor, in Poonch and Rajouri.

133 houses in Poonch and 388 houses in Rajouri that were completely damaged will be built free of cost with the help of High-range Rural Development Society (HRDS India).

The Lieutenant

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Govt of India approves increased number of person-days provided under MGNREGA to 150 days for UT of J&K

■ JD Correspondent

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha has expressed gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Hon'ble Union Minister for Agriculture &

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Tejas fighter jet crashes at Dubai air show, pilot killed

■ JD Correspondent

New Delhi: A Tejas fighter jet crashed killing the pilot while manoeuvring at the final Dubai air show on Friday afternoon.

The crash took place around 2:10 pm local time, as the aircraft turned into a fireball after nosediving into the ground. Defence sources said the deceased Indian Air Force (IAF) pilot was Wing Commander Namansh Syal.

A Court of Inquiry is being constituted to ascertain the cause of the accident, the IAF

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Speaker administers oath to newly elected MLAs



■ JD Correspondent

Jammu: Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Advocate Abdul Rahim Rather today administered the oath to two newly elected MLAs, Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi and Devyani Rana of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly.

Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi has been elected from Budgam Assembly constituency while Devyani Rana has been elected from Nagrota constituency.

Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi took oath in Urdu and Devyani Rana had oath in Dogri.

MP Rajya Sabha, Sat Paul Sharma;

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Satish Sharma meets delegations; reviews development issues, public grievances

■ JD Correspondent



Srinagar: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Transport, Youth Services & Sports, Information Technology, ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma, today met several public delegations at the Civil Secretariat.

The Minister had detailed discussion on various sector-specific challenges, policy gaps and public demands for administrative support during interaction with the delegations.

The Minister assured all groups that their issues will be examined and resolved in a time-bound manner.

A deputation of Western Union Transport Delegation raised issues related to transport permits, streamlining of fare revision mechanisms, strengthening of enforcement to curb unauthorized transport operations, addressing delays in vehicle fitness and renewal processes.

The delegation requested the Minister's intervention to ensure smoother, transparent and industry-friendly transport regulations.

Association of Rehbar-e-Khel (REK) employees raised several issues like regularisation of their services and timely release of pending honorarium. They appealed to the Minister to safeguard

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

J&K Police continues massive multi-district crackdown after busting white collar terror module

■ JD Correspondent

Srinagar: In the aftermath of the busting of a white-collar terror module and the recovery of explosives, J&K Police on Friday carried a major security crackdown across multiple districts, conducting coordinated inspections of chemical and fertilizer shops, car dealerships, and even doctors' lockers in hospitals and health institutions.

The drive, officials said, aims to prevent misuse of materials, strengthen documentation protocols and plug potential security loopholes. In Srinagar,

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Govt committed to strengthening India's scientific ecosystem: Jitendra Singh

■ JD Vikram Singh



Jammu: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh on Friday said that the upcoming four-day India International Science Festival (IISF 2025) beginning December 6 in Panchkula will bring all the stakeholders under one roof.

Emphasising the transformative role of science and technology in driving India's development, Dr Jitendra Singh said that the nation is witnessing an unprecedented expansion in scientific capabilities under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He stated that in recent years, India's accomplishments-like the Chandrayaan mission and Vaccine-have given the country an unparalleled recognition on the global stage.

Alongside these scientific milestones, India has also emerged as a world leader in preventive healthcare, marking a dramatic shift from the perceptions that existed in earlier decades, he added.

The Minister was delivering the keynote address at the Curtain Raiser programme of the India International Science Festival (IISF), organized

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Director Panchayati Raj reviews progress of PGs, People's Plan Campaign, MWFGP

■ JD Correspondent

Jammu: Director of Panchayati Raj, Sham Lal on Friday chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of Panchayat infrastructure works taken up across Jammu and Kashmir in the financial year 2025-26.

The meeting focused on the physical progress of Panchayat Ghars (PGs), land identification for new constructions, fund disbursement through the SNA SPARSH portal via BEAMS and the operational status of Panchayat Learning Centres (PLCs).

Progress under the People's Plan Campaign (PPC), Model Women Friendly Gram Panchayats, DARPG Awards and preparations for Constitution Day (Samvidhan Diwas) (November 26) was also reviewed.

It was informed that the department

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Hindi reflects India's growing confidence on the global stage: LG Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta

■ Promoting Hindi is vital for national unity & preserving India's heritage

■ JD Vikram Singh



New Delhi: Highlighting the growing prominence of Hindi on the national and global stage, the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, said that Hindi today stands not just as a means of communication but as a powerful carrier of India's cultural, emotional and civilizational identity. He noted that the widespread acceptance of Hindi across diverse regions, its expanding academic footprint, and its increasing use in international forums reflect India's rising confidence and cultural resurgence.

The Lt Governor was addressing the inaugural session of the two-day International Conference on 'Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya:

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

Kashmiri leaders condemn proposed 20 pc peak-hour electricity surcharge

■ JD Correspondent

Srinagar: Kashmiri leaders have strongly criticized the Power Development Department's (PDD) proposal to impose an additional 20 percent charge on electricity consumption during morning and evening peak hours.

The National Conference (NC) said the elected government will not allow the people of Jammu and Kashmir to bear such an "unfair and ill-timed" burden. NC chief spokesman Tanvir Sadiq stated on X that in harsh Kashmiri winters, electricity is a necessity, not a luxury, and the Omar Abdullah-led government stands firmly against the surcharge.

The ruling National Conference said the elected government will not allow the people

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

J&K EDI Startups draw global attention at Bengaluru Tech Summit-2025

■ JD Correspondent



Bengaluru: Startups supported by the Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) participated in the prestigious Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) 2025, held in Bangalore from November 18 to 20, 2025.

This year's edition was one of the largest ever, with organisers reporting participation from more than 10,000 startups representing 60 countries. The J&K startups began their showcase with a high-energy Day 1, marked by strong engagement with industry leaders, potential partners and sector experts.

The summit, featuring international exhibitors from Italy, Russia, Israel, Germany, Australia and Korea, offered unmatched exposure, learning and global networking opportunities for the participating entrepreneurs from J&K. The J&K pavilion attracted a huge crowd, drawing praise, curiosity and appreciation from the visitors and global participants.

Seven J&K

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2

World Heritage Week: Workshop on conservation of heritage sites held at IIIM Jammu

■ JD Correspondent

Jammu: As part of World Heritage Week, the Department of Archives, Archaeology & Museums J&K on Friday organized a Workshop and Training Programme on Conservation and Preservation of Heritage Sites and Monuments at IIIM Jammu.

The session was chaired by Director AA&M, K.K. Sidha with Dr. Zabeer Ahmad, Director IIIM Jammu as Guest of Honour.

The workshop was attended by ADDCs & a Team of Trainers (10 member team of Engineers of PW(R&B) Department of each District of Jammu Division.

Key presentations included "Heritage Values and Architectural Approaches for Preservation" by Ar. Aditya K. Singh; "Conservation Pathways and Restoration Progress in J&K" by K.K.

|| CONTD ON PAGE 2



From Page 01

LG Lays Foundation...

Governor reaffirmed the commitment of Government of India, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, towards complete rehabilitation of affected families and to improve the life of every resident of Poonch and Rajouri.

"Earlier, ex-gratia relief and employment to Next of Kins (NoKs) of the deceased were provided and compensation paid to the families affected by flash floods and Pakistani shelling in both the districts. Under Security Related Expenditure (SRE) and Central Schemes relief of more than Rs. 10 Cr was already provided to other house owners in Poonch. It is being ensured that not a single family is deprived of their rights and fundamental needs," the Lieutenant Governor said.

13 NoKs were provided government jobs in Poonch. 14 NoKs of deceased were provided ex-gratia relief. In Poonch 160 Kachcha House owners and 425 Pucca house owners were provided the compensation to rebuild their houses. In Rajouri, one NoK of deceased civilians martyred during Operation Sindoor was provided government jobs. 465 houses which suffered damages were provided relief money to rebuild the houses. The residential houses damaged due to natural calamities in Rajouri were provided with compensation to restore the structures.

He expressed gratitude to the district administration, police, army, CAPFs, emergency responders, civil society members and volunteers for saving many lives during the natural calamities and unprovoked Pakistani shelling and extending support to the affected families. He also lauded the HRDS India's team for its noble initiative.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that 19 NoKs of terror affected families in Rajouri and 9 in Poonch were provided with the government jobs. He also instructed the District and Police Administration to identify the left-out terror victim families and forward their Job-appointment related cases to the Government Administration Department.

Shri Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Shri Nalin Prabhat, DGP; Shri Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; Shri Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu; Shri Tejinder Singh, DIG Rajouri Poonch Range; Shri Abhishek Sharma, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri; Shri Ashok Kumar Sharma, Deputy Commissioner, Poonch; Shri Krishnakumar S. Devan, CEO, HRDS India, Shri Ravinder Raina, former MLA and senior BJP Leader; senior officials of police and civil administration, prominent citizens and people from all walks of life attended the foundation laying ceremony.

Govt of India...

Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan for increasing number of person-days provided under MGNREGA to 150 days for J&K to enhance livelihood security in rural areas affected by natural calamity.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor has said:

"I'm grateful to Hon'ble PM Sh. Narendra Modi Ji and Hon'ble Union Minister of Rural Development Sh. Shivraj Singh Chouhan Ji for increasing number of person-days provided under MGNREGA to 150 days for J&K to enhance livelihood security in rural areas affected by natural calamity.

In view of the likelihood of increased demand for employment on public works due to the natural calamity, it has been decided, under Section 3(4) of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, to provide up to 50 days of additional employment over and above 100 days per household in the affected rural areas of UT of Jammu & Kashmir for the Financial Year 2025-26.

Tejas fighter jet...

said on its X handle, while confirming the incident.

"An IAF Tejas aircraft met with an accident during an aerial display at Dubai Air Show, today. The pilot sustained fatal injuries in the accident. IAF deeply regrets the loss of life and stands firmly with the bereaved family in this time of grief,'" the post read.

In a statement, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said he was "deeply anguished" at the loss of a brave and courageous IAF pilot.

"Deeply anguished at the loss of a brave and courageous IAF pilot during an aerial display in Dubai Air Show. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. The nation stands firmly with the family in this tragic hour," the Minister said.

Expressing "deep regret" over the tragedy, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan said all ranks of the Indian Armed Forces stand firm with the bereaved family.

"General Anil Chauhan, CDS and all ranks of Indian Armed Forces deeply regret the incident in which an IAF Tejas aircraft met with an accident during an aerial display at Dubai Air Show, today. The pilot sustained fatal injuries in the accident. We deeply regret the loss of life and stand firmly with the bereaved family in this time of grief," the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS) said on X.

India's indigenous Tejas fighter jet, manufactured by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), is a single-seat Light Combat Aircraft. The IAF and the Indian Navy also operate twin-seat trainer variants.

The first test flight of the Tejas programme was conducted in 2001, while the Second Series Production Tejas in its Initial Operational Clearance configuration made its maiden flight on March 22, 2016.

Designed as a 4.5-generation multi-role platform, Tejas is built to deliver offensive air support and close-combat assistance for ground operations. It is engineered for both ground and maritime missions, reflecting an emphasis on operational versatility.

The government on Thursday had debunked reports about "oil leakage" in Tejas Mk1.

"This is a standard procedure for aircraft operating in humid conditions, like those in Dubai. The false narrative is being deliberately pushed by these accounts to undermine the fighter's proven technical reliability with baseless propaganda," the government had said on X.

Speaker administers oath...

Leader of Opposition, Sunil Kumar Sharma; MLAs Sham Lal Sharma, Vikram Randhawa, Waheed-Ur-Rehman Para and family members of newly elected members were also present on the occasion.

Satish Sharma meets...

the future of hundreds of youth serving in sports development at the grassroots level.

Another deputation of Kerosene Dealers Association highlighted challenges in the FCS&CA supply chain, including irregular and insufficient kerosene allocations and need for transparent distribution mechanisms. They requested a streamlined policy support to ensure uninterrupted public supply. Several other delegations also met the Minister, presenting their demands related to public welfare, infrastructure gaps and departmental service delivery. Satish Sharma directed the concerned officers to look into the issues and concerns raised by the deputations for speedy redress. He assured time bound action on genuine demands, department-wise review of projected key issues, policy-level interventions, wherever required, continued government commitment to transparent, efficient and citizen-centric administration

He reiterated that such interactions are crucial for improving service delivery and bridging gaps between the public and the administration.

J&K Police continues...

police teams inspected chemical and fertilizer outlets as part of heightened security measures, verifying stock and sales records, identity checks for bulk purchasers, secure storage practices, and validity of licences. Dealers were asked to remain vigilant, ensure transparency in operations and immediately report any suspicious transactions.

Srinagar Police, along with medical officers from the Health Department, also inspected lockers used by doctors and staff at district and private hospitals, medical colleges and other health facilities. The checks were aimed at preventing unauthorized storage of illegal or hazardous materials and strengthening internal security within medical institutions.

Similar surprise inspections of lockers were conducted in Ganderbal, while in Anantnag, police undertook rigorous checking of vehicle dealerships as part of district-wide measures to enhance security and curb illegal activities.

Govt committed to...

at the Central University of Jammu in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The event marked the formal launch of the IISF, being held from December 6 to 9 in Panchkula Haryana, and will bring together researchers, students, educators, and scientific institutions to celebrate and promote India's advancements in science and innovation.

Dr. Singh emphasized that India is today globally recognized for its scientific capabilities, and the establishment of the Satish Dhawan Centre at the Central University of Jammu holds a special significance, as Satish Dhawan-an iconic figure of India's space programme-is a proud 'Dogra achiever'.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the forthcoming India International Science Festival would not only showcase India's scientific achievements but also strengthen the collaborative ecosystem between academia, industry, and innovation-driven enterprises.

In his address, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr M Ravichandran said the India International Science Festival, which is being held in Panchkula, Haryana, would focus on the theme "Science for Prosperity," emphasising the vital role of scientific knowledge and technological innovation in driving sustainable development.

Director Panchayati Raj...

has set a target of constructing 640 Panchayat Ghars across the Union Territory. "Of these, land has been identified for 549 and 530 estimates have been submitted".

Sham Lal directed the departmental functionaries to resolve all pending issues related to Panchayat Ghars on priority. He asked the stakeholders to immediately formulate estimation reports for the Panchayats where land identification has already been completed. While appreciating the overall performance of districts, he urged officials to accelerate efforts to achieve all assigned targets within the stipulated time frame.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioners Panchayat, Executive Engineers of the Rural Engineering Wing, Block Development Officers and SPRC/DPRC team.

Hindi reflects India's...

Symbol of Nationalism and Humanity', organised jointly by the Vishwa Hindi Parishad and the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi, to mark the 110th birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

The grand conference, held at Vigyan Bhawan, brought together distinguished scholars, linguists, administrators, academicians and personalities from India and abroad who presented their views on the life, philosophy and contributions of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

The event was formally inaugurated with the traditional lighting of the lamp by the chief guests-Lt Governor of Ladakh Shri Kavinder Gupta, former Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Ajay Kumar Mishra 'Teni', and ICPR Member Secretary Prof. Sachchidanand Mishra.

Addressing the gathering, Lt Governor Kavinder Gupta emphasized that promoting Hindi is essential for strengthening national integration and preserving India's timeless heritage. He maintained that Hindi, with its deep-rooted literary tradition and cultural resonance, has the potential to unite diverse communities across the nation. He said that the growing aspiration among young Indians to learn, speak and work in Hindi demonstrates a renewed pride in India's civilizational ethos.

Shri Kavinder Gupta said that the present government at the Centre is following the guiding philosophy of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's Ekatma Manav Darshan (Integral Humanism) to serve humanity and strengthen the spirit of nationalism. He emphasized that Hindi is not merely a language but the emotional, cultural and civilizational thread that binds India. He praised the efforts of the Vishwa Hindi Parishad for promoting Hindi globally and strengthening India's cultural identity.

Earlier, in the prelude session, Dr. Maheshchandra Sharma, Dr. Shivshakti Nath Bakshi, Joint Secretary (Economic Affairs) Baldev Purusharth, and Prof. Hemchandra Jain presented scholarly insights on nationalism, inclusiveness, cultural renaissance and the need to reassert India's civilizational narrative.

Ajay Kumar Mishra 'Teni', Prof. Sachchidanand Mishra and Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan Acharya Lakshmi Prasad Yarlagadda, President, Vishwa Hindi Parishad also addressed the gathering.

Dr. Vipin Kumar, National General Secretary of Vishwa Hindi Parishad, presented the report and institutional overview of the Parishad.

Prof. Ramnarayan Patel, Conference Convenor, introduced the thematic framework of the sessions.

Kashmiri leaders condemn...

of J&K to be burdened with any such unfair and ill-timed proposal. "The Omar Abdullah led Government has already taken a clear stand on the proposed 20% peak-hour surcharge. In a harsh Kashmiri winter, power is a necessity, not a luxury. The Omar Abdullah-led government will not allow the people of J&K to be burdened with any such unfair and ill-timed proposal," NC chief spokesman Tanvir Sadiq said on X. Kashmir's chief cleric and Hurriyat chief Mirwaiz Umar Farooq called the proposal "a grave injustice to people".

In his Friday address Mirwaiz said that people were already struggling to survive an economic crisis as businesses are in decline, increasing the power tariff that too before the onset of winters which are harsh in Kashmir is heartless of the Government.

"Rather than easing people's problems, Government is adding to their woes. Instead of fulfilling the commitment of providing 200 units of free electricity to the poor, new burdens are being placed on people," Mirwaiz said while urging the government to immediately withdraw this anti-people proposal.

The government has a moral duty to consider people's economic hardships before even thinking of enforcing such a harsh measure. With harsh winter days approaching, I urge the authorities: show some mercy to people who are already burdened and suffering," Bukhari said.

Member Legislative Assembly, Pulwama and PDP leader Waheed Para said J&K government must do a real ground assessment before hiking electricity charges.

"People in posh areas may not feel it, but for ordinary Kashmiris, winter is a battle for survival. In Kashmir, electricity is not a luxury, it is life support. At a time when families are already struggling, raising tariffs on the poor and middle class will be cruel and catastrophic. Policies that ignore human suffering have no place in a just administration," Para said on X.

Kashmir Traders & Manufacturers Federation (KTMF) president Mohammad Yaseen Khan termed the proposed peak hour surcharge unjustified & unacceptable.

The KPDCL has reportedly sought approval from Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) to impose a 20 percent surcharge on all categories of consumers except for the agriculture sector during peak hours.

J&K EDI Startups...

startups supported by JKEDI participated in the 3-day long Tech Summit.

A key highlight was the visit of Ari Gargir, CEO and Founder of RED C Biotech, who interacted with the J&K startup founders and showed keen interest in their innovative solutions. Besides, interactions with the Industry Leaders was the spotlight of the event where Sheenmart E-Com, a JKEDI-sponsored startup, held promising discussions with AutoL Korea, a global leader in compact long-range LiDAR technology. The dialogue focused on exploring collaborative opportunities in advanced sensing and smart mobility solutions.

Officials from the Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Business Modelling (CIIBM) a program vertical of JKEDI including Faheem ul Din Malik, Associate Project Manager (APM), JKEDI and Sorab Mengi, Assistant Manager (F&A), JKEDI attended the summit, facilitating the interaction between startups and the industry leaders, under the overall supervision of the Secretary Industries and Commerce Department and Director, JKEDI, Khalid Jahangir. They also discussed the prospective knowledge sharing and collaborations with the counterparts like Startup Tamil Nadu in the future.

The startups, supported by Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) shared their experiences and key takeaways. They applauded the role of JKEDI for being the prospective enabler between the vast startup market place and the aspiring entrepreneurs of the UT of J&K.

The presence of JKEDI-supported startups at BTS 2025 reflects the growing innovation capability and entrepreneurial drive emerging from Jammu & Kashmir. The JKEDI remains committed towards empowering startups and helping them compete, collaborate and grow on national and global platforms.

World Heritage Week...

Sidha and "Restoration Workflow and Challenges" by Fayaz Ahmad Shah of ASI Srinagar Circle. A case study presentation was delivered by Ar Abhiney Gupta of SMVDU. Experts, Engineers and faculty members actively participated.

The participants appreciated the first of its kind initiative of the Department and asserted that this will certainly strengthen the approach of PW(R&B) Department towards conservation & preparation of DPR thereof.

Two US-made M-series...

said based on specific input a joint operation was launched by Handwara Police & Nowgam Brigade of Indian Army in the Neeriyan Forest area along the LoC in the Nowgam sector.

"During the operation, the joint team busted a major hideout which led to the recovery of two M-series rifles with four magazines, two Chinese pistols with three magazines, two hand grenades and some live rounds," Police said.

A case was registered at Police Station Qalamabad Handwara and further investigation has been set in motion.

Jammu administration retrieves...

occupation with construction of illegal structures raised by land encroachers and offenders booked under NDPS act," officials said.

They said the district administration has cautioned against such illegal occupation of state land and warned land encroachers that strict action shall be taken against violators. "The land retrieved will be handed over to the concerned department and some portion will also be proposed to be utilized for Niabat, Patwar Halqa and Police Post."

The anti-encroachment drive was carried out on the directions of District Magistrate Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Minhas in coordination with SSP Jammu Joginder Singh.

NIA counsel seeks...

to take instructions before Additional Sessions Judge Prashant Sharma, who listed the matter for further proceedings on November 26.

The application filed by advocate Vikhyat Oberoi appearing for Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, on Tuesday had sought interim bail or custody parole on the grounds that Rashid was a parliamentarian and needed to attend the upcoming session to fulfil his public duty.

The court had then sought the agency's response on the plea.

Engineer Rashid defeated Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in Baramulla.

The court had earlier granted Rashid custody parole between July 24 and August 4 to attend the monsoon session of Parliament.

It also granted him interim bail to campaign during the Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections.

Rashid has been lodged in Tihar jail since 2019 after he was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in a 2017 terror funding case.

Rashid's name cropped up during the investigation of Kashmiri businessman Zahoor Watali, who was arrested by the NIA for allegedly funding terrorist groups and separatists in the Kashmir Valley.

The NIA filed a chargesheet against several persons, including Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik, Lashkar-e-Taiba founder Hafiz Saeed and Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, in the case.

Malik was sentenced to life imprisonment in 2022 after pleading guilty to the charges against him.

Police carry out...

said. A police spokesperson said in a statement that the inspection drives were conducted by police teams in coordination with hospital administrations to ensure transparency and proper adherence to security protocols. The aim of the exercise was to prevent any misuse of hospital premises, curb illegal activities, and reinforce institutional discipline.

During the checking, all lockers and staff storage spaces were thoroughly inspected. Police also sensitized the medical and paramedical staff about the importance of maintaining security, reporting suspicious activity, and ensuring hospital spaces are not misused in any manner, he added.

Police reaffirmed that such checking drives will continue in the future as part of its commitment to safeguarding public institutions and ensuring a secure environment for patients, attendants, and healthcare professionals.

J&K Police has urged all hospital staff to cooperate with such measures and maintain compliance with security guidelines for the larger safety of the community.

Electricity could become...

Corporation Limited (KPDCL) has sought approval from Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) to impose a 20 percent surcharge on all categories of consumers except for the agriculture sector during peak hours, when demand is at its highest due to the boneâ€'chilling cold in the Valley.

According to a petition filed before the JERC for J&K and Ladakh, KPDCL has proposed the surcharge for different consumer categories, including domestic households. The JERC, a quasiâ€'judicial body, is empowered to approve or reject tariff proposals.

Confirming the development, Managing Director KPDCL, Mahmood Ahmad Shah told KNO that "KPDCL has proposed a 20 percent surcharge on tariff for the peak hours of the day. As of now, no decision has been taken by the regulatory commission."

The proposal is part of the Time of Day (ToD) tariff system, under which electricity costs vary depending on the time of consumption.

However, the proposal has been vehemently opposed by the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) during the hearing on KPDCL petition on Thursday.

The KCCI, represented by Secretary General Faiz Ahmad Bakshi argued that it was misleading for KPDCL to claim it had not raised tariffs while simultaneously proposing a surcharge during peak hours.

"Since electricity consumption during these hours is a necessity and not a discretionary choice, treating it as an additional charge is fundamentally unfair," the KCCI said.

Citing figures, the KCCI said Kashmir has the worst power reliability in India.

"As per Central Electricity Authority figures for 2022, the System Average Interruption Duration Index(SAIDI) for Kashmir stands at a shocking 889, while the System Average Interruption Frequency Index(SAIFI) stands at 723.95. These numbers are several times higher than the national averages of 116.12 and 171.64. Even Jammu, despite its own problems, performs significantly better with a SAIDI of 489 and SAIFI of 442," the business body said.

Swami Suddhananda Giri shares insights on Kriya Yoga, "An antidote to stress, fear and worry

JD CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU: A renowned spiritual leader and a senior YSS Sannyasi Swami Suddhananda Giri, delivered an impactful lecture on Kriya Yoga, emphasizing its role in achieving inner peace and tranquility at Abhinav Theatre , Jammu today.

The event drew a large audience eager to explore the path of self-realization and spiritual growth.Swami Suddhananda Giri shared profound insights into the practice of Kriya Yoga, highlighting its benefits in reducing stress and promoting mental clarity. He guided attendees through meditation techniques, encouraging them to incorporate yoga into their daily lives.The lecture fostered a sense of community and spiritual connection among participants.In today's fast-paced world, stress, fear, and worry have become the new norm.

Amidst the chaos, the Yogada Satsang Society of India (YSS) in collaboration of J&K Academy of Art , Culture and Languages (JKAACL) brought a beacon of hope to Jammu with a life-transforming Kriya Yoga event, "An Antidote to Stress, Fear, and Worry." Swami Suddhananda Giri, a senior YSS Sannyasi, was a resounding success, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of nearly 400 devotees who gathered at the prestigious Abhinav Theatre, Jammu.The event was a masterclass in spiritual growth, mental clarity, and emotional balance, as Swami Suddhananda Giri shared the ancient wisdom of Kriya Yoga.

With his inspiring discourse and practical demonstrations, he illuminated the path to inner peace and tranquility, offering a profound solution to alleviate the burdens of modern life. The atmosphere was electric with devotion and anticipation as participants immersed themselves in the sacred practices of Kriya Yoga, experiencing firsthand its transformative power.



Swami Suddhananda Giri's message of hope and empowerment resonated deeply with the audience, emphasizing the importance of incorporating spiritual practices into daily life. "Kriya Yoga is not just a technique, but a way of life," he said. "By embracing this ancient wisdom, we can transcend the limitations of the human condition and realize our true potential as spiritual beings."The Yogada Satsang Society of India extends its heartfelt gratitude to the devotees, dignitaries, and well-wishers who made this event a grand success.

We hope that the divine blessings and wisdom shared by Swami Suddhananda Giri will continue to guide and inspire all participants, empowering them to lead a life of purpose, peace, and harmony.The Yogada Satsang Society of India is a spiritual organization dedicated to promoting the teachings of Kriya Yoga and Self-Realization. Founded by Paramhansa Yogananda, the society aims to spread the message of love, peace, and harmony worldwide.

150th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

DC Ramban finalises arrangements for District-level Padyatra

JD CORRESPONDENT



RAMBAN: Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan today chaired a meeting and finalized the arrangements for the forthcoming District level Padyatra to be organized on November 25, 2025 as part of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Celebrations.

The meeting was attended by ACD, Shokat Hayat Mattoo; Deputy Director MY Bharat Doda/Ramban, Khushal Gupta; Tehsildar, Deep Kumar; Dy SP Headquarter, Waqar Butt; CMO, Executive Engineer JPDCL, PWD, CEO, MC Ramban and other concerned officers.

The meeting discussed in detail the necessary preparations, logistical requirements, route plan, security arrangements and coordination among the stakeholder departments to ensure the smooth conduct of the event. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of seamless inter-departmental coordination for smooth conduct of Padyatra being held as a tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and promoting the message of national unity and integrity.

The DC issued instructions to concerned departments for making adequate arrangements for traffic management, medical facilities, participation of youth and students, stage, seating plan and publicity besides overall event management. He stressed timely execution of all assigned responsibilities and directed officers to remain in close coordination throughout the event.

The Deputy Commissioner called upon all departments to work in full synergy to ensure the successful and meaningful observance of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas in the district.

HADP beneficiary sets up Rural Business Service Hub at Magerkote

DC Ramban inaugurates innovative venture

JD CORRESPONDENT



RAMBAN: Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan today inaugurated the Rural Business Service Hub (RBSH) established at Magerkote, Ramsoo by a young entrepreneur Ajaz Ahmed under the HADP project "Strengthening Agriculture Marketing," being implemented by the Horticulture Planning and Marketing Department.

Accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police, Arun Gupta, the Deputy Commissioner inspected the facilities created under the project and appreciated the initiative for bringing essential agricultural services closer to farmers in this remote region. He emphasized that such centres will greatly benefit the farming community by providing access to modern agricultural machinery, tools and timely services, thereby enhancing productivity and reducing input costs.

He directed the Area Marketing Officer to extend proper technical guidance to the entrepreneur and ensure that the centre makes available the complete range of agricultural machinery, farm tools and other necessary inputs required by farmers. The DC was informed that the unit is also providing on-site machinery services, enabling farmers to easily hire equipment as per their requirement.

The DC encouraged local growers to take full advantage of the newly established Hub and integrate modern techniques into their farming practices for better outcomes.

Area Marketing Officer Ramban, Tehsin Iqbal Chib, Senior Scientist KVK Ramban, Raj Kumar, Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer, Ajaz Ahmed Rishi, Horticulture Development Officer Ramsoo, Amer, Assistant Grading & Marketing Officer Batote, Raju Zutshi, Grading & Marketing Inspector and various farmers were present on the occasion.

TPC Conducts High-Impact Sessions on Soft Skills, Interviews & Entrepreneurship

RAJOURI: In a significant move to strengthen student employability and professional readiness, the Training & Placement Cell (TPC) of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU), Rajouri, on Thursday conducted two specialised Career Guidance Sessions at the School of Biosciences & Biotechnology. The sessions, titled "Strategies of Facing Interviews / Soft Skills" and "Skill Development and Entrepreneurship", witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of Botany, Zoology, Biotechnology, Microbiology, and Environmental Sciences. Vice Chancellor Prof. Jawaid Iqbal lauded the TPC for organizing an impactful programme aimed at enhancing students' job prospects. He highlighted that BGSBU graduates are increasingly securing placements in leading companies including ICICI Bank, Della Resorts, Reliance Jio, and Okaya—an outcome of the University's consistent focus on quality education and skill-oriented training. Registrar Mr. Abhishek Sharma commended the TPC for its continuous efforts in career counselling and capacity building. He said such initiatives are instrumental in boosting student confidence while preparing them for emerging opportunities in diverse sectors. A total of 91 students attended the event, which was graced by faculty members and officials including Dr. Tanvir Ul Hassan Dar, Dr. Aasim Mir, Dr. Shafqat Nabi Mughal, Dr. Mohd Asghar, Dr. Mohd Hanief, Dr. Saima Aslam, Dr. Raja Amir, Dr. M.A. Hanan Khan, Dr. Shoeb Ahmad, Dr. Arif Tasleem Jan, and Mr. Zakir Hussain. The first session, delivered by Dr. Aasim Mir, focused on interview techniques, communication skills, body language, and confidence-building strategies. He stressed the need for effective self-introduction, understanding company profiles, and practicing mock interviews.

Watershed Mahotsav-2025: Colorful cultural-cum-awareness event organized at Gudhar- Udhampur

JD CORRESPONDENT



UDHAMPUR: The Integrated Watershed Management Programme Udhampur organized an awareness programme at village Gudhar as part of month-long Watershed Mahotsav 2025 being observed from November 17 to December 16, 2025.

The programme, presided over by Project Manager IWMP, Dr. Ashwani Hansa, witnessed active participation from stakeholder departments and community representatives. The event aimed to increase public awareness and encourage community-driven initiatives to protect natural resources, a key objective of Watershed Mahotsav-2025.

The celebration at Gudhar included a cultural programme, song competition, prize distribution ceremony and an awareness camp.
The event saw the participation of former PRI members, students and teachers from 11 schools, prominent citizens and staff from IWMP and the Rural Development Department.

The Watershed Mahotsav-2025 has emerged as an effective platform to engage the community and raise awareness about the importance of water-shed management and natural resource conservation, said Dr. Ashwani Hansa. "We are pleased to see the enthusiastic participation of all stakeholders in this event, which is a testament to the community's commitment to sustainable development,' he added.

The event aims to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility among the local community towards the protection and preservation of their natural resources.



RHPCL aids Govt Schools in Rattle Power project affected area with computers

DC hands over 91 PCs to Heads of Institutions

KISHTWAR: In a significant push to ICT enabled educational facilities in the district, Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma today handed over 91 all-in-one personal computers to project-affected educational institutions in Kishtwar district. The funds for the PCs were provided by the Rattle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (RHPCL) under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative. The high-end computers, costing ?51.87 lakh, were handed over by the DC to HOIs (Head of Institutions) of the schools affected identified in the project region. The PCs are aimed at strengthening ICT-enabled learning, improving digital accessibility for students, and uplifting the overall academic environment in government educational institutions. The Deputy Commissioner reiterated the commitment of the District Administration to improve quality of education and ensure modern learning tools reach every corner of Kishtwar. CEO Kishtwar, Sanjay Dogra, Dy. CEO Kishtwar, Masood Ahmed Qazi, ZEO Kishtwar, Ashok Kumar, ZEO Nagseni, Riyaz-Ul-Haq and other concerned officers were present.

Asmita Pencak Silat Women's League 2025 Concludes with Enthusiasm and Excellence

JAMMU: The two-day Asmita Pencak Silat Women's League 2025 concluded today on 19th November with great fervour and enthusiasm at Indoor Stadium Budgam. The event, which witnessed an overwhelming participation of athletes, showcased exceptional talent and spirit among women athletes from across the region. Principal of Government Degree College Budgam Professor (Dr Muhammad Amin Malik), graced the Opening ceremony as the Chief Guest, and lauded the efforts of organizers and participants for promoting women empowerment through sports. The event was attended by a large number of dignitaries, guests, teachers, parents, and enthusiastic spectators who witnessed the thrilling performances and competitions.

2- Day J&K Science Congress concludes at PSPS GCW Gandhinagar

JD CORRESPONDENT



JAMMU: The Two-Day JK Science Congress-2025 concluded today at PSPS Government College for Women Gandhinagar.

The event was held in collaboration with J&K Science Technology and Innovation Council, Department of Science & Technology.

The second day of the JK Science Congress 2025 commenced with a series of technical sessions. The experts and researchers deliberated on recent scientific advancements across various disciplines.

The plenary sessions were chaired by Prof. (Dr.) Garima Gupta, Professor of English, HOD Journalism and Media Studies, University of Jammu; Dr. Ashok Kumar, Assistant Professor, Central University of Jammu; Dr. Ajay Singh Dadwal, Associate Professor, GGM Science College, Jammu; and Dr. Princy Gupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Science, Central University and Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Associate Professor, Dept. of Environmental Sciences, University of Jammu.

The academic momentum continued with paper presentations, where researchers presented their findings before a panel of evaluators. The sessions highlighted innovative ideas, regional research priorities and emerging scientific contributions.

The guests inspected the science project stalls, appreciating the creativity, innovation and scientific temperament displayed by the participants.

The formal function began with a welcome address by Prof. Dr. Geetanjali Andotra, the Principal. Prof. Shivani Sharma from Department of Botany presented the conference report, highlighting the overall achievements, participation statistics and academic outcomes of the Congress.

The session continued with a thought-provoking keynote address by Former Vice- Chancellor University of Jammu, Dr. R.D. Sharma. He emphasized the role of scientific innovation in regional and overall development.

The event was further enriched by the address of Guest of Honor, Vikram Randhawa, MLA Bahu, who highlighted the significance of science outreach and the necessity of bridging the gap between academia and society.

The Congress then moved towards its much-awaited award segment. Winners were felicitated with the Best Poster Award, Best Science Project Award and Best Oral Presentation Award to recognize the outstanding contribution in their respective categories.

Awareness Camp Highlights Rural Employment Opportunities Under Gramodyog Rozgar Yojana

JD CORRESPONDENT

RAJOURI: In a bid to boost rural entrepreneurship and generate livelihood opportunities, the J&K Khadi & Village Industries Board (KVIB), Rajouri, on Thursday organised an awareness camp at village Murad Pur under the Gramodyog Rozgar Yojana. The programme aimed to educate unemployed youth, rural artisans, and the general public about various incentives and financial support available under the centrally sponsored scheme.

The event witnessed participation from the Ex-Sarpanch, local panches, prominent residents, social workers, unemployed youth, traditional artisans, and budding entrepreneurs. Officials from the concerned department and bankers briefed attendees on the procedural and financial aspects of the scheme.

Speaking on the occasion, Mohd Ghayas Khan, District Officer KVIB Rajouri, informed that under the scheme, projects up to ?50 lakh are eligible for assistance. He explained that beneficiaries receive 25% to 35% margin money support from the Board, while 5% to 10% contribution is required from the entrepreneur. The remaining 90% to 95% of the project cost is provided as a bank loan.

He emphasised that the primary objective of the scheme is to create employment avenues by enabling youth and entrepreneurs to establish new income-generating units.

CHC Bhaderwah bids farewell to CMO Dr. Om Kumar

JD CORRESPONDENT



BHADERWAH: Chief Medical Officer Dr. Om Kumar was accorded a warm send off by the staff of Community Healthcare Centre Bhaderwah ahead of his superannuation by this month end.

Dr Om Kumar is retiring after rendering 29 years of dedicated and distinguished service in the department.

The event was attended by the Block Medical Officer Dr Versha Sharma, staff members, officers and officials of CHC, besides the staff from the peripheral health facilities falling under Medical Block Bhaderwah.

During the programme, the speakers lauded the remarkable services, commitment and leadership qualities of Dr. Om Kumar, highlighting his invaluable contribution towards strengthening the health sector in the District. They appreciated his sincerity, professionalism and people-centric approach during his long career.

Dr. Om Kumar expressed his gratitude to his colleagues for their cooperation, support and teamwork over the years. He extended his best wishes to the staff and encouraged them to continue working with dedication for the welfare of the community.

DIG Armed Jammu Visits 1st Women Battalion, Channi Himmat

JD CORRESPONDENT



JAMMU: Sh.Sameer Sharma-IPS, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Armed Range, Jammu visited the 1st Women Bn Temporarily Headquartered at APC, Channi Himmat. The DIG Armed was warmly welcomed by Commandant Shri R.C. Kotwal-JKPS, SSP, Sh.Vishal Manhas-SP (DyCO) alongwith other officers including Sh. Subash Chander (DySP), Ms. Anita Katel (DySP), Insp. Javed Akhter, Insp. Atul Rakhwal, besides all ranks of the Battalion.

During the visit, the DIG conducted a detailed review of the functioning of the Battalion. The DIG Armed also interacted with the women constables, appreciated their professionalism, and discussed several important points concerning their duties.

The interaction focused on enhancing efficiency, addressing field challenges, and further strengthening coordination within the unit. The DIG emphasized maintaining high standards of discipline, commitment, and readiness in all assignments.

The visit concluded with suitable directions for improving administrative and operational effectiveness of the battalion.

Development of Jasrota Constituency not just a promise but a continuous mission: Jasrotia

Inaugurates development works worth Rs 44 lacs in four Panchayats - Palli, Barwal East, Barwal West, and Uttri, inaugurates two newly installed transformers

JD Correspondent

JASROTA: Continuing development spree, MLA Jasrota, Rajiv Jasrotia, today inaugurated development works worth Rs 44 lacs in four Panchayats - Palli, Barwal East, Barwal West, and Uttri in Block Barnoti. The MLA also inaugurated two newly installed transformers in Barwal East and Barwal West Panchayats, aimed at enhancing power supply to the areas.Following the inauguration, Jasrotia addressed a public meeting, where he listened to the grievances and concerns of the local residents. The event saw a large turnout, with people from the four Panchayats participating in large numbers to extend their support to the MLA.

Prominent among those present on the occasion included BDO Barnoti Suraj Singh, DDC Barnoti Sushma, Sarpanch Yash Paul Sharma , Abhi , Bindu , Amarjeet , Sarpanch Sukhdev ,Sarpanch Shiv Dev , Capt Sandeep , Ranjeet Pathania , Sarpanch Porkhi , Sarpanch Bodh Raj (Syana), Ajaib Singh , Kultaar Singh , Munish Verma , Ashwani Kumar , Lambad Tarsem Lal, Sarpanch Parshotam Singh , Sandeep besides several others.

Speaking on the occasion, Jasrotia said that the development of Jasrota Constituency is not just a



promise but a continuous mission. He stated that every project-whether related to water supply, road improvement, or public convenience-is being taken up with full dedication to ensure that residents get the facilities they truly deserve. He further added that timely completion with strict quality standards is being ensured so that people benefit for years to come. Jasrotia thanked the public for their constant support and assured that many more development works will be taken up soon to strengthen basic infrastructure across all areas.

Jasrotia gave patient hearing to all grievances put forth before him, assuring them of swift and effective redressal. Many issues were resolved on the spot as he contacted concerned departmental officials through phone calls and issued written directives for immediate action. Jasrotia, while listening to the grievances, said that the public meeting serves as a platform for transparent and direct communication between the people and their elected MLA. They presented a range of civic and administrative issues, including the urgent need for the repair and construction of lanes and drains, installation and maintenance of street lights, improvement in drinking water supply, and issues related to the Revenue Department. Several grievances also highlighted the need for better implementation of welfare schemes and infrastructure development in under-served areas.

A key highlight of his directions was

CEO Rajouri Conducts Surprise Inspection at MS Pind Narian Stresses Academic Improvement and ICT Functionality

JD Imran Khan

RAJOURI: Chief Education Officer Rajouri, Mohammad Hafiz, paid a surprise visit to Middle School Pind Narian today and conducted a detailed inspection of the institution During the visit the CEO thoroughly examined the academic performance of the school, checked the notebooks of students, and interacted with them to assess their learning levels and overall educational environment. He emphasized the need to strengthen foundational learning and ensure that students receive quality education CEO Rajouri Mohammad Hafiz issued strict directions to the school staff to improve the academic standards and ensure better learning outcomes. He instructed the staff to maintain punctuality, adhere to their duties with sincerity, and adopt a student-centric approach in classroom teaching.



A key highlight of his directions was the immediate requirement to make the ICT Lab fully functional, enabling students to learn through technology-based tools and digital resources. He stressed that the integration of ICT in teaching is essential for modern learning and must be implemented without delay The CEO reiterated that the Education Department is committed to enhancing the quality of education in all schools and that regular inspections will continue to ensure accountability and efficiency.

Custer University Jammu Student Selected for Khelo India University Games

Vice Chancellor Prof. K. S. Chandrasekhar Congratulates Shooter Aneesha Sharma for National Selection

JD Correspondent

JAMMU: Cluster University of Jammu proudly announces that Miss Aneesha Sharma, an exceptionally talented shooter and one of the University's brightest sporting stars, has been selected to participate in the prestigious Khelo India University Games (KIUG) in the 10m Air Rifle event, scheduled to be held in Jaipur from 24th-28th November.

A special felicitation ceremony was held to honour Aneesha, where she was warmly congratulated and blessed by Prof. K. S. Chandrasekhar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, in the presence of Prof. D. S. Manhas, Dean Students Welfare, Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Direcytor Physical education and Sports and her coach Mr. Aman Singh. The Vice



Chancellor praised her consistent performances at national and international levels, calling her "a role model for students and a rising star of J&K.

It is worth to mention that Aneesha Sharma has emerged as one of Jammu & Kashmir's most accomplished young shooters, consistently bringing laurels to the Union Territory and the University. Her sporting journey reflects her exceptional discipline, dedication, and remarkable competitive spirit. Her impressive career includes multiple gold medals at the O11 India Open (Delhi), Kumar Surendra Singh Memorial Championships, National School Games, and India Team Selection Trials. She has won an array of gold, silver, and team medals at the 0755 India Open (Bhopal) and clinched a bronze at the 15th Asian Shooting Championship, Changwon (South Korea). Aneesha also represented J&K in the 37th National Games (Goa) and dominated the 12th and 13th J&K UT Shooting Championships, sweeping Senior, Junior, and Youth categories. Currently holding All India Junior Rank 3, she was recently honoured by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha.

Congratulating her, Prof. Chandrasekhar said, that Aneesha embodies hard work and excellence. Her achievements highlight the immense potential of our youth, and her selection for KIUG makes the entire Cluster University fraternity proud. Cluster University Jammu extends its best wishes to Aneesha Sharma for the Khelo India University Games and looks forward to her continued success at national and international platforms.

SKUAST-K celebrates World Fisheries Day 2025 with Extensive Outreach

JD Correspondent

GANDERBAL: The Faculty of Fisheries, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), celebrated World Fisheries Day 2025 with a comprehensive series of outreach and in-campus activities conducted from 13 to 21 November 2025. The multi-day programme aimed to promote environmental awareness, fisheries education, and hands-on learning among school and university students. As part of the outreach initiative, the Faculty organized interactive sessions at Government Boys Middle School, Rangil, and Hyderia Model High School, Tulmullah, engaging children in painting competitions, live pollution demonstrations, puzzle-solving exercises designed to stimulate curiosity, cleanliness drives, water quality assessments, and fish species identification activities to foster an early understanding of aquatic ecosystems. Meanwhile, a series of competitive events were conducted at the Faculty of Fisheries, Rangil, Ganderbal, where university students participated with great enthusiasm. Activities included a painting competition, quiz, and elocution programme, all centered around themes of fisheries, sustainability, and freshwater conservation. These events provided a platform for students to express their creativity, showcase their knowledge, and articulate their perspectives on environmental stewardship.

The week-long celebration culminated in a grand prize distribution ceremony in which Prof. Sajad A. Gangoo, Dean Students Welfare, SKUAST-K, was the Chief Guest. Prof. Farooz Ahmad Bhat, Dean, Faculty of Fisheries, presided over the function.

DDC Chairman Kathua distributes mustard seeds, calls for modern farming practices at Plakh Awareness Camp

JD Correspondent

BASOHLI: District Development Council (DDC) Chairman Kathua, Col Mahan Singh (Retd), attended a Farmer Awareness Camp organized by Agriculture Block Basohli at Plakh Panchayat Ghar, where more than 500 farmers—both men and women—participated with great enthusiasm. The camp focused on addressing the pressing issues faced by farmers and promoting improved agricultural practices in the region.

The Plakh area and several adjoining Panchayats situated around the Ranjit Sagar Dam have been severely affected by the growing monkey menace and crop destruction by wild animals. Once known for its prosperous agricultural output, the region has witnessed significant losses following the formation of the large water body, which altered the natural habitat and pushed monkeys, wild boars, and nilgai into cultivated fields. This has resulted in repeated crop damage and has become a major concern for farmers.

The awareness camp was organized under the supervision of Agriculture Sub Division Officer (SDO) Ravi Chauhan and his team. The primary purpose of the event was to educate farmers about the importance of mustard cultivation to enhance oilseed productivity as part of the national mission initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to double farmers' income. During the camp, more than 500 bags of high-yield mustard seeds, produced by Indian Seeds Corporation Ltd., Pusa, New Delhi, were distributed to the farmers by



the DDC Chairman for sowing during the ongoing Rabi season.

The event witnessed participation from progressive farmers, women from self-help groups, local farmer leaders, and several residents of nearby Panchayats.

Addressing the gathering, Col Mahan Singh urged farmers to adopt modern agricultural practices, including the use of high-yield and hybrid seeds, improved technologies, and scientific methods to enhance productivity. He highlighted the potential of value addition to local products such as mangoes, turmeric, chillies, milk, wool, millets, and mazage, emphasizing that it could significantly improve income levels and open new market opportunities.

The DDC Chairman also appealed to the Lieutenant Governor's Administration for the early establishment of the proposed Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) at Maali Plakh. He stressed that the KVK would play a transformative role in boosting agricultural productivity, providing scientific support, and improving livelihoods in the hilly regions of Kathua district.

Wrong interpretations misleading youth: Gaurav urges religious leaders to counter extremism

JD Correspondent

JAMMU: Suicide is haram (forbidden) in Islam, and the killing of innocents is a "grave sin", said BJP Spokesperson Gaurav Gupta in a sharp and strongly worded statement on the Delhi Red Fort blast and the viral video of accused Dr. Umar Nabi, who attempted to justify "suicide bombing" in the name of religion. Gupta said the video is a dangerous indicator of rising radicalisation, where extremist elements deliberately distort religious teachings to mislead impressionable youth.

Gupta categorically stated that Islam strictly prohibits suicide, and suicide bombing is haram, a position that applies across all



major religions.

"No religion - whether Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism or Christianity endorses such violence. A handful of misguided individuals cannot be allowed to put an entire peaceful community under guilt."

Calling the accused a "suicide bomber," Gupta said: "Dr. Umar Nabi spread a poisonous and fabricated narrative to misguide youngsters. No religion teaches violence the real danger lies in those who deliberately twist religious texts for extremist goals."

He urged preachers, imams,cleric ,scholars, priests and all community leaders to take responsibility and actively counter such misinformation by presenting the true and peaceful interpretation of religion.

Citing example and drawing a global comparison, Gupta pointed to Saudi Arabia, which once confronted severe radicalisation but reversed the trend through a united stand by scholars, religious authorities and society.

"Saudi Arabia overcame the challenge when its scholars and society came together. India too must respond with similar clarity and collective resolve."

"This is not about attacking any community. This is about protecting our young generation. Radicalised individuals must not be allowed to tarnish the image of lakhs of peaceful citizens."

Gupta also welcomed AIMIM Chief Asaduddin Owaisi's public condemnation of the video. Owaisi stated unequivocally that "suicide is haram in Islam" and termed the act "terrorism and nothing else." Gupta said such clarity is essential and shows that the fight is against radicalisation, not any faith.

Gupta issued a stern warning about external forces, particularly Pakistan-backed terror outfits like Jaish-e-Mohammed, which he said are attempting to push radical narratives inside India.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION GANDHI NAGAR JAMMU

FRESH SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. DGN/82 of 2025-26 Dated 09-10-2025 and
Fresh Short e-NIT No. 102 of 2025-26 dated 04-11-2025 (2nd Call)
Fresh Short e-NIT No. 122 of 2025-26 dated 20-11-2025 (3rd Call)

For and on behalf of the **Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**, e-tenders are invited **on Percentage Basis** from the eligible Consultants registration with Council of Architecture (CoA) India for the below mentioned work :-

S.No	Particular	Advertised Cost of Consultancy ` in Lacs	Tender fee in `	Earnest Money in `	Time of Completion
1	Providing Structural Consultancy for Construction of Model Registration Office Sub Registrars at Jammu under SASCI Part-I (inclusive of soil investigation and vetting of the design from any competent authority as IIT/NIT/DIQC Jammu)	2.11	600/-	4220/-	30 Days

Position of AAA :- Accorded by Inspection General of Registration Department J&K vide order No. 46-Reg of 2025 dated 27-09-2025 amounting to ` 217.99 Lacs.

The bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of Quantities set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be viewed/ downloaded from the website **www.jktenders.gov.in** as per the schedule given below :

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	20-11-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 20-11-2025 to 26-11-2025, 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	22-11-2025 at 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar, Lok Nirman Bhawan Complex Rail Head Complex Jammu
4	Bid submission Start Date	20-11-2025
5	Bid Submission End Date	26-11-2025 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical (Online)	27-11-2025 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar, Lok Nirman Bhawan Rail Head Complex Jammu
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids Online).	To be notified after technical bid evaluation

Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website http://jktenders.gov.in. Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, Conditions and other details.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring **Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu** and upload the same i.e treasury challan/receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to **Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu**. The CDR/FDR shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of L1 be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar at the time of award of contract.

Technical/Financial Bids will be opened online in the office of **Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu** of the technically responsive bidders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of **120 days** from the date of opening of bids.
The bidder shall be disqualified from bidding for any contract with this office for a period of 03 Years from the date of notification, If :-
a) Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period after issue of letter of acceptance.
c) In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

Sd/-
(Er. Rahat Gupta)
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division,
Gandhi Nagar

DIP No:DIP/J-8171/25
Date:- 21/11/2025

DC Bandipora conducts extensive Tour of Bandipora Tehsil, Inspects Developmental Works, Agricultural Institutions

JD Correspondent

BANDIPORA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, conducted an extensive tour of Bandipora Tehsil today to review the progress of key developmental projects and inspected major educational and agricultural institutions.

The tour commenced with a comprehensive inspection of the ongoing works at the Dardpora Goat Farm. The DC reviewed multiple infrastructure components, including the non-gazetted residential quarters (two-storey building), the ET Lab, the gazetted residential quarter, and two goat/sheep sheds currently under construction. She directed the executing agencies to maintain quality standards and ensure timely completion of all facilities.

Appreciating the efforts of the Sheep Husbandry Department, the DC commended its initiatives aimed at supporting the farming community and urged the department to continue its committed work toward enhancing livelihood opportunities in the region.

Later, the DC visited Government Degree College (GDC) Bandipora to assess progress on the hostel block, library, meditation centre, and prefabricated huts. Interacting with college officials, she stressed the need to strengthen academic and residential infrastructure to further improve the learning environment for students.

At the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Bandipora, the DC reviewed ongoing research projects, farmer outreach activities, and



technological interventions being implemented across the district. She appreciated the diverse initiatives of KVK Bandipora-1 aimed at improving agricultural productivity and farmer welfare.

During her visit to the KVK farm, scientists briefed the DC on innovative cultivation techniques, value-addition prospects, and livelihood opportunities associated with lotus stem production. Various farm technologies and products developed by the centre were showcased, reflecting KVK's focus on promoting sustainable and modern agricultural practices.

The DC also inspected the development of the Fruit and Vegetable Market at Potushay Bandipora, an important infrastructure project designed to strengthen market linkages for local produce. The project, estimated at ?9.25 crore with an allotted cost of ?7.87 crore, commenced on 23 October 2024. The DC reviewed the progress achieved during the current working season and emphasised timely completion within the stipulated timeframe.

KUAST-K inaugurates 7-Day Training Programme on "Soil Microbes

JD Correspondent



SRINAGAR: The Division of Soil Science, Faculty of Horticulture, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), Shalimar, inaugurated a 7-Day Training Programme on "Soil Microbes: The Silent Architects of Fertility" at the university's Shalimar Campus.

The programme is aimed at strengthening scientific understanding of soil microbial communities and their role in maintaining soil fertility, nutrient cycling, and sustainable agricultural productivity. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension & Dean Horticulture, as the Chief Guest.

In her inaugural address, Prof. Kanth highlighted the indispensable role of soil microbes in modern agriculture. She emphasized the need for developing practical strategies to utilize beneficial microbes for improving soil health and enhancing crop productivity, particularly in the context of climate change and declining soil fertility.

Earlier, Prof. Muzaffar A. Malik, Head, Division of Soil Science, in his address outlined the objectives of the training programme. He stressed the importance of capacity building for researchers, and field level professionals in microbial technologies, biofertilizers, and soil health assessment.

The week-long training programme, scheduled from 20 to 26 November 2025, includes a comprehensive blend of expert lectures, handson laboratory demonstrations, exposure visits, and practical sessions designed to enhance participants' understanding of soil microbial technologies. The programme covers a wide range of topics, including the isolation and identification of soil microbes, microbial biomass assessment and soil enzyme activities, the application of microbial consortia in agriculture, recent advances in soil microbiome research, and the development and field application techniques of biofertilizers.

Together, these components aim to equip participants with both theoretical insights and practical skills essential for improving soil health and promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

Faculty members, research scholars, extension personnel, and students from various divisions of SKUAST-K participated in the inaugural programme.

Indian Army organisesd Free Medical Camp in Dudi/Macchal Village ; Over 500 Residents Benefitted

JD Correspondent



KUPWARA: Macchal Gunners of Indian Army organised a free medical camp in the Macchal village along the Line of Control (LC) providing essential healthcare services to residents of remote border villages. More than 500 people mostly women & children including school children were benefited by the camp.

A dedicated team of civil doctors and medical staff from Kupwara town in coordination with Machhal Gunners carried out scanning of Breast & Cervical cancer for the local women. The villagers were also provided with general health check-ups, treatment of varied ailments including distribution of essential medicines. Awareness on hygiene, nutrition and preventive healthcare were also given to the locals. Special focus was given to children and aged elders who couldn't access to medical services due to difficult terrain and limited infrastructure.

The camp received an overwhelming response from the local community. Residents expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Indian Army for its continued humanitarian assistance & outreach during the harsh winter season.

Reaffirming its commitment to the welfare of border communities, Machhal Gunners assured that similar initiatives will continue in future, further strengthening the bond between the Indian Army and local population.

First-Ever Road Connectivity Inaugurated by MLA Kupwara Fayaz Mir in Kalaroos Block Under PMGSY

JD Correspondent



KUPWARA: MLA Kupwara Fayaz Mir today inaugurated two key road projects under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in block Kalaroos. The newly sanctioned roads will provide first-time connectivity to the remote habitations of Narikoot Bandwali and Jabad Moori, which remained unconnected for decades.

These long-pending projects were warmly appreciated by the local community, who expressed gratitude to the MLA Kupwara for approving and facilitating the much-needed road infrastructure in the area. The inauguration ceremony was attended by senior officials including the Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Kupwara, Naib Tehsildar Kalaroos, Assistant Executive Engineer PMGSY Sub Division Kupwara, Assistant Executive Engineer PMGSY Sub Division Lolab, and other concerned departmental officers.

Speaking to the media, MLA Kupwara Fayaz Mir stated that these road projects were a decades-old demand of the local population, who had been deprived of basic road connectivity for a long time. He further informed that work on the BSNL cellular network tower in the area is currently in progress, while the power connectivity project worth ?12 crore has already been tendered and awarded, with construction work expected to commence shortly. The projects are expected to significantly improve mobility, access to essential services, and overall quality of life for the residents of these far-flung areas.

District Admin Bandipora intensifies crackdown on Illegal Mining across District

BANDIPORA: District Administration Bandipora, in coordination with Police and the Mining Department, has tightened enforcement against illegal mining and unauthorized mineral transportation across the district, resulting in multiple seizures and strict legal action.

Enforcement teams conducted coordinated operations along various stretches of Madhumati Nallah, including the Athwato and Sonarwani belts, where several hundred metric tonnes of River Bed Material (RBM) extracted in violation of regulations were seized and subsequently destroyed. Multiple individuals involved in illegal extraction and transportation were apprehended, and an FIR has been registered against five offenders as part of the ongoing crackdown.

Regular surveillance and intensified checking at vulnerable points have led to significant district-wide action. More than 140 seizures have been made in recent operations, reflecting the Administration's sustained focus on curbing illegal extraction. The cumulative penalty imposed has reached approximately ?12 lakh. Within the Athwato and adjoining areas alone, more than twenty vehicles were intercepted, resulting in penalties amounting to approximately ?1.80 lakh. The District Administration reiterated its commitment to protecting natural resources, ensuring compliance with mining and environmental regulations, and maintaining strict vigilance across all vulnerable locations.

DM Shopian chairs DLSCC meeting for assistance of terror victims of district

Committee approves 2 cases for ex-gratia relief

JD Correspondent



SHOPIAN: In continuation of ongoing efforts to swiftly process applications submitted by the next of kins (NoKs) of terror-affected victims for grant of assistance in their favour, a meeting of the District Level Screening-cum-Coordination Committee (DLSCC) was held under the Chairmanship of District Magistrate (DM) Shopian, Shishir Gupta here at Mini-Secretariat Shopian today.

The Committee conducted a comprehensive review of the cases submitted for compassionate appointment and ex gratia relief, by the next of kins (NoKs) of terror-affected victims in the district.

During the meeting, after thorough scrutiny of submitted cases, 02 eligible cases were approved for ex-gratia relief of Rupees 1 lakh each and 4 cases were recommended for compassionate appointments under SRO 43.

Other cases were advised for further review and completion of necessary pre-requisite norms and re submission before the committee for approval.

SSP, Mushtaq Ahmed Choudhary; ADC, Dr.Zakir Hussain Faaz; ACR, Shakoor Ahmad Dar, Tehsildars, officers from Army and CRPF were present in the meeting.

DC Budgam Distributes PMAY-U 2.0 Sanction Letters Among Beneficiaries of Budgam & Chadoora Municipalities

Calls for timely start of all newly approved houses

JD Correspondent



BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today distributed sanction letters to newly approved beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-Urban) 2.0, at a function held in the New Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex Budgam.

During the event, the DC handed over 16 sanction letters to beneficiaries of Municipal Committee Chadoora and 14 sanction letters to beneficiaries of Municipal Committee Budgam, formally enabling them to begin the construction of their houses under the flagship housing scheme.

Congratulating the beneficiaries, the DC reiterated the District administration's commitment to ensuring dignified housing for all eligible urban households. He directed the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to ensure immediate grounding of all sanctioned houses, timely issuance of permissions, and continuous handholding support to beneficiaries.

He instructed officers to maintain close coordination with beneficiaries, resolve field-level issues on priority, and regularly monitor progress for seamless implementation of PMAY-U 2.0, adding that no delay in initiating construction work will be tolerated.

On the occasion, CPO Budgam, CEO MC Budgam, EO MC Chadoora, and other concerned officers were present.

The beneficiaries expressed gratitude to the District Administration for the transparent and timely issuance of sanction letters.

DC Baramulla Chairs NRLM Review Meeting on SHG's Bank Linkage Targets

BARAMULLA: Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, today chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), with a special focus on Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and their bank linkage achievements. During the meeting, banks were directed to clear all pending SHGs credit cases within 15 days, while NRLM officials were instructed to sponsor additional cases to further strengthen financial inclusion and livelihood support. Enhanced coordination between banks and NRLM teams was emphasized to ensure seamless SHGs credit linkages and achievement of targets.

Al Huda Public School Pattan Felicitates Meritorious Students for Academic Excellence

JD Shabroz Malik



PATTAN: Al Huda Public School Pattan organised a felicitation ceremony to honour meritorious students for their exemplary performance in the 2024-25 academic session.

The event was attended by several dignitaries, including MLA Pattan Javaid Riyaz Bedar, SDPO Pattan Raja Majid (JKPS), SHO Pattan Inspector Mir Mohammad Saleem, Principal Higher Secondary Pattan Fayaz Faheem, President Media Association Pattan Shabrooz Malik, along with MC members Prince Imran Yousuf and Shahnaz Ahmad Bhat.

During the ceremony, students were awarded for their academic excellence as well as achievements in curricular and co-curricular activities. School authorities said the felicitation aimed to motivate students to continue striving for higher goals. The management extended gratitude to parents, guardians, and civil society members for their support and participation in the event.

The school administration also appreciated the efforts of its teachers and staff, stating that their dedication played a pivotal role in shaping the students' success.

Workshop on PPV&FRA held at KVK Ganderbal

JD Correspondent



GANDERBAL: SKUAST-K, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Ganderbal, convened a State Level Workshop on the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act (PPV&FRA, 2001).

The workshop served as a dynamic platform for scientists, policymakers, farmers, and civil society members to engage in meaningful dialogue on the Act's transformative role in safeguarding the interests of farmers and plant breeders while encouraging the development of new plant varieties.

The event was graced by Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganie, Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K, as Chief Guest, and Prof. Raihana H. Kanth, Director Extension SKUAST-K, as Guest of Honour.

Heads and scientists from various KVKs of Kashmir, officials from line departments, farm women, and members of civil society were also present.

Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K, in his address underscored the Act's robust framework for protecting plant varieties, farmers' rights, and breeders' innovations, while lauding the dedicated efforts of KVK Ganderbal in advancing farmer empowerment.

Director Extension SKUAST-K, shared valuable insights on the Act, congratulated the KVK team for their unwavering commitment to farmer welfare, and stressed the importance of equipping farming communities with knowledge of their rights.

Senior Scientist & Head KVK Ganderbal, Dr. Ajaz Ahmed Malik, emphasized PPV&FRA as a legal safeguard for farmers and highlighted the workshop as a pivotal step in bridging the gap between scientific innovation and practical farm application.

Chief Scientist GPB, FoA Wadura, provided a comprehensive overview of registration procedures and farmers' rights under PPV&FRA, further enriching the discourse.

On the occasion, Savior Farmers from various districts were felicitated, for their outstanding contributions to agricultural innovation and preservation of local plant varieties,

Scientific publications authored by scientists of KVK Ganderbal, were also released.

EDITORIAL

Artisans of a Nation

Artisans have always formed the cultural backbone of India, shaping its identity through craftsmanship, creativity, and indigenous knowledge passed down through generations. From the intricate weaves of Kancheepuram silk and the delicate strokes of Pahari miniature paintings to the timeless elegance of Banarasi brocade and the earthy charm of terracotta, India's artisanal legacy remains unmatched in its diversity and depth. Artisans of a Nation are not merely creators of beautiful objects; they are custodians of heritage, keepers of community wisdom, and contributors to the nation's economic and social fabric. The significance of artisans in India is rooted in centuries-old traditions that reflect the soul of different regions. Each craft tells a story—of history, nature, everyday life, and collective memory. Whether it is the rhythmic beating of a loom in a remote village, the carving of sandalwood in small workshops, or the shaping of clay into intricate pottery, artisans channel the cultural essence of their communities into timeless creations. Their work embodies sustainability, harmony with nature, and a deep understanding of locally available resources—principles that modern industries often seek to relearn. In the contemporary era, artisans continue to hold immense relevance. With growing global appreciation for handmade, sustainable, and ethically produced goods, India's craft sector is uniquely positioned to shine. The country houses nearly 7 million artisans, many working in rural and semi-urban settings, contributing significantly to employment generation. The craft sector, second only to agriculture in terms of livelihood support, offers a lifeline to communities where industrial development remains limited. Women, in particular, play a major role in weaving, embroidery, pottery, and natural dyeing, making the artisanal sector an important catalyst for gender empowerment and financial independence. Yet, despite their invaluable contributions, artisans face numerous challenges. Limited market access, inconsistent income, competition from machine-made products, and inadequate recognition often overshadow their talent and hard work. Many traditional crafts struggle for survival as younger generations migrate to cities in search of more secure livelihoods. The intricate skills that have survived for centuries risk fading away unless supported through systematic intervention, innovation, and sustained public awareness. To address these concerns, various government and private sector initiatives have begun focusing on strengthening the artisanal ecosystem. Schemes under the Ministry of Textiles, Handicrafts Boards, and initiatives like ODOP (One District One Product) are helping artisans gain visibility, training, and better market connections. Online marketplaces and digital platforms now enable artisans to directly reach national and global audiences, eliminating middlemen and ensuring fair compensation. Tourism circuits showcasing craft villages and artisan hubs are also bringing new appreciation and economic opportunities to traditional art forms. Technological integration is playing a transformative role as well. Digital cataloguing, virtual exhibitions, social media promotion, and online payment systems empower artisans to modernise their businesses without compromising the authenticity of their craft. Collaborations with designers, institutions, and start-ups are fostering innovation, helping artisans adapt contemporary aesthetics while retaining traditional techniques. This blend of old and new has given rise to craft-based entrepreneurship, creating vibrant pathways for economic growth. However, preserving artisanal heritage requires more than market reforms. It demands respect, recognition, and a cultural shift in how society values handmade work. Consumers play a crucial role in sustaining crafts by choosing handloom, handcrafted, and locally produced goods. By appreciating the labour, skill, and heart artisans pour into their creations, people contribute to sustaining entire communities and ensuring that ancestral knowledge continues to thrive. Investing in artisans means investing in the nation's cultural richness and economic resilience. Artisans remain ambassadors of India's identity, inspiring pride and unity through their extraordinary craftsmanship. As India moves towards a future of innovation and global competitiveness, the artisanal sector stands as a reminder that progress and tradition can coexist beautifully. Artisans of a Nation are not just creators of heritage; they are vital partners in nation-building, shaping a future where culture, sustainability, and dignity of labour walk hand in hand.

Jammu Diamond
Printed, Edited, Published & Owned by Vikrant Singh
(M) 94191-91554, Published at : 27 Parade Road, Kacchi Chawni, Jammu-180001 (J&K)
Printed at Jansampark Printing Press Bye Pass Sidhra, Jammu.
e-mail us at : jammudiamond1@gmail.com
website:www.jammudiamond.com

All disputes are subject to the excissive jurisdiction of competent courts and forums in Jammu City.

Democrats wins in three states: A warning for Trump leadership

K.S. Tomar



The recent gubernatorial and mayoral elections across New York, New Jersey, and Virginia have dealt a sharp political blow to Donald Trump and his Republican allies, while offering Democrats a decisive resurgence. The defeats of Trump-backed candidates signal more than just electoral setbacks-they mark a growing fatigue with Trump's brand of polarising populism and a possible turning point in America's political mood.

Once the most electrifying figure in conservative politics, Donald Trump now faces signs of waning influence. His endorsed candidates in New York, New Jersey, and Virginia failed to gain traction despite his energetic campaigning and online interventions. In New York, voters brushed aside his nominee's fiery rhetoric in favour of practical issues such as jobs, inflation, and urban recovery. Similarly, in New Jersey and Virginia, Democrats capitalised on the disillusionment of suburban and moderate voters who have grown weary of Trump's combative tone and disregard for institutions.

What was once a movement of anti-establishment energy now appears trapped in repetition. Many traditional conservatives feel estranged from Trump's dominance over the Republican agenda, while independents increasingly view his nominees as extensions of a personality cult rather than advocates of coherent policy. The Republican Party, long a disciplined electoral machine, seems caught between loyalty to Trump and the need to reinvent itself for an electorate demanding competence over charisma.

For Trump personally, these defeats serve as a reality check. Known for his impulsive decision-making and resistance to counsel, he now faces quiet but mounting pressure from within his own party to recalibrate. Republican strategists argue for message discipline, coalition-building, and a clearer economic agenda. Yet moderation is antithetical to Trump's brand-his political identity thrives on disruption, conflict, and the aura of unpredictability.

Still, the electoral backlash could compel at least tactical restraint. The American political mood is shifting from confrontation to pragmatism, and the Republican Party risks alienating swing voters if it remains anchored to grievance-based rhetoric. Whether Trump can evolve-or even sees the need to-remains an open question.

The American voter has delivered a nuanced verdict. Many still admire Trump's nationalism and assertive stance on immigration, yet they are tired of chaos. The electorate increasingly prizes stability, predictability, and tangible governance outcomes over slogans and showmanship. Democrats, in contrast, offered disciplined campaigns focused on middle-class economics, infrastructure, and healthcare-issues that resonate more deeply than culture wars. Populist energy may ignite movements, but as these elections reveal, it cannot sustain governance without coherent policy. The contrast between the Democrats' steady messaging and the Republicans' dependence on Trump's personality underscores the limits of charisma as a political strategy. The Democrats' success suggests that moderation, not extremism, may once again define national discourse.

The impact of these results extends far beyond US borders, especially to Asia. For nations like India, Japan, and South Korea, Trump's unpredictability-marked by abrupt tariffs, inconsistent diplomacy, and transactional alliances-has long been a source of unease.

A less predictable America could accelerate this regional pivot. Domestic realities also contributed to Republican setbacks. Rising living costs, labour unrest, and disillusionment over unmet economic promises have eroded Trump's working-class base. His tariff-heavy trade policies, meant to protect US industries, have hurt small manufacturers and exporters instead. Meanwhile, his emphasis on loyalty over competence in appointments and his polarising stances on abortion, immigration, and minority rights have alienated suburban and educated voters.

America's evolving demographics amplify this shift. Younger voters, minorities, and suburban women increasingly align with Democratic values of inclusivity, climate responsibility, and social progress. Trump's nostalgic appeals to a vanished industrial America resonate less with this emerging electorate

The results expose the vulnerabilities of Trump's governance style: charismatic yet chaotic, forceful yet inconsistent. While his political instincts remain formidable, the aura of inevitability surrounding him has dimmed. For the Republican Party, this is a moment of reckoning: evolve or risk irrelevance. For the Democrats, it is a reminder that public trust must be earned through steady governance, not just opposition to Trump. And for the world, particularly Asia, it is a signal that America's internal struggle between populism and pragmatism is far from over-but for now, reason seems to be regaining its ground.

(The writer is a senior political analyst and Ex Chairperson of the Standing Committee of All-State Public Service Commissions in India.)

What was once a movement of anti-establishment energy now appears trapped in repetition. Many traditional conservatives feel estranged from Trump's dominance over the Republican agenda, while independents increasingly view his nominees as extensions of a personality cult rather than advocates of coherent policy. The Republican Party, long a disciplined electoral machine, seems caught between loyalty to Trump and the need to reinvent itself for an electorate demanding competence over charisma

Hapless citizens, helpless Governments

The region has witnessed an alarming rise in man-made transportation accidents on roads, rails, and in the air and water, underscoring deep-rooted systemic failures. Despite repeated warnings from experts and recurring tragedies, safety remains a neglected priority. The real crisis lies not merely in poor infrastructure, but in governance deficits, corruption, and a culture of complacency that have made such disasters almost predictable



Prashant Tewari

Transportation is the lifeline of any nation, facilitating economic growth, social interaction, and national integration. From bustling highways to vital railway networks and expanding aviation routes, the efficiency and safety of transport systems determine a country's progress and global competitiveness. However, across much of Southeast Asia, this lifeline is fraying.

The region has witnessed an alarming rise in man-made transportation accidents on roads, rails, and in the air and water, underscoring deep-rooted systemic failures. Despite repeated warnings from experts and recurring tragedies, safety remains a neglected priority. The real crisis lies not merely in poor infrastructure, but in governance deficits, corruption, and a culture of complacency that have made such disasters almost predictable.

India, with one of the world's largest road networks, records the highest number of road fatalities globally: a tragic distinction that reflects the dire state of safety enforcement. In Pakistan and Bangladesh, poorly maintained public buses and lax driving standards contribute to frequent road tragedies. In Nepal, a combination of treacherous terrain and vehicle overloading continues to claim lives. Even air safety, which demands the highest precision, has been compromised by negligence and inadequate oversight. What ties these incidents together is not just infrastructural decay but institutional corruption.

Funds earmarked for road repairs, rail modernisation, and aviation safety audits are too often siphoned off by corrupt officials or misused due to poor planning. Substandard materials are used in construction projects, safety inspections are perfunctory or skipped altogether, and regulations exist more on paper than in practice.

At the state level, the rot runs deep. Many regional governments lack the political will or administrative capacity to enforce safety standards. The issuance of driving licences, for instance, is notoriously casual. In several countries, licences can be obtained without proper training or testing, sometimes through bribery or political influence. This results in untrained, reckless drivers operating vehicles on already hazardous roads-a recipe for tragedy.

Moreover, there is little to no culture of periodic vehicle inspection. Buses, trucks, and private vehicles continue to ply despite being mechanically unfit, emitting toxic fumes and posing constant danger to commuters. Corrupt local officials often overlook such violations in exchange for small bribes, perpetuating a cycle where accountability is absent and public safety is compromised.

The consequences of such governance failures are devastating. Every day, citizens across the region risk their lives merely by commuting. Road fatalities rob families of their breadwinners; rail and air disasters inflict collective trauma that scars entire communities. The loss is not merely statistical but deeply human: children orphaned, parents grieving, families shattered by entirely preventable tragedies.

The economic cost is equally severe. Repeated accidents deter investment, disrupt trade, and drain public resources on rescue operations and compensation. Yet, beyond economics, the larger tragedy lies in the erosion of public trust. When citizens realise that their lives are endangered not by fate but by the corruption and indifference of those meant to protect them, faith in institutions collapses.

Governments across Southeast Asia must recognise that transportation safety is not a luxury; it is a fundamental right of every citizen. The first step towards reform lies in tackling corruption head-on. Transparency in infrastructure spending must be made non-negotiable. Every rupee or taka allocated for road safety, railway upgrades, or aviation oversight must be accounted for and subject to public scrutiny.

Second, state governments must institutionalise rigorous and periodic inspections of vehicles, tracks, and aircraft. Independent safety commissions-insulated from political influence - should be empowered to enforce compliance and penalise violators.

Third, the process of issuing driving licences must be overhauled. Stringent testing standards, computerised assessments, and continuous driver education should replace the current system that too often rewards bribery and negligence. Road safety education, starting from schools, can help cultivate a culture of responsibility and awareness that endures over generations.

Finally, civil society and the media must play a proactive role in demanding accountability. Each preventable death on the road or in the air must be treated not as an isolated incident, but as evidence of systemic failure that demands redress.

Transportation should connect lives, not end them. The tragic frequency of man-made transportation disasters in Southeast Asia is a stark reminder that progress without integrity is hollow. Unless corruption is rooted out, regulations are enforced, and human life is valued above political expediency, the region will continue to pay a heavy price in blood and broken trust.

Governance, after all, is not measured by how quickly roads are built or airports inaugurated, but by how safely and honestly citizens are allowed to travel upon them. Human life, and indeed all living life, must be treated as sacred by those in power. There has to be a limit to the suffering a society can endure before its conscience revolts. Yet, indifference has become our silent companion; we mourn briefly for the dead and then move on, believing tragedy belongs to someone else.

But fate has a cruel way of closing distances: it is someone else's loss today, it could be your loved one tomorrow. Those who sit in positions of authority must remember that no shield of privilege can protect them forever from the pain they choose to ignore. When a life is lost to negligence, it is not just an accident; it is a moral failure of the entire system, a wound that bleeds into the collective soul of a nation.

(Prashant Tewari, policy expert and columnist.)

Yuvtarang Day Five Shines with Talent, Excellence, and Cultural Harmony

JD Correspondent



JAMMU: The fifth day of Yuvtarang 2025-26 at Cluster University of Jammu unfolded with an inspiring blend of intellectual brilliance and cultural artistry, as students competed in four major events-Quiz, Indian Group Song, Classical Instrumental, and Classical Vocal Solo. The day's performances reflected the dynamism, confidence, and creativity of the young participants, adding vibrant colours to the week-long cultural and literary festival.

In the Quiz Competition, MAM College secured the first position, while GCW Gandhi Nagar and Govt. SPMR College of Commerce bagged the second and third places respectively. The event was conducted under the expert guidance of the quiz master, Dr. Chinmoyee Maharana.

The Indian Group Song competition brought forth melodious and spirited performances. MAM College emerged as the winner, with GGM Science College and GCW Gandhi Nagar securing the second and third positions respectively. In the Classical Vocal Solo category, exceptional musical talent took centre stage. Dheeraj Kumar (MAM College)claimed the top position, followed by Janvi Malhotra (GCW Gandhi Nagar) in second place. The third position resulted in a tie between Kartik Sharma (GCW Gandhi Nagar) and Vineet Raina (MAM College), showcasing an evenly matched display of skill. In Classical Instrumental Danish Verma (MAM College) secured first position while Suhani Mehta and Renu Bala, both from GCW Gandhi Nagar, earned the second and third positions respectively.

The events were conducted under the supervision of Dr. Monika Sharma, Dean Arts, and Dr. Ranvijay singh, Controller of Examinations CLUJ. The jury for the musical events comprised distinguished experts-Mr. V.K. Sambyal, Mr. Neeraj Verma, Ms. Jagmeet Kaur, and Ms. Anupama Sharma-who evaluated the performances with keen artistic insight.

The day's events were coordinated under the overall supervision of Prof. D.S. Manhas, Dean Student Welfare, supported by Dr. Davinder Kour, Dr. Revika Arora, and the cultural convenors of various colleges.

Audit Diwas 2025 Observed at IASE Srinagar

JD Correspondent



SRINAGAR: As part of the ongoing 11-day Audit Diwas celebrations, the Office of the Principal Accountant General (Audit), J&K, organised a comprehensive awareness programme titled "Leveraging e-Office, OIOS Toolkits, and Data Analytics for Efficiency" at the auditorium of the Government College of Education (IASE), M.A. Road, Srinagar.

The programme was aimed to enhance coordination between Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs), Treasury officials, and Pension authorities. A special focus was laid on equipping employees, particularly those nearing superannuation, with the knowledge required for digital submission and processing of pension papers, ensuring transparency, accuracy, and ease of workflow.

The event was presided over by Principal of the institution, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naaz, as the Chief Guest, and Deputy Accountant General, Pawan Kumar Rathi, as the Special Guest.

In her address, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naaz emphasized the importance of such initiatives in strengthening employee preparedness in an era of rapidly evolving digital governance systems. She stated that awareness programmes of this nature significantly contribute to enhancing institutional efficiency and employee welfare.

Pawan Kumar Rathi, in his remarks, appreciated the initiative, highlighting its role in improving financial literacy, streamlining administrative processes, and promoting digitally empowered treasury and pension operations.

A large number of DDOs and prospective retirees attended the event, making the session highly interactive and informative.

Technical experts delivered an in-depth session on Pension Procedures, digitization, transition to e-office systems and paperless, latest practices in Accounts Reconciliation, digital submission and verification mechanisms.

GDC Hajin organizes Wildlife Conservation Outreach Program

JD Correspondent



BANDIPORA: Government Degree College Hajin, in collaboration with Wildlife SOS, on Thursday organized a Wildlife Conservation Outreach Program.

The initiative aimed to sensitize students about the significance of biodiversity with a special focus on wildlife conservation, rising man-animal conflicts, and the preventive measures essential for maintaining ecological balance.

The program was presided over by the Principal GDC Hajin, Prof. (Dr.) Gazala Firdous, who encouraged students to actively participate in conservation activities.

Resource person from Wildlife SOS delivered a detailed and insightful presentation on wildlife conservation, explaining the ecological importance of various species and the threats they face due to habitat loss, poaching, climate change, and increasing human encroachments. His session included visual aids and case studies that helped students understand the gravity of the situation.

Resource person presented an extensive lecture focusing primarily on man-animal conflicts, their causes, and practical measures that communities and authorities can adopt to mitigate these conflicts. The importance of coexistence, proper waste management, early warning systems, and community-based conservation practices were stressed.

The outreach program concluded with an engaging question-and-answer session, during which students discussed various wildlife-related concerns relevant to the region.

The program proved to be highly informative, enriching, and impactful, successfully achieving its objective of raising awareness about biodiversity protection and fostering responsible environmental attitudes among the students.

Legacy of Guru Tegh Bahadur's sacrifice reverberates world over: Raman Suri

JD Correspondent



JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) senior leader Raman Suri today paid profound tributes to Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji on his 350th year of martyrdom, recalling his unmatched sacrifice to uphold the ideals of religious freedom and human dignity. He said that Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, revered as Hind Di Chadar, was the ultimate embodiment of peace, compassion, and courage who gave his head but not his principles, choosing martyrdom to protect innocent lives and safeguard Kashmiri Pandits from forceful conversions.

Raman Suri said that the arrival of the grand Nagar Kirtan in Jammu, which commenced from Gurdwara Patshahi Chhevin in Srinagar and travelled nearly 250 kilometres to reach its first major halt, was met with unparalleled devotion. "The people of Jammu had welcomed the Nagar Kirtan with deep reverence, humility, and immense pride," he said, adding that residents lined up along the route to receive the holy procession, offer prayers, and participate in the divine hymns that filled the atmosphere with spiritual vibrance.

Highlighting the significance of the occasion, Suri said that the Nagar Kirtan organised to commemorate the historic 350th martyrdom anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji is not merely a religious event but a reminder of India's timeless values of unity, harmony, and sacrifice. He said the devotion shown by the Sangat in Kulgam, Qazigund, Ramban, Jammu, Pathankot and other areas through langar seva, rumala offerings, and warm receptions reflected the collective respect people hold for the Ninth Guru's supreme martyrdom.

He appreciated the smooth and robust arrangements made along the route, including traffic management, fire services, ambulances, digital museums, and medical support, which ensured comfort and dignity for the accompanying devotees. He said the efforts of volunteers, district administrations, and Gurdwara management committees demonstrated the shared commitment to honouring Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji's message of humanity and brotherhood.

Suri said that Jammu's wholehearted participation also reaffirmed the region's rich tradition of communal harmony. "Every devotee, every volunteer, and every family that stepped out to welcome the Nagar Kirtan reflected the deep-rooted respect our people have for Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji's teachings. His ideals of peace, sacrifice, and religious freedom continue to inspire generations across Jammu and the entire nation," he added.

As the holy procession is moving ahead in Punjab and reach holy city of Sri Anandpur Sahib along with other three similar processions from Takht Sri Damdama Sahib (Talwandi Sabo), Faridkot, and Gurdaspur it is a great initiative, he said adding that people's participation in large numbers established that they uphold the spirit of reverence that defines this historic 350th year of remembrance. He said that Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji's martyrdom is not just an event to commemorate but a legacy to live by one that teaches courage in adversity, compassion for all, and steadfastness in defending the truth.

DC Kupwara hands over sanction letters to beneficiaries under PMAY (U) 2.0

KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Suse today handed over 31 sanction letters under PMAY (Urban) 2.0 for the construction of houses across 13 wards of Kupwara town. The aim of the scheme is for improving urban housing facilities and ensuring that eligible beneficiaries receive timely support under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) scheme. The Deputy Commissioner congratulated all beneficiaries and reiterated the administration's commitment to facilitating the smooth implementation of housing and development schemes in the district. ACR Kupwara and Executive Officer, MC Kupwara were also present on the occasion.



NCSC guides Women ITI Jammu trainees on career avenues

JAMMU: National Career Service Center for SC/ST Jammu organised a Confidence Building Programme for the Trainees of Government Women ITI, Jammu here today. The topic of the programme was "Hope Creates Approach". The Speaker/Counsellor of the programme was Sub-Regional Employment Officer Jammu, Gopal Sharan.

The objective of the programme was to motivate students and participants to develop a positive mindset, build Self Confidence and understand the importance of hope as the foundation for personal growth and success. The students were also made aware about the career counselling/Guidance activities, free coaching and training programme offered by NCSC for SC/ST jobseekers of J&K and Ladakh.

The students described the session as meaningful and impactful. Principal Women ITI, Jammu was also present at the programme.

Lt Gen Pratik Sharma Reviews Security Situation in Shahsitar, Poonch

POONCH: Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma, Army Commander Northern Command visited Shahsitar in Poonch as part of his continuous tour of forward areas and hinterland locations to conduct an in-depth review of the overall security situation Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, a highly experienced military leader known for his strategic acumen, field expertise, and deep understanding of the operational dynamics of Jammu & Kashmir, has been regularly visiting critical locations to ensure that the security grid remains robust and responsive. Having served extensively in the region, he is well acquainted with the topography, terrain challenges, and the complex security environment of the Pir Panjal belt, which enables him to provide effective guidance to field formations On the occasion, General Officer Commanding, White Knight Corps, Lieutenant General P.K. Mishra, was also present and accompanied the Army Commander during the assessment During the visit, Lt Gen Pratik Sharma was briefed on the ongoing counter-terrorism operations, recent operational achievements, and the enhanced measures being implemented to further strengthen the security grid in the region The Army Commander commended the troops for their steadfast dedication, exceptional professionalism, and high state of operational readiness, despite the demanding terrain and challenging conditions.

Library Week concluded in Shri Ranbir Campus, Jammu

JD Correspondent



JAMMU: The week-long Library Week, organized at the Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus, Jammu from 14 November 2025, concluded on 20 November 2025 with a dignified ceremony held at Shri Mannat Sabha Ghar. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from distinguished guests, faculty members, and students.

The programme was chaired by the Campus Director, Prof. Satish Kumar Kapoor, and coordinated by Prof. Rishiraj. Smt. Shrestha Jamwal, former Head of the Library, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The programme was smoothly conducted by Dr. Vipin Bihari Jha.

The event commenced with a Vedic invocation presented by Anay Mani Tripathi. This was followed by a welcome address delivered by Prof. Rishiraj. A detailed report of the week-long activities was presented by Dr. Parveen Mani Tripathi, highlighting various academic and creative programmes including poster making.

The Chief Guest, Smt. Shrestha Jamwal, in her address, emphasized the importance of libraries as centres of knowledge and encouraged students to make effective use of library resources. Subsequently, Dr. Ratan Kumar Pandey shared insightful views on the academic importance and relevance of libraries in the holistic development of students.

During the session, a discussion on the importance of libraries for students was conducted, in which students participated actively. Certificates were distributed to the students who participated in the week-long activities.

The event was attended by Dr Pramod Kumar Shukla . Hari Shankar Pandey, Dr. Pawan Kumar Singh, Akhil Sharma, Dr. Suman Chander Pant, Dr. Punita Gupta, Dr. Akhilesh Tripathi, Sh. Kamal Kishore and several other faculty members and students. Technical support for the programme was provided by Tirupati Bala and Akhil Sharma.

The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Pardeep Dixit, expressing gratitude to all guests, faculty members, and students. The Library Week proved to be a significant initiative in strengthening the reading culture among students and in enhancing academic awareness on the campus.

Tourism will bounce back. Subversive minds cannot succeed in derailing our development Dr Darakhshan

JD Correspondent

SRINAGAR: Andrabi attended Tourism Promotion Event at Srinagar Chairperson of Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board & Minister of State Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi attended as the Chief Guest the14th General Meeting & Tourism Promotion Event of Tourist Trade Interest Guild at Srinagar. The event was graced by Javed Anjum, the Director of Sheikh-ul-Aalam International Airport Waseem Raja Joint Director Tourism Kashmir Tariq Ahmad Ghani, eminent business leader & Zahoor Ahmed Karnai Chairman of TTIG among others including prominent businessmen associated with tourism sector Representatives of Trade organizations Hoteliers, Transpoeters House Boat Owners were part of the event. Many prominent businessmen and contributors associated with tourism industry were honoured on the occasion. In her address Dr Andrabi said, our tourism industry saw a boom in Jammu and Kashmir after 2019, but our enemies don't want us to live in peace and develop as a people and so they plan to reintroduce violence and bloodshed here so that our life stops again We are living in a strong decisive India and we cannot allow such subversive activities to derail us from peace and development Tourism will bounce back here again said Dr Andrabi She said that majority of our youth don't support any kind of violence and terrorism at all.

MLA Gulmarg, DC Baramulla jointly inaugurate Mega Sports Festival at Mini Stadium Kunzer

JD Correspondent



BARAMULLA: A Mega Sports Festival was inaugurated at the Mini Stadium Kunzer by MLA Gulmarg, Farooq Ahmad Shah and Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa.

As part of the programme, the District Administration inaugurated the new floodlight facility at the stadium, allowing sports activities to be conducted during evening hours as well. The installation of floodlights fulfills a long-pending demand of local sportspersons and represents an important step in improving sports facilities in the area.

A cricket match was organised under the newly installed lights, which drew a large number of people from the surrounding areas. Residents and sportspersons expressed their appreciation to the MLA and the DC for making this facility available.

Later, the MLA and DC distributed Cricket kits among different participating teams on the occasion.

Indian Institute of Management Jammu Organises Entrepreneurship cum Innovation Bootcamp at GDC Reasi

JD Correspondent



REASI: Government Degree College Reasi hosted an Innovation Bootcamp in collaboration with IIM Jammu, aimed at nurturing entrepreneurial mindsets among students. On this occasion, two management faculty member from IIM Jammu interacted with students and delivered insightful sessions on innovation, start-up culture, and future opportunities in entrepreneurship.

Acting Principal, Prof. Ravi Kant Sharma, while addressing the students, emphasized the importance of entrepreneurship in shaping future careers. He encouraged students to participate actively in such initiatives to enhance their professional skills and contribute to nation building. Two expert resource persons from IIM Jammu, Mr. Kanav Padha and Ms. Dhruvi Sharma, conducted interactive sessions and guided students on entrepreneurial thinking, innovation strategies, and start-up frameworks.

The stage was conducted by Prof. Arfan Ali. Faculty members including Prof. Romesh Kumar Atri, Prof. Baldev Singh, and Dr. Kefait Hussain were present during the programme.

Gautam Adani announces Rs 100 cr contribution to indology mission

New Delhi: At the inaugural Adani Global Indology Conclave, Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani announced a landmark commitment to building the Bharat Knowledge Graph -- a first-of-its-kind digital framework designed to preserve, structure and future-proof India's civilisational knowledge in the age of Artificial Intelligence.



The Adani Group, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education's Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS), is hosting the three-day Global Indology Conclave to revive Indology -- the global academic study of India's civilisation, languages, philosophies, sciences and cultural heritage.

Delivering the keynote address at the event, Gautam Adani said, "As a beginning, I am humbled to announce a founding contribution of Rs 100 crore towards building the Bharat Knowledge Graph and supporting the scholars and technologists who will contribute to this Indology mission. This is the repayment of a civilizational debt."

The guest of honour at the conclave was Swami Avimukteshwaranand Saraswati, Jagadguru Shankaracharya of Jyotir Math -- the 46th in an unbroken lineage of revered acharyas who trace their spiritual authority to Adi Shankaracharya himself.

Addressing the conclave, the Shankaracharya said, "When I assumed the position of Shankaracharya, I had said that my role would become meaningful only when India becomes the Vishwaguru (global teacher). And today, Gautam Adani ji's initiative is a major support to that very dream of mine".

The Global Indology Conclave is being held at the Adani Corporate House (ACH) in Ahmedabad from November 20 to 22, 2025. At a time when Indology departments worldwide are shrinking, this effort seeks to reassert India's ownership of its knowledge systems and present them to the world through an authentic, research-driven Indian lens, a release said.

"If a civilisation does not actively defend its cultural and emotional frameworks, human behaviour will bend, not towards culture or tradition, but towards the cold logic of the machine's algorithms. This shift will be silent, gradual and will reshape how we feel, learn and analyse our own country," added Gautam Adani.

India's HSBC flash PMI falls to six-month low at 59.9 in Nov from 60.4 in Oct

New Delhi: The HSBC Flash India Composite Output Index, which tracks the combined performance of the country's manufacturing and services sectors, slipped to 59.9 in November from 60.4 in October, hitting a six-month low, according to data released by S&P Global.

Although HSBC Flash India PMI remained well above the neutral 50.0 mark, which signals a further considerable rise in overall business activity.

This index measures month-on-month changes in the combined output of manufacturing and services sectors.

According to the report, while both new orders and business activity expanded further, the pace eased to its slowest since May.

The subdued demand conditions for some firms and heavy rainfall in parts of the country as factors weighing on growth. International sales also rose at a weaker, though still marked, pace, with companies pointing to intense global competition and cheaper alternatives abroad.

Commerce Secretary engages SEZ stakeholders, assures review of key policy concerns

Chennai: The Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZs (EPCES) organized an industry interface bringing together over 150 stakeholders for an interaction with Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal in Chennai on Friday.

During the meeting, the representatives from Special Economic Zone (SEZ) units and developers highlighted issues related to the Special Economic Zone(SEZ) including Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) transactions, duty foregone, ICEGATE connectivity constraints, import monitoring systems, and reverse job work challenges faced by MSMEs.

Further, the IT/ITES stakeholders raised concerns over rules on vacant built-up area classification, timelines for renewal of Letters of Approval (LoA), and procurement attestation requirements that differ from GST norms.

The stakeholders drew Commerce Secretary's attention to the lack of parity for SEZ units under concessional import duty and duty drawback schemes available to DTA units, operational inefficiencies introduced by the new Procurement Certificate process, countervailing duties imposed by the US, and the need to review QCO applicability for SEZ-to-DTA sales, particularly in cases such as KASEZ.

Responding to the issues, the Commerce Secretary thanked EPCES for enabling direct industry engagement and assured that the Ministry would examine each challenge in detail with a view to strengthening ease of doing business, the Commerce Ministry said in a statement.

He noted that shifts in global value chains, increased demand for DTA market access, and the evolving impact of FTAs necessitate SEZ policies that align with current economic realities.

Rupee at record low against USD; Experts say foreign outflows weigh heavy

New Delhi: The Indian rupee slipped to a record low of 89.43 against the US dollar in Friday's trade amid rising demand for the dollar in the international market and the consecutive selling by foreign investors putting pressure on the rupee.



The dollar index, which tracks the US currency against six major peers, was up 0.01% at 100.09.

Brent crude traded 1.29% lower at USD 62.56 per barrel in futures trade, offering some relief on India's inflation and import bill outlook.

Notably, on Thursday, the Rupee had closed at 88.68 per dollar, falling 20 paise.

The higher US interest rates and a cautious risk appetite among foreign investors are also resulting in continuous pressure on the Indian Rupee. Experts believed that the rupee's weakness is being reinforced by deteriorating trade fundamentals.

Prajyot Chopda, Partner at Rajwade Treasury Consultants LLP, highlighted that India's goods deficit for October surged to a record USD 41.7 billion, an almost 60% jump from USD 26.2 billion a year earlier.

"Export momentum has deteriorated sharply, contracting 11.8% to USD 34.4 billion," he said, adding that gold imports have tripled from USD 4.9 billion to USD 14.7 billion, driving overall imports up 16.6% to USD 76.1 billion.

Chopda noted that even excluding highly volatile commodity-linked sectors such as gold and crude, the non-oil, non-gold deficit widened 77% to USD 14.6 billion. "Capital flows are also subdued, compounding the pressure," he added.

Prasenjit Paul, Equity Analyst at Paul Asset, said that through 2025, the US economy has maintained steady growth while inflation has remained above the Federal Reserve's comfort zone.

First Abu Dhabi Bank and UAE-India CEPA Council partner to empower global ambitions of Indian start-ups

Mumbai: First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB), the UAE's largest bank and one of the world's strongest and safest financial institutions, has entered into a strategic partnership with the UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC) to accelerate cross-border entrepreneurship and empower high-potential Indian start-ups to scale globally through the UAE.

The partnership was formalised through the signing of an agreement between. Nimesh Karwanyun, Country CEO - India, First Abu Dhabi Bank and Ahmed Aljneibi, Director of the UAE-India CEPA Council, in the presence of His Excellency Abdulnasser Alshaali, PhD, Ambassador of the UAE to the Republic of India, and Martin Tricaud, Group Head of Wholesale Banking, First Abu Dhabi Bank.

By connecting FAB's extensive financial and banking capabilities with the CEPA Council's flagship innovation platform, the partnership activates the innovation and investment pillars of the UAE-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

It creates a structured pathway for Indian entrepreneurs to access banking services, capital, and supports market-entry as they scale into the UAE's dynamic and evolving innovation ecosystem.

As part of the partnership, FAB will support the UAE-India Start-Up Series, the UICC's signature initiative designed to discover and empower India's most promising early-stage ventures. Since launching in June 2025, the Series has received over 10,000 applications, making it the largest start-up initiative of its kind in India.

ONGC awards 300 MW solar project as part of push toward 10 GW renewable capacity by 2030

New Delhi: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has taken a significant step toward its renewable energy target of 10 GW by 2030, awarding a 300 MW ISTS-connected solar power project that will generate approximately 710 million units of green power annually.

The company announced the development in an X post on Friday, calling it a major leap in its clean-energy journey and a contribution to India's national mission of achieving 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030.

The new solar project forms a central component of ONGC's integrated plan to develop 300 MW of solar and 300 MW of wind power for captive consumption across major operational hubs, including Hazira, Uran and ONGC's group entity OPaL. With this addition, the company said its onshore green power consumption is expected to surge from 6 per cent to 47 per cent, marking a transformational shift toward sustainable operations.

"To achieve its renewable energy target of 10 GW by 2030, ONGC has taken another major leap in its clean-energy journey by awarding a 300 MW ISTS-connected Solar Power Project with a capacity to generate ~710 million units of green power every year. This milestone strengthens ONGC's commitment to India's national mission of 500 GW of RE capacity by 2030. This project forms a core part of ONGC's integrated plan to develop 300 MW Solar + 300 MW Wind for captive consumption across key operational hubs like Hazira, Uran and group entity @OpalIndiaIn," the energy major added in the post.

"ONGC, along with ONGC Green Ltd (OGL), now operates a renewable energy portfolio of 2.85 GW. The company noted that with upcoming tenders for 300 MW wind, 600 MW solar and 1,200 MWh battery energy storage systems (BESS), the combined ONGC-OGL portfolio is poised to expand to 3.70 GW in the near future," the post read.

Foxconn to work with OpenAI, Intrinsic on AI development in US

Taipei (Taiwan): Taiwan-based manufacturing giant Foxconn (Hon Hai Precision Industry Co) announced on Friday that it will partner with ChatGPT developer OpenAI and Alphabet's Intrinsic in artificial intelligence cooperation in the United States, Focus Taiwan reported.

In a statement, Foxconn, known as Foxconn globally, said its collaboration with OpenAI will focus on "design work and US manufacturing readiness for the next generation of AI infrastructure hardware."

The announcement came after Foxconn Chairman Young Liu said at an investor conference on Nov. 12 that his company had been in discussions with OpenAI on data center development.

Under the partnership, OpenAI will "share insight into emerging hardware needs across the AI industy," helping inform Foxconn's "design and development efforts for hardware to be manufactured" at its facilities in the United States, according to Foxconn.

The partnership will also emphasise developing data center hardware, strengthening and simplifying US AI supply chain hardware, and building critical AI data center components in the US, the company said.

While the initial agreement does not include purchase commitments or financial obligations, Foxconn said, OpenAI will have early access to evaluate these systems and an option to purchase these devices.

Japan Bank for International Cooperation Governor visits Dholera SIR to review progress of first semicon city

New Delhi: The Governor of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), Nobumitsu Hayashi, led a delegation to the National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) industrial park, Dholera Special Investment Region (Dholera SIR), Gujarat, today to review the progress of India's first and emerging Semicon City and assess the fast-advancing greenfield and 'Plug-and-Play' industrial infrastructure ecosystem.



The visit comes at a time when India is witnessing unprecedented momentum in semiconductor manufacturing, with Dholera positioned at the forefront as the country's most ambitious greenfield smart industrial city, said the Ministry of Commerce & Industry in a press release.

During the visit, JBIC Governor Hayashi appreciated the world-class planning, infrastructure readiness and strong governance framework of Dholera SIR. He expressed confidence in India's semiconductor growth story and noted the rapid progress of the Tata Electronics Semiconductor Fabrication Facility.

He stated that Dholera's integrated systems, scalable utilities and future-ready infrastructure make it a globally competitive destination for advanced electronics and semiconductor investments.

The visit began at the ABCD Building, Dholera's administrative and command centre, where the delegation reviewed the integrated planning framework, digital governance architecture and centralised utility management systems.

The delegation then visited major utility installations, including the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC), the Experience Centre and the Torrent Power 400 kV Substation, highlighting Dholera's strong utility backbone and readiness for advanced manufacturing.

At the Tata Electronics Semiconductor Fabrication Facility in Dholera SIR, the delegation held discussions with Tata Group leadership and reviewed the 163-acre semiconductor fabrication plant being developed with an investment of Rs 91,000 crore in partnership with Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (PSMC), Taiwan.

The facility, India's first commercial semiconductor fabrication plant, will commence production in 2027, manufacturing 50,000 wafers per month across 110 nm to 28 nm nodes and generating more than 20,000 high-skilled jobs. JBIC Governor Hayashi expressed optimism that the project would strengthen India-Japan technological collaboration and contribute to global semiconductor value chains.

RBI announces interlinking of UPI with European instant payment TIPS

New Delhi: In a significant move, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday has announced the interlinking of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with the TARGET Instant Payment Settlement (TIPS) of the Eurosystem.

The proposed UPI-TIPS interlinkage aims to facilitate cross-border remittances between India and the Euro Area and is expected to benefit users of both jurisdictions, the RBI said in a statement.

Reserve Bank of India and NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) have been engaging with European Central Bank on the initiative to connect UPI with the TARGET Instant Payment Settlement (TIPS), the instant payment system operated by the Eurosystem, it added.

Notably, the Reserve Bank of India has been actively pursuing interlinking of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with fast payment systems of other jurisdictions to promote crossborder payments.

These initiatives are aligned with the G20 Roadmap for enhancing cross-border payments, with a focus on cheaper, efficient, more transparent and more accessible remittances.

Reserve Bank of India and NIPL will continue to collaborate closely with European Central Bank to operationalize the UPI-TIPS link, including technical integration, risk management and settlement arrangements, the statement read.

Peruvian Ambassador Javier Manuel Paulinich Velarde told Peru will also implement by next year the UPI-like real-time digital payments system.

Withdrawal of QCOs eases costs for MSMEs, but opens floodgates to cheap Chinese imports: GTRI

New Delhi: India's decision to withdraw Quality Control Orders (QCOs) on more than 25 industrial raw materials is likely to ease compliance burdens and reduce costs for MSMEs, but the move risks unleashing a wave of low-priced imports from China, said Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) in a latest report on Friday.



The report further warned that while the rollback corrects years of regulatory overreach, the abrupt nature of the withdrawal leaves domestic manufacturers exposed at a time when anti-dumping duties have also lapsed, creating what GTRI calls a "protection vacuum."

GTRI in its report suggested that India needs a phased QCO reset backed by real-time import monitoring and swift trade-remedy action to prevent predatory pricing and safeguard upstream capacity while keeping input costs competitive for user industry, small firms, exporters.

Coming into effect from November 13, the government removed mandatory BIS certification for critical inputs in the textiles, plastics and metals sectors, including polypropylene, polyethylene, PVC, ABS, polycarbonate, Terephthalic Acid, Mono Ethylene Glycol, polyester and viscose fibres, aluminium, zinc, tin, lead and nickel.

Countries chart path forward on interoperable digital health systems at RODHS 2025

New Delhi: Countries across South-East Asia came together on the second day of the Regional Open Digital Health Summit (RODHS) 2025 in New Delhi to plan the next phase of digital health transformation. Health leaders focused on building connected, standards-based health systems that can work together seamlessly. The discussions, demonstrations, and technical sessions were part of a broader regional effort to make healthcare data exchange safe, open, and interoperable.

According to a Ministry of Electronics & IT press release, the day's sessions centered on turning broad digital health visions into practical systems that could improve care delivery. Delegates from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Timor-Leste shared progress and challenges in building digital public health infrastructure using open standards and open-source technologies.

A major highlight was a shared agreement to adopt the Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) standard for data exchange. Experts said that countries would move gradually toward FHIR, using adapters and pilot testing to upgrade older systems safely. They also underlined that governance is as important as technology, cautioning that without oversight, digital systems could become fragmented and hard to manage.

Indian banks can unlock USD 688 bn opportunity through gender-intelligent banking: Report

New Delhi: Indian banks could tap into a USD 688 billion untapped financial opportunity by adopting gender-intelligent design practices, according to a new report by MicroSave Consulting (MSC) and the National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM).



The publication comes at a critical juncture for India's economy, as the continued underrepresentation of women across the financial ecosystem is estimated to cost the country USD 688 billion, impacting its ambition to become a USD 5 trillion economy.

While India has made strides in expanding access to financial services, active usage among women remains low, leaving one of the country's largest untapped market segments.

"Over the years, multiple actors have tried to mainstream gender into banking, but the results have been, at best, patchy. Gender-intelligent banking offers a systematic, operational approach to integrate gender within financial institutions; across business strategy, products and services, operations, and policy and governance," said Akhand Jyoti Tiwari, Senior Partner, MSC.

"If tapped right, gender-intelligent banking alone can contribute 10 per cent of India's USD 5 trillion economy goal," said Dr Partha Ray, NIBM Director.

With female labour force participation rising sharply from 23.3 per cent to 41.7 per cent over the past six years, the report says there is an immediate business opportunity for banks and financial institutions.

"Many superpowers selectively follow UN rules; halt certain processes in their interest": Rajnath Singh

Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said that many superpowers selectively follow the rules of the United Nations and halt certain processes for their own interest.

Addressing the 'International Conference of Chief Justices of the World' in Lucknow, Defence Minister Singh further said, contrary to that, India has never attempted to weaken the United Nations.

The Defence Minister said, "It often seems that the countries which are responsible for strengthening global institutions are the ones who limit decisions and interpretations and then expect greater results from those very institutions. Today, a similar situation is evident even with the United Nations. Many superpowers selectively follow its rules; they halt certain processes in their own interest; they do not



provide the expected resources for peacekeeping, and at times, they also exert pressure on it through funding decisions... India has never attempted to weaken the UN. India has always played a leading role in peacekeeping missions."

"India has always respected International Laws, accepted multilateralism as a core value...India's policy is clear, that justice is not merely a rule, but dharma. Peace is not merely a policy, but tradition. Global harmony is not merely diplomacy, but a culture of India," he added.

Singh reiterated that many nations are openly violating international laws but added that reforming the United Nations can make the world a better place. He stated that the representation in the UN should be balanced, decisions should be impartial, and power-sharing should be genuine.

Rajnath Singh said, "Many nations are openly violating international laws. Meanwhile, many countries are seeking to dominate the world by making their own laws. Justice and Peace are no longer just ideals, but have become the foundation of global survival. Therefore, this is not the time to criticise the United Nations, but to strengthen it. We believe that reforming the UN can make the world a better place. Representation in the UN should be balanced, decisions should be impartial, and power-sharing should be genuine; only then can this institution fulfil its original purpose once again..."

India resets maritime security: CISF to standardise protection across all ports, command on all 80 EXIM ports

New Delhi: In a landmark overhaul of India's maritime security framework, the Central government has designated the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) as the Recognised Security Organisation (RSO), formally placing the force in command of security at all 80 EXIM (export-import) ports across the country.

The move marks a major leap toward standardising port protection and strengthening India's port-led growth and Blue Economy ambitions-- a key engine of economic expansion. There are over 250 ports across the country, including 80 EXIM ports specialised seaports to handle the movement of goods meant for export from or import into a country. EXIM ports facilitate international trade by providing customs clearance, cargo handling, storage, and logistics services for goods entering or leaving the country.

Delhi government intensifies enforcement of dust mitigation measures at road cutting sites under its Winter Action Plan

New Delhi: The Delhi government is relentlessly advancing its scientifically designed Winter Action Plan, with a firm focus on curbing pollution at its sources through robust ground interventions under the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta.

As part of these efforts, the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) has intensified enforcement of its comprehensive guidelines to mitigate dust pollution arising from road cutting and construction activities.

Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa stated, "Dust generated from road cutting and construction is a significant contributor to harmful PM 2.5 levels in our air. Strict compliance with the dust mitigation guidelines is non-negotiable as we work to protect the health of our citizens and ensure cleaner air for Delhi."

DPCC's guidelines require executing agencies and contractors to implement key dust control measures, including: Erecting dust/wind barriers of at least 2 meters in height along road cutting stretches wider than 18 meters. Covering and keeping loose soil and construction debris moist to prevent air-borne dust. Using tarpaulin or green nets to cover stored material and ensuring transport vehicles are fully covered. Storing all construction waste only at designated sites and not on public roads. Regular sprinkling of water on unpaved or loose soil areas to suppress dust. Safety gear and dust masks for all workers.



Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (U.T)
IN THE COURT OF THE TEHSILDAR EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS BUNJWAH
DISTRICT KISHTWAR
Email Id- [redacted]

NOTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE

Sajad Ahmed Bait S/o Ab Rasool S/o Patwari Banjwah Tehsil Banjwah Dist. Kishtwar (Applicant)

V/S

Block Development Officer Banjwah (Non- Applicant)

Whereas the applicants named above have filed applications before this court seeking direction to the non- applicant to register the D.O.B particulars of the applicants as mentioned below in Birth Register under Section 11 (3) of the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act 2023 and issuance of D.O.B certificates to applicants.

1. Sadik Sajad Bait S/o Sajad Ahmed Bait D.O.B. 14-04-2017 Place of Birth Patnazi .

Therefore, by virtue of this notice the General Public is informed that if any person's has/have any objection in respect of above-mentioned applicant's particulars, he/she/they shall appear in this court and file objections with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which the applications will be dealt in accordance with law.

Issued under my hand seal today on 20/11/2025

No:- Reg/S&D/TB/2025-26/ 287

Date:- 20/11/2025

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Banjwah



Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (U.T)
IN THE COURT OF THE TEHSILDAR EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS BUNJWAH
DISTRICT KISHTWAR
Email Id- [redacted]

NOTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE

Mohd Rafi S/o Mohd Hamed Butt R/o Basoo Banjwah Tehsil Banjwah Dist. Kishtwar (Applicant)

V/S

Block Development Officer Banjwah (Non- Applicant)

Whereas the applicants named above have filed applications before this court seeking direction to the non- applicant to register the D.O.B particulars of the applicants as mentioned below in Birth Register under Section 11 (3) of the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act 2023 and issuance of D.O.B certificates to applicants.

1. Mamina Banoo D/o Mohd Rafi D.O.B. 30-09-2012 Place of Birth Basoo
2. Mohd Amir S/o Mohd Rafi D.O.B. 17-07-2014 Place of Birth Basoo
3. Osira Banoo S/o Mohd Rafi D.O.B. 15-08-2015 Place of Birth Basoo

Therefore, by virtue of this notice the General Public is informed that if any person's has/have any objection in respect of above-mentioned applicant's particulars, he/she/they shall appear in this court and file objections with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which the applications will be dealt in accordance with law.

Issued under my hand seal today on 21/11/2025

No- Reg/S&D/TB/2025-26/ 288-290

Date:- 21/11/2025

Executive Magistrate 1st Class Banjwah

Manipur: Clash breaks out between police and internally displaced persons in Imphal

Imphal (Manipur): A clash broke out between the Police, IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons) and people under the aegis of COCOMI (Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity) who are attempting to boycott the Sangai Festival.

The Internally Displaced Persons are demanding their rehabilitation amid the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the state.

The Sangai Festival is an annual cultural and tourism festival held in the state of Manipur. The festival showcases Manipur's art, culture, food, and traditions through various events like cultural performances, traditional games, and local food stalls.

The ethnic violence between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities broke out in 2023, claiming hundreds of lives and displacing more than 50,000 people.

Further details about the matter awaited.

Meanwhile, based on specific intelligence regarding illicit poppy cultivation, Assam Rifles on Thursday launched a joint operation with Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Manipur Police in the general area of Songlung village in the Kangpokpi district of Manipur.

The operation commenced during early hours and involved area domination and a search operation to uncover pockets of illegal narcotics cultivation.

Bihar portfolio allocation: Nitish Kumar allots Home department to BJP, accommodates smaller allies

Patna (Bihar): A day after the oath-taking ceremony, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Friday allocated cabinet portfolios to the newly elected National Democratic Alliance (NDA) MLAs who swore-in as ministers in the cabinet, giving up the Home department to the ally Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).



Samrat Choudhary, the Deputy Chief Minister and a BJP leader, has been given charge of the Home department. Kumar will not handle the Home department for the first time since he came to power in 2005.

Kumar has retained the General Administration Department (GAD), Cabinet Secretariat, Vigilance, Election, and other departments not allocated to any minister.

Vijay Kumar Sinha, Deputy CM and BJP MLA, will oversee the Land and Revenue departments, along with Geology and Mines.

Mangal Pandey, BJP MLA from Siwan, has retained the Health department and has been allocated the Law department. Bihar BJP chief Dilip Jaiswal has been allocated the Industries department.BJP MLA Nitin Nabin has taken charge of the Roads and Urban departments.

Arun Shankar Prasad of the BJP will take charge of the Tourism department, along with the Art, Culture, and Youth department. Ramkripal Yadav of the BJP will oversee the Agriculture department.

BJP's Lakhendra Kumar Raushan and Sanjay Singh 'Tiger' will oversee the SC/ST welfare and Labour resources departments, respectively.

BJP MLA Narayan Prasad has been allocated the Disaster Management department, followed by BJP's Shreyasi Singh, who has been given Information and Public Relations, along with the Sports department.

The Animal and Fisheries Resources department has been allocated to BJP MLA Surendra Mehta, while BJP's Rama Nishad will oversee the Backward and Extremely backward classes welfare department.

BJP's Pramod Kumar has been allocated the Cooperation department and will also oversee the Environment, Forests and Climate Change department.

Meanwhile, Janata Dal (United) MLA Ashok Choudhary has been allocated the Rural Works department. Santosh Kumar Suman of Jitan Ram Manjhi's Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) will oversee the Education department, along with the Minor Irrigation department.

"Law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh is considered a model in country": CM Yogi Adityanath

Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday addressed the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) Flow's 3-day Inter-State Conference on Thursday, highlighting the state's transformation over the past eight years under his leadership.

Speaking at the event, Chief Minister Adityanath attributed India's remarkable rise as the world's fourth-largest economy to the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"You have seen India transform in the last 11 years. The country has progressed in different sectors and India's unprecedented progress attracts the world today. In the last 11 years, under the leadership of PM Modi, India established itself as the fourth largest economy and now India is emerging as one of the fastest-growing econo-



my. We will soon become the third largest economy in the world," the Chief Minister said.

Reflecting on the law and order situation in the state, Chief Minister Adityanath noted the significant improvements made since his government assumed office and said that today law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh is considered a model in the country.

He stated, "A society cannot be self-reliant if it ignores half of its population. 8.5 years ago, before we came to power, there was atmosphere of insecurity, law and order had collapsed, there used to be riots in the state... businessmen, women, industries, markets, nothing were safe. When we came, we gave top priority to security in Uttar Pradesh. Today, the law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh is considered a model in the country, festivals are organised peacefully. Every person feels safe."

The Chief Minister credited the state's security reforms as a key factor in attracting investments, which have exceeded Rs 45 lakh crore in the past years.

He highlighted that these investments have made a positive impact in the state and under his tenure, the women workforce in Uttar Pradesh has sharply increased by 3 times and has become around 35-36% in the last eight years.

Chief Minister Adityanath asserted, Its result is that we brought an investment of more than Rs 45 lakh crore. Soon we will put on ground the new investment of Rs 5 lakh crore.

"There will be no shortage of budget for upliftment of poor": Delhi CM Rekha Gupta

New Delhi: The 34th Board Meeting of the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) was held on Friday, during which several important decisions were taken to advance the welfare, rehabilitation, and socio-economic upliftment of the poor living in the national capital. The meeting was chaired by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta.

Discussions covered the rehabilitation of slum dwellers, renovation of ready-to-occupy flats, progress of the Atal Canteen Project, and the expansion of essential urban facilities for economically weaker families.

Reaffirming her commitment, the Chief Minister emphasised that the Delhi Government is fully dedicated to improving the living conditions of the poor and that no shortage of budget will be allowed in schemes designed for their welfare.

The meeting, held at the Delhi Secretariat, was attended by Delhi's Urban Development Minister Ashish Sood, Board members, and senior officials of the concerned departments. A major decision of the Board was to repair and renovate 2,416 ready flats in Sawda Ghevra and expedite their allocation.

The Chief Minister directed officials to complete all renovation work by 15 January and stated that allocation should begin only once water supply, electricity, sanitation, and all other essential facilities are fully functional.

Gupta instructed officials to ensure the mandatory development of essential facilities across all DUSIB colonies.

In the Court of learned Executive Magistrate 1st Class Khour

Bina Kumari W/o sh Bharat Singh D/o sh Chhaju Singh R/o Hamipur Nawan A/p Ward No.04 khour Tehsil khour District jammu

(Applicant)

Versus

1. BDO khour
2. P/S khour

(Non -applicant)

Whereas above titled petitioner has filed this petition, seeking direction to the non-applicant to effect the birth particulars of self namely Bina Kumari DOB 14.02.1955 At home.

Notice to public at large

Whereas through the medium of proclamation ,the public at large is informed in that case ,any one has any objection in issuance of direction with respect to the birth particulars of the applicant by the-applicant ,then he,She,They shall file the same before this court in person or through counsel within 7 days from the date of publications .If the date fixed is declared holiday ,the matter will be taken upon the next working date..

Given under my hand and seal of this court 21-11-2025.

Sd/-
Learned Executive Magistrate
1st Class Khour

In the Court of Learned Executive Magistrate 1st Class Khour

Shilo Devi D/o Nanak Chand W/o Harbans Lal R/o Chak Rama A/p Hamirpur Nawan Tehsil Khour Distt Jammu

(Applicant)

Versus

1. BDO khour
2. P/S khour

(Non -applicant)

Whereas above titled petitioner has filed this petition, seeking direction to the non-applicant to effect the birth particulars of self namely Shilo Devi DOB 01.04.1950 At home.

Notice to public at large

Whereas through the medium of proclamation ,the public at large is informed in that case ,any one has any objection in issuance of direction with respect to the birth particulars of the applicant by the-applicant ,then he,She,They shall file the same before this court in person or through counsel within 7 days from the date of publications .If the date fixed is declared holiday ,the matter will be taken upon the next working date..

Given under my hand and seal of this court 21-11-2025.

Sd/-
Learned Executive Magistrate
1st Class Khour

In the Court of 4th Additional Munsiff Jammu

Present:- Hina Parveen Goney

Sandeep Sharma age 40 years s/o Late Ramesh Sharma R/O H.no 44 F. Rehari Chungi, Near Gurudwara Road, Jammu, U.T of J&K

....plaintiff

Versus

Neelam Sharma W/o Late Ramesh Sharma R/o H.no 44 F. Rehari Chungi, Near Gurudwara Road, Jammu, U.T. of J&K

Anjali Sharma W/o Sandeep Sharma R/o H.no 44 F, Rehari Chungi, Near Gurudwara Road, Jammu, U.T of J&K

..... Defendants

In the matter of :- Suit for declaration to the effect that the plaintiff is the head of the family /legal heir of the deceased namely Åžaligram alias Shaligram Nagar S/o Baldev Raj Nagar who died 14.07.2001 and as such is entitled to receive/claim the 1/2 share (50%) total amount of of Refugee/ displaced person compensation of 1947 which is being paid by the Central/State Government and the process for which is being initiated by the office of Rehabilitation Provincial Officer, Jammu at present and in future also, for which the deceased grandfatherof Plaintiff was entitled being the displaced person of 1947 (Refugee).

With consequential relief of permanent prohibitory injunction restraining the defendants from laying any claim over the above said benefits.

Notice to public at large

Whereas the plaintiff has filed the above titled Suit against the defendant(s) matter narrated in the head note of this notice. Now the public at Large is hereby informed through the medium of this proclamation that if has any objection in declaring the suit as prayed for, can file objection written Statement in persons Through counsel or through any authorized agent within 15 days from the date of Publication of this notice After the expiry of this date. No any objec tion shall be considered and appropriate orders shall follow. If the date fixed will be holiday then case will be taken up on the next working day,

Given under my hand &seal of this Court today on 21/11/2025.

Sd/-
4th Additional Munsiff
Jammu

In the Court of Learned Executive Magistrate 1st Class Khour

Neelam Kumari D/o Sh Kamma Ram W/o Sh Madan Lal R/o Ward No.12 Nikkian A/p Ghari Bishna Tehsil Khour District Jammu.

(Applicant)

Versus

E.O.M.C Khour

(Non -applicant)

Whereas above titled petitioner has filed this petition, seeking direction to the non-applicant to effect the birth particulars of self namely Neelam Kumari DOB 25.04.1979 At home.

Notice to public at large

Whereas through the medium of proclamation ,the public at large is informed in that case ,any one has any objection in issuance of direction with respect to the birth particulars of the applicant by the-applicant ,then he,She,They shall file the same before this court in person or through counsel within 7 days from the date of publications .If the date fixed is declared holiday ,the matter will be taken upon the next working date..

Given under my hand and seal of this court 21-11-2025.

Sd/-
Learned Executive Magistrate
1st Class Khour

NOTICE

I, Mangat Ram s/o Sh. Beeru Ram R/o: Maira, Teh: Jourian, Distt: Jammu, (UT of J&K) do here by declare that my wife name has been wrongly written in the son's 8th class mark's card Roll No. 8100944 RR No AK-21-v 111 o10001003 and session 2021_22 my wife name has been wrongly written as Renu Devi instead of correct name Reenu Devi i have applied for the above correction in the office of Principal DIET Jammu. Objection if any may kindly be conveyed to the Principal DIET Jammu with in seven days

Trial of Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam, others in 2020 Delhi riots case likely to conclude in two years: Delhi police to SC

New Delhi: The Delhi police on Friday informed the Supreme Court that the trial of several accused persons, including Umar Khalid and Sharjeel Imam, booked under the Prevention of Unlawful Activities Act (UAPA) in the 2020 Delhi riots case would likely be concluded within two years' time.

The Delhi police's clarification came while it continued its arguments opposing the bail pleas of Khalid, Imam and five others accused in the 2020 Delhi riots case, on Friday.

After hearing part submissions made by the Additional Solicitor General of India (ASG) SV Raju, a bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and NV Anjaria posted the matter to be heard next on Monday, November 24, where it will continue hearing further arguments by the Delhi police.

Following the police's submissions, the Supreme Court will hear counter-arguments from senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Abhishek Manu Singhvi, who appear for some of the accused.

During Friday's hearing, ASG Raju resumed his arguments from the previous day. He highlighted the sequence of charge sheets filed in the case.

ASG Raju stated that the initial chargesheet against the accused persons was filed on September 16, 2020, and a supplementary chargesheet was filed on November 22, 2020.

Further, the ASG submitted that as per Section 16(1)(a) of the UAPA, whoever commits a terrorist act is liable to be punished, and there is no bar which provides that the sentence of imprisonment in such cases cannot exceed five years. On the other hand, UAPA provides for a minimum sentence of five years that could be extended for life.

He added that in both the chargesheets filed in the case, cognisance had been taken by the trial court and that those orders have not been challenged, which reflects due application of judicial mind in the case.

ASG Raju further submitted that the alleged conspiracy extended beyond incitement, involving actions such as coordinated "chakka jams" intended to cause disruption and violence.

In such cases, the conspiracy itself constitutes an offence, the ASG added.

Delhi HC quashes case against Gautam Gambhir, his foundation and others

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Friday quashed the criminal complaint filed against Indian cricket team head coach Gautam Gambhir, his charitable foundation, and his family members over allegations of hoarding and unlicensed distribution of COVID-19 medicines during the second wave of the pandemic.

While pronouncing the verdict, Justice Neena Bansal Krishna said, "Complaint case quashed." A detailed order is awaited.

The petition was filed by the Gautam Gambhir Foundation, Gautam Gambhir, his mother Seema Gambhir, and his wife Natasha Gambhir, seeking the quashing of the complaint lodged by the Drugs Control Department of the Delhi Government and the subsequent summons issued on August 26, 2021.

MLA Jasrotia launches Rs 55 lacs development projects in 4 Panchayats

JD Correspondent

JASROTA: MLA Jasrota, Rajiv Jasrotia, took a significant step towards the development of his constituency today, inaugurating and laying the foundation stone of new projects worth Rs 55 lacs in four Panchayats - Hardo Muthi, Mahi Chack, Trehara, and Falote.

This move is expected to bring much-needed infrastructure and amenities to the local communities.During the event, MLA Jasrotia also took the time to listen to the public's grievances, assuring them of timely mitigation. His commitment to addressing the concerns of the people was evident as he interacted with the locals and listened to their issues.

The event was attended by prominent dignitaries, including BDO Barnoti Suraj Singh, DDC Sushma Devi, Sarpanch Davinder Singh, Amarjeet Singh, Jeeta Mehta, Sarpanch Jagdish Poonia, Capt Rajinder Singh, and Maninder Singh, among other party workers. Their presence underscored the importance of this initiative and the MLA's commitment to the development of Jasrota.

MLA Jasrotia's efforts are expected to bring positive change to the lives of the people in these Panchayats, and his dedication to public service is commendable.MLA Jasrotia assured the public of his commitment to addressing their concerns and grievances.



He interacted with the locals, listening to their issues and providing timely mitigation. I am committed to listening to your concerns and addressing them promptly and working towards setting up a robust grievance redressal mechanism, ensuring your voice is heard and your issues resolved.

I appeal to all citizens of Jasrota to join hands with us in building a brighter future for our constituency. Let's work together to create a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable Jasrota, where every individual has access to opportunities and a better quality of life, added Jasrota.

Ashok Koul asks Kishtwar BJP for people welfare outreach

JD Correspondent



KISHTWAR: The Bharatiya Janata Party District Kishtwar led by its President Ravi Parihar held an organizational review meeting at the Party office, Kishtwar.

J&K BJP General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul chaired the meeting, with District Prabhari Pawan Sharma, senior leader Tariq Keen and other prominent functionaries in attendance.

In his address, Ashok Koul issued a clear and politically charged call for strengthening the BJP's footprint across the district. He said the BJP's success rests on its disciplined cadre, and it is now imperative that every functionary translates organizational strength into visible, decisive action on the ground.

"The BJP believes in performance, not propaganda. While opposition parties remain busy with hollow rhetoric, our cadre must showcase real work, real outreach, and real accountability, and ensure people welfare outreach", he said.

Koul instructed the district team to intensify direct public engagement, increase their presence at the mandal, booth and village levels, and ensure that the party's message reaches every household.

Reviewing ongoing tasks, Koul urged renewed focus on booth reinforcement and awareness about government welfare schemes. He encouraged leaders to promote AatmaNirbhar Bharat, village-level entrepreneurship, and the adoption of local products. He further directed cadres to observe the 150 Years of Vande Mataram and the commemoration of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel with full dedication at the booth level.

Pawan Sharma called for sharper coordination, disciplined reporting and continuous interaction with workers to strengthen BJP's footprint in every panchayat.

Tariq Keen highlighted the role of elected representatives in resolving public issues and ensuring timely delivery of welfare schemes.

Ravi Parihar reaffirmed complete commitment to all organizational directives and pledged to expand the BJP's reach in every corner of Kishtwar.

DC Kulgam Hands over sanction letters to PMAY-U 2.0 beneficiaries

JD Correspondent

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today distributed sanction Letters to eligible beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) 2.0, BLC category, within the jurisdiction of Municipal Council Kulgam, Municipal Commitees Devsar & Yaripora.

The DC encouraged the beneficiaries to start construction work without delay and assured all necessary support from the district administration.

These beneficiaries were proposed by the District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC) and subsequently approved by the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CS&MC).



As per the scheme's guidelines, each beneficiary is given a sanction for the construction of a dwelling unit with a maximum carpet area of 45 square meters.

The construction is to be completed in three phases viz. Plinth level, Lintel level, and Roof/Completion, and must be finalized within one year from the receipt of the sanction letter.

The scheme provides financial support to beneficiaries in three installments based on the progress of construction. The total amount sanctioned for each beneficiary is Rs. 2.5 lakh, which is disbursed progressively as the construction advances through each phase.

Present on the occasion were ADC, Viqar Ahmed Giri; ACR, Riyaz Ahmad Shah, CEO MC Kulgam, Mohammad Irfan Wani; tehsildars and other officers.

DYD Students of SMVD University Visit Various Academic & Research Institutions in Kashmir

JD Correspondent

KATRA: The students enrolled in the Design Your Degree (DYD) program from first and second year at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) undertook a week-long educational visit to several academic and research institutions across Kashmir. As part of this immersive learning initiative, the students toured the Sericulture Division at Mirgund under SKUAST-K, the Department of Agricultural Engineering & Technology Division, SKUAST-K, the famous Saffron Fields of Pampore, Kashmir University and the Directorate of Horticulture, Kashmir.

They also got the opportunity to participate in the massive Chrysanthemum Festival held at SKUAST Shalimar Campus. These visits provided the students with a first-hand exposure to the region's agricultural, horticultural, and scientific research landscapes. During the tour, an interaction and student idea exchange programme was held with DYD students from the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) Awantipora and the Institute of Technology, University of Kashmir, Zakura Campus. Students from both Universities delivered presentations on their ongoing projects and shared insights about their academic journeys within the Design Your Own Degree framework. The engagement allowed participants to understand diverse approaches to multidisciplinary learning while discussing innovative academic pathways.



In addition to the formal sessions, students engaged in vibrant informal discussions with peers from the host Universities, fostering collaboration, peer learning, and the exchange of ideas. The DYD program at SMVDU is an innovative academic model that empowers students to craft personalized and interdisciplinary learning trajectories. It provides flexibility to choose courses across departments, encourages curiosity-driven exploration, and nurtures creativity and independent thinking. By focusing on experiential learning, field-based exposure, and project- oriented study, the DYD program helps students shape their educational journey around their interests, strengths, and career aspirations. Structured mentorship, academic guidance, and opportunities for collaboration with external institutions make the program a dynamic platform for holistic student development.

The visit was coordinated by Prof. Sharada M. Potukuchi, Nodal Officer for the DYD program, and Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq, Associate Professor as Event Coordinator who accompanied the students. The coordinators also expressed their appreciation to Dr. Shahkar Nehvi, and Taha Mughal, DYD, IUST Awantipora; Prof. Syeda Afshana, University of Kashmir; Dr. K.A. Dar, Prof. M.R. Mir, Prof. I.L. Khan, Prof. K.A. Sahaf and Dr. Masarat Bashir, College of Temperate Sericulture, SKUAST; Dr. J.A. Bhat, Deputy Director, Dr. Zaffar Iqbal, Dr. Raffia, Mr. Iqbal Ahmad Wafai, Directorate of Horticulture, Rajbagh&Zawoora, Srinagar; Prof. Rohitashw Kumar, Dean, Agricultural Engineering & Technology; Prof. Haroon Rashid Naik, Director, Research and Dr. Baby Summuna, Assistant Professor, Directorate of Research, SKUAST, Kashmir; for their valuable guidance, encouragement, time and exceptional support that greatly enriched the learning experience during the interactions.

Media students of JU encouraged to learn AI for future newsrooms

JD Correspondent

JAMMU: The Department of Journalism and Media Studies, University of Jammu, organised an insightful guest lecture on the topic "The Future of Indian Media: Emerging Trends and Technologies". Here today the session featured Neha Pushkarna, Former Metro Editor, Hindustan Times, New Delhi, as the resource person.

The programme was held under the guidance of HoD Prof. Garima Gupta and Prof. Dushyant Kumar Rai. The event saw an active participation of faculty members Dr. Kumerjeet Chajgotra, Dr. Ravia Gupta, Dr. Ramyan Bharadwaj and Dr. Pardeep Bali along with an enthusiastic group of media students.

The session began with a warm welcome address by Prof. Dushyant Kumar Rai. He appreciated Neha Pushkarna's willingness to share her rich experience of over two decades in the field of journalism with the media students. Dr. Ravia Gupta formally introduced the guest, highlighting her illustrious career with leading publications such as The Times of India and Hindustan Times, and her expertise in news writing, new media, blogging, business journalism, and content development.



Delivering the lecture, Neha Pushkarna captivated the audience by discussing the evolving landscape of Indian media, relevance of print alongside digital platforms, and the transformative impact of emerging technologies. She laid special emphasis on timeless journalistic skills strong writing, unwavering passion, neutrality, fact-verification, and ethical storytelling that remain crucial irrespective of the medium. She also guided students on adapting to new tools and trends while preserving the core values of the profession.

The lecture was followed by an engaging interactive session where students enthusiastically raised questions on the challenges and opportunities in digital journalism, the future of newsrooms, and the role of artificial intelligence and social media in shaping public discourse.

The session received an overwhelmingly positive response from the students, who described it as both inspiring and practically enriching. Students noted that the real-world insights shared by the resource person helped in bridging theoretical learning with industry realities and motivated them to hone their skills with greater purpose and responsibility.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Pardeep Bali. Dr. Kumerjeet Chajgotra conducted the event.

World Heritage Week: Workshop on conservation of heritage sites held at IIIM Jammu

JD Correspondent



JAMMU: As part of World Heritage Week, the Department of Archives, Archaeology & Museums J&K on Friday organized a Workshop and Training Programme on Conservation and Preservation of Heritage Sites and Monuments at IIIM Jammu.

The session was chaired by Director AA&M, K.K. Sidha with Dr. Zabeer Ahmad, Director IIIM Jammu as Guest of Honour.

The workshop was attended by ADDCs & a Team of Trainers (10 member team of Engineers of PW(R&B) Department of each District of Jammu Division.

Key presentations included "Heritage Values and Architectural Approaches for Preservation" by Ar. Aditya K. Singh; "Conservation Pathways and Restoration Progress in J&K" by K.K. Sidha and "Restoration Workflow and Challenges" by Fayaz Ahmad Shah of ASI Srinagar Circle. A case study presentation was delivered by Ar Abhiney Gupta of SMVDU. Experts, Engineers and faculty members actively participated.

The participants appreciated the first of its kind initiative of the Department and asserted that this will certainly strengthen the approach of PW(R&B) Department towards conservation & preparation of DPR thereof.

DC Budgam reviews winter preparedness

Instructs officers to ensure seamless snow clearance, availability of essential services

JD Correspondent

BUDGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC), Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of officers to review advance preparations at district level to ensure seamless snow clearance, availability of all essential commodities and services and also to mitigate exigency, if any, in the district.

The DC directed all concerned to execute a joint action plan effectively to ensure that people of Budgam have a smooth, pleasant experience alongside snowing and also mitigate any challenge arising out of inclement weather.

He instructed officers of R&B , Mechanical department to keep their men and machinery in ready gear and keep them stationed at all designated locations



for timely snow clearance on all roads/ links to ensure prompt connectivity restoration.

In order to ensure uninterrupted power supply, the DC called for timely restoration of all essential lines and timely installation of affected infrastructure, if any be carried out seamlessly.

Similarly, Executive Engineers from Jal Shakti were instructed to ensure unaffected water supply to all areas.

The DC directed that all SDMs, Tehsildars and other concerned officers to take comprehensive rounds within their jurisdiction to review the action on ground. Also, directed them for establishment of control rooms at subdivision level to assist the public during harsh weather conditions.

The CMO Budgam was instructed on smooth ambulance service during any requirement and adequate medical facilities in all upper and low lying areas of the District.

The DC also directed for the establishment of 24X7 Control room for general public at District Headquarters for any assistance during winter season.

The meeting among others was attended by the SE R&B division Budgam , ADC, CPO, ACR, SDMs, CMO, Executive Engineers of different engineering wings, Tehsildars, EOs of MCs.

GCW Udhampur hosts National Seminar on "Linguistic Relationship of Sanskrit, Hindi and Urdu: Ancient Roots to Modern Divergence"

JD Correspondent

UDHAMPUR: Government College for Women, Udhampur, organized a two-day National Seminar on "Linguistic Relationship of Sanskrit, Hindi and Urdu: Ancient Roots to Modern Divergence" under the aegis of IQAC.

The Departments of Sanskrit, Hindi and Urdu jointly hosted the event, bringing together scholars, academicians and students to explore the historical and cultural connections among the three languages.

The seminar was inaugurated by Padma Shri Prof. Vishwa Murti Shastri, Former Director and Nominee Chancellor, Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi. In his address, he described Sanskrit, Hindi and Urdu as branches of the same cultural tree, stressing that Sanskrit forms the ancient foundation while Hindi and Urdu enrich India's modern linguistic identity. He urged young scholars to view language as a bridge of harmony and creativity.



Principal Dr. Nalini Pathania welcomed participants, highlighting the seminar's role in promoting unity in diversity and fostering academic excellence. Convenor Dr. Mool Raj outlined the objectives, emphasizing the shared linguistic heritage of the three languages.

The inaugural session featured a Saraswati Vandana by students of the Music Department. Prof. Dr. Ashok Kumar and Dr. T.R. Raina, the keynote speaker, offered valuable insights into the evolution and divergence of the languages, with Dr. Raina elaborating on Hindi's organic growth from Sanskrit and Prakrit traditions.

The seminar included paper presentations and technical sessions, where faculty, researchers and students engaged in discussions on linguistics, literature, phonetics and cultural synthesis. Proceedings were coordinated by Dr. Shahid Iqbal, while Dr. Om Parkash delivered the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all dignitaries and participants.

Livasa Hospital Nawanshahr launches district's only comprehensive, advanced gastro centre



NAWANSHAHR: Livasa Hospital Nawanshahr on Friday announced to strengthen its specialty services with the launch of a fully equipped and comprehensive gastroenterology centre.

Led by Dr. Sukhraj Pal Singh consultant gastroenterology, the centre will be the only advanced and complete gastro centre in Nawanshahr district, offering diagnosis and treatment for routine as well as highly complex gastrointestinal conditions under one roof.

Dr. Sukhraj Pal Singh brings extensive hands-on clinical experience in the management of gastrointestinal, liver, pancreatic, and biliary disorders. He specialises in treating liver diseases, GI bleeding, acute and chronic pancreatitis, inflammatory bowel diseases, and performing advanced endoscopic procedures. Known for his precision, patient-first approach, and strong command over diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy.

Anurag Yadav, CEO, Livasa Hospitals, said: "Our vision is to bring advanced specialty care closer to communities. The establishment of a full-fledged Gastro Centre at Livasa Hospital Nawanshahr ensures timely, expert treatment for patients who otherwise had to travel outside the district for such specialised services."

Laiquzzama Ansari facility director, Livasa Hospital Nawanshahr, said, " With this district's only comprehensive gastro centre, we aim to deliver safe, accurate, and advanced gastro care to every patient who walks through our doors."

Pant's wicketkeeping experience to aid India captaincy in Guwahati: Ricky Ponting

New Delhi: Former Australian captain Ricky Ponting believes Rishabh Pant's experience as a wicketkeeper-batter will help him lead India in the deciding Test against South Africa in Guwahati. Pant is set to take over the captaincy after India's 30-run defeat in the opening Test at Eden Gardens. With Shubman Gill not playing due to injury, Pant faces a crucial task to level the series.



Ponting, who has worked with Pant in the IPL, said that stepping in as a stand-in captain after a recent Test loss is challenging, but Pant's experience as a wicketkeeper helps him read the game and handle evolving match situations.

"It's never easy to come in and fill in for someone as a stopgap captain, especially when you've just lost a Test match a few days before. Rishabh is a reasonably experienced Test match player now though as well. I think being a wicket keeper probably helps to see the way that the game is evolving and what's happening in the game," Ponting said as quoted by ICC.

"He has done at IPL level now for the last few years, obviously done it in Delhi (Capitals) before that. I think he'll handle it fine," he added. Pant and Ponting shared a captain-coach relationship in the Delhi Capitals franchise before the former moved on to Lucknow Super Giants and the latter to Punjab Kings.

Though Pant has abundant experience of leading teams in white-ball cricket, this will be the first time the 28-year-old will be donning the captain's hat for the Test side.

"It will be interesting to see how he plays as captain if he changes his style of play as captain, as a batter anyway. I think he'll handle the occasion fine. I think the one thing that's probably not spoken about enough with these so-called younger Indian players now is that when they take the step up to playing for India in a Test match or even leading their team, because they get that great experience from the IPL," Ponting said.

"The IPL is probably almost as big as a Test match for a lot of these guys because of the crowds and the scrutiny that comes in an IPL game. I think the modern players are a bit more ready for that and a bit for those leadership roles and the enormity of the situation than they might have been 15 years ago. So I think Rishabh will handle it fine," the former Australian cricketer concluded.

Veteran pacer returns to West Indies squad for NZ Tests

St John's (Antigua): West Indies named a 15-man squad for the next month's three-match Test series against New Zealand, with veteran pacer Kemar Roach securing a recall in the absence of first-choice pacers Shamar Joseph and Alzarri Joseph, while right-arm seamer Ojay Shields earns a maiden call-up following a string of solid performances for West Indies A against South Africa A.

All-rounder Kavem Hodge is also recalled to the 15-player group for the Test series that commences in Christchurch on December 1, with spinner Khary Pierre omitted from the squad, as per ICC.

"You've got to have a good change of pace and consistency for success in this format": Royal Champs coach Courtney Walsh

Abu Dhabi (UAE): Courtney Walsh, the legend, with 519 Test wickets to his name, is currently coaching the Royal Champs squad that boasts a strong contingent of fast bowlers, including Daniel Sams, Chris Jordan, Isuru Udana and UAE's Haider Razzaq, as per a release from Abu Dhabi T10.



Emphasising that variation and decision-making under pressure have become non-negotiable skills, the 63-year-old added, "You've got to have a good change of pace and consistency. A good yorker, a good slow ball, and you need variety because the wickets are very good for batting, and you're up against some of the best batters. Whatever you bowl, you still must execute, especially with the high-profile quality of batters in the ongoing Abu Dhabi T10."

Speaking on the developmental value of platforms like ADT10 for younger players, Walsh added, "It's very important for them to come and play alongside senior players and stars. These guys have stood up and done well within themselves. Hopefully, they learn a lot, and whatever information I can pass on to help develop their cricket, I'm pleased to do so."

Speaking about being involved with West Indies Cricket, he mentioned that while he has not been approached in recent years, he remains fully willing to support West Indies cricket in any capacity. He said, "That's not my call. I'm always available to help with West Indies cricket; I've never been called upon. However, if the authorities see it fit to get me involved, I'd be happy to do so. It doesn't have to be at the highest level. I've said that openly. My love for West Indies cricket is there. If ever called upon to help, I'd be too pleased to do so."

While the Royal Champs have endured two consecutive defeats in their first two matches, they will be eager to bounce back when they take on the UAE Bulls on Friday Night.

Sports Authority of India lends support to India's Karate aspirations for 2026 Asian Games

New Delhi: The Sports Authority of India (SAI), through the Target Asian Games Group (TAGG) scheme, is ensuring India's karatekas get the best exposure in the critical build-up to the 2026 Asian Games in Japan.

SAI has approved a 45-day Senior National Coaching Camp for karate, currently underway from 17 November to 31 December at the SAI Regional Centre in Lucknow, according to a release from SAI.

The camp features 64 members, including 48 athletes, 12 coaches, and 4 support staff, and the entire camp has been sanctioned with financial assistance of Rs 1.42 Crore under the Assistance to National Sports Federations (ANSFs) Scheme.

One of the key takeaways of the camp is to ensure the identified 48 core athletes - 24 male and female each- get full access to training facilities and continue their high-performance training despite NSF derecognition. The camp is ensuring coaching & Sports Science support, equipment, recovery inputs, and seamless preparation for both the men's and women's squads.

At a time when Asian Games qualification standards and international benchmarks are rapidly rising, the national coaching camp in Lucknow will further identify the cream of talents who will go through exposure opportunities abroad in the build-up to the Asian Games, scheduled from September 19 to October 4 next year.

Guwahati set for landmark India vs South Africa Test

Guwahati (Assam): The Barsapara Cricket Stadium, Guwahati, will witness a historic moment on November 22 when it hosts its first Test match, featuring India and South Africa.



The toss is scheduled for 8.30 am, and the match will begin at 9 am, following the national anthems of both teams. The two captains will sign portraits of the stadium as part of the pre-match ceremony. A specially crafted gold coin created to mark the occasion will be presented to both skippers.

BCCI Secretary Devajit Saikia will ring the traditional bell to signal the start of play. During the break, a book on the Ranji Trophy titled 'Plucky 13' by Sachin Bajaj will be released. At lunch, 10 kit bags will be presented to junior cricketers in a brief ceremony.

Assam Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma will grace the occasion. BCCI President Mithun Manhas, Joint Secretary Prabhtej Bhatia and IPL Governing Council member Mamon Mazumdar will attend the match.

India is heading into the second Test on the back of a 30-run defeat in the first Test in Kolkata. The first Test between India and South Africa, which concluded in just three days at Eden Gardens, marked a historic low for red-ball cricket in India, it was the first instance where both teams were bowled out in all four innings, with neither side reaching a total of 200 runs.

This happened for the first time in 66 years. In Test cricket, there are only 12 instances where neither team managed to touch the total of 200 in either of their innings while being bowled on each occasion.

The brilliant show by spinner Simon Harmer and Keshav Maharaj, and a gritty half-century by skipper Temba Bavuma made a difference between the two sides. India's defeat at Eden Gardens also placed the match in a statistical context, as the target of 124 became the second-lowest total India has failed to chase down in Test history.

The lowest remains 120 against the West Indies in Bridgetown in 1997. The result also marked South Africa's second-lowest successful defence in Test cricket. Their lowest remains 117 against Australia in Sydney in 1994.

Habibur's fifty, Meherob's blitz power Bangladesh A to 194 against India A in Asia Cup semifinal

Doha (Qatar): A solid half-century from Bangladesh A opener Habibur Rahman Sohan and a late-innings rampage from SM Meherob helped the team post a competitive total against India A in the first semi-final of the ACC Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars 2025 at the West End Park International Cricket Stadium in Qatar on Friday.

Bangladesh A scored 194-6 in 20 overs to set a massive target of 195 for the Jitesh Sharma-led India A.

Opting to field first after winning the toss, India A struggled initially to contain the aggressive Bangladesh top order. Habibur Rahman was the aggressor from the outset, stitching together a crucial 43-run partnership with Jishan Alam (15).

The duo ensured Bangladesh finished the powerplay at 49-1, maintaining a run rate well above nine runs an over.

Even after the dismissal of Jishan Alam and skipper Akbar Ali (15) in the middle overs, Habibur held firm. He brought up his 32-ball fifty with a commanding display of clean hitting, frustrating the Indian spinners. His knock of 65 runs off 46 balls included both power and placement, finding regular boundaries.

Bangladesh A reach ACC Rising Stars final after defeating India A in dramatic Super Over

Doha (Qatar): Bangladesh A defeated India A in the semifinal of the ACC Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars 2025 in a nail-biting Super Over at the West End Park International Cricket Stadium in Doha. With the win, Bangladesh secured a berth in the final and will compete against either Sri Lanka A or Pakistan Shaheens for the trophy.



In response to Bangladesh's 194-6, India ended with 194-6 in their chase, causing the match to go to the Super Over. However, in the Super Over, India lost both their wickets without scoring a run.

Facing Bangladesh pacer Ripon Mondol, India A's hopes were dashed immediately. Captain Jitesh Sharma was cleaned up by a yorker on the first ball. Ashutosh Sharma then lofted the second delivery into the hands of extra-cover and India A were all out without scoring a single run.

Needing just one run to win, Bangladesh A lost Yasir Ali on the first ball to Suyash Sharma. However, the contest concluded dramatically on the very next ball, as Suyash's googly went down the leg-side, resulting in a wide and handing Bangladesh A the single extra run they needed for the victory.

"SA20 has brought world-class resources to South African cricket": Graeme Smith

New Delhi: SA20 India Day spotlighted the league's rapid growth, evolving player development, and deepening ties with India. SA20 will kick off from December 26, with MI Cape Town taking on the Durban Super Giants in the tournament opener.

Speaking at the SA20 India Day, League Commissioner Graeme Smith emphasised the transformative impact on South African cricket, fan engagement, and the significance of strong performances on India tours for future momentum, as per a release from SA20.

Speaking on SA20 India Day, SA20 League Commissioner Graeme Smith discussed the league's evolving regulations and player development, "After our three-year cycle of the SA20, we updated regulations to foster market growth and player development. Franchises have gained a valuable understanding of South Africa's talent ecosystem, evident in this year's auction. Players like Dewald Brevis have matured significantly, translating early potential into consistent performances. Beyond established stars, we're seeing deeper talent pools emerging, with many players now delivering consistently at the international level, ultimately strengthening our national team's competitiveness."

South Africa confirm squads for white-ball series against Ireland

Johannesburg, (South Africa): Cricket South Africa (CSA) has announced the Proteas women's squads for their upcoming series against Ireland. South Africa, who reached the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 finals, are set to play three T20Is, followed by three ODIs, against the European nation in December 2025.



This announcement sees the return of former South Africa captain, Dane van Niekerk, to both the T20I and ODI sides, according to the International Cricket Council's (ICC) website.

Van Niekerk makes her return after a four-year absence from the game. She announced her retirement in March 2023 after being left out of the T20 World Cup squad that year, but reversed her decision in August this year.

Speaking on Van Nierkerk's return, Proteas Women Convenor of Selectors, Clinton du Preez, said, "Dane's return is a result of her notable domestic form, where she has shown consistency and skill. We look forward to her contribution across both formats."

Proteas Women Head Coach, Mandla Mashimbyi, commented, "We all know how talented she is, her knowledge of the game, and she just needs to perform. I want her to focus on winning games for this team. She has got a legacy behind her, and now she has a second chance to showcase what she can do. She needs to focus on that."

"She must just try and win games for this team," he added.

Along with Van Nierkerk's return, the ODI side sees six new faces to the side that recently competed at the Women's World Cup in India.

Starc, Stokes become first Day-1 five-for duo since Harmison, McGrath in 2005

Perth (Australia): Australian pacer Mitchell Starc and England captain Ben Stokes became the first pair of bowlers to take five-fors on the first day of a Test since Steve Harmison and Glenn McGrath at Lord's in 2005. Both Starc and Stokes starred with the ball on Day 1 of the ongoing first Ashes Test between Australia and England at Perth.

Starc tore through England's batting line-up with a brilliant seven-wicket haul, only for Stokes to upstage the Australian speedster with a five-for of his own.

After Stokes won the toss and opted to bowl first, England's powerful batting unit collapsed for 172, losing their final five wickets for just 12 runs. Starc registered bowling figures of 7-58 in 12.5 overs. He accounted for the wickets of Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Joe Root, Ben Stokes, Jamie Smith, Gus Atkinson and Mark Wood.

However, the Australian batting suffered an even worse batting collapse as Ben Stokes registered the bowling figures of 5-23 in six overs as he scalped Travis Head, Alex Carey, Cameron Green, Mitchell Starc and Scott Boland. Stokes' five-wicket haul has now put England firmly in control, leaving Australia reeling at 123/9 and still trailing by 49 runs at the end of Day 1.

This was also the first time in 20 years that two bowlers claimed five-wicket hauls on the opening day of a Test match. The previous instance came in the Ashes 2005 Lord's Test, when Steve Harmison and Glenn McGrath achieved the feat.

WPL Auction 2026 player list announced; Lanning, Deepti, Ecclestone, Healy, Wolvaardt amongst marquee names

Mumbai: The Women's Premier League (WPL) 2026 auction player list has been unveiled, with 277 players aiming to fill up 73 available slots during the auction, which will take place on November 27 in New Delhi.



A statement from the WPL said, "The TATA WPL 2026 Auction list has been announced, with a total of 277 players vying for 73 available slots, with the auction set to take place in New Delhi on 27th November."

"The auction list includes 194 Indian players, comprising 52 capped and 142 uncapped players, who will go under the hammer for 50 slots, while 66 overseas capped players and 17 overseas uncapped players will look to fill the 23 available slots," the statement added.

The WPL 2026 Auction, scheduled to commence at 3:30 PM, will begin with the marquee set featuring eight players - Deepti Sharma (India), Renuka Singh (India), Sophie Devine (New Zealand), Sophie Ecclestone (England), Alyssa Healy (Australia), Amelia Kerr (New Zealand), Meg Lanning (Australia), and Laura Wolvaardt (South Africa).

A total of 19 players have registered in the highest base-price bracket of Rs 50 lakh, 11 players in the Rs 40 lakh bracket, and 88 players in the Rs 30 lakh bracket.

Each franchise will be allowed to build a squad of upto 18 players. A total of 73 slots have to be filled, including 23 overseas slots, across five franchises.

UP Warriorz, who just retained the uncapped Indian batter Shweta Sehrawat, will be entering the auction with the most amount of money in their purse, four right-to-match (RTM) options and a massive rebuilding to do.

Defending champions Mumbai Indians (MI), captained by Harmanpreet Kaur, and three-time runners-up Delhi Capitals (DC) have retained the maximum quota of five players and have no RTM available. DC also retained Shafali Varma and Jemimah Rodrigues, two young Indian batters who starred in India's ICC Women's World Cup title win, with standout performances in the knockout stages.

In these three seasons, WPL has seen some players getting massive bids, with Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) captain Smriti Mandhana being the most expensive player in the tournament's history, with Rs 3.4 crore shelled out on her ahead of the inaugural season. She led RCB to the title in the 2024 season and was one of the four players, including Richa Ghosh, Ellyse Perry and Shreyanka Patil, retained by the franchise.

"We strongly back India to be a leader in major sports development": Australian High Commissioner Philip Green

New Delhi: Australian High Commissioner Philip Green highlighted the growing sports collaboration between Australia and India, citing opportunities around the 2032 Olympics and India's potential future hosting of major events (Commonwealth Games 2030, Olympics).

Green further noted that Australian firms are already involved in projects in Ahmedabad, and both nations aim to boost cooperation in the sports business and development.

India has formally presented its proposal to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games to the Evaluation Committee of Commonwealth Sport in London.

India has also officially bid to host the 2036 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. The IOA, led by President Usha, submitted a Letter of Intent to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in October 2024.

Green was speaking at the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) TURF 2025 - 15th Global Summit on the Business of Sports.

"Australia will host the Olympic Games, and all likelihood is that India will host the Commonwealth Games in 2030 and maybe in the Olympic Games in the future. So around the Brisbane Olympics 2032, there will be many opportunities for us to collaborate in sport.

LG Kavinder Gupta calls on Union Health Minister JP Nadda in Delhi

■ JD Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Shri Kavinder Gupta, today met Shri J.P Nadda ji, Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers, in New Delhi and discussed key issues related to healthcare development, medical education, and public welfare in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

Shri Kavinder Gupta expressed gratitude for the continuous support extended by the Union Government and apprised the Hon'ble Union Health Minister of the progress on major projects, including the establishment of Ladakh's first Medical College and the proposed Nursing College in Leh. He informed that substantial steps—such as release of central funds, land allotment, and submission of proposals for construction and creation of posts—have already been completed. He requested the Ministry to expedite the remaining administrative approvals so that the Medical College and Nursing College can be operationalised at the earliest.

The Lt Governor also highlighted the need to fast-track the upgradation of District Hospital Kargil from 100 to 200 beds, noting that construction of additional infrastructure is under progress but the creation of essential posts requires early approval from the Ministry.

Shri Kavinder Gupta further requested the establishment of a CGHS wellness centre in Leh, pointing out that thousands of central government employees and pensioners posted in Ladakh currently lack access to this facility. He also urged the Ministry to bring the entire ST population of Ladakh under full PMJAY coverage and revise the premium to reflect higher healthcare delivery costs in the region.



The Lt Governor proposed setting up a specialised AYUSH Hospital and requested consideration for establishing an AIIMS campus in Leh to significantly improve tertiary care and medical research in the trans-Himalayan region. He reaffirmed Ladakh's commitment to building a strong and inclusive healthcare ecosystem with continued support from the Government of India.

Hon'ble Union Minister Shri JP Nadda appreciated the efforts of the UT Administration and assured full cooperation in strengthening healthcare facilities and expanding medical education in Ladakh. He stated that the Ministry will examine the proposals and extend all possible support within the framework of ongoing schemes and priorities.

Geography Department Conducts Educational Field Tour to Historic Manwal Temple Complex

■ JD Correspondent



UDHAMPUR: In a direct move to bridge theoretical knowledge with real-world geographical applications, the Department of Geography at Government College for Women (GCW) Udhampur executed a mandatory One-Day Educational Field Tour to the historic Manwal Temple Complex (Archaeological site).

This academic activity, integral to the curriculum for B.A./B.Sc. Semester I and VII students under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, strategically focused on the practical study of physical features of the region, historical and pilgrimage tourism. Students were able to analyze the signi of geographical factors that influenced the cultural and structural development of the ancient site and its pilgrimage circuits.

This crucial field visit was organized under the visionary leadership of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Nalini Pathania and meticulously overseen by H.O.D. Prof. Pooja Bharti. Academic guidance for the students was provided by accompanying faculty members Dr. Poonam Bharti, Ms. Divya Sharma, and Mr. Roouf Ahmad Mala, with logistical support managed by Mr. Balbir (Lab Bearer). Safe transportation was ensured by the professional driving skills of Mr. Sanjay Kumar and Mr. Subhash Chander.

The field visit successfully provided the students with crucial hands-on experience, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world geographical applications.

The Department of Geography expresses its profound gratitude to the College Administration for their continuous support and necessary approvals, which ensured the seamless execution of this academically enriching practical activity. The department remains dedicated to organizing future field-based programs to enhance the students' learning experience and practical expertise in Geography.

Transport Department Reasi holds awareness camp in Katra; Enforcement drive conducted in Reasi

REASI: Transport Department Reasi headed by Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Nasir A. Khan today chaired a special awareness camp at the PWD Guest House Katra, attended by representatives of various transport unions. He listened to the issues raised by transporters, assured resolution of genuine concerns and stressed the need to address traffic congestion and improve traffic management in Katra town. The ARTO urged hotel owners, drivers and transport union members to strictly follow transport rules to ensure smooth and safe traffic movement in the region.

Government Degree College Sidhra Organizes One-Day International Seminar on "Urdu Adab aur Hindustani Zehn o Tehzeeb"

■ JD Correspondent



JAMMU: Government Degree College (GDC) Sidhra successfully organized a One-Day International Seminar on the theme "Urdu Adab aur Hindustani Zehn o Tehzeeb" under the patronage of College Principal, Prof Seema Mir. The intellectually vibrant event witnessed participation from scholars, academicians, and students, marking a significant milestone in the institution's academic and cultural engagement.

The seminar commenced with the traditional lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing knowledge, enlightenment, and the collective pursuit of wisdom. In keeping with tradition and respect, distinguished guests were honoured with floral bouquets and momentos. The inaugural session was further enriched by a soulful performance of Saraswati Vandana by Kajal, B.A Semester III student, invoking blessings and setting a reflective tone for the day's discourse. Dr. Shehnawaz Qadri, Head of the Department of Urdu, officiated as the programme coordinator and ensured the seamless and dignified flow of proceedings with poise, clarity, and impeccable management.

In her welcome address, Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC Sidhra, warmly greeted the keynote speaker, Dr Taqi Abedi, esteemed guests, and participants. She reflected on the cultural significance of Urdu language and literature in shaping the moral, social, and emotional fabric of Hindustani society. To honour the literary spirit of the gathering and the distinguished presence of scholars, she began her address with an Urdu sher, which resonated deeply with the audience and captured the essence of the seminar's theme.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Taqi Abedi, a renowned Indian-Canadian physician, distinguished Urdu scholar, and celebrated poet. His scholarly insights traced the evolution of Urdu literature and highlighted its profound role in shaping Hindustani cultural consciousness. He discussed iconic writers, the syncretic values embedded in Urdu prose and poetry, and the continued relevance of Urdu in modern linguistic and cultural discourse. He quoted so many relevant couplets and many poems to support his views.

Among the distinguished speakers, Prof. Shohab Inayat Malik, Head of the Department of Urdu, University of Jammu, served as the Guest of Honour. In his address, he shed significant light on the theme of the seminar and discussed the literary contributions of Dr. Taqi Abedi. A substantial number of research papers were presented by scholars of Urdu language and literature during the seminar.

IBPR, SKUAST-K host FGD to Boost Digital Marketing Ecosystem for J&K's Saffron Industry

■ JD Correspondent

SRINAGAR: The Institute of Business, Policy and Research (IBPR), in collaboration with Advanced Research Station for Saffron and Temperate Seed Spices, Dasu, SKUAST-K, organized a Stakeholder Interaction-cum-Focus Group Discussion (FGD) under the MeitY, GoI sponsored project "e-Marketing Eco-System in J&K".

The event brought together Experts, Key farmers, Traders and other stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sher A. Dar, Head, RSSTSS, Dasu highlighted the pressing challenges including climate change, market failures, etc faced by the saffron sector in the region. He informed participants that the saffron is a novel commodity with Geographical Indication and has wide scope for export earning. He sensitized the participants about the deterioration of saffron ecology and need for technology-led transformation of this enterprise.

He brought out the increasing relevance of digital provisions in connecting farmers, traders, FPOs, and other market actors across the country to ensure better returns.

Prof. S. H. Baba, PI, MeitY project, IBPR, SKUAST-K in his presentation unveiled the untapped potential of speciality crop "Saffron" in the valley. While emphasizing upon the importance of integrating its value chain, Prof. Baba discussed about the emerging imperatives for the sustenance of saffron economy in the region. He explained how SKUAST-K, in partnership with CDAC Kolkata, aims to develop an Electronic Ecosystem including Stakeholder Information System, Real-time Decision Support System and E-Marketing System to facilitate seamless stakeholder connect and trade of this important spice. He informed participants about the recent initiatives taken by SKUAST-K in quality certification, branding, etc. Prof. Baba also outlined the roadmap for on-ground deployment of AI-based tools and stressed the critical role of farmers, traders, FPOs, and other stakeholders.

An interactive session was held to receive inputs from participants on redressal of various contemporary issues in the saffron production and trade. Suggestions for the enhancement of the utility of the proposed system aimed at strengthening the marketing system in J&K were also sought from the participants.

Stakeholders appreciated the activities taken up under MeitY-supported initiatives in establishing a strong digital information base and marketing ecosystem in the region.

DTI Traffic Rattan Singh Rana and Social Activities Raju Jandyal and Temple Today to paid obesciance Special Abhishek Ceremony at Tirupathi Balaji Temple Jammu

■ JD Correspondent

JAMMU: DTI traffic Rattan Singh Rana ,Ajay Gupta J&K Bank retired officer, Er. Harvinder Singh Social Activities Raju Jandyal And Temple inspector Sai Krishna Tirupathi balaji Jammu ,Today paid obesciance at Tirupati Balaji temple Jammu and participated in the special abhishek of Tirupati. prayed for the welfare of the country. Every Friday the ceremony of abhishek of Lord Venkateshwar is performr And the guests present were also honored by the temple administration with a photograph of Lord Venkateswara.

Rattan Singh Rana expressed happiness over the temple said that it is a feeling of pleasure and proud that the Tirupati Balaji temple is established here for the people of Jammu. With this temple we are able to witness the culture of south India and this feeling is heavenly.He appealed people to visit the temple and pay obesicance here. He Said the dedication of Lord Venkateswara temple would give a boost to spiritual tourism

Er Harvinder Singh Said overwhelmed to share with you all my divine experience at Sri



Venkateswara Swamy temple which is famous as Tirupati Balaji Temple located amid the scenic Shivalik forests in Majeen, situated in Jammu. I am requesting all Devotee,s who are unable to visit Andhra Pradesh, can come here and offer prayers to the Lord Venkateswara Swamy and seek blessings

Other present in this occasion swami Amit Shukla Archaka Pandit Ravi Teja Bhattacharya, Gopal Sharma ji Pandit Surya Prakash Dwivedi and Pandit Gautam pandey.

DC Bandipora reviews functioning of OSC, Stresses accountability & service quality

■ JD Correspondent



BANDIPORA: Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Indu Kanwal Chib, today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee (DLC) to review the functioning of the One Stop Centre (OSC) at the Mini Secretariat, Bandipora.

District Social Welfare Officer Bandipora presented a detailed report on the OSC's performance, staff structure, and services being provided under Mission Shakti, including Sambal, Samarthya, Women's Helpline, Nari Adalats, DHEW activities, BBBP, PMMVY, and creche facilities.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the functioning of SAKHI services, including legal support, counselling, and shelter facilities, and discussed pending salary issues for both MOU and non-MOU periods.

The DC directed that fresh police verification of all staff be completed prior to salary release and that eligibility criteria including age, be strictly examined. She instructed the department to submit complete details of cases handled during the one-year non-MOU period and said that case files will be thoroughly scrutinised during the next review. She emphasised the need for transparency and stressed that legal assistance must be provided immediately to affected persons.

The DC further directed the department to conduct a comprehensive physical verification of the OSC within two weeks, covering infrastructure, furnishings, fixtures, and overall functionality. She underscored that women should not suffer due to administrative inefficiency and called for strengthened coordination among all stakeholders.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Bandipora, Ajaz Ahmad Zargar; District Programme Officer ICDS, Yaar Ali Khan; Secretary, District Legal Services Authority; Chairperson, District Bar Council; Chief Medical Officer Bandipora and other concerned officers.

DC Kupwara reviews progress under HADP, JKCIP

■ JD Correspondent



KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, today chaired a meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) to review the progress achieved under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), the Jammu and Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement in Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP) and also reviewed the functioning of Kisan Khidmat Ghars (KKGs) in the district.

During the meeting, it was informed that 7,559 units have been established across Kupwara under HADP. These units cover a wide range of sectors, including Agriculture, Horticulture, Horticulture (P&M), Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, and Sericulture.

Under JKCIP, the committee was apprised that 22 units have been set up across three blocks viz. Magam, Sogam, and Qadirabad, benefiting farmers and stakeholders in agriculture and allied activities.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised that HADP and JKCIP are major initiatives strengthening farmer's access to modern infrastructure, sustainable agricultural practices, and diversified livelihood opportunities.

On the occasion, the Committee approved 656 cases under HADP which include 402 of Agriculture department, 6 of Fisheries, 24 of Sheep Husbandry, 92 of Animal Husbandry, 46 of Horticulture and 89 cases of Sericulture department. Under JKCIP, 186 cases were approved which include 170 of Agriculture, 6 of Sheep Husbandry and 10 cases of Horticulture department.

The DC also directed the departments to propose area specific projects in vibrant villages for the benefit of farmers of border areas.

The DC directed all concerned officers to ensure the speedy implementation of approved cases and extend comprehensive handholding support to beneficiaries so that the schemes yield maximum impact on the ground.

Detailed discussions also held regarding functioning of Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG).Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) briefed the DC about the operational status of KKGs, availability of IT and Non IT infrastructure and issuance of seed, fertilizer and pesticide licenses to KKG holders.

The DC emphasised on special measures to increase average daily transactions and average daily income of KKGs. He highlighted the pivotal role of Kisan Khidmat Ghars in bridging the gap between farmers and various agricultural schemes and services. He stressed the need for strengthening these grassroots institutions to ensure timely and efficient delivery of farmer-centric initiatives.



Chandeep Singh, International Para Athlete called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, today.