

DENGUE WARNING SIGNS

Many people with dengue can be cared for at home with adequate rest and hydration. But, if you experience any warning signs, go immediately to the nearest medical center.

Watch out for dengue warning signs!

A drop in body temperature accompanied by any of the following symptoms:

- Headache and continuous fever above 102°F
- Severe joint and muscle pain
- Diarrhea
- Present vomiting
- A sharp rise in temperature
- Disorientation
- Bleeding from gums or nose, blood in vomit, urine or stool
- Redness on

If you have any of these symptoms, go to the nearest medical center IMMEDIATELY

JINDRAH IMAGES

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‘LG brought light to our darkest chapter’: Terror victim families break decades of silence

JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, JUL 13 (KNO)

For the first time in over two decades, families devastated by terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir stood with tears, not in mourning, but in gratitude as the long-ignored voices of pain were finally heard.

At an emotionally charged event in Baramulla, where Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha handed over appointment letters to the next of kin (NoKs) of terror victims, survivors, as per the news agency—Kashmir News



Observer (KNO), shared their long-suppressed grief and thanked the adminis-

tration for bringing them justice and dignity. Among them was Suhail

Yousuf Shah from north Kashmir’s Kupwara district, who lost his mother

and uncle to terrorist bullets in 2002. “So many governments came and went, but no one cared about us. No one even asked what happened to my family,” he said, holding back tears. “But today, we are very thankful to LG Manoj Sinha, who took this initiative. For the first time, it feels like someone is truly our own.”

Recalling the horrific day, Suhail shared that his mother was blinded by terrorists before succumbing to her injuries. “I told my siblings, she’s just hurt and will be fine. But since

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

10 Amarnath Yatris injured after 3 buses collide in Kulgam



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 13

Three buses part of the Amarnath Yatra convoy collided on Sunday on their way back to a base camp in Jammu and Kashmir, injuring at least 10 pil-

grims, officials said. The injured pilgrims were taken to a hospital for treatment, they said.

The convoy was returning after pilgrims had their darshan at the cave shrine.

Officials said the condition of all injured

was stated to be stable. Three buses were damaged in the road accident.

Other pilgrims from the affected buses were moved to reserve buses and the convoy went ahead with the onward journey, they added.

CS visits Baltal Base Camp to assess SANJY 2025 arrangements

JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, JULY 13

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today undertook a comprehensive visit to the Baltal Base Camp to assess the on-ground arrangements for the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY)-2025.

During the visit, the Chief Secretary chaired a high-level review meeting with the senior officers of the civil and police administration besides other line departments to take stock of facilities being provided to the pilgrims. The meeting focused on ensuring a seamless and comfortable pilgrimage experience for the devotees.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Syed Fahim Bihagi, briefed the Chief Secretary on various aspects of Yatra management via the Baltal route. These included health and accommodation facilities, water and power supply, sanitation measures, flood mitigation and other essential logistics.



The Chief Secretary also had a detailed review of the security and traffic management plans.

SSP Ganderbal, Khalil Poswal, presented an overview of the security arrangements, including deployment of security personnel, surveillance measures and technological interventions like facial recognition systems, CCTV coverage and integrated control rooms for real-time monitoring.

It was informed that round-the-clock monitoring mechanisms have been put in place to ensure uninterrupted services and address any emergent issues promptly.

Commending the coor-

ordinated efforts of all the departments and agencies, the Chief Secretary urged them to work with the same spirit and commitment to ensure a safe and successful Yatra.

Later, the Chief Secretary visited the Base Hospital at Baltal to inspect the medical facilities, availability of emergency medicines and overall readiness to address health-related needs of the pilgrims. He interacted with the medical and paramedical staff and appreciated their dedication.

He directed the health department to ensure sufficient deployment of medical personnel,

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Amarnath Yatra: Fresh batch of over 7,000 pilgrims leave from Jammu base camp



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUL 13

The 12th batch of 7,049 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu on Sunday to pay obeisance at the holy Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

The pilgrims, including 1,423 women, 31 children and 136 sadhus and sadhis, left for the twin base camps of Nunwan-Pahalgam in Anantnag and Baltal in Ganderbal in separate convoys under tight security arrangements in the early hours of the

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

DGP Prabhat becomes first J&K Police Chief in recent past to visit Lolab

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, (LOLAB) JUL 13 (KNO)

Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat visited Lolab Valley in this frontier district on Sunday and became the first J&K Police Chief in the past many years to reach here.

According to the details available with the news agency DGP Prabhat sent a clear message to all by visiting this remote and sensitive area, which lies close to the Line of Control and has faced security challenges for many years. “The visit made it clear that there will be zero tolerance for terrorism and violence and that the administration is serious



about ensuring lasting peace in every part of the Union Territory,” said an official.

He said the DGP reviewed the law-and-order situation, assessed security arrangements, and boosted the morale of local police forces.

He was accompanied by senior officers, including SSP Kupwara Ghulam Jee-lani Wani.

Locals welcomed the visit and called it a positive and historic step. Many residents said it was the first time they felt truly seen and heard by top-level officials.

People appreciated that the DGP came to the area personally instead of just sending reports or instructions from afar.

“The visit is important as direct contact with people helps create a feeling of safety and inclusion, especially in areas that have suffered from years of conflict. The visit marks a new approach in Kashmir’s security strategy. It includes both strong vigilance and real connection with the people,” said a security expert. ❧

Radicalisation in prisons increasingly critical challenge: MHA

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUL 13

The Ministry of Home Affairs has flagged radicalisation in prisons as an increasingly critical challenge and stressed the

need for urgent steps to check the trend for maintaining public order and ensuring internal security.

In a communication to all states and Union Territories, the MHA issued guidelines listing

various steps, including screening of inmates, periodic risk assessment and segregation of high-risk individuals with greater surveillance, and underlined the importance of

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Dr Jitendra invokes Dr B.C. Roy’s legacy for restoring doctor-patient trust

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUL 13

Paying rich tribute to Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, the world renowned physician and doyen of medical academics, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh today invoked Dr B.C.Roy’s legacy to emphasise the importance of restoring doctor-patient trust which was the hallmark of Dr Roy’s times in the first half of the 20th century.

Dr Jitendra Singh was, as chief guest, speaking at the Doctors Day celebration organized by the national body of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) here.

National President IMA Dr Bhanushali, President elect Dr Naik and Imme-



diatate Past President Dr Asoken were present along with other national office bearers of IMA.

Addressing a packed audience of medical professionals, Dr. Jitendra Singh invoked the legacy of Dr. B.C. Roy, reflecting on his immense contribution to both medicine and nation-building. “One of

the greatest traits of Dr. Roy was the unwavering trust he and his contemporaries commanded in society, without compromising his consultation fee or ethics,” he said.

“Dr. Roy charged a consultation fee of over Rs 66 in the 1940s, and nobody questioned it. Today, we must ask ourselves –

why has the same trust eroded?” he asked, calling for a revival of the doctor-patient trust, which, he emphasized, was the hallmark of Dr. Roy’s era.

Dr. Jitendra Singh urged the medical fraternity to reclaim the dignity, integrity, and social faith that once defined the noble profession, while emphasizing that the changing perception of doctors stems not from individual failings alone but from larger shifts in societal values.

Recalling the legacy of the Indian Medical Association (IMA), the Minister described it as a “pillar of Indian healthcare,” and lauded it as the largest and oldest body of

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New BrahMos testing facility in Lucknow will strengthen India’s Self-Reliance: Rajnath Singh

JI NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JUL 13

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said the newly inaugurated integration and testing facility of BrahMos Aerospace in Lucknow will strengthen the country’s self-reliance in the defence sector.

Singh said this at an event in Lucknow where he unveiled the statue of former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Chandra Bhanu Gupta at the National PG College and released a postage stamp.



strengthen our country’s self-reliance in the defence sector and also create employment,” he said.

He praised the law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh due to which investments are increasing and industries are flourishing in the state.

“Historical changes are

taking place in infrastructure. Expressway, airport, metro, medical college’ all these are presenting a new picture of development,” the defence minister said.

Singh, who is the Lok Sabha MP from Lucknow, also showered praises on former UP CM

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Murder accused arrested by Bage-Bahu Police Station, Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

In an act of unity among the police in curbing crime and putting criminals behind the bar Bage-Bahu Police arrested an accused namely Gurbachan Singh S/O Amar Singh R/O Kanech Ludhiana Punjab who during the course of enquiry disclosed that on dated 26/06/2025 he along with four five accused person had committed the murder of Kuldeep Singh R/O Sadar Ludhiana Punjab at Jata Chowki new by pass Ludhiana.

Upon disclosure of the accused police station Sadar Ludhiana was contacted who

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Sunil Sharma slams CM Omar, says Jallianwala Bagh was sacrifice, July 13 a conspiracy against Maharaja and communal violence

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

It is deeply disappointing and utterly irresponsible that Honourable Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has chosen to equate the events of July 13, 1931, with the horrific Jallianwala Bagh massacre. This flawed and misleading comparison is not only historically inaccurate but is a grave insult to the martyrs of India's freedom struggle who laid down their lives for the cause of independence.

This was stated by Sunil Sharma, the Leader of Opposition in J&K Assembly and General Secretary, J&K BJP.

Sunil Sharma said that the massacre at Jallianwala Bagh in 1919 remains one of the darkest and bloodiest chapters of British colonial rule in India. On that fateful day, hundreds of innocent and unarmed Indians, including men, women, and children were gunned down in cold blood by British troops led by General Dyer, simply for gathering peacefully to protest unjust laws. These victims were not part of any mob. They were peaceful citizens demanding freedom and dignity from foreign



rule. As Indians, remembering them is our collective moral and national duty.

Sunil Sharma said that in sharp contrast, what transpired in Srinagar on July 13, 1931, was not a peaceful protest but a violent communal attack, incited by communal and politically motivated conspiracy against Maharaja. The unrest began following inflammatory speeches by Abdul Qadeer, a domestic servant of a British officer, who sought to provoke religious passions. After his arrest, a frenzied crowd gathered outside the Srinagar jail, defied repeated warnings, and attempted to storm the premises. The resulting police firing led to the death of 13 individuals.

However, the violence did not end there. The aftermath witnessed widespread communal targeting. Hindu and

Sikh households, businesses, temples, and gurdwaras in Srinagar and even regions like Rajouri, Mirpur, and Muzaffarabad were attacked, looted, and destroyed. This cannot and should not be glorified as a freedom struggle. It was a dark chapter of communal violence, not a nationalist movement, said Sunil Sharma.

"As Sunil Sharma, Leader of the Opposition in the J&K Assembly and General Secretary of the J&K BJP, I strongly condemn this deliberate distortion of facts by the Honourable CM. The events of 1931, as clearly recorded in the Barjor Dalal Committee Report and books like The Burning of Kashmir by J.S. Raghavan, were marked by lawlessness, rioting, and the targeting of innocent civilians. Unlike the peaceful victims of Jallianwala Bagh who stood against colonial oppression, the 1931 mob turned against fellow citizens and a native administration", he said.

Sunil Sharma further said, "Let us be clear the victims of Jallianwala Bagh were national heroes who fought against foreign tyranny. The violent rioters of 1931 were used as pawns by vested interests seeking to destabilize communal harmony and undermine the native Dogra rule. The two events are fundamentally different in intent, character, and consequence."

For decades, history in Jammu & Kashmir has been manipulated for political ends. But with the abrogation of Article 370, a new era of truth and transparency has begun. It is now our duty to reclaim our real history and educate our youth with facts, not fiction, he said.

"As a responsible public leader, I call upon Omar Abdullah and his party to stop misleading the people by glorifying a communal mob as martyrs. Such false equivalence not only disrespects the memory of true freedom fighters but also sows seeds of discord among communities. It is unjust, dangerous, and unacceptable", he said.

You can erase our hearts, but not memory of July 13 martyrs: Tarigami

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 13:

"You can erase our hearts, but how will you erase the memory of the July 13 martyrs?" asked MY Tarigami, CPI(M) leader and MLA from Kulgam, as he questioned the administration over restrictions on paying respects at the Martyrs' Graveyard in Srinagar.

Tarigami was placed under house arrest on Sunday, with his gates locked to prevent him from stepping out on the occasion of Martyrs' Day.

"13th July is an integral part of J&K's history. This date has been etched into our memory because of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the prosperity of democracy in Jammu

and Kashmir, for self-determination, and for a new beginning," he said.

He added that no matter what today's political parties claim, the reality remains that July 13 marks a historic movement—from Kashmir to Jammu—against meaninglessness, aristocracy, and authoritarianism. "It is a part of our identity. It cannot be erased."

Referring to the abrogation of Article 370, Tarigami said, "August 5, 2019, was a big event, a major assault on our identity. And this identity is linked to July 13. I don't see it separately. That's why we don't accept that deal, that assault. History will judge, and we hope that people will get an opportunity

again." Targeting those questioning the significance of the day, he said, "Some are now even uncomfortable with the names of the martyrs. If someone benefits from this erasure, it is their loss too. On behalf of CPI-M and the larger community, I repeat: this day is part of who we are."

Tarigami added that even writers like Prem Nath Bazaz have documented the importance of this day. "Such sacrifices have rarely been seen in any movement. Yes, mistakes have happened in history, and correction is needed. But July 13 was a clear message to the rulers of that time, who followed the path of Tana Shahi (autocracy), Jagirdari

(feudalism), and Sahukari (moneylending exploitation)."

"Ask the people of Jammu—didn't July 13 bring reforms? Ask the Dalits, the Kashkars (tilers). Didn't they get land? Didn't they get the right to education and means of livelihood? This day belongs to all of us."

CPI(M) leader added that whether or not the government announces a holiday, the day will remain alive in the hearts of the people. "The history of rulers may differ, but the history of the people is different. This day is in our hearts. You can erase our hearts, but how will you erase this memory? That is my question to the rulers," he said.

Vishal Sharma (Insane Comic) leaves Jammu in splits at the Chatter Box's power-packed comedy evening

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Laughter echoed through the walls of Chatter Box on the evening of July 13th as Vishal Sharma, popularly known as Insane Comic, delivered a sensational stand-up performance in his Jammu debut. The event, hosted by The Chatter Box, lived up to its promise of presenting fresh, high-quality entertainment and drew a packed house of enthusiastic comedy lovers from across the city.

Vishal Sharma, a fast-rising name in the Indian stand-up comedy scene with over 170,000 followers, charmed the audience with his clean humour, relatable content, and hilarious storytelling in the Kangri dialect. With over 75 shows to his credit and recognition from the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh for promoting regional comedy, Vishal's performance marked a major milestone in Jammu's live entertainment scene.

Warming up the stage were two local performers



viz. Amit Singh Andotra, also known as Comedian Chui, and Atul Sharma, who both won hearts with their short yet impactful sets. Amit, a young artist from Kathua, has appeared on platforms like Sony TV's "India's Laughter Champion" and brings a strong presence from regional cinema and digital comedy. Atul, a stand-up comic and copywriter, brought relatable humour from everyday life and added depth with his sharp observations.

The show was conceptualised by Shivam

Singh (Founder) and Meenakshi Bhagat (Co-Founder) of Chatter Box, who continue to pioneer live entertainment experiences in Jammu. The event management and coordination were ably handled by Roheet Verma, Amit Singh Andotra, Disha Bhagat, and Anadi Sharma, ensuring a seamless experience for the audience and performers alike.

Held at the centrally located Chatter Box venue, the show saw a tremendous response, with tickets sold out in advance

via BookMyShow. The laughter-filled evening not only highlighted the rising demand for stand-up comedy in Jammu but also celebrated the growing talent from the region.

Speaking on the occasion, Shivam Singh said, "Our vision with Chatter Box is to create a space where regional and national artists come together to build a thriving cultural community. The audience's overwhelming response shows that Jammu is ready for more such evenings."

Grand free medical camp organized at Baba Jitto Devsthan, Jhiri

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Dedicated to the promotion of Sanskrit culture and social service, Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust, Raipur (Thather), Jammu organized a one-day free medical camp at the historic Shri Baba Jitto Devsthan in the Jhiri temple complex, falling under the Marh Assembly constituency, as part of its "Sanskrit Month" celebrations. A total of 355 patients availed of health consultations, diagnostic services, and free distribution of medicines at the camp. Additionally, Ayurvedic plants were distributed, conveying a strong message of environmental protection.

The camp was inaugurated by BJP's dynamic orator and MLA of Jammu North, Shri Sham Lal Sharma. Special guests present on the occasion included Mahant Shri Jagdish Mehta Ji of the temple, Trust President Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji, and a large gathering of local residents, social workers, and devotees.

MLA Shri Sham Lal Sharma praised the Trust's spirit of service, stating that Shri Kailakh Trust is playing a leading role not



only in the propagation of Devvani Sanskrit but also in social welfare. "Sanskrit is the soul of our culture," he said, "and under the leadership of Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji, the Trust is committed to the welfare of Sanskrit, culture, and society." He further emphasized that public health is a fundamental need, and such medical camps help make society physically, mentally, and intellectually aware and empowered. "Every person deserves good health, and public awareness is essential for that. The Trust is doing commendable work in this direction."

Mahant Jagdish Mehta also commended the Trust, stating that in rural

areas—where many people are deprived of healthcare due to lack of resources—such free camps prove extremely beneficial. "This is true service to humanity," he said. He added that the work the Trust is doing to bring the divine language Sanskrit to every village is admirable. "Young Sanskrit-sevaks like Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji are truly worthy of praise," he said.

The free camp featured a team of experienced doctors who conducted medical checkups and provided proper advice and medicines free of charge. The attending physicians included Dr. Vishav Gupta, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Dr. Vinod Khajuria, and Dr. Vidyupt Gupta—all of

whom participated in the camp with a spirit of service and benefitted the rural populace.

At the conclusion of the camp, medicinal and Ayurvedic plants were distributed, reinforcing awareness about environmental protection. By combining the themes of Sanskrit and environmental preservation, Shri Kailakh Trust presented an inspiring example.

Many distinguished persons from various sections of society were also present at the event, including Rakesh Singh, Mannu Mehta, Bhuvanesh Mehta, Yogesh Mehta, Dil Bahadur Singh, former Sarpanch Sham Lal, former Sarpanch Dhanatar Singh, former Sarpanch Prem Chib, Hardatt Mehta, Pramod Sharma, Bhushan Singh, Sunil Singh Raipuria, Lucky Sharma, Kuldeep Singh, among others.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji, who expressed gratitude to all dignitaries, doctors, police officers, social workers, and the dedicated members of the Trust. He reaffirmed that the Trust will continue to spread the holy trinity of service, Sanskrit, and culture to every individual in the times to come.

ABRSM holds monthly meeting and district body expansion in Jammu



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

The monthly meeting of Akhil Bharatiya Rashtriya Shaikshik Mahasangh (ABRSM), Jammu District, was held today under the presidency of Sh. Pawan Sharma, District President, and in the esteemed presence of State President Sh. Rattan Sharma ji.

The meeting marked the

extension of the District Body, with new responsibilities assigned to: Tarsem Lal, Ram Rattan Bali, and Satishta Devi as Vice Presidents, Bali Ram as Additional Secretary, Ajay Kumar as Media Prabhari, Narotam Sharma as Seh Media Prabhari, and Tarsem Kumar as District Executive Member.

The Zonal Body of Bhalwal Zone was also formed, with Sh. Jeeva Kant as San-

yojak, Sh. Ajay Kumar as Sah Sanyojak, and Smt. Nirmal Sharma as Mahila Karyakarta.

Several prominent dignitaries graced the occasion, including Sh. Rahul Sharma (UT Joint Additional Secretary), Sh. Rakesh Sharma State Executive member, Sh. Ved Parkash, District General Secretary, Sh. Ravinder Singh Sr.vice President, Sh. Kuldeep Kumar Zonal

President Jourian, Sh. Ashwani Kumar Zonal President Khour, Sh. Tirth Ram, Sh. Shinda Kumar, Mrs. Poonam Lala, Mrs. Anjana Sharma, Sh. Charanjeet Singh, and others.

The programme featured devotional renditions, felicitations of senior educators, and inspiring addresses on the role of teachers in societal transformation.

Indian Army joins Peer Sakhi Sarwar Mela

JNEWS SERVICE
POONCH, 13 JUL 2025

In a significant gesture of communal harmony and people's connect, the Indian Army proudly participated in the Peer Sakhi Sarwar Mela held at Sakhi Peer Maidan—a revered shrine and cultural hub in the region. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from locals, civil authorities and security forces, reaffirming the spirit of unity and mutual respect. The Indian Army's presence at the mela not



only showcased its commitment to maintaining peace and security in the region but also reflected its deep-rooted connection with the people of Mendhar. Soldiers interacted warmly with devo-

tees and ensured a safe and peaceful environment throughout the celebrations. The mela, dedicated to Peer Sakhi Sarwar—a symbol of brotherhood and spirituality—served as a platform to foster

communal harmony, celebrate cultural heritage, and promote goodwill among diverse communities. Local residents appreciated the Indian Army's proactive involvement and their efforts to build trust and cooperation at the grassroots level. The Indian Army remains steadfast in its mission of "Awam aur Fauj - Saath Saath", continuing to support and engage with the people in preserving the rich cultural fabric and ensuring lasting peace in the region.

Sat Sharma asks BJP cadre to strengthen Booth structure in Jammu Border meet

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SUCHETGARH, JAMMU, JULY 13

J&K BJP President Sat Sharma addressed a meeting of District Jammu Border at Sunderpur under the Suchetgarh Assembly Constituency.

MLA Suchetgarh Prof. Gharu Ram, BJP Treasurer Prabhakar Singh, District Prabhakar Rajinder Singh Chib, District President Rinku Choudhary, Mandal Presidents Mittal Choudhary, Devi Ditta, Parveen Choudhary, Ex-Chairman Arnia Ramesh Saini, Rakesh Pant, and several senior party activists from the area participated in the meeting.

In his address, Sat



Sharma emphasized the importance of intensifying grassroots organizational efforts, especially at the booth level. He highlighted the vital role played by BLA1 and BLA2 in ensuring the party's electoral success. "The Booth Level Agents are the backbone of our electoral structure. Their responsi-

bility in maintaining accurate voter rolls, including additions, deletions, and corrections are critical to our booth management strategy," he stated. He asked the cadre to gear up and ensure effective coordination for the BLA2 nomination process.

Sharma further asked the entire party cadre to

bolster BJP's presence at the grassroots and prepare the organization for the upcoming electoral challenges.

Prof. Gharu Ram lauded the BJP's commitment to inclusive development and underscored the need for unity and discipline within the ranks. "Our strength lies in our

ground-level workers. It is they who connect the party to the people, and we must continue to empower and support them," he remarked.

Prabhakar Singh called for better coordination between the party leaders and the ground level workers to streamline organizational functioning.

Rinku Choudhary, while welcoming the leaders and workers, pledged to expand the party's footprint across all mandals under the Jammu Border District. "We are committed to strengthening every booth and connecting with every voter. Our team is working relentlessly to achieve this," he assured.

Natrang stages hilarious Hindi play 'Tauba-Tauba' under Sunday theatre series

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Natrang presented Hindi play 'Tauba-Tauba' here today under Natrang's weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre'. The play has been written by Rajinder Kumar Sharma and directed by Neeraj Kant. Coated with humor, the play presented some debatable issues which are faced by many theatre groups because of lack of commitment of a few artists which spoil the whole performance. But still it was more inclined towards comedy than being didactic.

The play opens at the home of one 'Anokhe Lal' who has converted it as rehearsal space as he is the director of the play which is scheduled to be staged within a few days. The drama erupts as the play proceeds as it appears that no one is serious in doing rehearsal other than the director. The artists who used to plead for a single entry in the play have turned pricy now and come up with different excuses to skip rehearsals. At the top of it, the newly appointed servant adds to the confusion as he comes up with a new problem every time he enters the room. 'Anokhe Lal' was very much wor-

ried about the performance of the play as nothing was going right, actors were forgetting the lines, people were coming late in the rehearsal and on the top of it, the tickets of the show have already been sold. The ultimate crisis occur when the director comes to know that the actor who was doing the role of father of hero is not doing the play as he has to go out of station for some personal work. Shattered by this untoward news, he decides to prepare his newly appointed servant to do the character of father in the play, who reluctantly agrees but real trouble erupts when the real father of 'Anokhe Lal' arrives to whom the servant introduced himself as the father of 'Anokhe Lal' on which both the servant and Anokhe Lal received a thorough beating from the real father.

Natrang actors who performed in the play included Aadesh Dhar, Adaksh Bagal, Kushal Bhat, Aryan Sharma, Vandana Thakur and Kartik Kumar. The lights of the play were executed by Kananpreet Kaur whereas the sound of the play was scored by Kartik Kumar. The presentations were done by Priyank Ashok Gupta and the show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

Pawan Sharma Condemns Glorification of Islamist Rioters as Martyrs

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 13 JULY 2025:

Senior leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu and Kashmir and former state secretary, Pawan Sharma, strongly condemned the attempts to distort historical facts and glorify aggressors and fundamentalists as martyrs on July 13, a date historically misrepresented by certain political figures. Sharma stated that "July 13 serves as a stark reminder of a dark chapter when communal violence was given a false narrative of martyrdom. The recent remarks by Omar Abdullah, equating Islamist rioters with freedom fighters, are not only highly condemnable but also an insult to the nation and its true freedom struggle."

He further added that such statements are part of a dangerous communal propaganda aimed at legitimizing violence and destabilizing peace in Jammu and Kashmir. "Equating rioters with freedom fighters is an attempt to rewrite history and sow discord in a region that has suffered for long," Sharma emphasized.



Recalling the events of the day, Sharma highlighted that innocent Kashmiri Hindus were subjected to atrocities, looting, and communal hatred at the hands of religious fanatics. He pointed out that Abdul Qadeer, the figure often eulogized on this day, was not even a resident of Jammu and Kashmir. "He was an outsider, planted by the British to incite unrest and weaken the rule of Maharaja Hari Singh. He provoked and misled the local population under false pretenses," Sharma said.

He also accused Omar Abdullah of Glorifying Perpetrators of Hindu Atrocities

"By glorifying those responsible for the atrocities committed against innocent Kashmiri Hindus, Omar Abdullah is exposing his true colours," Sharma said. "Honouring the butchers of Hindus as martyrs is not just histori-

cally inaccurate, it is morally reprehensible and an insult to the collective memory of the victims."

Sharma further stated that such remarks are not only divisive but also reveal a deliberate attempt to provoke communal sentiments and undermine social harmony in Jammu and Kashmir. "This kind of selective remembrance is a form of dangerous appeasement politics, and the nation must stand united against it," he added.

He reiterated that July 13 should be remembered as a day of pain for the Kashmiri Hindu community, who faced unspeakable horrors at the hands of fanatics. "Omar Abdullah must be held accountable for trying to repack communal violence as a freedom struggle. It is nothing short of historical betrayal," Sharma concluded.

Sharma urged all responsible leaders and citizens to recognize the truth and stand against any glorification of communal violence. He reaffirmed BJP's commitment to preserving the unity, peace, and cultural harmony of Jammu and Kashmir.

Devyani Rana pays obeisance at Shri Amarnath Ji Cave during Holy Shraavan Month

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Devyani Rana, Vice President of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha Jammu and Kashmir UT (J&K BJYM), undertook the sacred pilgrimage to the Shri Amarnath Ji shrine and paid obeisance at the holy cave. Her visit comes during the auspicious month of Shraavan, a period revered in the Hindu tradition as especially sacred for the worship of Lord Shiva.

Ms. Rana described the experience as deeply spiritual and profoundly humbling. "There are moments that remind us of who we are, where we come from, and what connects us as a people. This yatra is one such moment. To walk the path so many have walked in devotion, along with feeling the energy of prayer, is both grounding and uplifting," she said.

The month of Shraavan is marked by devotion, fasting, and prayers dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is traditionally during this sacred period that the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra draws lakhs of



pilgrims from all over the country, united in faith and purpose.

Ms. Rana lauded the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, administration, and security forces for their exceptional coordination and unwavering dedication to the safety, comfort, and well-being of

the pilgrims. "From various facilities to logistical support, every detail has been thoughtfully planned and executed." She noted.

As the yatra continues through the holy month, Ms. Rana urged devotees from across India to join the divine pilgrimage.

Selection trials for 9th Pencak Silat Federation Cup 2025

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 13

The Pencak Silat Association of J&K is conducting selection trials for the 9th Pencak Silat Federation Cup 2025 on July 29, 2025, at the Indoor Stadium Polo Ground, Srinagar.

The trials are open to junior boys and girls who aspire to represent their state/region in the prestigious tournament. Senior men and women athletes can also participate in the available weight categories and events.

The selection trials will be held on July 29, 2025 at Indoor Stadium Polo Ground, Srinagar

- Tanding (Match/Fighting) - Tunggal (Single-Player Artistic) - Ganda



(Two-Player Artistic Team) - Regu (Three-Player Artistic Team) - solo (single artistic) - Junior Boys and Girls: should bring their date of birth certificate along with them and 2 passport size photographs too.

Selected players will face the screening committee on 30th July 2025

accordingly. All the interested players will register their names through their concerned district association by or before 20th July 2025. No entry will be accepted after the deadline.

The selection trials will be held under the supervision of observers from J&K Sports Council itself.

ABVP protests outside CM residence: demand for removal of compulsory Urdu requirement in Naib Tehsildar recruitment

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Jammu-Kashmir staged a strong protest outside the Chief Minister's residence in Jammu, demanding the removal of the compulsory Urdu requirement in the Naib Tehsildar recruitment process.

The protest, led by ABVP members and Naib Tehsildar aspirants, was organized under the banner of "Basha Bachao Yatra" (Save Language Movement), aiming to ensure equal opportunities for all candidates regardless of their linguistic background.

ABVP contends that making Urdu compulsory for Naib Tehsildar recruitment is discriminatory and violates the Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Act 2020, which recognizes Dogri, Hindi, Kashmiri, Urdu, and English as official languages.

State Secretary of ABVP Jammu Kashmir Sannak



Shrivats said, "This is a final warning to the Omar Abdullah government on behalf of ABVP Jammu-Kashmir. All candidates deserve equal opportunities in the Naib Tehsildar recruitment process. Making Urdu compulsory is not only unjust but also a clear-cut discrimination that can impact the future of thousands of talented young individuals. ABVP Jammu-Kashmir, emphasized that the organization's fight is not against the Urdu language but against the discriminatory policy of Omar Abdullah Govt. that seeks to marginalize certain groups. He stated, "We are not against Urdu, but against the policy that ignores other

languages. We demand equal weightage for all five official languages - Dogri, Hindi, Kashmiri, Urdu, and English - in the recruitment process. Our fight is for merit-based selection, inclusivity, and fairness."

The protesters have vowed to continue their agitation until their demands are met and have urged the government to revisit the recruitment rules to ensure they are fair and inclusive for all candidates.

ABVP has committed to fighting for the rights of youth and will not tolerate any discriminatory policy. The protest highlights the importance of linguistic equality and the need for fair recruitment practices.

Indian Army's "forever in operations division mountain terrain bicycle expedition" concludes



JJ NEWS SERVICE
DRASS: 13 JUL 2025

The Indian Army's "Forever in Operations Division Mountain Terrain Bicycle Expedition", which commenced from the icy heights of Siachen Base Camp on 25 June 2025, successfully culminated on 12 July 2025 at the Kargil War Memorial in Dras. Covering an arduous 680 km through the unforgiving terrain of Ladakh, the

Expedition was a remarkable feat of endurance, grit and national pride.

The Team comprised 20 Indian Army Soldiers, who pedaled through the most challenging High Altitude Terrain in the world, braving harsh weather conditions and negotiating treacherous passes like Khardung La, Fotu La and Hambuting La. The Expedition not only symbolised physical resilience, but also served as a pow-



erful medium to connect with the local populace and youth.

As part of its outreach efforts, the Team connected with 1100 young students of 11 Government Schools in remote areas as well Students from Ladakh University. Engaging with young students, the Team highlighted the legacy of the Indian Army, the significance of the Kargil War and the immense sacrifices made by our soldiers while

protecting the sovereignty of our nation.

The Expedition members also interacted with NCC Cadets of 1st and 2nd Ladakh NCC Bn at Leh and Silmo emphasising the critical role which National Cadet Corps plays in shaping disciplined, confident and service oriented citizens. The Team Leader inspired the youth by sharing insights into various career avenues in the Indian Army and ways to

serve the nation with honesty, honour and dedication.

The journey witnessed overwhelming support and encouragement from Civilians and Army Units enroute, who welcomed the Team with cheers and refreshments.

This Expedition is a powerful testament to the Indian Army's unwavering spirit, while deepening its connection with the people of Ladakh.

Unelected nominees of New Delhi locked up elected representatives of people of J&K: Omar

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 13

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today alleged that he and the elected representatives have been "locked up" and termed it as the "tyranny of the unelected" in Jammu and Kashmir.

Omar, who was in Delhi, returned to Srinagar this evening and shared several pictures on X of a large deployment of police outside his Gupkar home. An armoured vehicle was also seen parked at the gate of his residence.

"To borrow from the late Arun Jaitley Sb - Democracy in J&K is a tyranny of the unelected. To put it in terms, you will all understand today the unelected nominees of New Delhi locked up the elected representatives of the people of J&K," Omar said on X.

"The unelected government locked up the elected government," he said in another post.

Sources said Omar was originally scheduled to arrive in Srinagar tomorrow, but following outrage over his absence on Martyrs' Day, he returned to the city this evening

instead.

Earlier in the day, several ministers, MLAs and top leaders of the ruling party and the Opposition were put under house arrest or detained by the J&K Lt Governor administration to prevent them from visiting the Martyrs' graveyard in old city to pay tributes to the 22 people, who were killed during a protest against the rule of Maharaja Hari Singh on July 13, 1931.

Authorities sealed all roads leading to the Martyrs' graveyard- also known as Mazar-e-Shohda- in the Nowhatta area, deploying heavy contingents of police and central armed forces in several sensitive areas of Srinagar to maintain order.

The Srinagar district administration had last evening denied permission to political parties to visit the graveyard, warning of strict legal action against those violating the order.

J&K Chief Minister this morning condemned the restrictions, calling it "blatantly undemocratic."

"In a blatantly undemocratic move, homes have been locked from the outside, police & central forces deployed as

jailers & major bridges in Srinagar blocked. All to stop people from visiting a historically important graveyard containing the graves of people who laid down their lives to give Kashmiris a voice & to empower them. I will never understand what the Law & Order government is so afraid of," Omar said in a post on X.

He was reacting to a post by the party's chief spokesman and MLA, Tanvir Sadiq, who said that leaders had been confined to their homes.

"Since last night, I like many of my colleagues, including the party leadership at Gupkar, the Advisor to the Chief Minister, and a majority of sitting MLAs have been locked inside my home. This is not just unfortunate; it is a deliberate attempt to suppress remembrance and deny us the right to honour the martyrs of July 13. Such actions are not only unnecessary they are unjustified, deeply insensitive, and reveal a troubling disregard for history," Sadiq said.

Omar further said that those who laid down their lives in 1931 were being wrongly vilified.

"13th July massacre is

our Jallianwala Bagh. The people who laid down their lives did so against the British. Kashmir was being ruled under the British Paramountcy. What a shame that true heroes who fought against British rule in all its forms are today projected as villains only because they were Muslims. We may be denied the opportunity to visit their graves today, but we will not forget their sacrifices," he added.

PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti also criticised the government's action.

"The day you accept our heroes as your own just as Kashmiris have embraced yours, from Mahatma Gandhi to Bhagat Singh that day, as Prime Minister Modi once said, the "dil ki doori" (distance of hearts) will truly end. When you lay siege to the Martyrs' Graveyard, lock people in their homes to prevent them from visiting Mazar-e-Shuhada, it speaks volumes. July 13th commemorates our martyrs, those who rose against tyranny, much like countless others across the country. They will always be our heroes," she said.

Several PDP leaders were also placed under

house arrest.

People's Conference president and Handwara MLA, Sajad Lone, said he too was detained at home and barred from offering tributes.

"This recurring act reflects a deliberate attempt to suppress democratic expression and silence voices of remembrance and dissent," he said.

Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari urged calm and peaceful remembrance after being prevented from holding a prayer meeting.

Hurriyat chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq said that while leaders may be jailed, placed under house arrest, or threatened, and graveyards of martyrs may be sealed, "they live in our hearts and in our memory and will continue to, generation after generation."

July 13 was earlier observed as a public holiday in Jammu and Kashmir but was removed from the official calendar by the Lieutenant Governor's administration, following the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019. Since then, political leaders have been barred from visiting the Martyrs' graveyard.

On "Martyrs day", J&K leaders put under house arrest, access to graveyard in old city blocked

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 13

Several leaders from Jammu and Kashmir, including members of the ruling National Conference, were placed under house arrest today to prevent them from visiting the Martyrs' Graveyard in Srinagar's old city.

The leaders had planned to pay tributes to the 22 people killed during a protest against the rule of Maharaja Hari Singh on July 13, 1931.

Authorities sealed all roads leading to the Martyrs' graveyard- also known as Mazar-e-Shohda- in the Nowhatta area, deploying heavy contingents of police and central armed forces in several sensitive areas of Srinagar to maintain order.

The Srinagar district administration had last evening denied permission to political parties to visit the graveyard, warning of strict legal action against those violating the order.

"The general public is hereby advised to strictly comply with these instructions and refrain

from violating the orders issued by District Administration. Any violation of these orders shall invite strict legal action under relevant provisions of law," the Srinagar police said last evening.

J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah condemned the restrictions, calling it "blatantly undemocratic."

"In a blatantly undemocratic move, homes have been locked from the outside, police & central forces deployed as jailers, & major bridges in Srinagar blocked. All to stop people from visiting a historically important graveyard containing the graves of people who laid down their lives to give Kashmiris a voice & to empower them. I will never understand what the Law & Order government is so afraid of," Omar said in a post on X.

He was reacting to a post by the party's Chief Spokesman and MLA, Tanvir Sadiq, who said that leaders had been confined to their homes.

"Since last night, I, like many of my colleagues, including the party leadership at Gupkar, the

Advisor to the Chief Minister, and a majority of sitting MLAs, have been locked inside my home.

This is not just unfortunate; it is a deliberate attempt to suppress remembrance and deny us the right to honour the martyrs of July 13. Such actions are not only unnecessary, but they are unjustified, deeply insensitive, and reveal a troubling disregard for history," Sadiq said.

Omar further said that those who laid down their lives in 1931 were being wrongly vilified.

"The 13th July massacre is our Jallianwala Bagh. The people who laid down their lives did so against the British. Kashmir was being ruled under the British Paramountcy. What a shame that true heroes who fought against British rule in all its forms are today projected as villains only because they were Muslims. We may be denied the opportunity to visit their graves today, but we will not forget their sacrifices," he said.

PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti also criticised the government's action.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

'LG brought light to...

then, no one has even asked about us. Today, someone finally understood our pain."

His words echoed with Fayaz Ahmed Sheikh from Sheeri Baramulla, who lost his 40-year-old father to a terror attack.

"He stepped out in the evening and was shot dead on the spot. No one knows what we have gone through since," he said. His family, including a 7-year-old sister, lived in helpless silence for years. "All we got was a promise from a 12-year-old government. The system made a joke out of our verification," he added bitterly.

Sheikh also made an earnest appeal to the Lieutenant Governor, "Just as ST and SC communities have reservations, please consider the same for the families of terror victims. Let our children know that their loved ones sacrificed for this nation and the nation stood by them."

He also requested the audience to remember the name of the man who finally made them feel heard. "Please remember the name of a great man who brought light to our darkest chapter—Manoj Sinha Ji."

Similarly, Irshad Ahmad from Vilgam in Kupwara spoke with heavy emotion about his brother, a Special Police Officer (SPO), who was abducted from his home by terrorists in August 2004 and later found dead in a nearby orchard. "They took him away in front of us, and we were helpless," Irshad said. "We searched all night. His body was found dumped the next morning. Until now, no one came to ask us what we lost. But today, LG Manoj Sinha heard us, gave us space to speak and delivered justice."

Another victim, Asha Begum, a grieving widow from Taratpora Handwara, shared that her husband was taken away by terrorists in 1994 and shot dead near their home. "I was left with four daughters, alone and devastated. For 30 years, no one looked for us, no one remembered we existed," she said with tears. "But now, I thank the LG from my heart. For the first time, someone heard our voice."

It is noteworthy that this outpouring of grief, gratitude, and long-suppressed truth comes as part of LG Manoj Sinha's ongoing initiative to provide jobs, financial support and social dignity to families who have suffered due to terrorism.

The administration has committed to addressing unregistered FIRs, restoring confiscated properties, and ensuring a structured rehabilitation process for every verified victim family—(KNO)

CS visits Baltal Base...

ambulances and essential medicines to meet the influx of Yatris.

The Chief Secretary also visited the Joint Police Control Room (JPCR) Baltal, on-spot registration counters, tent accommodations and Langar areas. He interacted with the pilgrims, service providers and Langar sevadars to get first-hand feedback on the facilities. The pilgrims expressed satisfaction with the arrangements and lauded the administration's proactive approach.

The Chief Secretary was accompanied by Secretary Science & Technology, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary; DG Rural Sanitation; SSP Ganderbal; ADC Ganderbal; Camp Director Baltal and other senior officers from the civil and police administration.

Amarnath Yatra: Fresh...

day, they said.

While 4,158 pilgrims are heading for Pahalgam base camp in a convoy of 148 vehicles, 2891 pilgrims on board 138 vehicles have preferred the Baltal route, the officials said.

The 38-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre high cave shrine started from the two routes on July 3 and is scheduled to end on August 9, coinciding with the Raksha Bandhan festival. Nearly 1.83 lakh pilgrims have so far visited the shrine, which houses a naturally formed Shivlingam.

DGP Prabhat becomes...

undertaking an exercise for de-radicalisation of such prisoners.

It said radicalisation can be typically dangerous in jails, as prisons are closed spaces where social isolation, group dynamics and lack of oversight can foster extreme points of view.

Prisoners can often become vulnerable to radical narratives owing to feelings of alienation, a tendency towards violent behaviour, or anti-social attitudes and in some cases, radicalised inmates may engage in acts of violence or orchestrate attacks against prison staff, fellow inmates, or even external targets, it said.

"Radicalisation in prisons is becoming an increasingly critical challenge in the global context and is often found to be a precursor to several criminal activities.

"It has, therefore, been felt that there is an urgent need to check and counter radicalisation of vulnerable individuals in prison settings and to undertake an exercise for de-radicalisation of such individuals as the same is considered crucial for preserving public order and ensuring internal security," the MHA said.

It is important to address the issue of radicalisation in prisons for reducing the risks of violent extremism, fostering rehabilitation, ensuring national security and supporting the successful reintegration of prisoners into society.

The MHA said in light of the growing concerns about the malady of radicalisation in prisons, it was sharing guidelines with all states/UTs to take note of and apply in their respective jurisdictions for addressing and countering the issue of radicalisation in prisons.

It said the states/UTs need to develop standardised screening tools for the identification of inmates. These tools can help in assessing the behavioural patterns, associations and ideology-based indicators of all prisoners admitted to prison institutions.

Individual risk assessments should be periodically conducted both at the time of entry of the prisoner and during his/her period of incarceration at periodic intervals.

For this, prison departments may coordinate with the law enforcement and intelligence agency units in the state/UT for identifying inmates who can pose a risk of radical influence to other inmates.

The MHA guidelines said high-risk inmates who are inclined towards propagating the ideology of radicalisation should be segregated from the general prison population to minimise the risk of indoctrination.

The states/ UTs may consider establishing an independent high security prison complex in their jurisdiction for housing hardened/ radicalised prisoners, terrorists etc. separately with a view to prevent them from influencing other inmates.

These inmates should be kept under enhanced surveillance using monitoring tools and intelligence mechanisms to detect and address potential threats and radical networks within the prison.

The MHA said promoting continued contact between inmates and their family members may contribute to their emotional stability and can act as a moderating influence. The states and UTs may, therefore, pay attention to this fact, it said. (Agencies)

Dr Jitendra invokes...

medical practitioners in the country.

Founded in 1928 during the 5th All India Medical Conference in Calcutta, IMA stands today as a formidable national force representing over 3.3 lakh doctors through 1,750+ local branches across 34 States and Union Territories. With its headquarters in Delhi, the IMA has remained at the forefront of shaping healthcare policy, strengthening medical ethics, and promoting public health awareness.

Dr. Jitendra Singh praised the visionaries who gave birth to the Association during politically turbulent times – legendary names such as Dr. B.C. Roy, Dr. M.A. Ansari, Sir Nil Ratan Sircar, and Col. Bhola Nath – noting that many among them also played active roles in India's freedom struggle.

"Their mission was clear – to promote advancement of medical sciences, improve public health, and uphold the dignity of the profession. That mission is more relevant today than ever before," Dr. Singh said.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, who is himself a noted Professor of Medicine and Diabetologist, offered deeply personal reflections on the changing face of medicine in India.

The Minister highlighted the shift from a time dominated by infectious diseases to a present-day dual burden of communicable as well as non-communicable diseases, creating both challenges and opportunities for Indian doctors and researchers.

"You name the disease – we have it in India. That's why global researchers increasingly look to India," he said.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also spoke about the paradox of India's demographic profile. "We are a young country with over 70% of the population under 42, yet at the same time, we are ageing rapidly. Life expectancy has increased from 50 years in the 1950s to over 70 years today. This shift calls for a new curriculum, a new mindset, and a new model of medical practice," he noted.

The Minister emphasized the urgent need for a holistic, integrated approach to healthcare, blending modern allopathic medicine with AYUSH systems and cutting-edge technological advancements.

He cited yoga as an effective tool in managing chronic diseases and called for dissolving silos between different systems of medicine, encouraging openness to integration rather than skepticism.

"The time for doubt is over. The world is moving toward integrative medicine – not out of sentiment, but out of necessity," Dr. Jitendra Singh said.

He highlighted India's growing leadership in medical science, citing the DNA vaccine, gene therapy trials, and the development of indigenous antibiotics like Nephthalomycin as recent breakthroughs. He also pointed to emerging biobanks and genome repositories as critical to future research.

"We are not catching up anymore. We are setting the pace," he remarked, urging young medical professionals to embrace this momentum.

Concluding his address, Dr. Singh called upon doctors to introspect and adapt, emphasizing the importance of "unlearning and relearning" in an era defined by rapid technological change – including AI-assisted surgery, robotic diagnostics, and telemedicine.

He also stressed the importance of bridging the public-private divide in healthcare delivery.

"It is time for whole-of-nation healthcare, powered by whole-of-medicine collaboration," he stated.

"Let us honor Dr. B.C. Roy not just by remembering him, but also by living the values he stood for – trust, competence, and integrity. The IMA, as one of the strongest pillars of India's healthcare system, must lead this transformation," Dr. Singh concluded.

The event witnessed the presence of prominent leaders from the medical community, including Dr. Dilip Bhanushali, National President of IMA; Dr. R.V.

Asokan, Former President; Dr. Anilkumar Nayak, President (Elect) along with several senior members of the fraternity from across the country.

The gathering was not just a celebration of the medical profession, but also a call to collective responsibility, renewal of ethical commitment, and shaping of a forward-looking vision for Indian healthcare.

New BrahMos testing...

Chandra Bhanu Gupta.

Gupta served as the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh for three terms.

Singh said, "Chandra Bhanu Gupta ji started as a simple worker in the freedom movement and made a place in the hearts of millions of people through his sacrifice, commitment and leadership. Chandra Bhanu Gupta's life tells us that power does not mean only position or authority, but responsibility, sacrifice and protecting the interests of the public.

"His life also gives us the message that there may be differences in politics but there should not be animosity," he said.

Singh also said that Gupta was more of a public servant than a leader. "He was not just the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh on multiple occasions, but he was among the leaders who emerged from the Indian freedom struggle," Singh said.

Singh, who is also the former UP CM, said, "Whenever we discuss the glorious past of Uttar Pradesh, the name of Chandra Bhanu Gupta ji is taken prominently. Today, when we are releasing this postage stamp, it is not only a tribute to the name of Chandra Bhanu Gupta ji, it is also a tribute to his high life values." "The administrative system that is working in the country and the state today, people like Chandra Bhanu Gupta ji have contributed a lot in laying its foundation," Singh said.

The defence minister also said while Gupta was the CM of a big state like Uttar Pradesh, his vision and agenda was never regional, always nationalistic.

"Chandra Bhanu ji was not in power for a very long (time). But in the short time he was in power, he gave priority to public welfare works. He was always known for his integrity." Singh said while Gupta did not agree with the 'Kamaraj Plan' he resigned from the CM post due to it. "You can imagine how an elected leader had to step down from the post due to the dislike of some people," Singh said.

In 1963 K Kamaraj (former Chief Minister of Madras) suggested to Nehru that senior Congress leaders should leave ministerial posts to take up organisational work.

This suggestion came to be known as the 'Kamaraj Plan', which was designed primarily to dispel the notion that Congressmen were attached to power, creating in its place a dedicated attachment to the objectives and policies of the organisation.

The plan was approved by the Congress Working Committee and was implemented within two months. Six chief ministers and six Union ministers resigned under the plan. Kamaraj was later elected president of the Indian National Congress on October 9, 1963. (Agencies)

Murder accused...

confirmed that the said person is required in case FIR No. 157/2025 U/S 103/191/BNS of said police station and accordingly the said person was handed over to team of Sadar Police Station Ludhiana.

Local public appreciated the swift action of Police Station Bagh-e-Bahu.

High Altitude Cardiac Risks among Amarnath Yatra Pilgrims: Tread cautions on the Sacred Trail: Dr Sushil

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Keeping in view ever increasing rush of the devotees enroute Amarnath Yatra which is known for its difficult and high altitude terrains, Head Department of Cardiology GMCH Jammu Dr Sushil Sharma held a day long cardiac awareness cum health check up camp at Shri Ram Mandir, Purani Mandi Jammu. The Temple serves a base camp for sadhus undertaking the Amarnath Yatra, where preparations and registration, are carried out before their departure. The camp aimed to provide awareness and education to Amarnath Yatra pilgrims and local residents about the potential cardiovascular risks associated with high altitude travel and to provide guidance on preventive measures. The camp aimed to ensure a safe and smooth pilgrimage for all.

While delivering lecture Dr Sushil stated that the annual Amarnath Yatra, a revered spiritual journey to the 3,888-meter-high holy Amarnath Cave in the Himalayas, draws thousands of pilgrims from across India and beyond. However, this challenging high-altitude trek is not without risks especially for



individuals with underlying cardiovascular conditions or those unaware of the physiological stress that high altitudes impose on the heart and lungs.

He elaborated that at elevations above 2,500 meters, the atmospheric oxygen level drops significantly. The body responds by increasing heart rate, blood pressure, and respiratory rate. For individuals with pre-existing coronary artery disease, hypertension, heart failure, or those with silent cardiac disease, this can precipitate serious complications including Myocardial infarction, Sudden cardiac death, High-altitude pulmonary edema (HAPE) and High altitude cerebral edema (HACE). Moreover, unacclimatized pilgrims are often exposed to abrupt altitude changes, strenuous physical exertion, low temperatures, and dehydration, all

of which amplify cardiovascular stress.

He maintained that considerable number of pilgrims may be asymptomatic cardiac patients, especially among the middle-aged and elderly population. Without prior cardiovascular screening, they may be unaware of blocked coronary arteries or poorly controlled hypertension. High altitude can unmask these conditions, leading to cardiac arrest or collapse en route. Recent reports have shown a noticeable increase in sudden deaths during the yatra, with cardiac causes accounting for the majority of these fatalities. Many of these deaths occur within the first few days of ascent when acclimatization is incomplete. Pilgrims should also be counseled about warning symptoms like Chest pain or discomfort, Shortness

of Breath, Dizziness or lightheadedness, fatigue and palpitations. He Advised people to follow the Strategies for a safe trip to high altitudes such as increasing altitude gradually so the body has time to adjust to lower levels of oxygen, drinking enough water and fluids to stay hydrated, adjusting medications to reduce the likelihood of cardiovascular events. Planning a gradual ascent and establishing emergency descent plans and awareness of the closest hospitals.

In concluding remarks Dr Sushil said that for individuals with hidden or known cardiac conditions, the pilgrimage may pose serious risk. The precautions and knowledge of Symptoms during high altitude travel are life savings. A collaborative approach involving pilgrims, healthcare providers, adminis-

trators, and policy-makers is essential to ensure that spiritual upliftment does not come at the cost of physical peril. Preventive cardiology must now walk alongside devotion on this sacred trail.

While wishing all pilgrims a glorious and enchanting Amarnath yatra Mahant Rameshwar Dass told that Amarnath Yatra is a sacred and life-changing experience for many and Pilgrims should follow the Guidelines and precautions as suggested by Dr Sushil Sharma.

Management Committee of the Shri Ram Mandir Mahant Shri Rameshwar Dass and Dr Satya Narayan appreciated the efforts of Dr Sushil and his team for conducting cardiac awareness cum health Check up camp for yatriss and local residents. Shri Kuldeep Raj Dubey (MLA Reasi) also grace the occasion.

Others who were part of this camp include Dr Venkatesh Yellupu and Dr Dishant Kambhol. Paramedics and volunteers include Kamal Sharma, Raghav Rajput, Ranjeet Singh, Gourav Sharma, Vikas Kumar, Rajinder Singh, Shubham Sharma, Mukesh Kumar, Makhan Sharma, Rahul Vaid, Rohit Nayyar, Anmol Singh and Nirvair Singh Bali.

When valor meets grace: A glorious salute to Colonel R.K. Sharma and His Wife

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU: 13 JUL 2025

On July 13, 2025, a grand felicitation ceremony was organized by the Bhoopurva Sainik Vikas Samiti (Ex-Servicemen Development Committee) at Shoorveer Nivas located in the Gadigarh area of Jammu city. The ceremony was held in honor of the valiant officer of the Indian Army, Colonel R.K. Sharma (Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra, Sena Medal), who displayed extraordinary bravery, discipline, and dedication during his military service.

The event was coordinated by Colonel Dev Anand Lohamror, National President of the Bhoopurva Sainik Vikas Samiti, while the chief guest of the event was none other than Colonel R.K. Sharma himself. Distinguished guests included Smt. Shashi Sharma (wife of Colonel Sharma), former MLA Shri Ashwani Sharma, and former Mayor Shri Rajendra Sharma. A large number of ex-servicemen, local citizens, social workers, and youth participated in the program.

The ceremony commenced with a warm welcome and felicitation of Colonel R.K. Sharma. This was followed by the launch of a book titled "Shoorveer", based on the military journey and tales of valor of Colonel Sharma. The book was also distributed among local citizens. A special and emotional moment in the event arrived when



Colonel Sharma's wife, Smt. Shashi Sharma, was invited on stage and honored with the Veerangana Samman (Gallant Woman Award). The audience was deeply moved by this gesture.

Shashi Sharma was honored for her years of sacrifice, patience, and the silent yet crucial role she played in her husband's military life.

In his address, Colonel Dev Anand Lohamror stated, "When a soldier displays courage on the border, it is backed by the sacrifice and support of his wife. When the nation salutes the soldier, it must not forget that a Veerangana has also surrendered everything behind the scenes." He strongly emphasized that even after 75 years of independence, the country still lacks guaranteed government jobs or permanent financial support policies for Veeranganas, which is a matter of deep concern.

He highlighted that the Rajasthan Government passed a law in 2022 to offer government jobs to Veeranganas, and now there is an urgent need for the Jammu & Kashmir

Government, the Government of India, and other state governments to enact similar laws. He said, "This is not just a policy matter but a national duty to honor women who sacrifice their marital lives for the country."

Several public representatives and citizens also shared their views during the event. Prominent speakers included Sarpanch Shri Shamsheer Singh, former MLA Kulwant Singh Bhatti, former MLA Ashwani Sharma, former Mayor Rajendra Sharma, Dr. Mohit Sharma, Dr. Nav Balram, ADC Shri Tilak Shastri, Colonel Kiran Singh, Colonel Ravindra Sharma, and Shri Gurudev Singh, among others.

All speakers unanimously agreed that justice and legal rights for Veeranganas can no longer be delayed. The call raised by Colonel Dev Anand Lohamror truly reflects the sentiments of every soldier's family.

The event concluded with the National Anthem, where all attendees pledged to honor the brave sons and daughters of the nation.

NC pays Glowing Tributes to July 13 Martyrs

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) today paid glowing tributes to the valiant martyrs of July 13, 1931, in a solemn function held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu.

The event was chaired by Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu and witnessed the participation of Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, Ajay Sadhotra, Additional General Secretary JKNC and former Minister, Babu Rampaul former minister and Central Zone President and Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu and a large number of party workers who gathered to remember the supreme sacrifices made in the struggle for justice and democracy.

At the beginning of the programme, the senior NC leaders strongly condemned the undemocratic move of the LG-led administration for forcibly place the democratically elected government's leadership in Kashmir Valley under house arrest. They denounced this as a blatant and arbitrary infringement on fundamental rights. They asserted that the LG Administration is intentionally disrupting the peaceful atmosphere



in Jammu and Kashmir, warning that detaining people's representatives not only stifles democracy but also deepens alienation among citizens—an act that undermines both stability and trust in governance.

Addressing the gathering, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary said that July 13 marks a pivotal moment in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, symbolizing the people's collective yearning for democracy, social justice, and equality. "The martyrs of 1931 were not fighting against any religion or community. They were demanding their basic rights and dignity," he asserted.

He further stated, "If they admire Nathuram Godse, who killed Mahatma Gandhi, then what's wrong in remembering the martyrs of July 13 who sacrificed their lives for the rights of the people?"

Surinder Choudhary also highlighted that Maharaja Hari Singh had convened an official

inquiry—the Glancy Commission—into the killings, which underscores that those who fell were not criminals but victims of oppression and injustice.

The Deputy Chief Minister strongly criticized the BJP for attempting to distort history and target the July 13 martyrs. He said: "Instead of launching divisive campaigns, BJP should explain its silence on the deteriorating condition of the J&K's hotel industry, transport sector, industrial sector and other burning public issues in Jammu and Kashmir."

Remembering martyrs, the former minister and Additional General Secretary Ajay Sadhotra said that the best way of paying tributes to them was to strengthen democracy and secularism in Jammu and Kashmir, which showed the shining example of pluralistic ethos during the most testing times of the history.

Rattan Lal Gupta in his address, said that 1931 was the turning point for Sheikh Abdullah in his

political history.

"That was the time when the people galvanized around Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah who stood like a rock for Hindu, Muslim and Sikh unity. July 13, 1931 was a crucial moment in the life of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Abdullah as well as for the people of J&K State, symbolizing a shift from passivity to action. The day represented a struggle between the oppressed and the oppressors, a fight for freedom.

On this day, the dying martyrs had expressed to Sher e-Kashmir that they had fulfilled their duty and it was now his responsibility to move forward," he said, adding that this cherished slogan of the towering leader has been the guiding force for National Conference which it has been pursuing with a sense of commitment.

Babu Rampaul, former minister and Sheikh Bashir Ahmad Provincial Secretary asserted that National Conference under the stewardship of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, is relentlessly fighting for the restoration of the fundamental rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The party firmly believes in upholding the principles of democracy and ensuring that every citizen

enjoys the freedoms and liberties enshrined in the Constitution, they said.

Two minutes silence was observed in memory of the Martyrs of 1931.

Among those who were present included Bimla Luthra former MLA, Pardeep Bali, Ayub Malik Provincial Secretaries Jammu, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Abdul Gani Teli Chairman OBC, S. Tejinder Singh Provincial President Jammu YNC, Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Chander Mohan Sharma District President Jammu Urban, Abid Magrey District President Ramban, Harshvardhan Singh President NCSU, Rita Gupta, Dilshad Malik Vice Presidents Central Zone, Master Aslam Secretary Central Zone, Waris Gill, S. Gurnam Singh Block President Jammu West, Ashwani Charak Block President Jammu East, Pinky Khalsa District President Jammu Urban Women Wing, Ramesh Kumar District President Jammu Urban SC cell, Akash Kharka, Sapna Gill Block President Jammu East Women Wing, Jatinder Bhat, Veer Ji Bhat, Zamir Quershi, Ch. Razak, Robin Kumar, Gorav Bhagat, Deep Mehra, Sahil Chib, Pooja Jaggi, Mohsim, Devi Dyal Jogi, S. Pirthpal Singh, Raja Naveed, Amit Sharma and others.

Panjvaktar Mahadev Mandir to Celebrate Sawan Mahotsav 2025 with Weekly Bhajan Sandhyas



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Marking the auspicious month of Sawan, the ancient Panjvaktar Mahadev Mandir is all set to revive a cherished spiritual tradition through Sawan Mahotsav 2025, which will feature a series of Bhajan Sandhyas every Monday throughout the month.

This was announced during a press conference held at the temple premises earlier today.

Commencing from 14th July 2025, these sacred gatherings aim to restore the temple precincts as a vibrant hub for devotional music and classical dance. The Mahotsav stands out as the only festival of its kind in the "City of Temples."

The press conference was graced by several distinguished personalities and cultural contributors, including Suresh Kumar Sharma, Retired Sessions Judge and Receiver, Panjvaktar Mahadev Mandir; noted singers and musicians Ashutosh Sharma and Pankaj Pradhan; Sanjay Tickoo, Retired Senior Architect; Deepak

Kumar, Founder and Director Rangyug; Anil Gupta, Ashish Sharma, and a large number of prominent devotees and cultural patrons from Jammu.

As part of this cultural and spiritual revival, renowned national artists will perform soulful bhajans rooted in Indian classical music traditions. The evenings will also feature graceful Kathak dance performances by Dr. Priya Dutta and her disciples from the esteemed Nrityanjali Academy.

To further enhance the spiritual experience, Vidarthi (students) of the Panjvaktar Mahadev Ved Pathshala will recite sacred Vedic chants. These devotional evenings will be enriched by the musical brilliance of eminent accompanists: S. Amarjeet Singh (Violin), Sh. Parshotam Kumar Ji (Pakhawaj), Sh. Rakesh Anand (Flute), and Sh. Vinay Ji (Tabla), whose collective talent promises to create a mystical and immersive musical atmosphere.

The Panjvaktar Mahadev Mandir, one of Jammu's oldest and most

revered temples, holds immense historical and spiritual significance. It is believed to have been visited by spiritual luminaries Adi Shankaracharya and Guru Nanak Dev Ji, and remains a living testament to the region's devotional and cultural heritage. The temple continues to serve as a sacred space for cultural and spiritual revival.

Traditionally, the month of Sawan draws large gatherings of devotees and music lovers to the temple. This year also, Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma, along with the Mandir's Cultural Committee, extended a warm invitation to all residents of Jammu and devotees across the region to attend these spiritually enriching evenings.

"We urge the people of Jammu and devotees everywhere to join us in large numbers for these sacred Bhajan Sandhyas," stated Suresh Sharma. "Immerse yourself in the divine atmosphere, experience the revival of our glorious traditions, and be part of creating spiritually uplifting moments during this holy month."

Aryans BALLB Students shine in Punjabi University Patiala Results

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, 13 JULY

Law students of Aryans College of Law, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh, brought laurels to the college in the examinations conducted by Punjabi University, Patiala.

In BALLB, 7th semes-

ter examination, Himanshu bagged 1st position with 85.4%, Naresh Kumar bagged 2nd position with 73.2% respectively and Anmol Shahi bagged 3rd position with 71.6% marks.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group congratulated

the students and faculty for the hard work. He said that Aryans students are doing well not only in academics but in sports, innovations, cultural also. Such excellent results by the students add more name and fame to the College, added Kataria.

It is to be mentioned that Aryans was the only Law College in the region to be associated with Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) in the years 2019, 2020 and 2021. For the first time, Pearson VUE on behalf of Law School Admission Council

(LSAC) has made Aryans College of Law the Exam Centre for Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The score of the test is being used by famous law schools of America & Canada i.e. Harvard, Yale, Stanford University, British Columbia, Chicago etc.

EDITORIAL

Dialogue or defiance?

In a significant, albeit cautious, turn of events, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has extended a tentative proposal to hold talks with Ladakh's two main representative groups—the Leh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA)—on July 20. The move, if formalized with an official agenda and invitation, could be a critical moment for holding dialogue on two contentious demands of statehood and constitutional safeguards under the Sixth Schedule for the region. The MHA's outreach comes amid rising tension, deepening public discontent, and growing confusion within Ladakh's leadership. The proposal has led to the postponement of the highly publicized 35-day fast announced by climate activist and newly inducted LAB member Sonam Wangchuk. The fast, initially slated to begin on July 15, was intended as a symbolic act of civil resistance to spotlight Ladakh's political marginalization post-2019. Yet, despite the Centre's overture, uncertainty looms large. LAB co-chairman Chering Dorjay Lakrook has confirmed receipt of the meeting proposal but insists that only a clearly defined agenda—explicitly addressing demands for Statehood and the Sixth Schedule—will give substance to the engagement. His guarded response captures the prevailing sentiment across Ladakh: wary optimism cloaked in decades of unmet promises. The previous meeting between MHA officials and Ladakhi leadership on May 27 led to some progress on technical issues like domicile and reservation, paving the way for UPSC-based recruitment. However, the core political aspirations of the people—Statehood and Sixth Schedule protections—remained unaddressed. Now, with the July 20 meeting potentially on the horizon, the region stands at a critical crossroads. But internal discord, growing factionalism, and unclear strategy within the Ladakhi leadership threaten to undercut what could be a defining moment. There is still no collective clarity on the next course of action should the Centre sidestep the main demands. Will the LAB and KDA resort to agitation if the talks lack substance? Or will they accept another round of bureaucratic diplomacy in the hope of incremental gains? It is precisely this ambiguity that the Centre may seek to exploit—keeping the leadership engaged while delaying meaningful resolution. The Centre's tactic of offering dialogue without formalizing its content is not new. The delay in issuing an official invite and defined agenda is emblematic of this approach. For Ladakh's leaders, this is a moment that demands unity, clarity, and firmness. The stakes are too high for half-measures or internal bickering. Sonam Wangchuk's call for a non-violent movement has found resonance among large sections of the population, especially the youth. If the Centre's offer proves hollow, the leadership must be ready with a well-planned, democratic, and united response. The people of Ladakh have waited long for their rightful place in India's constitutional framework. Whether the July 20 meeting becomes a breakthrough or just another stalling tactic depends not only on what the Centre brings to the table—but on whether Ladakh's leaders have the cohesion and courage to rise above confusion and act decisively in the people's interest.

From AI to apocalypse: Why the real crisis isn't in space, but on Earth

PRAHLAD SINGH ADHIKARI

As inequalities deepen and ecosystems unravel, the call to build a sustainable, resilient future grows more urgent. India, among other nations, is waking up to this reality—but time is fast running out. The decisive decade is here and now.

In an age marked by spectacular developments in Artificial Intelligence, space technologies, and quantum computing, humanity stands at a paradox. While we have gained tremendous success in exploring outer space with the resounding success of AXIOM4, our planet burns, floods, and suffocates under the weight of disasters, many of which are a result of our own making. The challenge of our time is not just to advance but to endure—to ensure our civilisation remains livable, equitable, and sustainable.

This is not an environmental concern alone. It is a civilisational crisis. And we have no other option but to act now. The recent incidents of floods, cloud bursts, receding glaciers, pollution levels, forest fires, and availability of toxic materials in water and food items, besides microplastics, continue to remain a challenge for India and other countries. There is always a dilemma between growth, economic development and protection of the environment for policymakers and Government agencies. As long as we continue to determine the societal development based on the parameters of GDP, per capita consumption, etc, the issue of climate resilience and sustainability will continue to be ignored and not accorded the due priority.

The Global Wake-Up Call

In his foreword to this year's Global Assessment Report (GAR), UN Secretary-General António Guterres put his opening remarks as "Disasters are a defining feature of the 21st century." He further observes that "Storms, fires, floods, heatwaves, and droughts have become fiercer and more frequent,

exacting an ever-greater toll on communities and economies—from eroding sustainable development gains, to rendering entire regions uninsurable, and knocking chunks out of countries' GDP."

The GAR report 2025 estimates a staggering \$2.3 trillion in annual disaster-related losses when cascading ecosystem impacts are considered. The signal is loud and clear: climate resilience and sustainability are not peripheral—they must be central to the global agenda of development and growth.

Disasters: Natural, Yes. But Mostly Human-Made Disasters are no longer isolated incidents—they are a continuum. Take the wildfires in the U.S., which ravaged over 1,000 acres, or the record-breaking heatwave in Europe (June 2025), claiming 2,300 lives, of which 1,500 were directly linked to fossil-fuel-induced warming.

In Texas, four months' worth of rain fell in four hours just last week, from 4th to 7th July, flooding entire cities and killing over a hundred people, many of them children.

In the Global South, the picture is even bleaker. India, Bangladesh, and Nigeria faced devastating floods in 2024, displacing over 19 million people. Across East and Southern Africa, drought threatens the survival of more than 90 million people, pushing many toward starvation. Water scarcity, projected to grow by 40 per cent by 2030, is already disrupting agriculture, energy, and urban life.

While these may seem like "natural" disasters, they are fueled by human choices: deforestation, unplanned urbanisation, pollution, and the relentless pursuit of extractive growth and greed.

The Invisible Crisis: Pollution, Hunger and Health

Climatic variations are natural phenomena which we often refer to as nature's fury, but in reality, more than natural incidents, human actions have been pushing ecosystems and human civilisation to the brink of disaster.

Despite reasonable



health facilities at least in the Metro Cities, the following pointers to insidious silent killers:

Air pollution leads to 6.7 to 8.1 million deaths annually—more than malaria, HIV, and war combined.

Road accidents claim 1.18 million lives each year. Industrial pollution, food waste, plastic dumping, and groundwater depletion are accelerating ecological collapse.

Meanwhile, 800 million people go hungry while one-third of food is wasted.

When disaster strikes, who suffers the most? The poorest, the youngest, the disabled and the most marginalised.

The Human Cost: Unequal, Unjust, Unbearable Climate change acts as a force multiplier, worsening poverty, destabilising economies, and intensifying conflict.

Public health is under siege, with spikes in vector-borne diseases, heat strokes, and respiratory illnesses.

Mental health, especially among youth, is deteriorating—climate anxiety is now a recognised disorder.

Women and Indigenous communities face disproportionate risks, with fewer resources to adapt or recover.

Climate migration is turning borders into battlelines.

We are not all in the same boat—we are in the same storm, yes, but with vastly different vessels.

Wisdom from the Past

Ironically, the solutions we seek in futuristic technologies may lie in the traditional knowledge systems we have abandoned. For centuries, rural and Indigenous communities lived in harmony with nature through rainwater harvesting, seed-saving, agroforestry, and collective living. They practised what we now call circular economy and regenerative living, not as policy, but as culture.

In India, concepts like Mata Bhumi (Earth as Mother) and Aparigraha (non-hoarding) reflected ecological restraint and spiritual responsibility. These aren't nostalgic ideals—they are actionable frameworks for sustainability.

Modern education must not merely produce job-seekers but planet stewards. We must reintegrate ecological literacy with our learning models and treat local knowledge not as folklore but as strategic wisdom.

The Way Forward

To build a climate-resilient, sustainable future, we must anchor our actions around five core pillars:

Clean Energy Transition: Move away from fossil fuels and accelerate solar, wind, and green hydrogen adoption.

Circular Economy: Redesign systems to eliminate waste—from agricul-

ture to packaging.

Resilient Communities: Strengthen both urban and rural systems with green infrastructure and equitable resources.

Climate Justice: Ensure adaptation funds and resources reach the vulnerable and are not monopolised by the rich.

Education & Mindset Shift: Integrate climate consciousness, empathy, and intergenerational thinking into school and college curricula.

Global Cooperation: A Shared Imperative

India's G20 leadership and initiative for launching the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is commendable. So are initiatives by the UNEP's Global Adaptation Network, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the EU's GCCA+ program for Small Island Developing States.

The proposed World Summit on Disaster Management (WSDM) 2025, from 28-30 November at Dehradun, the gateway to the majestic Himalayas, also serves as a dynamic platform to connect research, policy, and real-world applications. Bringing together researchers, scientists, policymakers, practitioners, and industry leaders. Organised by Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology (UCOST), Govt of Uttarakhand, with an overarching theme of 'Strengthening International Coopera-

tion for Building Resilient Communities', this summit aims to address global challenges while fostering experiential learning, multi-stakeholder engagement, and the creation of innovative, scalable solutions for a resilient future.

Conclusion: The Decisive Decade

While cloudbursts, wildfires, and cyclones make headlines, the real disaster may be our inaction. Our ecosystems are overstretched. Our cities are overheating. Our people are losing faith. The coming decade is not just another phase—it is the decisive window. A turning point, or a tipping point.

We need to stop treating sustainability as a slogan and start living it as a survival strategy. It is desirable to move beyond rhetoric and towards regeneration. Let us remember that the planet does not need saving—we do. Humanity must choose: collapse or do a course correction.

The window is narrow, but the hope is wide—if we could act now.

Both national and international organisations have appreciated the need to act fast to address these concerns, but systemic follow-up and implementation need commitment and conviction beyond the narrow and short-term Goals. Mainstreaming climate resilience with every Government program/scheme can be a step for building a sustainable intervention framework.

Local Community involvement through identified initiatives, such as—collection of pine leaves in the forest by SHG women and their conversion to biomass fuel, can prevent forest fires and also generate employment opportunities for the local people.

There is a need to identify such micro-level initiatives, both at the village level and in urban colonies, to promote climate resilience and sustainability as an "Andolan" through mass and regular participation of all stakeholders.

(The writer is Secretary Himalayan Academy of Science & Technology. Views are personal)

The Promise and Challenge of Vertical Farming in India

HIMANSHU VERMA

Cultivating and growing crops or plants in vertically stacked layers and vertically inclined surfaces is known as vertical farming. The world is on the verge of a population explosion, and feeding everyone is the most pressing concern. Per capita land area has decreased due to population growth. In the past, agricultural scientists used their creative thinking to create hybrid or improved high-yielding varieties, better methods, better tools and implements, integrated practices in water, nutrient, insect, and pest management, greenhouse technology, and even genetically modified crops in an effort to feed the world's growing population.

These once—revolutionary initiatives now seem insufficient. The goal of vertical farming has entirely altered in the modern day, and it is now limited to using every

available square inch of land and space—rural or urban—to produce as much food as possible for the world's hungry. All around the world, it has now become a new farming technology. Vertical farming is taking over in India as well. With significant net returns, vertical farming is attracting a lot of entrepreneurs. Buildings, warehouses, roofs, and balconies are all suitable locations for vertical farming.

Advantages of vertical farming

1. The primary benefit of vertical farming is its ability to produce incredibly high yields per unit of available land or area.

2. Producing food year-round without being vulnerable to natural disasters such as floods, severe rains, irregular rainfall, hail, snowfall, drought, dry spells, very high temperatures, cold waves, pest and disease outbreaks, etc.

3. It lowers transportation costs for loads of food grains from rural to

urban regions and lessens the likelihood of spoiling. The amount of fossil fuels used to transport agricultural products from rural areas to urban areas has also decreased.

4. The consumption of water in vertical farming is 70-95 per cent lower than in conventional farming.

5. Because vertical farming requires 90 per cent less soil or none at all, insect and disease infestations are avoided.

6. Since no pesticides are used, food that is pesticide-free or organic is produced.

7. Customers receive fresh products with all of their natural nutritional characteristics since the food supply chain is shortened.

8. High production per unit area, meaning that vertical farming produces over 80 per cent greater yield per unit of area.

9. Urban areas will become greener, and it will help lower increasing temperatures and, most importantly, air pollution



in cities.

Disadvantages of vertical farming

1. The main issue is the initial, exorbitant expense of setting up the vertical farming system. It will cover the cost of building the buildings as well as their automation, such as weather control, programmable LED lighting, automated racking and stacking, remote control and software, computerised and monitoring systems, etc.

2. High energy costs since artificial lighting is used only for plant growth.

3. If not managed, the extra nutrients employed

in vertical farming might disrupt and damage the primary metropolitan water supply.

4. Even a tiny amount of heat from LED lighting systems can make it difficult to control temperatures, particularly during the summer, and can overload air conditioning systems, which will result in higher energy costs.

5. With vertical farming, a lot of trash, plant waste, etc., will be produced surrounding the structures, which must be disposed of appropriately.

6. At first, a skilled workforce will be lacking and will require training.

Feasibility of vertical farming

India is among the top producers of fruits, vegetables, and a wide range of other agricultural products. Vertical farming has been adopted in India. Experts at ICAR are developing the idea of "vertical farming" under soilless settings, which would allow food crops

to be grown without the need for soil or pesticides, even on multi-story buildings in cities like Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, and New Delhi. Researchers at Nadia's Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya have already made some progress on hydroponically vertical farming on a modest scale. Vertical farming has been used on a small scale in Punjab and Nadia, West Bengal.

In Nadia, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya has had some success cultivating tomatoes and brinjal. Punjab has also been successful in using vertical gardening to produce potato tubers. An Indian

design-in-tech firm called Idea Farms produces vertical farms, which are popular because their food is organic, of excellent quality, and their supply is reliable.

Greenopia, a firm located in Bangalore, sells packages that include the appropriate seeds, enhanced soil, and smart self-watering containers. The sensor-embedded pots alert you when you need to add more water from outside sources and replace soil moisture as needed. U-Farm Technologies, a start-up company located in Mumbai, is customising modular farms for supermarkets or individual residential complexes, utilising the hydroponic growing technology. India is seeing an increasing number of vertical farming start-ups.

Critical issues in Indian farming, such as an excess or shortage of agricultural products, excessive use of fertilisers and pesticides, degraded soils, and even unemployment, may

undoubtedly be resolved by vertical farming.

However, there are obstacles, such as the Indian farming community's reluctance to embrace vertical farming. Indian farmers are dealing with a number of issues, such as water shortage, lack of electrical supply throughout the day, guaranteeing minimum support prices, and little control over market surplus.

A significant obstacle to the adoption of vertical farming in India is the initial, exorbitant cost of infrastructure for a large-scale farm. Other issues facing vertical farming in India include public awareness, the agricultural community's inclusivity, technical know-how, the expense of maintaining and administering the systems, and the industry's economic sustainability.

(The writer is Assistant Professor Agronomy, Surajmal University, Udhampur, Jammu. Views are personal)

Sonia calls meeting to finalise strategy for Monsoon Session

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 13

Congress parliamentary party leader Sonia Gandhi will chair a key meeting on Tuesday to finalise the party's strategy for the upcoming Monsoon session of Parliament which is expected to witness confrontations between the opposition and the government on a host of issues.

Opposition parties are expected to raise strong concerns over the Election Commission's move to carry out a Special Inten-

sive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.

Also, the Congress has been demanding a discussion on the Pahalgam attack, Operation Sindoor as well as the diplomatic outreach following that.

The Congress' parliamentary strategy group meeting is expected to be attended by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, among others. It will be chaired by Sonia Gandhi at her 10, Janpath residence, party

sources said.

The government has announced that the Monsoon session of Parliament will begin on July 21 and continue till August 21, a week longer than planned earlier, signalling a heavy legislative agenda.

Earlier, the session was to conclude on August 12, but now it has been extended by a week.

The longer duration of the session comes amid the government's plans to bring in key legislations, including one to facilitate the entry of the private

sector in the atomic energy domain.

The government is planning to amend the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act and the Atomic Energy Act to implement the announcement in the Union Budget to open up the nuclear sector for private players.

The opposition has been demanding a debate on Operation Sindoor – the strike on terror sites in Pakistan by the Indian armed forces in response to the terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22.

Zardari to continue as President: Pak PM

AGENCIES
ISLAMABAD, JULY 13

Strongly dismissing rumours that Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari may be forced to step down and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Asim Munir aspired to assume the presidency, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said such claims were "mere speculations".

"Field Marshal Asim Munir has never expressed any desire to become the president, nor is there any such plan in the offing," Sharif said on Friday.

Sharif said Zardari, Munir, and he shared

a relationship built on mutual respect and a common goal – the progress and prosperity of Pakistan.

The clarification comes after Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, in a statement on X on Thursday, denounced the "malicious campaign" targeting Zardari, Sharif and Munir.

"We are fully aware of who is behind the malicious campaign," said Naqvi, who is considered close to the top military leadership.

"I have categorically stated there has been no discussion, nor does any such idea exist, about the

president being asked to resign or the COAS aspiring to assume the presidency," he added.

Naqvi alleged the involvement of hostile foreign elements in the campaign and said: "To those involved in this narrative, do whatever you wish in collaboration with hostile foreign agencies. As for us, we will do whatever is necessary to make Pakistan strong again, InshAllah."


Munir was elevated to the post of army chief in 2022 for a three-year tenure, but last year the government increased the term to five years.

The government can also extend it by another term.

Zardari was elected last year as president for a five-year tenure as a quid pro quo for supporting Sharif's candidacy for the post of prime minister.

Both Zardari and his son Bilawal Bhutto Zardari have maintained good working relations with the establishment.

Bilawal was asked to head the delegation that visited various world capitals to explain the circumstances of the recent India-Pakistan conflict, which, observers said, showed the trust he enjoyed in the power circles.


GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR(UT)
OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR, PANCHARI
e-mail:- tehsilpanchari@gmail.com

Public Notice

Whereas, Government of J&K, Revenue Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar vide Order No. 100-JK(Rev) of 2024 dated 02.08.2024, regarding conferment of ownership rights to the displaced persons of 1965 in respect of State land;

Whereas, the broad guidelines relating to the grant of proprietary rights to the DPs of 1965 shall be as under:

1. An application shall be made by the eligible persons classified as the Displaced Persons of 1965, before the Tehsildar concerned, duly supported with the following documents:

- The document showing that the land is duly allotted to the DPs and they or their legal heirs have been continuously holding the land from the date of allotment to this date and that the entries to that effect have been duly recorded in the relevant revenue record;
- The document showing that the land allotted to the DPs has been under their or their legal heirs personal cultivation from the date of allotment to this date and that the entries to that effect have been recorded in the relevant revenue record;
- In case, the original Displaced Person in whose favour the proprietary rights are to be granted has expired, the same shall be transferred as per the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 read with the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005/ Muslim Personal Law/ Other inheritance laws as applicable to all the legal heirs of the deceased Displaced Person;
- Affidavit from the eligible displaced Persons (Allottees) that the application has been made by the original Displaced Persons/ all his legal heirs, as per the applicable inheritance laws and no legal heir has been omitted and the said person (s) has/ have not encroached any State land/ Kahcharia land /Govt land.

- The land ceilings mentioned in the Cabinet Order No. 578-C of 1954 shall apply to all the cases taken up for consideration under this policy. However, there shall be no fresh allotment under any circumstances.
- The definition /composition of the family of the eligible persons, shall be the same as set out in Explanation to Para 2 in Cabinet Order No. 578-C of 1954;
- The proprietary rights on the land situated within the limits of the Municipal Corporation/ Committees shall not be conferred;
- Displaced Persons /legal heirs has not sublet the land or created third party interest therein or converted the land for any other use than the agriculture except for residential purposes/ agricultural allied activities as permitted under J&K Land Revenue Act 1196 Svt.
- The allottee or his legal heirs shall not be entitled to the ownership over the allotted State land in case such allotment has been obtained by him through fake/ forged documents or by suppressing the material facts;
- The Tehsildar shall received each case from the applicant, complete in all respects, properly diarize it and thereafter submit it, after full and proper enquiry and scrutiny, and with clear recommendations to the AC(R)/SDM;
- The Assistant Commissioner (Revenue) of the District concerned or SDM concerned, as the case may be, after the necessary examination/ due diligence under norms, and with the prior approval of the Deputy Commissioner (District Collector) , shall order the concerned Tehsildar to effect the mutation in favour of the applicant (Displaced Persons of 1965) as per the Standing Order 23-A;
- The Deputy Commissioner concerned shall submit the monthly progress report of these mutations to the Divisional Commissioner / Financial Commissioner, Revenue and shall ensure that Tehsildar /SDM/ ACR hold weekly camps in the village/ areas where Displaced Persons of 1965 are in possession of the land as per revenue records. The DC concerned shall further ensure that no eligible class of persons is left out of the instant policy framework;
- The Financial Commissioner Revenue, J&K shall issue further clarification / guidelines, if any, required for smooth implementation of this policy.

Keeping in view of the above, eligible beneficiaries of Tehsil Panchari are hereby informed to apply in the office of the undersigned within 15 days from the date of the publication of this notice.

Sd/-
TEHSILDAR
PANCHARI

No:-300/TP/OQ
Dated:- 11/07/2025
DIP/J-3391/25
Date: 12-7-25

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, REW POONCH TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 22 of REW POONCH 2025-26 Dated:-10-07-2025 2nd Call

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, the Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch, as his representative invites tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Union Territory Govt/CPWD/MES for the following work under:

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estt. Cost (Rs in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor	Position of Funds
1	Under UT Capex Budget								
1	Renovation Repair of Inspector Fisheries office Surankote Poonch Panchayat Surankote Lower Block Surankote Under UT Capex Budget Year 2025-26 2 nd call	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	3.00	200	6000	30 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 16-07-2025 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	DEE	Partially Available/ Demanded
2	Community Sanitary Complex at Moh. Main Wali W.No. 04 Salwah Lower Panchayat Salwah Lower Block Mendhar Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 nd call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
3	Community Sanitary Complex at Moh. Nali Daab W.No. 05 Salwah Lower Panchayat Salwah Lower Block Mendhar Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 nd call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
4	Community Sanitary Complex at Moh. Nizama Baad Salwah Lower Panchayat Salwah Lower Block Mendhar Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 nd call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
5	Community Sanitary Complex at Moh. Sohalna Thathiban W.No. 06 Panchayat Ari Mardanshah Block Mendhar Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 nd call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			
6	Community Sanitary Complex at Masjid Haidery at W.No. 03 Panchayat Dharana Lower Block Mendhar Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 nd call		3.00	200	6000	30 days			

NOTE: The Contractors registered with DDC, Poonch in reference to GOVT. Order No: 238-F of 2021, Dated 07-09-2021 can participate upto an amount of Rs 3.00 Lacs, in local Panchayat works.

- After opening of the tender if the rates quoted by the lowest bidder are found to be high & value of work is more than the advertised cost, he/she is advised to negotiate his/her quoted rates with the department / offer his/her consent within five days after opening of the tenders, failing which the work shall be put to fresh tender.
- In Pursuant to Finance Department of J&K Government order No. 238-F of 2021 Dated:- 07-09-2021 issued vide endorsement No. FD-Code/327/2021-22 Dated:- 07-09-2021. The Participation Rules shall be as under. The participation in the tendering process of works up to an amount of Rs. 3.00 Lakhs is restricted to resident of concerned Panchayat only in 1st Call, for subsequent call the bidders from adjoining Panchayats can participate too, after production of the residence proof certificate for local bidders or adjoining area certificate issued from Concerned BDO's as the case may be under his seal & signature with dispatch no. & date, and after 3rd call the participation is open to all for participation.
- Bid must be accompanied with cost of Tender Document in shape of Treasury Challan Debited to MH 0515 REW and earnest money in the shape of CDR @ 2% of the advertised cost in favour of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch failing which the tender will be rejected outrightly. The tender fee will be accepted only in the form of Treasury Voucher and No other mean will be accepted. It is mandatory to mention the name of work, e-NIT No on Treasury Challan. The date of the Earnest Money & Tender Fee must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission date) pledged to Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch.
- Successful bidder will submit 3% additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/ B.G. The total 5% will be released after completion of defect liability period of the work.
- As per Order issued by this office vide No. XEN/REW/P/4058-61 Dated:-21-02-2025. The Extra CDRs shall be released after successful completion of works.
- The lowest bidder shall have to provide the CDR/FDR/B.G. within weeks' time for the issuance of allotment failing which he/she will be recommended for black listing. The CDR issue date to be uploaded, shall not before the date of e-NIT and no other CDR shall be accepted as replacement, under rules.
- The successful bidder / Contractor who fails to start work within seven (07 Days) from the date of issuance of Allotment will be imposed a penalty of Rs 200 / Day starting from 8th day, deductible from the running/final bills of contractor.
- The tender receiving authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tender without assigning any reason there off.
- No tender document will be accepted displaying firm/company name without proprietor name against which the tender documents will be submitted.
- After opening of Financial Bid, within 05 days, if the successful Bidder doesn't approach with the CDR, the 2nd Lowest bidder, shall be approached for the negotiation and allotment of work at rates quoted by L1.
- The already defaulted contractors are not allowed to participate in any tendering work of REW Division Poonch.
- Subletting of allotted work is not allowed and will attract strict legal action, even cancellation of contract with imposition of costs and penalty etc, if any successful bidder is found involved in same at any stage.

NOTE: No PRI member shall be allowed to take part in Tendering process

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	10-07-2025.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 10-07-2025 to 15-07-2025,1855 Hrs
3	Bid submission Start Date	10-07-2025 from 1700 Hrs onwards
4	Bid Submission End Date	15-07-2025 up to 1855 Hrs
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) (in case of holiday, the bid shall be opened on next day)	16-07-2025 on or after 1000 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer REW, Poonch
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) (of only successful technical bidders)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
 - 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.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period.
 - In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

No:- XEN/REW/P/263-71
Dated:-10-07-2025

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Rural Engineering Wing
Poonch

DIP/J-3382/25
DATE: 12-7-25

M.K Ajatshatru Singh vigorously condemns Faisal Khan's misleading remarks on Maharaja Hari Singh

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

M.K. Ajatshatru Singh, former Minister and scion of the Dogra royal family, has strongly condemned the baseless and misleading statement made by Faisal Khan, also known as Khan Sir, a Patna-based educator, for his derogatory reference to Maharaja Hari Singh Ji.

In a press statement issued here today, M.K Ajatshatru Singh, grandson of Maharaja Hari Singh Ji, said it is deeply unfortunate and unacceptable that an educator of such a public platform has chosen to speak without understanding historical facts. "Maharaja Hari Singh Ji was not only a progressive and visionary ruler but also played a pivotal role in shaping the destiny of Jammu and Kashmir by choosing to accede to the Union of India at a critical moment in history," he said.



The former minister emphasized that Maharaja Hari Singh Ji signed the Instrument of Accession to India on October 26, 1947, at a time when Pakistan-backed tribal raiders had invaded the state. "Faced with a brutal assault on his people and territorial integrity, Maharaja Hari Singh Ji took a firm and courageous decision to join India—guided by his commitment to secularism, national integrity, and the welfare of his subjects. His decision was rooted in principle, not pressure."

"It is shameful for any

educator to distort such a significant historical contribution," he remarked. "Faisal Khan, being in the teaching profession, carries a responsibility to educate, not mislead. Making unverified and inflammatory remarks about a respected figure like Maharaja Hari Singh Ji sets a dangerous precedent and disrespects the legacy of the man who ensured that Jammu and Kashmir became an integral part of India."

M.K Ajatshatru Singh demanded a public apology from Faisal Khan for his irresponsible statement and warned of legal action if he fails to retract and express regret. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir, and especially the Dogra community, will not tolerate any attempt to malign the image of their Maharaja who made the historic and constitutional decision to side with India during its most critical hour."

Akash slams BJP for failing to fulfill aspirations of J&K people during 11 yrs of Governance

J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, JULY 13

Akash Verma, Additional Spokesperson of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (NC), today launched a scathing attack on the BJP leadership, accusing it of failing to meet the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir during its 11 years of rule at the Centre.

Addressing media persons here, Verma expressed deep concern over the lack of basic amenities in the Udhampur district despite the fact that the people had elected four BJP MLAs from the region. "Rather than delivering on development and public welfare, these BJP legislators have resorted to baseless criticism of the present NC Government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah," Verma said.

Targeting the BJP MLA from Chenani constituency, Akash challenged him to present his own performance report. "Instead of indulging in hollow rhetoric against the NC Government, the MLA should explain why basic projects like the Salmay bridge have remained stuck. Why hasn't the tender process been completed in the last two years despite his position as an elected repre-



sentative?" he asked.

Akash Verma highlighted that in just nine months of governance, the NC Government has fulfilled several key promises from its election manifesto. "From providing 200 free power units to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, increasing marriage assistance from Rs 50,000 to Rs 75,000, offering free bus travel to women, to doubling the ration quota for AAY beneficiaries—these are concrete steps towards social justice and empowerment," he said.

The NC leader further underlined that while the BJP-led Centre failed to create two crore jobs annually as promised, the Omar Abdullah-led Government has initiated major recruitment drives to fill vacancies across various depart-

ments. "Most recently, the CM launched the 'Mission Yuva' scheme, under which 1.5 lakh enterprises will be established, generating employment opportunities for around 4.5 lakh youth across J&K," he added.

He questioned the logic behind BJP's criticism of the NC Government's performance in just nine months, asking, "If the BJP couldn't fulfill the aspirations of J&K in 11 long years, what right do they have to point fingers at the NC which is already delivering results in such a short span?"

Akash Verma urged the people of Udhampur to judge leaders based on their work, not their words, and to support a government that believes in action, not blame games.

Wath Welfare Trust and SDH Sopore host successful Blood donation camp to promote community health and service

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SOPORE, JULY 13

In a remarkable display of community spirit and humanitarian commitment, the Wath Welfare Trust, in coordination with Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Sopore, organized a Blood Donation Camp at the hospital premises on Saturday. The event drew enthusiastic participation from local residents, youth volunteers, and representatives of various organizations, all rallying behind the noble cause of saving lives through blood donation.

The camp witnessed the esteemed presence of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Sopore, Mr. S.A. Raina; Tehsildar Sopore, Mr. Sheikh Tariq; SHO Sopore, Mr. Ayaz Geelani; retired government officer Mr. Nirmal Singh; and Chairman of the Human Welfare Trust, Mr. Basharat Ahmad. These dignitaries not only attended the event but also encouraged the younger generation to step forward and actively engage in humanitarian activities that benefit the entire society.

The primary goal of the camp was to raise awareness about the

critical need for blood donation and to instill a sense of social responsibility and unity among citizens. Organizers highlighted the importance of voluntary blood donation in saving lives, particularly in emergencies, surgeries, and for patients suffering from chronic illnesses.

Speaking to the media, a representative from Wath Welfare Trust stated, "This initiative is not just about donating blood; it's about fostering a culture of compassion and community support. We are heartened to see so many people, especially the youth, come forward to contribute."

Medical staff at SDH Sopore ensured that the entire process was conducted with the highest safety and hygiene standards, making the experience smooth and encouraging for all donors.

The event concluded on a positive note, with refreshments served to the donors and certificates of appreciation distributed. The success of the camp stands as a testament to the power of collective action and the growing awareness around public health and civic duty in Sopore.

Tony seeks stern action against officials for civic negligence in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Senior Congress leader and DDC Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony has urged the administration to take strict action against officials responsible for the poor civic infrastructure in Trikuta Nagar, particularly Ward No. 54.

He made these remarks during his visit to the area following repeated complaints from local residents about the declining state of basic amenities. The meeting was facilitated by prominent youth leader Narinder Sharma (Happy) and witnessed a strong turnout of concerned citizens.

Residents voiced serious grievances including irregular water supply, frequent power outages, dysfunctional street and high-mast lights in public parks, deteriorating road conditions, overflowing drains, and a growing

sense of insecurity due to rising theft incidents. They alleged that despite several complaints, the authorities have failed to take corrective action, leaving the locality in neglect.

Expressing concern over the situation, Tony assured residents that he would personally take up the matter with the concerned departments and press for urgent remedial measures. He stated that areas like Trikuta Nagar, which are among the prominent residential localities of Jammu, deserve better attention and timely civic services.

"This kind of administrative apathy is unacceptable. The officials responsible for this negligence must be held accountable. I urge the Chief Secretary to immediately intervene and initiate disciplinary action against those who have failed in their duties," Tony said.

The senior Congress

leader emphasized that development must be inclusive and consistent, and no locality should be made to suffer due to indifference or inefficiency of government machinery. He reaffirmed his commitment to the people of Jammu and urged residents to remain united and vocal in their demand for better governance and infrastructure development.

Among those who were present included Shiv Kumar Sharma, OP Sharma, Parmod Sabarwal, Dr. Manjit Arora, Vinod Gupta, Kuldeep Raj Mangotra, Kuldeep Arora, Vijay Sharma, Vijay Gandotra, Surinder Gandotra, Sandeep Sharma, Manu Gupta, KK Khajuria, Ramit Abrol, Raj Pal, Rinku Manchanda, RP Sharma, Ramnik Dubey, Vishal Jolly, Rajesh Gupta, Shashi Digra, Sanju Sarmal, Vicky Sarmal, Joginder Sarmal, and others.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board dedicates five Temples to Public in Reasi

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KATRA, JULY 13

In a landmark initiative aimed at fostering spirituality and preserving cultural heritage, the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, during its 75th Meeting held under the chairmanship of Shri Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, JK-UT approved the dedication of five newly constructed temples to the public in the month of July along with the construction of five additional temples in District Reasi.

As part of this initiative, the Shrine Board has formally dedicated the five temples today at each location in distinct villages across the district, namely Gorta Kalika Sathan, Village-Harotkote; Pancheri Galli, Village-Dangakote; Tote Devsthan, Village-Tote; Village-Devigarh of Tehsil Bhomag and Village-Chasana.

Prior to the installation of the Holy Idols at the newly constructed temples, the Shrine Board



organized a spiritually enriching three-day Hawan and Puja ceremony at the Spiritual Growth Centre (SGC), Katra. These rituals were conducted with deep reverence by the Shrine Pujaris under the guidance of Padma Shri Prof. Vishwamurti Shastri for invoking divine blessings and sanctifying the proceedings in alignment with age-old Vedic traditions.

Following these preparatory rites, the sacred Pran Pratishtha ceremonies-rituals and Kanya Poojan were performed

at the respective temple locations. Each ceremony marked the formal consecration of the temple and its deity, carried out by learned Pujaris of the Shrine Board in the presence of local community members and Shrine Board officials.

During the dedication ceremony of the newly constructed temples, Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board stated that the Board has decided to entrust the management of these

temples to the local communities after the sacred Pran Pratishtha rituals. He underscored that by handing over the responsibility for daily worship and routine maintenance to local residents, the Board aims to strengthen grassroots spiritual engagement in preserving cultural heritage while ensuring that the temples are maintained in a manner that reflects the community's devotional spirit and traditions. CEO also exhorted that the Shrine Board shall be installing CCTV cameras at each of the newly constructed temples as a vital measure to ensure the sanctity of the premises and support the effective management of temple activities.

Notably, as part of the sacred Pran Pratishtha rituals, the Shrine Board upheld the tradition of offering communal blessings by distributing Halwa and Channa Prasad to all those present on the occasion at the respective locations.

Pritam Saini appointed as J&K President of Bharatiya Kisan Union (Sarv)



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

In a significant move aimed at strengthening the voice of farmers in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Pritam Singh Saini has been appointed as the President of the Jammu and Kashmir unit of Bharatiya Kisan Union (Sarv).

The appointment was officially announced by Pandit Rajkishore Sharma, National President of BKU (Sarv), and Satish Bharatraj, National Youth President. The Union, which stands as a non-political platform for farmers across India, expressed confidence that Shri Pritam Singh Saini will work with full dedication to address the pressing issues faced by the farming community in the region.

Hailing from Lower Muthi, Akalpur Morh, Jammu, Shri Pritam Saini has been entrusted with the responsibility of raising farmer-related concerns, striving for their resolution, and enhancing the reach and popularity of BKU (Sarv) among the farming population of J&K. He has been urged to remain in constant touch with farmers and lead initiatives that reflect the aspirations and welfare of the agrarian community.

Bharatiya Kisan Union (Swaraj) has wished Shri Pritam Saini great success in his new role and expressed hope that he will play a pivotal role in realizing the vision of the Union's leadership.

IIM Jammu to hold a five-day holistic orientation programme

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu is set to host a five-day Holistic Orientation Programme from 14th to 18th July 2025 at its picturesque Jagti Campus, marking the formal induction of the 6th Batch of Ph.D., 4th Batch of Ph.D. (Working Professionals), 10th Batch of MBA, 4th Batch of MBA (Healthcare), and 5th Batch of EMBA. This extensive orientation programme aims to orient students towards the institute's core values, academic cul-

ture, and commitment to excellence.

The inaugural day, 14th July 2025, will witness the gracious presence of Dr. Jitendra Singh Ji, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; and Minister of State in the Department

of Space, Government of India, as the Chief Guest.

The orientation programme will commence with the inauguration of the newly constructed Hostel Complex by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic



Energy; and Minister of State in the Department of Space, Government of India, on 14th July 2025.

The inaugural ceremony will be presided over by Dr. Milind Kamble, Chairman, Board of

Governors, IIM Jammu in presence of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu. Distinguished guests will include Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, IIT Jammu; Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Gupta, Director,

AIIMS Jammu; Shri Amitava Chatterjee, MD & CEO, J&K Bank; and Shri Nalin Prabhat, IPS, Director General of Police, Jammu & Kashmir. The day will also feature sessions by Shri Piyush Jain, CMO & CDO, Agilus Diagnostics, and Shri Venkatadri R., Chief Revenue Officer, Tata Chemicals. A cultural evening by the Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) will add a traditional flavour to the proceedings.

The valedictory ceremony will be graced by Shri Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of

Jammu and Kashmir, as the Chief Guest. On this occasion, Shri Manoj Sinha will also inaugurate Tejas, the world-class Sports Complex at IIM Jammu. The event will be presided over by Dr. Milind Kamble, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu, in the esteemed presence of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu. Shri Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, will join as the Guest of Honor and Shri Sudhir Langer, CEO and MD, RPSG FMCG, will deliver the Keynote Address.

Y4PK's Rashtriya Kashmiri Hindu Adhiveshan concludes with unanimous adoption of historic Jammu Declaration

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

The Rashtriya Kashmiri Hindu Adhiveshan, organized by Youth 4 Panun Kashmir, concluded today in Jammu with the unanimous adoption of the historic Jammu Declaration, demanding the immediate creation of Panun Kashmir as a Union Territory under Central Rule and emphasising that the creation of Panun Kashmir is the first stepping stone of Hindu Rashtra.

The day-long convention brought together saints, legal experts, scholars, youth leaders, and grassroots organizations from across Bharat in a unified civilizational call for justice, dignity, and rightful return of the Kashmiri Hindu community.

The event commenced with Deep Prajvalan and a grand Felicitation Ceremony, where Saropas were presented to Dr. Agnishekhar, Sadguru Dr. Charudutt Pingale, Swami Kumar Ji, Shri Ranjit Savarkar, Advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain, Dr. Koenraad Elst, Shri Arjun Sampath, Shri Pramod Muthalik, Shri Ramesh Shinde, Shri Rahul Kaul, Advocate Rabintra Ghosh, Shri Arun Gupta, and Shri Rajesh Gupta, along with community leaders such as Shri Gangadhar Kulkarni, Shri Punnu Swamy, Shri Ashwani Bhat, Shri Kundan Kashmiri, Shri Motilal Malla, Shri Rajeev Pandita, Shri Shama Raina, Shri R.K. Wangnoo, Dr.



Sushil Wattal, Shri Rohit Ravi Bhat, and Shri Digamber Raina.

A solemn Shradhanjali was observed in memory of the victims of the Kashmiri Hindu Genocide and those martyred on 13th July 1931.

Keynote addresses were delivered by Dr. Agnishekhar, Shri Ranjit Savarkar, and Advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain, all underscoring that Panun Kashmir is not a political bargaining chip, but a civilizational mandate that India must fulfill to uphold Dharma and justice.

Core sessions included "Panun Kashmir - The Foundation of Hindu Rashtra" moderated by Vithal Chowdhary featuring Shri Pramod Muthalik, Shri Ramesh Shinde, Shri Arjun Sampath, Shri Rahul Kaul, and Dr. Raj Singh Shekhawat; "Hindu Civilizational Conflict and Its Resolution" moderated by Ashish Dhar with Dr. Koenraad Elst and Sadguru Dr. Charudutt Pingale; and "Jammu's Regional Crisis and Homeland Synergy" moderated by Yamini Kaul with panelists Prataap

Jamwal, Sardar Surinder-Singh, Amit Raina, Sahil Pandita, and Digamber Raina.

A special address by entrepreneur Shri Sandeep Kaul unveiled an economic empowerment platform to promote viable, culture-rooted enterprises in partnership with Youth 4 Panun Kashmir. The Panun Kashmir Vidyarthi Sanghathan was launched to build generational continuity in resistance, followed by a stirring cultural performance "Kashyap ke Kashmir" by Kuldeep Sapru. During the felicitation ceremony, 18 individuals and organizations were honoured under two prestigious awards—the Swargiya Shri Onkar Nath Raina Lok Sewa Samman for outstanding public service, and the Swargiya Shri Sumesh Bhan Yuva Adarsh Samman for youth leadership in community service and struggle.

The event culminated in the reading of the Jammu Declaration, which reaffirmed the 1991 Margdarshan Resolution and set 19th January 2026 as the final deadline for the Gov-

ernment of India to act decisively. The declaration demanded legal and constitutional recognition of the Kashmiri Hindu Genocide, immediate creation of Panun Kashmir as a Union Territory, establishment of a Genocide Justice Commission and a reparations framework, end of discrimination against Jammu through constitutional safeguards, and full protection and support for persecuted Hindus from Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan.

It warned that failure to act on these core demands would result in a nationwide mobilization of nationalist forces who will assemble in full strength in Jammu, marking the beginning of the final phase of national reclamation. The event concluded with thunderous chants of "Jai Panun Kashmir," "Bharat Mata Ki Jai," and "Vande Mataram," with a collective resolve—We shall not rest. We shall not retreat. Until Dharmas restored, justice delivered, and Kashmir once again echoes with the chants of our temples.

Movement Kalki meets Supreme Court advocate to push for protection of Hindu Lands and Sanatan Dharma in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

A delegation from the Movement Kalki met Senior Supreme Court Advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain today at Abhinav Theatre in Jammu to discuss a range of pressing concerns related to the protection of Hindu religious lands, cow protection laws, and the preservation of Sanatan Dharma in Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting focused on legal and constitutional challenges that have emerged in the region, especially in the aftermath of the abrogation of Article 370.

During the interaction, Movement Kalki's Advisor, Shri Pritam Sharma, briefed Advocate Jain on key developments that the organization believes are adversely affecting the Hindu community. He highlighted that despite the constitutional changes brought about by the abrogation of Article 370, several issues persist— notably, the revocation of the 2002 Cow Slaughter Ban Law, which has sparked concerns over rising



instances of cow slaughter in the Union Territory. Additionally, he pointed out that temple lands, which had previously been subject to sale even before the constitutional change, continue to be transferred to non-Hindu individuals, thereby threatening the sanctity and religious character of these sites.

The delegation submitted a memorandum outlining three primary demands. First, they called for the immediate reinstatement of the 2002 Cow Slaughter Prohibition Law in Jammu and Kashmir to ensure stricter protection for cows and to uphold Hindu sentiments attached to cow reverence. Second, they proposed the cre-

ation of a 'Sanatan Board'— a statutory body aimed at the legal protection of temple lands and institutional support for the cultural and spiritual traditions of Sanatan Dharma. Third, they advocated for the enactment of a special law dedicated to the protection of the religious, cultural, and land identity of Hindus in the region.

Prominent members of the Movement Kalki delegation included Shri Pawan Sharma, Incharge of the Drug-Free India Campaign; Shri Karnal, Organizing Secretary; and Mr. Saurav Sharma, a Board Member of the Movement. Each of them expressed serious concern over the lack of ins-

titutional safeguards for Hindu religious interests in the current socio-political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.

In response, Advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain assured the delegation of his complete legal backing and guidance in taking these issues forward. He recognized the urgency and gravity of the concerns raised and committed to working alongside Movement Kalki in advocating for legislative and judicial measures necessary to protect the interests of the Hindu community.

Movement Kalki reiterated its stance that without immediate and effective action, there is a growing danger of the erosion of Hindu religious identity, temple properties, and cultural heritage in the region. The delegation emphasized that it is now imperative for religious organizations, civil society groups, and like-minded individuals to come together in a collective and resolute effort to safeguard Sanatan Dharma for future generations.

DDC Doda lays foundation stone of integrated sanitation and skill development facility at GMC Doda

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JULY 13



JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JULY 13

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda, Harvinder Singh today laid the foundation stone of a two-storey integrated facility near the OPD Block of Government Medical College (GMC) Doda.

The project, undertaken in collaboration with the Ladli Foundation and Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) 2.0, will include public toilets for men, women and specially-abled persons on the ground floor. The first floor will

house a skill development centre aimed at empowering local youth, particularly women.

During the event, the DDC interacted with key stakeholders from the PWD (R&B) Department, Municipal Council Doda and the Health Department. He directed all departments to work in coordination and ensure timely completion of the project, adhering to quality standards.

The DDC also announced that similar facilities are planned at Sub-District Hospitals in Baderwah and Gandoh.

Suwendu Adhikari should apologize: Shiv Sena

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni has strongly criticized the statement of West Bengal BJP leader and Leader of Opposition Suwendu Adhikari of 'not going to Jammu and Kashmir', calling it a grave insult to Jammu and Kashmir and calling such thinking an enemy of the unity and integrity of India. According to the press release issued from the party's state central office, Sahni has demanded Suwendu Adhikari to apologize to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Along with this, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP National President have been asked to take strict cognizance of the said statements and take strict action like expelling Suwendu Adhikari from the party.

Sahni said that Suwendu Adhikari has forgotten that the security of Jammu and Kashmir is with the Central Home Ministry. He said that the tongue of BJP leaders is continuously going out of control.



Even during Operation Sindoor, BJP leader Vijay Shah had insulted Indian Army's woman officer Colonel Sofia by calling her the sister of terrorists. Sahni reminded BJP leaders that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and the main pilgrimages of Hindus, Shri Mata Vaishnodevi and Shri Amarnath Yatra are in Jammu and Kashmir only. Sahni also reminded Chief Minister Omar Abdullah about 'Jammu' and said that although his party has won most of the seats in the assembly elections from Kashmir division, he is the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. Do not forget to add 'Jammu' with Kashmir in your statements.

Sadguru Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj urges early Bhakti, warns of life's fragility

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

Today, Sadguru of Sahib's worship Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, while de-lighting the congregation with the nectar of his discourses in Rakhbandhu, said that if a person always remembers that one day he will have to leave this world, then half of his troubles will end. This is the land of death. Death is always sitting above his head. It can kill him anytime. Man spends his entire life like this. No one is happy in this world. Sahib's words are a warning. Sahib is saying that everyone is unhappy here. No one is happy.



impudence. Death strikes him. This is applicable to everyone. The body is fragile. First, the waist will be affected, the food eaten will not be digested, gas will form in the stomach. The legs will stop working while walking. Eyesight will become weak. Teeth will break. In this way, death will slowly come near. We all are seeing this. The pot

which is leaking, which is cracked, will slowly finish. Man is unaware of death. Slowly everything will keep decreasing. Later man takes to bed. Death comes near. If he takes to bed then he will die. Body's capacity will weaken. There will be new diseases. Lungs will become weak. Memory will become weak. Kidney will not work properly. Like the sun goes towards the west, the light decreases. Mind and Maya will not give time for Bhajan. Be alert from now. You will not get a chance for Bhajan later. The reality is that after 37 years middle age begins. Even in that the strength decreases.

Death is so cunning that it comes restlessly. Many diseases come. Like thunderbolt strikes, mind and Maya attack this body. One day you will have to leave this body. This is the mortal world. Be careful. Nothing is yours here. No one belongs to anyone. This is the intoxication of Maya that this is mine, that is mine.

This death comes slowly like a lioness. Niranjan himself has said that in Kali-yug there will be many diseases.

If you are thinking that you will do bhakti after getting old then it is your mis-take. You will not be able to do it then. Start from now itself.

One-day district level workshop on Panchayat Advancement Index held at Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JULY 13

The Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj J&K organised a one-day district-level workshop on the Panchayat Advancement Index at the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex here.

The workshop was designed to sensitise stakeholders about the Panchayat Advancement Index, a comprehensive tool used to evaluate the developmental status of Gram Panchayats across the region.

Deputy Commissioner Jammu Sachin Kumar Vaishya presided over



the workshop, which saw participation from ADDC Jammu Sher Singh, Shahzada Noor Ul Ain ACP Jammu and other concerned officers and field functionaries.

During the session, participants were briefed on various themes under

PAI-2.0, including child-friendly panchayat, water-sufficient panchayat, clean and green panchayat, and self-sufficient infrastructure in panchayats.

The workshop featured hands-on training on the PAI portal to ensure participants could efficiently

handle data entry and monitoring tasks.

The event, facilitated by Master Trainer Nida Rafiq, concluded with an interactive session where participants engaged in detailed discussions on operational aspects of the PAI initiative.

Dharti Aaba Abhiyan: DAJGUA & PM-JANMAN Benefit Saturation Camp Held at Nilgrar

JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, JULY 13

Under the umbrella of the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) and Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN), a mega benefit saturation and awareness camp was held at Nilgrar, a designated tribal village in Ganderbal district.

The initiative aims at saturating government schemes in tribal areas through convergence, transparency, and participatory governance.

The camp witnessed active participation from

multiple line departments including Health, ICDS, Education, Rural Development, Social Welfare, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Revenue, who collectively delivered doorstep services and enrolled beneficiaries for flagship schemes such as: Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY) Golden Card generation, PM Ujjwala Yojana connections, PM-KISAN and Soil Health Card distribution, Aadhaar enrolment and corrections, Scholarship assistance for ST students, Awareness on Forest Rights Act (FRA), land entitlement, and livelihood schemes under PM-JANMAN

Erring FBOs fined Rs.35000 by Food Safety Department

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 13

In order to ensure safe and hygienic food to consumers, a special drive has been initiated by the Department of Food Safety in Kashmir Division.

During the drive, the enforcement officers from intelligence cum legal cell and concerned districts inspected various paneer manufacturers in Village Nowgam of district Pulwama besides butchers and restaurants in main town Baramulla.

In the pursuit, various Food Business Operators (FBOs) were found violat-

ing sanitary and hygienic requirements of Food Safety and Standards Act and an amount of Rs 35000 was recovered as fine from them.

Moreover, some non-food grade utensils were destroyed on the spot and food business operators were directed to maintain high standards of hygiene within their premises.

The food business operators were also directed not to sell any stale or perished food items which shall attract strict action as per the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act which may include imposition of heavy fine and imprisonment also.

PM Modi hails contribution of four nominated to Rajya Sabha

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 13

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hailed the contributions of former foreign secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla, special public prosecutor in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks case Ujjwal Nikam, Kerala BJP leader C Sadanandan Master and historian Meenakshi Jain after they were nominated to the Rajya Sabha.

In a notification issued late Saturday night, the Union Home Ministry said the President has nominated the four to the Rajya Sabha.

"Shri Ujjwal Nikam's devotion to the legal field and to our Constitution is exemplary. He has not only been a successful lawyer but also been at the forefront of seeking justice in important cases," Modi said in a post on X.

During his entire legal career, Nikam has always



worked to strengthen Constitutional values and ensure common citizens are always treated with dignity, he said.

"It's gladdening that the President of India has nominated him to the Rajya Sabha. My best wishes for his Parliamentary innings," Modi said.

Lauding Shringla's contribution, Modi said he has excelled as a diplomat, intellectual and strategic thinker.

"Over the years, he's made key contributions

to India's foreign policy and also contributed to our G20 Presidency. Glad that he's been nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the President of India. His unique perspectives will greatly enrich Parliamentary proceedings," Modi said in another post.

The prime minister further said Sadanandan Master's life is the epitome of courage and refusal to bow to injustice.

"Violence and intimidation couldn't deter his spirit towards national

development. His efforts as a teacher and social worker are also commendable. He is extremely passionate towards youth empowerment," Modi said.

"Congratulations to him for being nominated to the Rajya Sabha by Rahstrapati Ji. Best wishes for his role as MP," he added.

Modi also said it is a matter of immense joy that Meenakshi Jain has been nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the president.

"She has distinguished herself as a scholar, researcher and historian. Her work in the fields of education, literature, history and political science have enriched academic discourse significantly. Best wishes for her Parliamentary tenure," the prime minister said.

The President nominated 12 people to the Rajya Sabha, who are people of eminence in various fields.

Phase-3 enrolment for dengue vaccine to finish by October: ICMR

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 13

Enrolment of about 10,500 participants in the phase III clinical trial of the indigenous one-shot Panacea Biotec developed dengue vaccine, DengiAll, is likely to be completed by October across 20 centres in India, according to ICMR scientists.

So far, 8,000 participants in various centres at Pune, Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi and Bhubaneswar among others have received either the vaccine or a placebo as part of the trial sponsored by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Panacea Biotec.

The trial is co-led by ICMR-National Institute of Translational Virology and AIDS research in Pune, National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai and National Institute of Virology, Pune.

Currently, there is no antiviral treatment or licensed vaccine against



dengue in India.

The results of the Phase-1/2 trial has shown no safety concerns for the one-shot vaccine, NIE Director Dr Manoj Murhekar said.

"The participants enrolled in the Phase-III trial will be followed up for two-years. This trial will evaluate the efficacy of this tetravalent dengue vaccine," Dr Murhekar said.

The multi-centre, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled phase-III trial was launched in August last year to evaluate the job's efficacy, safety and, long-term immunogenicity.

The first participant in

this trial was vaccinated at the Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (PGIMS), Rohtak last year.

The development of an effective vaccine is complex due to the need to achieve good efficacy for all four serotypes. The dengue virus has four serotypes, 1-4, with low cross-protection against each other, meaning individuals can experience repeated infections, Dr Murhekar said.

In India, all four serotypes of dengue virus are known to circulate or co-circulate in many regions.

The Union Health Ministry in a statement earlier had said that the tetravalent dengue vaccine strain (TV003/TV005), originally developed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), USA, has shown promising results in clinical trials in Brazil.

Panacea Biotec, one of three Indian companies to receive the strain, is at the most advanced stage of development. The company has worked extensively on these strains to develop a full-fledged vaccine formulation and holds a process patent for this work.

Dengue is a major public health concern in India, ranking among the top 30 countries with the highest incidence of the disease.

The global incidence of dengue has been steadily increasing over the past two decades, with more than 129 countries reporting dengue viral disease by the end of 2023, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Time for feasts, farewells for Shubhanshu Shukla, Axiom-4 Astronauts

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 13

After 18 days of intense science experiments at the International Space Station, it is time for farewells and feasts for Shubhanshu Shukla and three other astronauts of the Axiom-4 mission who are set to begin their return journey to Earth on Monday.

The Axiom 4 (Ax-4) crew—Commander Peggy Whitson, Pilot Shubhanshu "Shux" Shukla, and Mission Specialist Slawosz "Suave" Uznanski-Wisniewski and Tibor Kapu—are nearing the completion of their research and preparing to undock no earlier than at 7:05 am ET (4:35 pm IST) on Monday.

"Arrival back to earth... splash down scheduled for 15th July at 3:00 PM IST," Science and Technology Minister said in a post on X.

A formal farewell for the Axiom-4 crew is scheduled for Sunday evening, India time.

As the Axiom-4 mission drew to a close, astronauts on board the ISS gathered for a feast with a diverse menu from the six nations they represent.

Currently, there are 11 astronauts on the ISS, seven of Expedition 73 and four of the Axiom-4 commercial mission.



"One of the most unforgettable evenings I've experienced on this mission was sharing a meal with new friends, Ax-4, aboard the International @Space Station," US astronaut Jonny Kim said in a post on X last week.

"We swapped stories and marvelled at how people from diverse backgrounds and nations came together to represent humanity in space," he said.

For appetisers, the astronauts made rehydrated shrimp cocktails and crackers and the main course featured savoury chicken and beef fajitas. The cosmonauts capped the night with a delicious cake made from sweet bread, condensed milk, and walnuts, Kim said.

Shukla had got aam ras and carrot halwa for the feast, while Polish astronaut Slawosz had brought

his native dish, pierogi with cabbage and mushrooms, to the ISS.

It has been a historic trip for Shukla, who became the first Indian to travel to the ISS and only the second to travel to space after Rakesh Sharma's path-breaking spaceflight as part of the then Soviet Russia's mission to Salyut-7 space station in 1984.

So far, Shukla has spent 18 days in space, witnessing 16 sunrises and sunsets every day as the ISS travels at a speed of 28,000 km per hour in an orbit about 400 km above the Earth.

According to ISRO, post splashdown, Shukla will undergo a rehabilitation programme (about 7 days) under the supervision of a flight surgeon to adapt back to Earth's gravity.

ISRO paid approximately Rs 550 crore for Shukla's travel to the ISS, an experience that will help the space agency in the planning and execution of its human spaceflight programme, Gaganyaan, set to take to orbit in 2027.

Shukla and the three other astronauts are expected to board the spacecraft at 2.25 pm IST, wear their space suits and carry out the necessary tests before they begin their journey to the Earth.

The ISS is orbiting the Earth at a speed of 28,000 km per hour, and the Dragon spacecraft will initiate the autonomous undocking process to gradually slow down and re-enter the planet's atmosphere for a splashdown off the coast of California.

"The Dragon spacecraft will return with more than 580 pounds of cargo, including NASA hardware and data from over 60 experiments conducted throughout the mission," NASA said.

During his stay at the ISS, Shukla worked on the microalgae experiment, deploying and stowing samples that could one day provide food, oxygen and biofuels for deep-space missions, Axiom Space said in a statement.

The resilience of the microalgae makes them a promising asset to sustain life beyond Earth, it added.

"Exercise research and spacesuit maintenance topped the schedule for the Expedition 73 and Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) crews on Thursday," the NASA statement said.

The crew also continued the Voyager Displays study, which examines how spaceflight affects eye movement and coordination.

The crew collected data for a study to explore how astronauts perceive and interact with their environment in orbit, which is critical for designing mentally supportive habitats for long-duration missions.

Another study focused on cerebral blood flow, investigating how microgravity and elevated carbon dioxide levels affect cardiovascular function, which could later benefit both astronauts and patients on Earth.

Radiation exposure was monitored using the compact Rad Nano Dosimeter, a tool to assess astronaut safety.

The crew participated in the Acquired Equivalence Test, a cognitive experiment that measures learning and adaptability in space and supported the PhotonGrav study by collecting brain activity data to explore neuroadaptive technologies for space and medical applications.

Freight train ferrying oil catches fire, train services hit

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, JULY 13

A moving goods train carrying diesel caught fire on Sunday at Tiruvallur in northern Tamil Nadu affecting train services in the arterial Chennai-Arakkonam route, the Southern Railway said.

No casualties were reported. Passengers were, however, stranded and state transport corporation operated special buses to cater to the needs of the travelling public.

According to the Southern Railway's official release, few intermediate wagons of the goods train, carrying diesel caught fire while exiting Tiruvallur railway station at around 5.30 hours and many other wagons (3rd from engine onwards) also derailed and 18 wagons were gutted.

The goods train was from Chennai Harbour to Walajah Road Siding (Walajabad). The fire, coupled with huge columns of thick smoke rose up the sky and fire tenders were rushed to the spot.

State Minister (Minorities and Non Resident Tamils Welfare) S M Nasar, alongwith officials, made an inspection and in view of the blaze and smoke people living close to the location of fire accident



were taken to shelters. State transport corporations operated over 170 special services as train services were hit.

The Railway said: "Upon noticing the fire in 3rd wagon, the loco pilot immediately applied the emergency brakes and Station Master, Tiruvallur, switched off the overhead (OHE) power supply as a precautionary safety measure." Further, the railway said: "However, by the time the train was brought to a halt, the fire spread upto 19th wagon. Consequently, the train operations in the important Chennai - Arakkonam section, linking Chennai with Bangalore, Kerala and Rengunta/Tirupati had to be suspended.

Twelve Mail/Express trains scheduled to commence from or terminating at Chennai Central were cancelled, and several other trains were either diverted or short-terminated." Top railway officials monitored the rescue and restoration operations in coordination with the district administration, NDRF and Fire and Rescue Services. "Residents in the vicinity were evacuated as precautionary measure, though there has been no injury to any person." As many as 30 unaffected wagons and the locomotive were safely detached and isolated from the accident site. Eighteen wagons were gutted and "four trailing wagons were safely removed from the incident zone." As a precautionary measure, all EMU local train services in the Chennai-Arakkonam section were temporarily suspended and 8 express trains were cancelled, 5 others diverted and 8 trains short-terminated. Services were also rescheduled.

Artist dedicates exhibition to Operation Sindoor

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 13

The centrepiece of artist Chandranath Das's solo exhibition in Delhi is an untitled oil painting - bright, colourful canvas, countless brush strokes and a dash of actual vermilion to depict a stroke of 'Sindoor'.

The exhibition celebrates the might and grandeur of the Himalayas through varying seasons, but it is also dedicated to India's Operation Sindoor, a decisive military action that has drawn a new red line for terrorism.

Titled 'Himalaya: The



Journey Through a Cascade of Colours', the show opened at a gallery at the Triveni Kala Sangam here on Saturday evening.

The untitled work captioned 'Operation Sindoor: A Tribute - The Red

Mark of Duty' sits at the focal point of the exhibition venue, welcoming visitors with its abstract allure. On its back is a huge canvas with Mt Everest painted on acrylic medium.

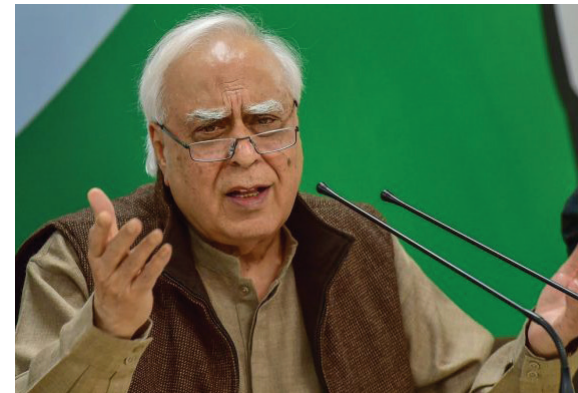
EC always a 'Puppet' in hands of Modi Govt: Sibal

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 13

The Election Commission has always been a "puppet" in the hands of the Modi Government, Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal has alleged and claimed the poll body's Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar is an "unconstitutional" move aimed at ensuring that majoritarian Governments remain in power.

In an interview with PTL, Sibal also alleged that each Election Commissioner surpasses the previous one in his "alignment to this Government".

Hitting out at the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, the former law minister said the Election Commission (EC) doesn't have the jurisdiction to decide issues of citizenship.



The EC has all along maintained that the revision, being held after 22

years, will cleanse the voters' list of ineligible people, duplicate entries and include those eligible as per law to vote.

Asked about the opposition's attack on the EC over SIR, Sibal said, "It has always been a puppet in the hands of the govern-

ment for a long long time ever since this Government came to power."

The conduct of the Election Commission, the less said about it, the better, he said.

"In fact, each Election Commissioner surpasses the previous one in his alignment to this Government," Sibal said.

On the ongoing SIR, he said, "This is according to me a completely unconstitutional process that is being carried on. The Commission doesn't have the jurisdiction to decide issues of citizenship and that also by a block level officer."

"I have been saying that they (BJP) adopt all possible means to somehow

win elections. In fact, this whole particular process of a special intensive revision is a process to ensure majoritarian Governments for all times to come," the senior advocate said.

"This is the intent because if you delete the names of the poor people, the marginalised, the adivasis, you will ensure that the majoritarian party always wins. So this is yet another way of ensuring that and this is very worrisome," he said.

Sibal said he has always stated that he doesn't believe in the independence of the EC at all because the institution has not reflected that independence that was expected of them.

Wimbledon: Sinner claims maiden Championship with dominating win over Alcaraz

AGENCIES
LONDON, JULY 14

Jannik Sinner claimed his maiden Wimbledon title on Sunday, defeating defending champion Carlos Alcaraz 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 in a high-octane final to become the first Italian man to lift the singles trophy at The Championships.

Just five weeks after suffering a heartbreaking loss to Alcaraz in the Roland Garros final - where he squandered three cham-



ampionship points - Sinner responded with clinical composure on Centre Court. The 23-year-old

a five-match losing streak against the Spaniard.

Sinner's victory came after three hours and four minutes of gripping tennis, where he imposed his aggressive baseline game and served with authority. After dropping the first set, the Italian broke Alcaraz early in each of the next three sets, tightening his grip as the match wore on. His relentless hitting, especially into Alcaraz's forehand, paid dividends as the Spaniard's level dipped as per ATP.

World No. 1 flipped the narrative, ending Alcaraz's perfect 5-0 record in major finals and halting

3rd Test: Lord's set for grandstand finish after England reduce India to 58/4 in chase of 193

AGENCIES
LONDON, JULY 14

A grandstand finish is on the cards in the third Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy Test at Lord's as England ended day four by having India reeling at 58/4 in 17.4 overs, in a chase of 193 on Sunday.

On a day where 14 wickets fell, off-spin bowling all-rounder Washington Sundar used his drift and accuracy well to pick a brilliant 4-22 and end England's second innings at 192 in 62.1 overs. Joe Root was England's top-scorer



for the innings with 40, but once he was castled by Sundar before tea, the hosts' suffered a chaotic collapse to go from 154/4

sharp spells, while Nitish Kumar Reddy and Akash Deep had a scalp each, as India did an excellent job of striking with the new ball, including extracting inconsistent bounce, and not allowing the lower order to launch a fight-back.

Requiring 193 runs to win and go 2-1 up in the five-match series, India lost four wickets, including three in the last 30 minutes - with Ben Stokes taking out Akash Deep on the last ball - to tilt the game in England's favour ahead of day five.

Liverpool begin pre-season with 3-1 win over Preston in emotional tribute to Diogo Jota and brother Andre Silva

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JULY 13

Liverpool opened their 2025-26 pre-season with a 3-1 win over Preston North End at Deepdale, but the match was defined far more by the emotion surrounding it than the scoreline. This was the Reds' first game since the tragic passing of Diogo Jota and his brother Andre Silva, who lost their lives in a car accident in Spain last week.

Ahead of kick-off, a poignant atmosphere enveloped the stadium. Pres-



ton players laid a wreath in front of the travelling Liverpool fans, and both teams observed a minute's silence. A stirring live ren-

mark, the entire stadium rose to applaud as an image of the brothers was shown, prompting a moving, extended chant of Jota's song from the away section.

Tributes to Diogo and Andre didn't stop there. Liverpool's Darwin Nunez celebrated his goal in the second half by mimicking Jota's iconic goal celebrations, while Cody Gakpo later marked his strike with a gesture referencing Jota's shirt number - 20 - drawing cheers and tears from the travelling supporters.

dition of *You'll Never Walk Alone* preceded the match, while players from both sides wore black armbands. On the 20-minute

India U20 Women's friendly vs Uzbekistan called off due to operational challenges

AGENCIES
TASHKENT, JULY 13

India U20 Women's international friendly against Uzbekistan, scheduled for Sunday in Tashkent, has been called off due to operational challenges at the Do'stlik Stadium.

India are using these friendly games to prepare for the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers next month, where they will face Indonesia, Turkmenistan and hosts Myanmar.

"The U20 Women's International Friendly between India and Uzbekistan, scheduled for today in Tashkent, has been called off due to opera-



tional challenges at the Do'stlik Stadium. Efforts are ongoing to reschedule the match," read the statement by the All India Football Federation.

The Young Tigresses, who had been training at the Padukone-Dravid Centre for Sports Excellence in Bengaluru, landed in the Uzbek capital on Friday morning and had a gym session in the eve-

ning. India U20 women travelled with a squad of 24 players, which saw a last-minute change as Anika Devi Sharubam replaced goalkeeper Melody Chanu Keisham due to the latter being ill.

Uzbekistan, led by head coach Vladimir Panov, are also preparing as hosts of Group G of the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers, where they will take on Bahrain, Northern Mariana Islands and Jordan. The Central Asian nation also hosted the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup 2024 but lost all games and finished at the bottom of Group A.

Aishwarya Pissay faces setback at INRC Round 4 but retains lead in Championship standings

AGENCIES
COIMBATORE, JULY 13

Three-time FIM World Champion and one of India's most celebrated female motorsport athlete, Aishwarya Pissay, faced a difficult outing at the latest round of the MRF MoGrip FMSCI Indian National Rally Championship (INRC) 2W 2025, in Coimbatore, retiring from the event due to a technical regulation issue despite being in contention for victory.

Heading into the round, Aishwarya had built a strong lead in the Women's Championship and was poised to poten-



tially seal the 2025 title. She was setting the pace through the early stages and had taken a solid lead before being forced to withdraw due to a regula-

tion-related setback with her machine. "It's never easy to step away from a rally when you're leading, especially one that could have decid-

ed the championship. That said, I've always believed motorsport is about how you respond to setbacks. While I couldn't finish today, I'm still leading the overall standings and fully focused on finishing strong in the final round," said Aishwarya.

Despite the zero-point result from this round, Aishwarya remains in the lead of the championship standings, with one round to go in the 2025 season. As the final round approaches, all attention will be on Aishwarya Pissay as she looks to cap off a phenomenal season with yet another national title to her name.

tion-related setback with her machine. "It's never easy to step away from a rally when you're leading, especially one that could have decid-

3rd Test: India would back themselves to chase down 240-250, says Dinesh Karthik

AGENCIES
LONDON, JULY 13

Former wicketkeeper-batter Dinesh Karthik believes India would back themselves to chase down anything in range of 240-250 to win the third Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy Test at Lord's.

India's chase could begin from as early as the final session of day four's play on Sunday after taking out eight England wickets so far. "I would think India would back themselves to chase down 240, 250. All of their batters are in form and they have consistently gotten over 300 in this



series," said Karthik on Sky Sports' broadcast.

He was also in praise of off-spin bowling all-rounder Washington Sundar, who's picked three crucial

wickets in Joe Root, Jamie Smith and Ben Stokes. "Washington is replacing one of the legends of the game in Ravichandran Ashwin and has been over-

shadowed for a major part of his career."

"But he's still young and has a bright future because of how well he bats. If he's able to contribute with the ball at any time in the Test match with one or two, that's exactly what his role is. He really out-thought Smith," added Karthik.

Nasser Hussain, the former England captain, also feels India are having their noses ahead of England to win the Lord's Test and go 2-1 up in the five-match series. "India are slight favourites in my book because the pitch is doing a bit but not extravagantly so."

Wimbledon: Kudermetova and Mertens capture women's doubles title

AGENCIES
LONDON, JULY 13

No. 8 seeds Veronika Kudermetova and Elise Mertens triumphed at the 2025 Wimbledon Championships, capturing the ladies' doubles title in a thrilling final on Centre Court. In a gripping match lasting 2 hours and 23 minutes, they staged a dramatic comeback to defeat the No. 4 seeds Hsieh Su-wei and Jelena Ostapenko, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.

After dropping the first set, Kudermetova and Mertens showed resilience, breaking Hsieh's serve twice in the second set to level the match. Kud-



ermetova's net play and Mertens' steady baseline consistency began to shift momentum in their favor. However, the third set saw another twist as Hsieh and Ostapenko raced to a 4-2 lead. Undeterred, the eighth seeds surged back, winning the final

Wimbledon final. Her partner Mertens, meanwhile, secured her fifth major doubles title and her second at Wimbledon. Ironically, Mertens' previous Wimbledon crown came in 2021 when she partnered with Hsieh to deny Kudermetova and Elena Vesnina in another dramatic finish.

The pairing of Kudermetova and Mertens had been a top duo in 2022, notably winning the WTA Finals. After separating for two seasons, they reunited this spring and quickly regained form, reaching finals in Madrid and Rome before peaking perfectly at Wimbledon.

four games. Kudermetova sealed the victory with a volley winner on championship point, finally earning her first Grand Slam doubles title as per WTA. This win holds special significance for Kudermetova, who fell heartbreakingly short in the 2021

MotoGP: Marquez retains Sachsenring crown as Alex and Bagnaia complete podium

AGENCIES
HOHENSTEIN-ERNSTTHAL (GERMANY), JULY 13

Marc Marquez delivered a masterclass at the German Grand Prix, securing yet another victory at the Sachsenring on his 200th premier class start. The win, his ninth at the venue in the top class, which has earned him the nickname 'The Sachsen-King', pushes him past Giacomo Agostini in the all-time victory standings to second place, with his 69th win.

From the lights out, it was clear the Ducati racer meant business. Marquez grabbed the holeshot and quickly began stretching



his lead, unfazed by the jostling behind him.

Fabio Di Giannantonio briefly fought his way into contention, overtaking Marco Bezzecchi for second, while Alex Marquez and Pedro Acosta battled behind. Howev-

er, Marc was in a league of his own, consistently lapping in the low 1:20s while others fell away, as per MotoGP.

Drama unfolded as Acosta crashed out from fifth, ending KTM's podium hopes. Di

Giannantonio, running second at the time, lost the front at Turn 1 on Lap 18. Moments later, Johann Zarco also fell at the same corner. The chaos continued when Bezzecchi, who had inherited second, crashed in an identical fashion.

This promoted Alex Marquez to second - an extraordinary result given he is riding with a fractured hand - and Francesco Bagnaia to third, a much-needed bounce back after a disappointing Saturday. Despite a few scares elsewhere, including multiple crashes at the treacherous Turn 1, the top three remained steady to the flag.

CS assesses progress on logistics infra projects to be raised by NHLML

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JULY 13

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today took a comprehensive review of the modalities for significant projects to be raised by the National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) including Inter Modal Stations (IMS), Ropeways and Multi-Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs) in the UT.

Those who attended the meeting included Principal Secretary, Finance; Commissioner Secretary, Tourism; Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD; Commissioner Secretary, Forests; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/Jammu; Secretary, PWD; Secretary, Revenue; DC, Srinagar; CEO, NHLML and other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon the concerned to make a headway on all these significant infrastructure projects by laying a framework for execution of works at an earliest. He emphasized on the PWD to take earnest steps necessary for creation of SPV for establishment of different ropeway projects at various tourist spots of J&K including the one at Shankaracharya Temple.



He also enjoined upon the Finance, Law and Housing & Urban Development Department to put their heads together with the experts of the NHLML for fasttracking the grounding of projects like IMS Katra and Multi-Modal Logistics Park at Samba, Jammu.

Regarding the projects, it was given out by the NHLML that the planned Inter Modal Station at Katra, a crucial project set to serve approximately 2.5 crore pilgrims visiting the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Holy Cave, will feature a robust transport zone including a bus terminal with 88 bays, parking for approximately 500 ECS, three helipads and a ropeway station. The commercial zone will comprise of commercial spaces across multiple floors and five hotel towers.

The Shankaracharya Temple Ropeway project, with a length of 1.05 km and a bid project cost of Rs. 109 crore, is moving forward utilizing the Mono-Cable Detachable Gondola (MDG) technology. It will have a capacity of 700 PPHPD (Persons Per Hour Per Direction) and a travel time of approximately 5 minutes, connecting two stations with 15 cabins. The construction duration is estimated at two years.

Additionally, NHLML is undertaking Detailed Project Report (DPR) bids for several other ropeway projects across Jammu & Kashmir, including Sonamarg - Thajwi Glacier, Bhaderwah to Seojhdar, Baltal - Amarnath Cave, Doodpathri from Parihas to Diskhal and Nasri Tunnel to Sanasar Ropeway. The development of a

Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) at Vijaypur also came up for discussion. This project, to be developed on a PPP-DBFOT (Design, Build, Finance, Operate, Transfer) basis, will include facilities such as an ICD (Inland Container Depot) for export/import, Container Freight Station, warehousing, cold storage and truck terminals.

Later, another crucial meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary held to review the progress and modalities for takeover of approach roads constructed by the Indian Railways for Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) Project by the Jammu & Kashmir Public Works Department (PWD).

This move aims to ensure regular maintenance and upkeep of these vital roads links in

the twin districts of Reasi and Ramban benefiting the local populations and facilitating connectivity.

These 29 approach roads spanning cumulatively 201.46 Kms were constructed by Railways in the Katra-Banihal section of the USBRL project. These roads were crucial for transporting labor, material and machinery during the project's execution.

During the meeting, it was highlighted that these roads are to be handed over to the J&K PWD for regular maintenance and upkeep. The land acquisition proceedings for these roads are largely complete, with no court cases currently pending, the meeting was informed.

To facilitate a smooth transition a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed between the Railways and J&K PWD to formalize these arrangements.

The Chief Secretary emphasized the importance of these roads for local connectivity. He directed both the stake holding departments to expedite the handover process to ensure their sustained upkeep for benefit of the public.

DC Kishtwar reviews arrangements for Shri Machail Mata Yatra 2025

Pays obeisance at Shri Machail Mata Temple

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, JULY 13

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma along with Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Naresh Singh today visited the revered Shree Chandi Mata Darbar in Machail to review preparations for the upcoming Shri Machail Mata Yatra 2025, scheduled to commence on July 25, 2025.

During the visit, the DC paid obeisance at the holy shrine and inspected key infrastructure and amenities, including sanitation, water supply, electricity and road connectivity. He expressed satisfaction with the progress made so far and directed the concerned officers to ensure round-the-clock monitoring to provide a safe, comfortable and spiritually enriching experience to the pilgrims.

The DC interacted with locals at Machail, listened to their genuine demands and concerns and assured them that all possible steps would be taken to address their issues. He urged them to maintain cleanliness and adhere to the necessary guidelines to support the smooth



conduct of the pilgrimage.

He also held a meeting with officers and officials of the Sub-Divisional Level Paddar at the office of SDM Paddar, issuing directions to ensure their continuous and dedicated efforts for a smooth and hassle-free yatra.

The DC further inspected the ongoing work at Yatri Bhawan Gulabgarh

Paddar and instructed the executing agencies to complete the remaining work ahead of the start of the yatra.

The District Administration Kishtwar remains committed to ensuring a safe, comfortable and spiritually enriching experience for the pilgrims during Shri Machail Mata Yatra 2025.

DC Poonch, SSP lead comprehensive developmental review tour of Surankote Sub-Division

J1 NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JULY 13

In a concerted effort to review ongoing developmental initiatives and strengthen administrative preparedness ahead of the forthcoming Buddha Amarnath Yatra, Deputy Commissioner Poonch Vikas Kundal, along with Senior Superintendent of Police Shafkat Bhat, undertook an extensive tour of Surankote Sub-Division today.

The high-level delegation including senior officials from the civil and police administration, focusing on infrastructure assessment, inter-departmental coordination and security arrangements for the Yatra-bound pilgrims.

The tour began with a detailed inspection of Dundak Mandir, a key halting point for the yatris. During the visit, the DC reviewed preparations including drinking water availability, sanitation facilities, temporary accommodations, medical aid and crowd control mechanisms. He directed officials to ensure a fool-proof security plan, unin-



terrupted utility services and a welcoming environment for pilgrims. A comprehensive on-site security audit of the temple premises and nearby areas was also conducted.

As part of Yatra coordination efforts, the DC and SSP welcomed the Padal Yatra procession from the Shiv Temple, Ari Potha, en route to Shri Buddha Amarnath Ji Temple, Mandi, via Harni-JWG. They interacted with the pilgrims, appreciated their devotion and assured full adminis-

trative support throughout their journey. The officers reiterated the administration's commitment to ensuring a smooth, secure and spiritually enriching Yatra experience.

Continuing the developmental review, the team inspected the under-construction bridge on the National Highway Bypass near Potha, a vital connectivity project.

The Deputy Commissioner assessed technical progress and instructed the National Highway

authorities to adhere to quality standards, expedite completion and keep the route obstruction-free for commuter safety. He warned that delays or sub-standard work would not be tolerated.

The officials also visited the Machakki and Mastandara labour camps, which accommodate workers from the Parnai Power Project. The DC and SSP interacted with labourers to understand their living conditions, safety and working environment. The administration assured them of its commitment to their well-being and pledged to resolve grievances promptly. Project managers were directed to ensure proper accommodation, medical support and adherence to labour safety regulations.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed progress on the Surankote-Bufaliaz road, a critical rural link, along with various smaller development projects across the subdivision. He stressed the need for strong inter-departmental coordination to avoid delays and maintain construction quality.

He further directed Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Surankote to actively monitor the progress of all current and upcoming projects. He emphasised real-time tracking, departmental accountability and quick decision-making to meet deadlines and deliver results for the public.

The tour included participation from key officials such as SDM Surankote Farooq Khan, Tehsildar Surankote Akbar Hussain and senior officers from departments including the Public Works Department (PWD), Border Roads Organisation (BRO), and Parnai Power Project. Their presence enabled on-spot coordination and immediate resolution of issues encountered during the inspections.

This extensive field review underscores the district administration's commitment to public welfare, infrastructure development and effective Yatra management. DC Vikas Kundal affirmed that all ongoing projects in Surankote Sub-Division will be closely monitored and expedited in line with government priorities.

Inter-zonal district level Yoga, Handball, Basketball and Badminton competition begins in Doda



J1 NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JULY 13

The Department of Youth Services and Sports, under the supervision of DYSSO Doda Jaffar Haider Sheikh, inaugurated the inter-zonal district level competitions in Yoga, Handball, Basketball and

Badminton. Events are being conducted at various venues across Doda, marking a vibrant return of competitive sports in the district.

A total of 280 participants are competing in the four disciplines, highlighting the remarkable talent and commitment of local

youth. The competitions aim to provide a platform for young athletes to demonstrate their skills and promote sportsmanship.

Matches in all categories will continue until JULY 22, offering an exciting display of youthful energy, teamwork and healthy competition.

Inter-zonal district level U/14 and U/17 tournament held at Indoor Sports Stadium Doda

J1 NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JULY 13

The Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) Doda today conducted the second phase of the inter-zonal district level tournament for U/14 and U/17 boys and girls at the Indoor Sports Stadium Doda.

The event was organised as per the approved 2025-26 activity calendar issued by the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, J&K UT. It was held under the direction of Director General Youth Services and Sports, J&K UT, Anuradha Gupta, and guidance of Joint Director Jammu Vinakshi Koul, with overall supervision by DYSSO Doda, Jaffar Haider Sheikh.

The tournament featured high-energy com-



petitions in Boxing, Karate, Judo, Wushu, Thang-ta, Fencing and Badminton. These events serve to identify top performers for participation in higher-level competitions. Young athletes competed with notable skill, determination and enthusiasm.

The DYSSO expressed gratitude to participants, officials and supporters for their role in the event's success. He stressed the importance of promoting a culture of sports excellence and holistic development among youth. He

also encouraged students to stay away from drugs and contribute to making the district "Nasha-Mukt" (drug-free).

The events were officiated by a panel of experts and departmental officials including PELS, PEMS, PETS, REKS, ground staff and NYCs. The tournament not only encouraged physical fitness but also helped instil values of discipline, teamwork and resilience among students, supporting the department's mission of building a healthier youth community.

3-day Blind Cricket Tournament concludes in Bhaderwah

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BHADERWAH, JULY 13

The three-day Blind Cricket Tournament concluded today at the Sports Stadium, Government Degree College Bhaderwah. Held from JULY 11 to 13, the event brought together visually impaired players from various regions, celebrating the spirit of inclusive sports.

Organised by the Cricket Blind Association J&K in collaboration with District Administration Doda,



Bhaderwah Development Authority (BDA) and the Social Welfare Department, the tournament aimed to empower visually impaired athletes and promote equal

opportunities in sports. The tournament was inaugurated by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhaderwah, Sunil Kumar Bhutyal, who highlighted

the administration's commitment to supporting specially-abled sports persons. The opening match featured a thrilling contest between the Blue and Red teams, with the Blue team emerging victorious.

Over three days, players impressed spectators with their coordination, skilled batting and sharp fielding—proving that passion for the game knows no boundaries.

In his message, Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh praised the

organisers and applauded the players' spirit. "This tournament is a reminder that disability is not inability. These players are an inspiration for everyone," he said.

The closing ceremony included trophy and certificate distribution, with appreciation from attendees, volunteers and officials. The organisers expressed their commitment to making this an annual event to promote inclusivity, sportsmanship and unity.