

**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:

- Severe and continuous headache
- Joint and muscle pain
- Severe stomach pain
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Severe fatigue
- Severe skin rash
- Severe vomiting
- Severe diarrhoea
- Severe bleeding from gums or nose, blood in stool, urine or vomit

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

# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## J&K will reclaim lasting peace under PM Modi's rule: Amit Shah

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JUL 30 (KNO)

Asserting that Jammu and Kashmir is set to reclaim lasting peace under the PM Modi-led government, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said that all terror outfits operating in Jammu and Kashmir will be crushed.

The Union Home Minister, according to the news agency informed the Rajya Sabha that security forces ensured the terrorists behind the Pahalgam attack were eliminated before they could flee to Pakistan. "The coordinated operations led to their precise identification and swift neutralisation," he added.



Shah said that the responsibility for April 22 Pahalgam terror attack which left 26 civilians, mostly tourists dead, was claimed by The Resistance Front (TRF), and those responsible were tracked and neutralised in two separate operations - "Operation Sindoor" and

"Operation Mahadev." Shah said a forensic analysis confirmed that the weapons used in the attack matched those recovered from the slain terrorists. "There is no debate or doubt now. The rifles recovered were the same," he told the House. The Union Home Min-

ister said intelligence agencies and local police questioned 155 people, and those who sheltered the attackers were also identified and are being investigated.

Shah thanked the Prime Minister and the armed forces for their role in the counter-terror-operations. He said, "I visited Jammu and Kashmir myself. We took a pledge to capture the terrorists and prevent them from escaping to Pakistan. We succeeded on both fronts."

Providing a timeline of the counter-offensive, the Home Minister said, "Operation Mahadev was launched on April 22, the day of the

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## Operation Shivshakti: Army, J&K Police kill 2 terrorists in Poonch, foil infiltration bid

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JUL 30 (KNO)

Army in close coordination with Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday foiled an infiltration bid by killing two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists near the Line of Control.

Officials told the news agency that operation codenamed 'Operation Shivshakti' was carried out with precision by the alert soldiers of White Knight Corps, in close coordination with the J&K Police

Jammu based defence spokesperson, Lt Col Suneel Bartwal in a statement said, "In a coordinated counter-terrorism operation, troops of Indian Army launched 'Operation



Shivshakti' in the Poonch Sector, J&K, during early hours of 30 July 25."

"The operation was based on credible intelligence inputs acquired by synergistic and synchronised intelligence coordination by military and civil intelligence units in concert with J&K Police regarding the presence

of terrorists in the area. Acting swiftly on the inputs, the security forces laid coordinated ambushes on the appreciated infiltration routes. A fierce gunfight ensued between the security forces and terrorists along the Line of Control in the early morning hours of July 30, leading to the neutralisation of

two terrorists and recovery of large quantity of war like stores," he added. Lt Colonel Bartwal said, "The swift, coordinated and decisive action by security forces prevented any collateral damage and ensured the safety of local population."

The PRO said recovered war like stores include two assault rifles with ammunition, one pistol with ammunition, hand grenades, two Improvised explosive devices, medicines, communication device and other logistic stores. The huge recovery of war like & logistic stores indicate that the terrorists were well-prepared for prolonged engagement. Search operation

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## Amarnath Yatra suspended, no convoy to move from Jammu today

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JUL 30 (KNO)

Authorities on Wednesday suspended the Amarnath Yatra on both Pahalgam and Baltal routes due to inclement weather conditions and announced that no yatra convoy will move from Jammu base camp on Thursday.

"Shri Amarnathji Yatra has been suspended for 30.07.2025 from both Pahalgam and Baltal base camps," Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR),

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## Terror aide held, major targeted killing attempt foiled: Police

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JUL 30 (KNO)

Jammu Police have successfully thwarted a major targeted killing plot in Nagrota area of Jammu, recovering a cache of weapons dropped via drone and apprehending a suspect.

The operation marks a significant breakthrough in preventing a potential terrorist attack in the region.

"Acting on credible intelligence, a joint team of Jammu Police

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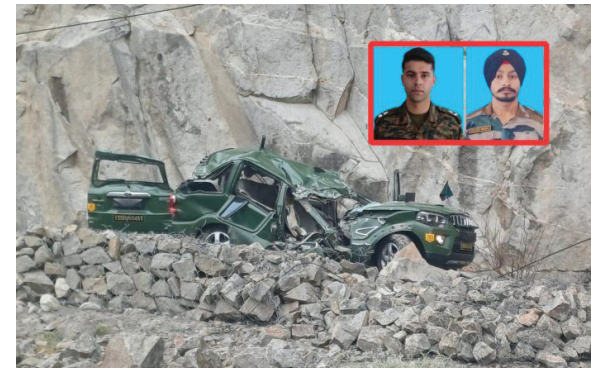
## Lt Colonel among 2 soldiers dead, 3 officers injured in Ladakh accident

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
LEH, JUL 30 (KNO)

Two army soldiers, including a Lieutenant Colonel, died and three officers were injured when a boulder fell on an army vehicle in Ladakh on Wednesday morning, officials told the news agency.

They said, "An Army vehicle was hit by the boulder when a convoy was moving from Durbuk to Chongtash at around 11:30 am. Five soldiers sustained critical injuries in the accident."

The convoy, as per officials, was on a training move from Durbuk to Chongtash. "The vehicle hit by a boulder suffered



extensive damage," they said, adding, "Two soldiers succumbed to injuries and the three injured were shifted to an Army hospital in Leh for treatment."

In a statement posted on X, the Fire and Fury Corps, according to KNO,

said, "GOC, Fire and Fury Corps and All Ranks salute Lieutenant Colonel Bhanu Pratap Singh Mankotia and Lance Dafadar Daljit Singh... and offer deep condolences to the bereaved families in this hour of grief,"

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## 26 probationary IPS officers from SVPNPA call on J&K DGP

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JUL 30 (KNO)

26 probationary IPS officers (77 RR batch) from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA), called on the Director General of Police, Nalin Prabhat.

According to a statement issued to the news agency, they interacted with him and other senior officers.

They were briefed on the unique

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## Stone pelting activity nullified in J&K post-Art 370 revocation: J P Nadda

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JUL 30 (KNO)

Union Minister and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National President J P Nadda said stone pelting incidents in Jammu and Kashmir have reduced to zero since the abrogation of Article 370. He said that while more than 2,000 such incidents occurred between 2010 and 2014, not a single case had been reported in the last three years.

As per the news agency, he said Kashmir Valley



had not been shut down for even a day in recent years.

According to him, terrorism in the region had been limited to foreign elements, and the

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## J&K govt forms high-level team to address harassment, extortion of livestock transporters in Punjab

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JUL 30 (KNO)

The Jammu and Kashmir Government has constituted a high-level team to engage with the Punjab Government to ensure smooth movement of livestock vehicles and to address persistent complaints of harassment, extortion, and overcharging faced by transporters.

According to an order, a copy of which lies with news agency, the government has formed the 3-member committee including Deputy Controller, Legal

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## One dead, 20 injured as bus overturns in Handwara

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
HANDWARA, JUL 30 (KNO)

A tragic road accident in Handwara's Rajwara village on Wednesday morning left one person dead and at least 20 others injured after a passenger bus turned turtle.

Officials briefing reporters, as per the news agency said the deceased Irshad Ahmed Lone, a teacher by profession was a passerby, who got trapped under the vehicle, while all those aboard the bus sustained injuries.

One of the injured passengers was referred to a Srinagar hospital for

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## Indus Water Treaty suspended till Pak ends terror: EAM Jaishankar in RS

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JUL 30 (KNO)

External Affairs Minister (EAM) Dr S Jaishankar on Wednesday told the Rajya Sabha that the Indus Water Treaty was not a peace initiative but a move for appeasement. He said the treaty, signed by the then Prime Minister with Pakistan, should be reviewed in the current context.

"The Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan, signed by the then Prime Minister, was not to buy peace, but for appeasement," Jaishankar said while participating in a discussion on Operation Sindoor, as reported by the news agency.

Referring to recent developments, he said, "The Indus Water Treaty will be held in abeyance until Pakistan irrevocably gives up its support of ter-



rorism. Blood and water will not flow together."

Opening the second day of the debate in the Rajya Sabha, the EAM began by expressing condolences for the civilians killed in the recent terror attack in Pahalgam.

He then detailed India's position during Operation Sindoor and the diplomatic communication with various countries during that time. "When Operation Sindoor commenced, several countries were in touch with us to see how serious the situation was and how long it would go,"

he said. "We gave the same message to all countries, that we were not open to any mediation. Anything between us and Pakistan will only be bilateral." On India's military response, Jaishankar said, "We told them we were responding to the Pakistani attack and would continue to respond. If that fighting were to stop, Pakistan must make a request. And that request could only come through the channel of the Director General of Military Operations (DGMO)."

He also addressed opposition claims related to international diplomacy. "I want to tell them (Opposition) that from April 22 to June 16, there has been no phone call between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump," he said.

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## Over 1,400 URLs blocked during 'Op Sindoor': Gol

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JUL 30 (KNO)

The central government blocked more than 1,400 online links during Operation Sindoor as part of its efforts to contain the spread of fake news and sensitive content in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Responding to a query from MP Tejasvi Surya, Vaishnaw said the blocked content included a range of posts on websites and



social media platforms that circulated misinformation and material deemed harmful to national interests.

"Many of these handles were operated from outside the country and were found actively involved in

sharing false, anti-India narratives," the Minister said in a written reply.

The government took action under Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000, which allows blocking of digital content in cases involving national security, public order, or the sovereignty of India.

According to the Minister, the URLs flagged during this period contained misleading content, provocative material targeting the armed forces and posts with

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## Over 13.6 million mobile numbers disconnected to curb telecom fraud: Union Minister Scindia informs Parliament

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JUL 30 (KNO)

Union Minister of Communications, Jyotiraditya M Scindia on Wednesday said that the government has disconnected over 13.6 Million mobile numbers to curb the telecom fraud.

Scindia while responding to the questions of the Members of Parliament, according to the news agency, informed the Lok Sabha that the government has addressed key concerns related to telecom frauds.



Outlining the government's ongoing efforts to enhance prevention of cyber frauds, the Union Minister informed the House in a major nationwide push to curb cyber fraud and protect citizens

from digital threats, the Government of India has rolled out a series of decisive, tech-enabled measures under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), in close coordination with the Ministry of Home Affairs. "As part of this initiative, a Digital Intelligence Platform has been developed, bringing together 620 institutions including 570 banks, 36 state police forces, investigative agencies, and telecom service providers, to jointly tackle fraud in real-time. The plat-

form enables integrated action against scammers and cyber criminals who misuse telecom infrastructure to deceive citizens," he said.

The Minister said that to further involve the public in this mission, the Government launched the Sanchar Saathi portal on May 16, 2023, which has since registered over 15.5 crore hits, indicating strong public awareness and participation. "Building on this success, the Sanchar Saathi mobile

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## Gandhi Nagar Accident: Accused held after 72 hours' chase

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JUL 30 (KNO)

Jammu Police on Wednesday said to have arrested an accused in the Gandhi Nagar road rage incident after a 72-hour-long chase by the six specially constituted teams.

The victim, whose condition is stated to be critical, has been shifted to Fortis Hospital in Chandigarh for treatment.

"Accused Thar driver, Mannan Anand, son of



Rajinder Anand of House number 62, Sec 4, Nanak Nagar, Jammu, who was absconding in a case under FIR number 163/2025

under sections 281, 125(a), and 109 BNS has been arrested by Police Station Gandhi Nagar," the Jammu and Kashmir Police said in

an official statement to the news agency.

Earlier, the 21-year engineering student, who is the son of an "influential" contractor, hit the old man identified as Kamal Kant Dutta, 68, of Gandhi Nagar twice on Sunday afternoon around 1.30 pm. The CCTV footage of the incident has gone viral on social media.

In the footage, it is seen that speeding Thar first collided with the

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## MLA Udhampur West, DC inaugurate construction work of Tricolour Structure, Sergah Road Project

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, JULY 30

Member Legislative Assembly Udhampur West Pawan Kumar Gupta today inaugurated the construction work on a Tricolour structure and Sergah Temple road here in the Township.

The Tricolour Structure, being constructed under the Untied Grant at an estimated cost of Rs 11.18 lakh, is being executed by the Public Works Department.

Later, the MLA Udhampur West and DC also inaugurated the construction work of the Sergah road under the District Plan, with a projected



cost of Rs 30.11 lakh. The road, which will provide smoother access to the Devika Temple, is yet another milestone in the town development.

The inauguration was held in the presence of

Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai, Chief Planning Officer Uttam Singh, Executive Engineer PWD, other district officers and prominent local citizens.

The MLA and Deputy Commissioner congratulated

the public on the fulfillment of their long-pending demand.

The MLA Udhampur West commended the tireless efforts of the District Administration, especially DC in ensuring the timely execution of the twin projects. He also congratulated the general public and the DC for improving accessibility to the revered Devika Temple.

Local residents expressed gratitude to the MLA Udhampur West and District Administration for fulfilling their long-standing demands and executing the development works within record time.

## DC Samba reviews preparations for Janmashtami Mela at Narsingh Temple-Ghagwal

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, JULY 30

Deputy Commissioner Samba Rajesh Sharma today chaired a comprehensive review meeting in the meeting Hall of the DC Office to assess and finalize the preparations for the upcoming Janmashtami Mela at the historic Narsingh Temple, Ghagwal.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned departments to ensure flawless coordination and time-bound execution of arrangements to facilitate a smooth, safe, and spiritually enriching experience for devotees and visitors. He laid special



emphasis on security management, sanitation, traffic regulation, and provision of essential public amenities.

Highlighting the significance of the festival, DC Sharma underscored the importance of maintaining law and order, ensuring cleanliness and hygiene, and enabling uninterrupted vehicular movement during the Mela, which is expected to draw large

crowds from across the region.

The meeting also reviewed arrangements for drinking water supply, installation of mobile toilets, setting up of medical aid stations, and deployment of adequate manpower to manage public facilities and emergencies effectively.

Reiterating the need for seamless interdepartment-

tal synergy, the Deputy Commissioner exhorted the stakeholders to work in close coordination with the Narsingh Temple Committee to

ensure that the event is conducted in a safe, orderly, and spiritually uplifting manner.

The meeting was attended by SSP Samba, Virender Singh Manhas; ADDC Samba, Champa Devi Thakur; ACR Samba; SDM Ghagwal; senior officers of various line departments; and representatives of the Narsingh Temple Committee.

## Distt admin Kupwara launches 'Aakanksha Haat' under ADP

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, JULY 30

In a significant step towards promoting local entrepreneurship and sustainable livelihood generation, the district administration Kupwara today launched the weeklong 'Aakanksha Haat' under the Aspirational District Programme (ADP) of NITI Aayog at Sumo Stand Regipora, Kupwara.

The initiative was inaugurated by MLA Kupwara, Mir Mohammad Fayaz and witnessed the presence of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan.

It is worth mentioning that 'Aakanksha Haat' is part of the national campaign for 'Vocal for Local'. Besides, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Chief Planning Officer, Lead District Manager, Tehsildar Kupwara, district officers, local artisans, women entrepreneurs, and representatives from various departments and civil society organizations also participated in the day-long 'Aakanksha Haat'.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Kupwara welcomed the initiative of conducting 'Aakanksha Haat' by district administration Kupwara. He appealed to the people to take active



part in the weeklong Haat and support the local artisans and entrepreneurs which shall boost the livelihood opportunities for the unemployed youth in the district.

Deputy Commissioner in her address said that the aim of organizing the 'Aakanksha Haat' is to promote local artisans, Self Help Groups, Farmers and different entrepreneurs by providing them marketing opportunities to sell their products and services. She appealed to people to come in large numbers and participate in the Haat to support the local entrepreneurs and artisans by buying their products.

The 'Aakanksha Haat' initiative is designed to provide a structured platform for local producers,

artisans, self-help groups (SHGs), and women-led enterprises to showcase and market their products. Through this convergence, the Haat aims to deliver sustainable market access, national-level branding, and integration with e-commerce frameworks, thereby scaling up the visibility and viability of local products.

As part of the Aspirational Districts & Blocks Programme, the event also brings together multiple departments, institutions, and producer collectives, facilitating a multi-sectoral approach to economic empowerment.

Departments including Handicrafts, Handlooms, Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticul-

ture, Fisheries, ICDS and Social Welfare have set up stalls and exhibits to demonstrate government support schemes and the socio-economic potential of indigenous skills and entrepreneurship.

The platform will not only serve as a marketing and exhibition space but also offer capacity-building workshops, skill demonstrations, buyer-seller meets, and digital literacy sessions aimed at boosting competitiveness and innovation among local producers.

The Haat will remain open to the public for a week, and residents are encouraged to visit, support local entrepreneurs, and experience the richness of Kupwara's cultural and economic landscape.

## Distt admin Pulwama launches weeklong 'Aakanksha Haat' initiative at Sangerwani

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
PULWAMA, JULY 30

District administration Pulwama today launched a week-long initiative titled 'Aakanksha Haat' at Sangerwani Pulwama.

The event was inaugurated by Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Rajpora, Ghulam Mohi Ud-din Mir and aims to undertake activities like installation of stalls exhibiting local products, live demonstration of crafts, cultural engagement, capacity building workshops, artisan registration and onboarding with e-commerce platforms in order to promote local products, empower Self Help Groups (SHGs), and create market opportunities for rural women entrepreneurs.

A wide range of government departments had set up dedicated stalls at the venue to deliver on-the-spot services. Local artisans, farmers, self-help groups (SHGs), FPOs and



local entrepreneurs from the Aspirational Block Ichgoze participated in the event and exhibited handmade crafts, traditional artworks, locally produced goods, handloom and textile products and other region-specific items.

MLA Rajpora inspected the stalls and interacted with SHG members and entrepreneurs. He assured them of continued support in achieving self-reliance and accessing government schemes.

Addressing the gathering, MLA spoke about the

importance of working together for the progress of the area. "Everyone including officers, local people and community leaders should join hands to bring real change and people must take part actively in government programmes to ensure that government initiatives translate into meaningful change on the ground," he said.

Appreciating the efforts of the SHG members, he said, "These women are preserving our traditions while also becoming financially independent. Their work deserves recognition and support." He assured the community that the SHGs would be connected to relevant government schemes and financial assistance.

'Aakanksha Haat' initiative will continue for a week and will include exhibitions, awareness activities, capacity building workshops and support services.

## DC Kulgam flags-off a group of 54 progressive orchardists to SKUAST-K

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KULGAM, JULY 30

In a significant step towards empowering farmers with modern horticultural practices, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today flagged-off a group of 54 progressive orchardists from Mini-Secretariat Kulgam to SKUAST-K (Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology - Kashmir) as part of a Capacity Building Programme under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP).

The tour has been organized by the Chief Horticulture Officer, Kulgam.



Before flagging-off the group, DC interacted with the orchardists and urged them to take full advantage of the exposure visit by actively engaging with experts and adopting innovative horticultural practices.

He emphasized that such initiatives are vital for enhancing productiv-

ity, improving quality, and ensuring sustainable income for farming communities.

It was informed during the tour that the orchardists will engage in interactive sessions with scientists at SKUAST-K, where they will learn about technological interventions and innovations in horti-

culture. They will also witness practical demonstrations on the establishment and management of orchards, with a special focus on High-Density Plantation techniques.

This initiative aims to equip farmers with the knowledge and skills required for sustainable and high-yield horticultural practices, ultimately enhancing productivity and income generation in the sector.

Present on the occasion were ACR, Riyaz Ahmad Shah, Chief Horticulture Officer, Mohammad Ramzan, Chief Agriculture Officer, Farooq Ahmad and other officers.

## 2nd J&K UT Taekwondo Championship 2025 concludes at Doda

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, JULY 30

The 2nd J&K UT Taekwondo Championship 2025 concluded here the other day at the Indoor Sports Hall.

Organized by the Taekwondo Association of District Doda and co-organized by the Game On Foundation, the event was held under the aegis of the J&K Taekwondo Association and J&K Sports Council as part of the My Youth My Pride initiative.

The championship was led by Junaid Ali Khan (President, Taekwondo Association Doda) and Burhan Ud Din Khan (Secretary, Taekwondo Association Doda), with Game On Foundation managing technical arrangements and volunteer coordination.



The closing ceremony was graced by Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh as the Chief Guest, and SSP, Sandeep Mehta, as Guest of Honor.

Special guests included Dr. Subuh Ahmed Shad (Tehsildar), Rajesh Kotwal (Manager, Indoor Sports Stadium Doda), and Yasir Wani (Executive Officer, MC).

In his address, the DC applauded the organizers

for hosting such a prestigious event in Chenab Valley and emphasized the importance of promoting sports among the youth. He also felicitated the medalists and coaches with trophies and certificates.

District Doda was declared the Overall Winner, with District Kathua as Runner-up and District Udhampur as Second Runner-up. Active

Participation Awards went to Districts of Jammu, Budgam, and Poonch, while Best Sportsmanship Spirit Awards were given to Districts Samba, Reasi, and Doda.

The matches were officiated by a skilled panel of referees headed by Mr. Vinod Grewal, supported by national and senior referees from across the Union Territory.

Burhan Ud Din Khan, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, expressed heartfelt thanks to Nuzhat Gul (Secretary, J&K Sports Council) for her unwavering support in promoting Taekwondo across Jammu and Kashmir. The event concluded on a high note, with a collective commitment to encouraging sportsmanship, discipline, and excellence among the youth.

## Pencak Silat championship 2025 kicks-off in Bandipora

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, JULY 30

District Pencak Silat championship 2025 was inaugurated today at Army Goodwill School, Bandipora, by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri.

Over 250 young athletes from various schools and clubs across the district are participating in the event.

Speaking on the occasion, DC highlighted the



vibrant sporting culture of the district, noting that it consistently nurtures talent that excels at higher levels. It was informed that the

championship also serves as an official selection platform for the upcoming State-Level Pencak Silat Championship.

A pledge ceremony under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan was also held to promote sports and a drug-free society.

The inaugural function was attended by several dignitaries, including Padma Shri awardee Faisal Ali Dar, Second-in-Command 14RR Major Vehbas Dubey, Vice President of the District Sports Advisory Board, and Principal of Army Goodwill School besides others.

## DC Udhampur reviews implementation status of PMAGY

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, JULY 30

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai today chaired a District Level Convergence Committee meeting to review the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana in the district.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on various socio-economic monitoring indicators related



to the villages identified under the scheme across different blocks of Udhampur District.

At the outset, District Social Welfare Officer Kanika Gupta gave a detailed presentation on

the current status of these indicators. She explained that PMAGY aims at the integrated development of villages with more than 50% SC population, with the objective of ensuring inclusive growth and the

upliftment of marginalized communities.

The DC underscored the need for conducting a thorough and accurate house-to-house survey. She emphasized that reliable data collection is critical for identifying lagging indicators and planning appropriate interventions.

She directed the concerned departments to pool resources and work collaboratively to bridge the identified development gaps effectively.

## DC Kulgam flags-off Beekeepers' exposure tour; Distributes motorized vending carts

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KULGAM, JULY 30

To promote apiculture and strengthen agriculture-based livelihoods, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan today flagged-off a group of 25 beekeepers for a one-day exposure tour to Lalmandi, Srinagar.

The tour is part of a 7-day training programme being conducted under the National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM).

Organized under the centrally sponsored NBHM scheme, the tour aims to provide practical exposure



to the participants. During the visit, beekeepers will be taken to a Honey Processing and Quality Control Lab, where they will gain hands-on insights into modern techniques of honey extraction, processing, branding, and marketing.

Speaking on the occasion, DC emphasized the importance of such exposure visits in upgrading the skills and knowledge of local entrepreneurs, especially those involved in rural and agri-allied sectors. He stressed that such initiatives play a pivotal role

in transforming agriculture into a more profitable and sustainable venture.

On the sidelines of the event, two motorized vending carts were also distributed to beneficiaries under the UT Capex Budget. These carts are intended to aid the marketing and sale of vegetables in urban and semi-urban areas of the district, thereby offering a sustainable income-generating opportunity for the recipients.

ACR Kulgam, officers from the Agriculture and allied departments were present during the flag-off ceremony.

## Nasha Mukt J&K Abhiyan: Stage show on drug abuse awareness held at IHM, Rajbagh



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JULY 30

As part of the Nasha Mukt J&K Abhiyan, Cultural Unit Srinagar of the Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), in collaboration with the Institute of Hotel Management, Rajbagh Srinagar, organized a stage show

based on the theme of drug abuse awareness.

The event was held in the auditorium of the Institute, where a group of local theatre artists delivered a moving performance highlighting the devastating impact of substance abuse on individuals and society.

Audience, especially

students, responded with deep appreciation and expressed their desire for more such meaningful initiatives.

Nirmata Kumari, Principal of the Institute, stressed the importance of addressing such critical issues through creative mediums.

Burhan Hussain, Cultur-

al Officer, emphasized the transformative power of theatre in fostering awareness and social responsibility.

The programme concluded with a powerful pledge by students and staff to stand united against drug abuse and promote a healthy, conscious society.

## NCORD Meeting

## DM Ramban calls for mission mode efforts to make Panchayats Nasha Mukt

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, JULY 30

District Magistrate Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan today directed the stakeholder departments to intensify efforts on a mission mode to make every panchayat in the district Nasha Mukt. He issued these directions while chairing a meeting of the NCORD Committee in his office chambers today.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak, Additional SP Mujeeb-Ur-Rehman, ACR Shokat Hayat Mattoo, ACP



Mohammad Ashfaq, CMO Dr. Kamal Je Zadu, CEO Mukhtar Ahmad, SDMs, CAO, CHO, Tehsildars, Drugs Control Officer, and other officers, with several joining through virtual mode.

The District Magistrate instructed all departments to organize extensive awareness programmes across

the district, particularly in schools, colleges, and other institutions, to sensitize youth about the harmful effects of drug abuse. He directed ACD, ACP and BDOs to ensure mass public participation, especially of the youth, in these awareness campaigns.

Reviewing the measures taken by enforcement agencies, the DM emphasized the need for frequent joint inspections to curb drug abuse and narcotics trafficking. He directed the officers to track and apprehend drug peddlers along with their supply sources.

Further, the District Mag-

istrate asked the ADC to adopt a coordinated strategy with SDMs and SDPOs to ensure all panchayats in every tehsil are made Nasha Mukt. He also directed the Police Department and SDMs to take swift action to destroy cannabis and poppy plantations if any in their respective jurisdictions.

Taking a review from the CMO regarding the treatment of patients undergoing de-addiction, the DM instructed him to ensure regular counseling and follow-up check-ups of recovered patients to prevent relapse.

## NEP UTSAV: Doda Schools promote foundational literacy, numeracy on Day 2

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, JULY 30

The second day of the NEP UTSAV 2025 concluded with widespread participation and vibrant celebrations across District Doda. A total of 975 schools took part in the day's events, which focused on promotion of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) through the innovative use of Teaching-Learning Materials (TLMs).

The celebrations were held under the directives of Director of School Education Jammu Dr. Naseem Javaid Choudhary and were supervised by Chief Education Officer Mohammad Hafiz.

The event served as a platform for talented and innovative teachers to showcase creative TLMs at

R. SEC. SCHOOL ASSAR



the district, zonal, and cluster levels. The material has been developed to enhance student engagement and promote a student-centered approach to learning, particularly in foundational subjects. The displays and demonstrations highlighted how these tools are being effectively used to improve comprehension

and make learning more interactive for students.

A core objective of the day was to reinforce the principles of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasizes early foundational skills as the bedrock of lifelong learning. In addition to showcasing TLMs, teachers conducted sessions to

raise awareness about the importance of Activity-Based Learning (ABL). Several schools staged skits and interactive sessions to demonstrate the practical application of ABL in the classroom.

Education officials lauded the dedication of school heads and teachers for their commitment to aligning classroom practices with the goals of NEP 2020. They commended the efforts to create a more inclusive and dynamic learning environment for students throughout the district.

The NEP UTSAV 2025 is a multi-day event and will continue with more theme-based activities planned in the coming days to further engage the educational community of District Doda.

## Preamble recitation, screening of documentary on life of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel organized at GDC Ramkote

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KATHUA, JULY 30

To celebrate 75 years of adoption of the Constitution of India, the faculty and students of Government Degree College Ramkote today participated in the recitation of the Preamble to the Constitution of India.

The event was organised by the NSS Unit of the College under the tagline of 'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Swabhiman' and under the overall guidance of the College Principal Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul. The

objective of the programme was to create awareness among students about the importance of the Constitution and its Preamble as well as to promote the spirit of patriotism and nationalism. The activity also fostered awareness about the values, rights and duties enshrined in our constitution.

Students and faculty of GDC Ramkote recited the Preamble to the Constitution in unison. After the Preamble reading, a short documentary on 'Life of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel' was screened

as a part of two-year campaign commemorating the 150th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

The students learnt about the pivotal role played by the Iron Man of India in uniting the various princely states into newly independent Indian Nation. Prof. Suresh Chander addressed the students about the significance of the Preamble of the Constitution and motivated the students to learn more about the book that governs the life of every citizen of India. Nearly 20 NSS volunteers of BA Semester

3rd and 5th participated in the event.

Faculty present included Prof Pankaj Nandan, IQAC Convener, Prof. Suresh Chander, HoD Dogri, Prof. Anu Sharma, Prof. Vasundra Raj, Mr. Krishan Singh and Mr. Ankush Kundral. The event was organised by Prof. Anu Sharma, NSS PO who delivered a formal vote of thanks for the contribution made by everyone to ensure the patriotic zeal in revering the constitution and honouring the figure of national importance.

## Satish Sharma emphasizes Science & Technology driven agricultural transformation

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JULY 30

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, Science and Technology, Transport, Satish Sharma, today reaffirmed the government's commitment towards transforming Jammu and Kashmir's agriculture sector through cutting-edge science, technology and innovation.

The Minister was speaking at a high-level Stakeholders Meet on Strengthening the Science, Technology & Innovation (STI) Ecosystem in Kashmir, organized by PI-RAHI, Northern Region S&T Cluster in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Science & Technology Council and Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST-Kashmir).

The function witnessed participation of Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K, Dr. Nazir Ahmad Ganai; Secretary Science & Technology, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary; Advisor PI-RAHI, Jatinder Kour Arora; Additional Director JKSTIC, Dr. Nasir Shah along with senior scientists, progressive farmers, scholars and officers of the Science & Technology Department.

Satish Sharma invoked the visionary reforms of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Abdullah, who brought the historic land-to-the-tiller legislation. He emphasized that the present focus is on bringing about a similar



transformation through smart technologies and modern scientific interventions in agriculture. "Today's focus is on creating a dynamic Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) ecosystem in Kashmir. Our farmers must not only be beneficiaries of government aid but active participants in technological progress," he maintained.

The Minister outlined several key pillars of the government's agricultural transformation agenda under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. These included Smart Farming Solutions, Bio-technology Interventions, Post-Harvest Management and Value Addition, Use of Renewable Energy in Agriculture, E-Commerce and Direct Market Access for Farmers, Skill Develop-

ment, Capacity Building and Robust R&D.

Satish Sharma also launched four new start-ups by young innovators of SKUAST-K, symbolizing the government's support for youth-led entrepreneurship in the agri-tech domain. He praised the innovative spirit of Kashmir's youth and stressed the importance of creating a conducive research and innovation ecosystem. "We have the brains that can do wonders. All they need is the right environment, like a seed that needs sunlight and water to bloom," he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K, elaborated on the university's initiatives to build a vibrant agri-technology ecosystem. He said that these steps are geared toward increasing employ-

ability, improving yields, and boosting the income of the farming community.

Secretary Science & Technology, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, stressed the need to bridge the gap between government and academia, enabling the young researchers to scale their innovations. He proposed institutional scholarships to support youth innovators and ensure their ideas receive the necessary backing.

Earlier, the Minister went around the SKUAST-K campus and interacted with the students and innovators. He was briefed about several ongoing research projects and cutting-edge technologies being developed to support sustainable and climate-resilient farming in the region.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

## J&amp;K will reclaim...

Pahalgam attack. The presence of the terrorists was detected by May 22. After confirming their exact location, a joint strategy was drawn up by the Jammu and Kashmir Police, 4 Para, and the CRPF. A detailed meeting was held by senior officials. The operation was then executed at the pinpointed location."

Shah told the House that the families of Pahalgam terror attack victims had personally requested justice. "They wanted a decisive response and we delivered it," he said.

The Union Home Minister said that the attackers were killed with precision. "We shot them in their heads," he said, responding to questions on whether there had been any leniency.

On the timing of the final operation, Shah responded to criticism over it coinciding with the Parliament session. "Someone asked why these terrorists were killed on the first day of Parliament session. I would have ordered it the very next minute after the attack if that were possible. But it's not easy," he said.

Referring to the twin operations, the Union Home Minister said, "Operation Sindoor and Operation Mahadev represent India's strongest response to terrorism. Together, they form the sternest response seen anywhere."

Shah also invoked history, calling "Har Har Mahadev" a call to action used by Shivaji Maharaj and his soldiers. He said the phrase symbolises India's strength and determination.

He questioned the Opposition's protests during his speech, asking whether they were trying to defend groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba. "Who were you trying to save?" he asked. "Chidambaram's remarks exposed Congress before the world," he added.

Amit Shah said, "I want to tell the Congress party that it was during your tenure that Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) was lost, but it is the BJP that will bring it back. We carried out targeted strikes on terrorist hideouts, their bases, organisations, training camps, and launching pads. Our operation was aimed at terrorism, but Pakistan perceived it as an attack on its country." KNO

## Operation Shivshakti: Army...

is in progress in the surrounding areas to rule out the presence of any more terrorists, he added.

The Indian Army's White Knight Corps, in a post on X, reiterated their commitment to safeguarding the nation, stating, "Swift action and accurate firepower thwarted the nefarious designs of the infiltrators. Operation Shivshakti is a testament to our resolve to protect the region from terrorism."

Pertinently, this operation came just days after security forces carried out 'Operation Mahadev,' on July 27. On a tip off security forces had launched massive searches in the steep and dense mountain ranges of Lidwas at Harwan in Srinagar outskirts following which contact was established with hiding Lashkar terrorists involved in the April 22 Pahalgam attack. They were neutralised. KNO

## Lt Colonel among...

In an earlier post, it said, "A boulder from a cliff fell on one of the vehicles of a military convoy in Ladakh, around 1130h on 30 Jul 2025. Recovery action is in progress"

Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi and all ranks of Indian Army expressed grief on the loss of two soldiers in a tragic road accident.

"#GeneralUpendraDwivedi, #COAS and All Ranks of #IndianArmy salute Lieutenant Colonel Bhanu Pratap Singh Mankotia and Lance Dafadar Daljeet Singh, who made supreme sacrifice in the line of duty in #Ladakh today," ADG-PI-Indian Army posted on 'X'.

"Indian Army extends its deepest condolences and stands firm with the bereaved families in this hour of grief," it added. KNO

## Indus Water Treaty...

Jaishankar said India conveyed to the international community that it would not accept any form of mediation or pressure tactics. "We gave a message that India is not open to mediation. We will not accept nuclear blackmail," he said.

The EAM said that terrorism is now on the global agenda because of consistent efforts made by the present government. KNO

## J&amp;K govt forms...

Metrology Department, J&K, Manoj Prabhakar, Deputy Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Kashmir Mohammad Rafeeq Bhat, and Deputy Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Jammu Sham Lal Abrol.

The order reads that the team will visit Punjab to hold consultations with relevant departments and senior officials of the Punjab Government. "It will secure an institutional and amicable resolution that ensures hassle-free transport of livestock, safeguards the livelihoods of J&K's livestock traders, and upholds the sanctity of inter-state trade protocols," reads the order.

It added that the team will submit a detailed report to the administrative department after the visit. KNO

## One dead, 20...

specialized treatment, while majority of those receiving care at GMC Handwara were discharged later.

Soon after the incident, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara Ayushi Sudan and Superintendent of Police (SP) Handwara Mushtaq Choudhary visited the injured at the Government Medical College (GMC) Handwara.

Police have also taken the cognizance of the incident and are further investigating the matter, which led to the accident.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, Health Minister Sakina Itoo and others expressed grief over the incident and prayed for the deceased and injured.

"I am deeply grieved by the road accident in Handwara. In this hour of grief, my thoughts are with the family of Irshad Ahmed Lone who lost his life. I pray

for the early recovery of those injured in this accident," LG said.

Similarly, the Minister on X, wrote "Deeply saddened by the tragic bus accident in Behnipoora, Handwara, which claimed the life of a dedicated teacher, Irshad Ahmed Lone, and injured several students. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. Praying for the swift recovery of all the injured".

The minister also informed that 80% of the injured students were discharged, while rest are stable and under expert medical attention at GMC Handwara. KNO

## 26 probationary IPS...

challenges which J&K Police faces and the role and contribution of J&K Police in combating terrorism. KNO

## Stone pelting activity...

average life span of a terrorist in the valley had come down to seven days. This, he said, was the outcome of a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism.

Nadda said the current security situation was the result of strong political decisions. "The same police and army operated earlier as well, but there was a lack of political will in the past to act against Pakistan," he said.

The BJP leader said that after the Uri terror attack, the Indian Army carried out surgical strikes within three days. According to him, this was the first time since 1947 that an Indian Prime Minister had publicly declared that those behind the attack would not be spared.

He said that during the UPA government, no such action was taken despite repeated terror attacks. Referring to incidents such as the 2005 Delhi blasts, the 2006 Varanasi attack, and the 2006 Mumbai train bombings, Nadda said there was no pressure put on Pakistan at the time.

"Even after the 2008 Jaipur bomb blasts by Indian Mujahideen, the Indian and Pakistani governments agreed on confidence-building measures. They kept firing bullets at us, and we kept offering them biryani," he said.

Responding to criticism from the Opposition over the Pahalgam incident, Nadda said those raising questions should look at their own record. "During their tenure, multiple blasts took place across the country, and many people were killed, but no concrete action was taken. Trade and terror continued side by side during those years," he said.

The BJP National President said that at the 2009 SCO Summit, the UPA government did not even mention the 2008 Mumbai attacks. KNO

## Over 1,400 URLs...

communal overtones, largely traced to Pakistan-based accounts.

To monitor and respond in real time, the government established a centralised control unit, which remained operational round-the-clock. This unit, jointly managed by defence personnel, information agencies and the Press Information Bureau (PIB), functioned as a central command for identifying and countering online threats during the operation.

Vaishnav noted that the PIB's fact-checking team was actively involved in tracking false narratives and issuing timely clarifications. Verified information was shared with the public, and action was taken against posts found to be spreading disinformation.

He also informed the House that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting issued an advisory to media outlets on April 26. The advisory instructed news platforms to avoid live telecasts of defence activities or troop movements in order to protect operational details and public safety. KNO

## Over 13.6 million...

app was launched on January 17, 2025, for both Android and iOS, and has received over 44 lakh downloads," he said, adding, "Through the combined inputs of these platforms, DoT has blocked 5.5 lakh handsets, and deactivated 20,000 bulk SMS senders. Nearly 24 lakh WhatsApp accounts involved in suspicious activities have also been disengaged."

"A key feature introduced is the Know Your Mobile Connections service, which allows users to check all numbers issued under their name and report any unauthorized connections. This has resulted in the disconnection of 1.36 crore such numbers.

"The Government has also deployed artificial intelligence tools, notably the ASTR system, to automatically detect and eliminate fake mobile numbers—leading to the disconnection of an additional 82 lakh such connections addressing the serious issue of international spoof calls, where foreign numbers appear as Indian calls, the DoT introduced a centralized software solution under the International Incoming Spoof Calls Prevention. On the very first day, 1.35 crore such spoof calls were blocked, and ongoing efforts have brought down such incidents by 97 percent. Today, only about three lakh spoof calls are being detected daily, compared to the earlier massive volumes. Telecom operators have also been mandated to display "International Call" alerts on all such incoming numbers for greater user transparency," he said.

The Minister said, "In a significant technological leap, the Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI) system was introduced to assess user risk levels—Very High, High, or Medium—based on banking and transaction behaviour. This risk data is shared with banks in real time, helping them prevent suspicious transactions. Over 3.7 lakh individuals have been flagged under these categories, leading to the prevention of more than 3.04 lakh debit/credit instructions and the freezing of 1.55 lakh bank accounts. Recognizing the system's effectiveness, the Reserve Bank of India has instructed all banks to integrate FRI into their internal systems."

"Additionally, the DoT has taken firm steps against misuse of Indian SIMs operating from Southeast Asian countries. Over 26 lakh such roaming mobile connections have been disconnected, and around 1.3 lakh devices used in such scams have been blocked. These ongoing efforts signal the Government's strong commitment to protecting citizens, securing telecom networks, and building a digitally secure India. Citizens are encouraged to remain vigilant and make full use of tools like

## Kathua's Manbir Singh becomes J&amp;K's First Differently-Abled Google Certified Educator

## JI NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JULY 30

In an era where challenges often set the boundaries for success, Manbir Singh, a wheelchair-using educator from Kathua, has emerged as a shining example of resilience, innovation, and dedication. Currently posted at Government Middle School Chack Sheikhhan, under the Department of Education, Jammu and Kashmir UT, Manbir Singh has made the entire Union Territory proud by achieving a rare international feat—qualifying the "Google Certified Educator Level 2" examination. He stands as the "only differently-abled (Divyang) teacher from J&K UT" to earn this global distinction.

Refusing to be defined by his physical limitations,



Manbir believes in empowering students with modern educational practices and digital tools. "Though I use a wheelchair, I've never allowed my disability to define my capabilities. My aim is to empower students through new and modern educational practices," he states confidently.

His journey as an educator has been marked by continuous excellence. During the COVID-19 pandemic, while many struggled to adapt, Manbir took the initiative to keep learning alive in his school and community. His efforts were officially recognized by the "Director of School Education" and the "then

Director of SAMAGRA Shiksha Jammu". He is also a "Certified Neuro Linguistic Programmer (NLP) from the American Board" and a "Certified Career Mentor by Psyuni India".

Manbir is also an accomplished "author", with his book "From Good to Great: The Path to Transformation and Growth" offering valuable insights into personal and professional development.

Beyond teaching, he has served in several key roles, including "State Nodal Officer, State Coordinator, Master Trainer ICT", and "District Nodal Officer" for various prestigious educational programs. Under his leadership, his school saw remarkable success in the field of coding education—his students secured top honors in the "2022 Coding Hackathon" orga-

nized under SAMAGRA Shiksha.

His tireless dedication has not gone unnoticed. In both "2023 and 2024", Manbir was honored as "Best Teacher" by district authorities, a testament to his impact on students and the education system alike.

"Despite multiple disabilities, I've remained consistent in my duties and work each day to be a role model for society," he shares.

His recent international certification from Google is more than just a personal achievement—it is a "symbol of resilience, innovation, and excellence". It brings global recognition to not just Manbir Singh, but also to his school, the Education Department, and the entire region of Jammu & Kashmir.

## 60-Hour Summer Internship in Journalism organized by PSPS GCW, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu completed

## JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 30

The Department of Hindi, Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, successfully concluded a 60-hour summer internship program in the field of journalism, conducted in three phases. A total no. of 100 students from the college enthusiastically participated in this special internship program.

This internship was



organized in collaboration with the prestigious newspaper Dainik Jagran, Jammu & Kashmir, and provided in-depth exposure to the nuances of journalism, including news gathering, editing, reporting, and

internal media processes.

The program's mentor, Mr. Satnam Singh, Senior Correspondent of Dainik Jagran, J&K, shared his practical knowledge and journalistic experiences, offering students valu-

able insights into various aspects of the profession.

Under the patronage and active support of the Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, the internship successfully achieved its objectives.

The program was coordinated under the guidance of Dr. Bindu Chib, Head of the Hindi Department, and Prof. Poonam Rajput, Internship Supervisor. Faculty member Prof. Urmila also made significant contributions to the execution of the program.

the Sanchar Saathi portal and app to report suspicious activities, check their mobile connections, and help build a fraud-free digital ecosystem," the Minister said.

## BSNL SUBSCRIBER BASE HAS RISEN

Regarding the performance of public sector telecom undertakings, the Minister noted that BSNL has seen a rise in its subscriber base, increasing from 8.55 crore to 9.1 crore over the past fiscal year. This recovery is supported by a 3.22 lakh crore revival package sanctioned over the last three years. To ensure accountability and results, each of BSNL's 32 telecom circles is now developing its own business plan under a decentralised strategy. The Ministry has also conducted a 12-hour Strategy and Business Development Session 2025-26 with all Chief General Managers, a first in the sector's history.

The Union Minister also highlighted India's successful development of an indigenous 4G technology stack. The core software for this system has been developed by C-DoT, a public sector organisation, while the radio access network hardware is being manufactured by Tejas Networks. System integration is being handled by TCS. Out of 95,000 towers sanctioned for rollout, 75,000 are already operational, with 20,000 crore in capital expenditure already invested. BSNL's 4G services are now live and being optimized, with a transition to 5G planned in the coming phase. KNO

## Gandhi Nagar Accident...

scooty from the opposite direction, resulting in the victim falling, the car driver is then seen deliberately driving in reverse hitting the old man for the second time, resulting in serious injuries to the victim.

Jammu Police, late Tuesday, issued a statement mentioning that section 109 (Attempt to murder) of BNSS has been invoked against the accused.

"As per initial information received from a reliable source, a Mahindra Thar bearing Jammu registration number being driven in a rash and negligent manner from Gandhi Nagar towards Green Belt Park, collided with a scooty near Allora Textiles, Green Belt Park, at approximately 1.30pm. The scooty, which was coming from the opposite direction, was struck by the Thar, resulting in injuries to the rider. The injured individual was shifted to GMC Jammu by passers-by, while the Thar driver fled from the spot," the statement reads.

On this basis, FIR was registered under Sections 281 and 125(a) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNSS) at Gandhi Nagar police station. However, CCTV footage of the incident was obtained and the statement of an eyewitness was recorded, which revealed a more serious aspect of the case, police said.

"It came to light that after the initial collision, the driver of the Thar reversed the vehicle and deliberately hit the victim again, resulting in grievous injuries. In light of the statement recorded and other material evidence collected, Section 109 of BNS is being invoked," it added.

The vehicle has been seized. The owner of the vehicle, the accused's father, has been detained for questioning, and a manhunt is underway to trace and arrest the driver, who is presently absconding, it stated.

Meanwhile, Regional Transport Officer Jasbir Singh in Jammu informed that the registration of the vehicle has been suspended and the Thar car has been blacklisted.

He further said that it has been found from the records

that the accused don't have a valid driving license. "We checked our records and found that the driving license of accused persons has not been issued and we have decided that it will not be issued, even if he has applied," the RTO Jammu said.

Meanwhile, the 68-year-old victim, who suffered severe head injuries due to his reckless driving, has been shifted to Fortis Hospital in Punjab after his condition reportedly worsened.

The family of the accused demanded severe punishment for accused involved in the incident. KNO

## Amarnath Yatra...

Jammu and Kashmir, according to the news agency, posted on its X handle.

The DIPR quoting Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri said that due to heavy rains since early morning on Wednesday, the yatra has not been allowed on the tracks from Baltal and Nunwan/Chandanwari base camps.

"Due to the heavy rains in the yatra area, the movement of pilgrims from base camps has been affected. Therefore, it has been decided that no convoy movement shall be allowed towards the base camps Baltal and Nunwan from Bhagwati Nagar Jammu on 31 July 2025," the DIPR said.

Pertinently, over 3.93 lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the Holy Cave Shrine since July 3, when the pilgrimage commenced. The Yatra is set to conclude on August 9.

The flow of the Yatra has started to decline as most of the registered pilgrims have completed their pilgrimage and the peak season has ended. Moreover, the government had put in place three-tier security and other arrangements this year as well. KNO

## Terror aide held...

and security forces conducted a swift operation in Nagrota and intercepted a vehicle bearing registration HR38Z-2066, travelling from Jammu towards Srinagar. The further search of vehicle led to leading to the recovery of three foreign-made pistols—comprising Chinese and Turkish origin—along with a substantial quantity of ammunition from accused driver identified as Azan Hameed Gazi resident of Hilalabad, Qamarwari, Srinagar, who is suspected to have been used to facilitate the movement of the illicit arms," a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

Police further said that three empty magazines, eight live cartridges and two empty cartridges from a handbag concealed under the co-driver's seat while accused failed to produce any valid documents or licenses for the recovered arms and ammunition.

The weapons, believed to have been airdropped via drone, were intended for use in a targeted killing operation aimed at disrupting peace and security in Jammu and Kashmir, police said, adding that acting swiftly, police registered a case under FIR number 170/2025, Section 3/25 of the Arms Act at Police Station Nagrota.

The accused has been taken into custody and further investigation is underway to trace the origin and intended use of the weapons, police said. KNO

## DDC Reasi reviews implementation of financial inclusion, social security schemes

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, JULY 30

District Development Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik today chaired a meeting to review the implementation and progress of financial inclusion and social security schemes across the district.

The meeting witnessed detailed discussions on key schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), RuPay Debit Card distribution, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Building and Other Construction Workers (BOCW) Welfare Scheme, various pension schemes, Marriage Assistance Scheme, Smart Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).



While reviewing the implementation, the DDC emphasized the need for greater awareness among the public regarding the Marriage Assistance Scheme. She directed the Social Welfare Department to intensify outreach efforts so that more eligible beneficiaries can avail the benefits. She also instructed that once applications are received under the scheme, the processing must be expedited to ensure timely disbursement.

Highlighting the importance of financial inclusion, DDC Malik direct-

ed the bank officials to work in mission mode to increase the issuance of RuPay debit cards to all bank account holders. She also called for improved coordination between banks and concerned departments for the effective implementation of the Smart KCC scheme and to ensure that the intended beneficiaries are reached.

Further, she advised bank officials to actively inform and educate the public visiting banks about key schemes like PMJDY, PMSBY and Atal Pension Yojana (APY), so that awareness increases

and coverage targets are achieved. She added that a follow-up review would be conducted in 15 days to assess the progress made by banks in implementing these schemes.

During the meeting, DDC Reasi took update on the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (BOCW) Schemes. It was informed that a total of 13,455 workers are registered under the scheme in the district, of which 4,227 are active. The DDC urged stakeholder departments to work in a coordinated manner to enhance the coverage and effectiveness of these vital welfare and financial schemes.

CPO Narinder Kumar, representative from Cluster Head, ALC and other concerned officers were present.

## KVK Ramban organises INM Training Program for Krishi Udyamis

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, JULY 30

Training program on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) for Krishi Udyamis (KUs) seeking fertilizer licenses commenced at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Ramban. The training is being sponsored by the Department of Agriculture, Ramban under the Innovative Approaches in Agriculture Extension component of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP).

A total of 20 Krishi Udyamis from various blocks of the district are participating in this capacity-building initiative, which aims to equip them with the necessary technical knowledge and regulatory understanding required for obtaining fertilizer retail licenses.

The inaugural session was attended by Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Dr. Vinay Kumar Jandial, accompanied by District Agriculture Officer (DAO) Kuldeep Raj Bassan and Jyoti Parkash Sharma SMS-DL as technical experts from the department.

The program is being technically coordinated by Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Ramban Dr. Raj Kumar Gupta, who highlighted the importance of scientific nutrient management for sustainable Agriculture and emphasized the role of Agri-entrepreneurs in promoting balanced fertilizer use at the grassroots level.

In his address, CAO Ramban stressed the importance of empowering local youth and progressive farmers through professional training to enable self-employment and service delivery in the Agriculture Sector. He appreciated the support of KVK Ramban and reiterated the department's commitment to successful implementation of HADP interventions in the district.

The 15-day training will cover key topics such as Soil health and nutrient cycles, Organic and inorganic nutrient sources, Regulatory norms for fertilizer storage and sale, Record keeping and licensing procedures and Field-level demonstrations and practical exposure.

This initiative marks a significant step toward strengthening the fertilizer distribution network through trained and certified Krishi Udyamis and aligns with the broader objectives of HADP to transform J&K's agriculture sector through innovation, entrepreneurship, and skill development.

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## DC Reasi pitches for joint action to curb drug menace

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, JULY 30

A District Level Narco Coordination Committee (NCORD) meeting was today chaired by Deputy Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik here at the DC Office Complex. The meeting saw active participation from stakeholder departments including Police, Health, Education, Excise, Social Welfare and Rural Development.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a comprehensive review of the ongoing anti-drug measures in the district and emphasized the urgent need to identify and destroy Cannabis Sativa. She directed the Forest Department to coordinate with the Agricultural Department to take immediate action for the



destruction of illicit crops. DC Nidhi Malik also instructed the Police Department to share detailed intelligence on locations of illicit crop cultivation to facilitate coordinated enforcement. Additionally, the Forest Department was asked to promote the cultivation of alternative crops to prevent the resurgence of Cannabis Sativa.

Responding to concern raised in the NCORD meeting about a Katra based psychiatrist, who was reportedly overprescribing habit-forming drugs and flagged as a potential

contributor to drug dependency, with serious violations in drug handling and record-keeping, the DC Reasi ordered an immediate inquiry and directed the submission of a final report within two days for further action, emphasizing a zero-tolerance policy towards drug abuse.

Further, the Drug Inspector was directed to intensify inspection of medical shops across the district. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized that all medical shops must be equipped with CCTV surveillance and operate with fully computerized bill-

ing systems to enhance accountability and prevent the misuse of prescription drugs.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the status of IEC activities under the Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyaan. She directed that all pending activities be completed within a week and stressed the importance of ensuring maximum public participation in awareness initiatives.

Reaffirming the district administration's commitment to a drug-free Reasi, the Deputy Commissioner called for stronger inter-departmental coordination to effectively combat the menace.

The meeting was attended by SSP Reasi Paramvir Singh, ADC Rakesh Kumar, Additional SP, ACR, ACD, DFO Reasi and other concerned officers.

## DC Budgam visits PHC Soibugh, assess Healthcare Services & infrastructure

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BUDGAM, JULY 30

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today conducted an extensive visit to the Primary Health Centre (PHC) Soibugh to assess the availability and quality of healthcare facilities.

During the visit, DC undertook a detailed inspection of the infrastructure, ongoing operations, availability of essential medical equipment, staff strength, and stock position of medicines at the facility.

He interacted with hospital staff and patients to understand ground-level challenges and service delivery gaps.



Dr Bilal emphasised the crucial role of PHCs in delivering timely and accessible healthcare to people, particularly in semi-urban and rural areas like Soibugh. He said PHCs are the first point of contact for the public with the health system and strengthening them is a key towards ensuring quality healthcare

for all.

DC directed the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Budgam to promptly assess and submit a proposal for all necessary works and interventions required to improve the functioning of PHC Soibugh.

This includes augmentation of essential medical infrastructure, addressing

staff shortages, and ensuring regular supply of medicines and diagnostics.

He also laid emphasis on maintaining cleanliness and hygiene in and around the hospital premises, improving patient care and grievance redressal mechanisms, ensuring uninterrupted power and water supply, enhancing maternity and emergency care facilities.

DC assured that all feasible support from the district administration will be extended to uplift the standard of healthcare delivery at the PHC.

He was accompanied by CMO Budgam, BMO Soibugh, and other concerned health officials during the visit.

## Seminar-Cum-Workshop on NEP 2020 held at Gool

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, JULY 30

In continuation of the 5th anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the Education Department, in line with the initiative of the District Administration Ramban today organized a one-day seminar-cum-workshop at the Community Hall, Gool. The event was held under the supervision of Chief Education Officer (CEO) Mukhtar Ahmed.

The program, inaugurated by Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Imtiaz Ahmed, witnessed active participation from teachers, students, and resource



persons from various educational institutions.

In his inaugural address, the SDM highlighted the significance of NEP 2020 and suggested a series of measures to ensure its efficient implementation in schools. He also encouraged teach-

ers and students to take maximum benefit of the reforms introduced under the policy.

Various resource persons delivered informative sessions on the importance and achievements of NEP 2020 in the education

sector, with a focus on holistic and inclusive learning.

The CEO elaborated on the key features of NEP 2020 and issued directions to the teaching fraternity for its effective execution at the grassroots level.

Students and teachers also presented various presentations highlighting different aspects and achievements of NEP 2020. The program concluded with an interactive session where teachers and students shared their views and suggestions, reaffirming their commitment towards strengthening the educational ecosystem in line with the objectives of NEP 2020.

## DC Poonch chairs 5th DLIC meet under Mission YUVA

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
POONCH, JULY 30

The District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) for the Mission YUVA initiative convened a meeting today under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal in the conference hall of DC Office Poonch.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review of the cases and directed all concerned officers to actively moti-



vate and guide local youth to take advantage of various government livelihood and entrepreneurship schemes.

The committee thoroughly examined the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) submitted by the applicants.

After comprehensive discussions and evaluations, all 165 proposals were approved, enabling the sanctioned release of financial assistance to help these individuals set up sustainable income-generating units.

Mission YUVA, a flagship initiative of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, aims to empower the youth by offering technical and financial support to build viable business ventures and strengthen the region's economy through youth-led development.

The District Administration Poonch reiterated its commitment to extend every possible assistance to the beneficiaries so that they can successfully implement their projects and contribute to the socio-economic development of the district.

## MD JKRLM inaugurates CBP on 'Promoting Gender Equality and Health Initiatives in Kashmir'

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JULY 30

Mission Director (MD) Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM), Dr Shubhra Sharma today virtually inaugurated a comprehensive four-day capacity building programme (CBP), focused on IBCB (Institution Building & Capacity Building) sub-themes, Gender and FNHW (Food Nutrition Health & WASH) for the Training of Trainers (TOTs) of Kashmir division.

This training programme, facilitated by a team of experts from the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), aims to enhance the capacity of women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to effectively promote gender equality and

nutrition and health initiatives across the region.

During the inauguration, Dr Shubhra engaged with the participants, emphasizing the critical role of trainers as ambassadors of JKRLM's mission to foster an equitable society. She called upon the trainers to serve diligently as catalysts for change, advocating for gender equality and improved health and nutrition outcomes within their communities.

"We are committed to building a society where gender equality and health are prioritized," said Dr. Shubhra. "I urge all participants to take this opportunity seriously and to extend the benefits of this train-

ing to their communities ensuring that our collective

efforts lead to meaningful change."

## Deputy Commissioner Poonch reviews progress of PMGSY projects

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
POONCH, JULY 30

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today chaired a comprehensive meeting to review the progress of road and bridge projects being implemented under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in different parts of the district.

At the outset, the Executive Engineer PMGSY pre-



sented a detailed status report on both completed and ongoing road and bridge works. The Deputy Commissioner undertook a project-wise and division-wise evaluation of the

implementation status.

While reviewing the progress, the DC directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of work and ensure timely completion of all projects, in line with the 100 percent target set by the Government for the current financial year. He stressed upon the elimination of avoidable delays and instructed officials to maintain strict adherence to quality standards

to ensure the creation of long-lasting infrastructure. He reiterated that improved rural connectivity is vital for socio-economic development and emphasized that the benefits of these projects must reach the grassroots.

The meeting was attended by the Executive Engineer PMGSY, Assistant Executive Engineers (AEEs) and Assistant Engineers (AEs) of the department.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Sr.DEE/TRD/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the works as under. Bidders will be able to submit their original / revised bids upto closing date **22.08.2025 at 15:00 Hrs** only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall not be considered.

S.N.: 1. Tender No. 703A-TRD-FZR-2025-26. Name of work: Provision of new Contact and Catenary wires by replacement of old ACC, Contact and catenary wire in Polluted zone in Phase-II over Firozpur division. App. Cost. (Rs.) 72,28,452.99. Cost of Tender form (Rs.): NIL. Date & time for submission of tender: Upto 22.08.2025 15:00 Hrs. Earnest Money # (Rs.): 1,44,600/-. Completion period: Twelve (12) Months. Opening of tender: 22.08.2025 after 15:00 Hrs. Website Particulars: www.irps.gov.in

S.N.: 2. Tender No. 711-TRD-FZR-2025-26. Name of work: Provision of new OHE fittings by replacement of corroded OHE Fittings in the polluted areas to improve the reliability in Phase-III in SNL-ASR section over Firozpur division. App. Cost. (Rs.) 3,54,00,633.47. Cost of Tender form (Rs.): NIL. Date & time for submission of tender: Upto 22.08.2025 15:00 Hrs. Earnest Money # (Rs.): 3,27,000/-. Completion period: Twelve (12) Months. Opening of tender: 22.08.2025 after 15:00 Hrs. Website Particulars: www.irps.gov.in

Similar Nature of work (applicable for both works):  
"Design, supply, erection testing & commissioning of 50Hz, single phase 25KV AC OHE".  
(Ref: OHE Works S.No. 1.1 of Pr.CEE/NR's Letter No. 181-Elect/TRD/189/PLII, dated 29.07.2021).

Note: # Tenderer (s) may please note that offers received without Bid Security either in cash through e-payment gateway or as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents (as per Annexure-21) valid for a period of 90 days beyond the bid validity period, will be considered as incomplete & invalid offer and for which contractor shall have no claim on Railway.

No.: 703A & 711-TRD-FZR-2025-26 Dated: 29.07.2025 2319/2025  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

## EDITORIAL

## Thar Horror: A societal failure

The recent incident in Gandhi Nagar area, where a 68-year-old man was intentionally hit and inflicted upon grievous head injuries by a speeding Thar, driven by a 20-year-old engineering student, is not just a horrifying crime but it is a symptom of a deeper, systemic societal failure. What makes this tragedy more than just a headline is the motive: the young driver reportedly rammed his vehicle into the elderly man with the intent to kill. This was not an accident; it was a calculated act of violence. The accused has been arrested and will face the law. But beyond the legal process lies a set of uncomfortable truths that society must confront. This incident cannot be viewed in isolation. It speaks volumes about how a generation is being raised, what values are being instilled, and how our societal fabric is fraying. We are failing—as parents, as educators, as a community—in teaching our youth respect for life, patience, and civic responsibility. When a 20-year-old, presumably well-educated and from a good socio-economic background, believes that he can resort to any form of criminal act by mowing someone down, we must ask: What kind of society produces such anger and moral bankruptcy? This is not just about one young man with a short temper. It's about a culture that increasingly glorifies aggression, celebrates entitlement, and fails to teach accountability. Parenting, once grounded in discipline and values, is now often replaced with indulgence and blind permissiveness. Children are handed expensive vehicles and gadgets, but rarely taught the weight of responsibility that comes with them. Moreover, our schools and institutions focus heavily on academic scores, but overlook life skills, emotional regulation, and civic behaviour. Where is the emphasis on kindness, empathy, or respect for elders? Where are the lessons in how to deal with disagreement without violence? Our public life mirrors this decay. On roads, in markets, and on social media, aggression is normalized. Reckless driving is not just tolerated but often admired, seen as a mark of masculinity or bravado. The law exists but is poorly enforced, sending a message that rules are optional—and consequences, avoidable. This is a moment for collective introspection. We cannot dismiss such an act as a mere case of "youthful rage" or "one-off madness." It is a stark reflection of what we as a society are becoming—impatient, unforgiving, and dangerously self-centered. Justice for the injured old man is essential. But justice alone will not heal this rot. What is needed is a cultural reset: homes that raise responsible children, schools that nurture empathy, laws that deter lawlessness, and communities that refuse to stay silent in the face of such horrors. The Thar tragedy in Jammu should shake us all. If we don't act now, we are only breeding more such tragedies—and more lost generations.

## Why Business Resilience Starts with Authentication?

ASHISH GUPTA

Identity has become both the first line of access and a consistent point of failure in the ever-evolving global cyber threat landscape. In response to this shift, many have invested in an array of sophisticated technologies—machine learning-based detection engines, user behaviour analytics platforms, security orchestration response platforms, and SIEM tools capable of surfacing anomalies in user and data activity at scale. These tools are engineered to hunt the "unknown unknowns" and flag deviations or irregularities as potential indicators of compromise.

Yet, amidst all this innovation, we appear to have overlooked a truth we've always known: we've become preoccupied with detecting the breach, but not with hardening the data and digital identity layer that is consistently and predictably exploited in its wake.

The aftermath of a breach—zero day or otherwise—rarely surprises us; credentials are harvested,

privileges are escalated, lateral movement begins, persistence gained, and ultimately, data (regulated, sensitive, or proprietary) is the endgame. The script rarely changes, yet our response to it remains fractured.

If we know that identity is both the vector and the victim, why hasn't our security architecture (and our spending) evolved accordingly? Why do we continue to allocate disproportionately to edge control and anomaly detection, while under-investing in the resilience of the very systems that govern access, trust, and authentication?

How Did We Get Here? The answer is simple: this started as businesses moved to the cloud. In less than a decade, enterprises adopted hybrid architectures, SaaS platforms, remote access, and AI-driven workflows. This expanded the identity surface exponentially. Every employee, contractor, service account, and API identity became a new gateway to business-critical data and functions.

In India, this shift is especially pronounced—65 per cent of organisations store their sensitive data across 2-3 environments (on-premises, cloud, or SaaS), dramatically increasing the attack surface. 38 per cent cite securing sensitive data across these environments as



one of their top challenges.

At the same time, attackers evolved. There's been a shift away from smash-and-grab ransomware and data exfiltration hits. Attackers now prefer long-haul campaigns designed to gain footholds that last years. Nation-state groups have quietly turned to malware-free persistence tactics exploiting credentials, manipulating group policies, and blending into systems undetected. They use "living-off-the-land" techniques, exploiting the very tools and systems we use (and trust) daily to maintain the lifeblood of our business operations.

In many cases, the modern cyberattack contains no malware at all—just compromised identities and quiet continuous control.

Problem Isn't Just Access, It's Trust

When identity is compromised, so is trust across the enterprise. If you can't trust Active Directory or Entra ID, you can't trust your access controls, your audit logs, or even your backup infrastructure. We've seen cases where the identity layer is used to deactivate endpoint detection and response, manipulate backup retention, or access privileged data from siloed systems—all without triggering alarms. The more dispersed and federated identity becomes—across cloud, SaaS, AI platforms, and traditional data centres—the harder it is to detect when something is wrong. Worse still, when a breach is detected, recovery becomes murky. Do you restore the whole identity forest? Which objects were changed? Were the anomalies part of legitimate business processes or covert

escalation paths?

These are questions most business continuity and disaster recovery plans aren't even asking, let alone prepared to answer.

We've Reached a Tipping Point

Let's call this what it is: an identity crisis. Identity is now the primary attack surface, the key vector for lateral movement, and the main vehicle for persistence. Yet most organisations have no formal strategy for identity risk management and (more importantly) recovery/resilience.

This is particularly critical in India, where 80 per cent of organisations that experienced a ransomware attack ended up paying a ransom, and 52 per cent paid due to data extortion threats. Even more concerning, 44 per cent reported that cyber attackers successfully compromised their backup and recovery systems, making identity the final barrier—and often the weakest link.

The consequences go far beyond the technical. Among Indian organisations affected by cyberattacks:

29 per cent reported financial losses

31 per cent noted reputational damage and loss of customer confidence

36 per cent experienced forced leadership changes following an incident

These figures highlight a clear and urgent need to reframe how identity is viewed—not as a technical control, but as a pillar of business resilience.

Identity Must Now Extend Beyond SSO and MFA to Include: Continuous visibility across identity silos, both human and

machine

Historical intelligence to detect and trace malicious changes

Recovery plans that don't assume identity systems are clean

AI governance that includes identity mapping and entitlements

Proven ability to surgically restore only what was compromised

Critically, we must ensure that identity resilience is a core component of our cyber recovery strategy, on equal footing with backup, disaster recovery, and incident response.

A Call to the Boardroom

The identity crisis is urgent. When identity fails, the business fails—sometimes permanently. So identity must be on the agenda at the highest level of the enterprise. To have constructive board-level conversations, you must be ready to face some hard questions:

If our identity platform were compromised today, how fast could we recover it, safely and surgically?

Can we prove to regulators and customers that our identity state is clean post-incident?

Are AI platforms, privileged accounts, and cloud services covered in our identity strategy—or are they exposed?

The uncomfortable truth is that many organisations don't have the answers to these questions. Attackers are betting on exactly that.

The Path Forward

We need to recognise that identity is the foundation of digital business. Identity doesn't just control access; it governs every transaction, every application, and every service. It's embed-

ded in how we manage finances, handle customers, authorise trades, approve medical decisions, or initiate supply chain operations. It is the digital heartbeat of modern business.

So, what happens when this heartbeat is compromised?

Business continuity doesn't begin when the network is back online or the data is decrypted post-ransomware. It begins when trust in identity is restored. But you may not be able to confirm who is who.

Privileges may have been altered. Authentication flows could be broken or manipulated. If you can't trust these functions of identity, then nothing downstream can be trusted or resumed.

The recovery clock doesn't start at detection—it starts at validated restoration of identity infrastructure.

But most organisations are not prepared for this reality. We often talk about recovery times for databases, VMs, and applications. But how long would it take your organisation to safely, surgically, and verifiably recover its identity fabric?

Once everything is back online, could you trust that it's clean?

Without a strategy for identity resilience, every other layer of your recovery architecture is a castle built on brittle sand.

It's why nation-state actors and advanced threat groups are increasingly going after identity not just to cause harm, but to neutralise the ability to recover quickly.

Attackers know that once identity is gone, the road back is long, chaotic, and uncertain. This gives your opponents greater leverage in their extortion, ransom, and attack operations.

Let's be clear: identity is no longer relegated to security strategy. Identity is now core to operational sovereignty and an organisation's ability to reassert control when it matters most to restart the business, restore services, and meet regulatory expectations with confidence.

Your identity infrastructure will be attacked. Will you be ready to bring it back safely, completely, and without doubts?

This is why identity resilience must move from an afterthought to a pillar at the forefront of your continuity strategy.

**(The writer is Managing Director (India) and Head of Engineering, Rubrik India)**

## From Budget to Blacktop: Where Indian roads go wrong?



SHAHID AHMED HAKLA POONCHI

India, the world's fastest-growing major economy, has made remarkable strides in various sectors—yet the question persists: why are our roads still so terrible? Despite ambitious infrastructure programs and ever-increasing budgetary allocations, the quality of roads—especially in urban peripheries, rural interiors, and even national highways—remains questionable. Potholes, cracks, uneven layers, and incomplete works define the daily experience of millions. This article aims to understand why Indian roads lag behind global standards despite the country's technological and economic advancements.

## A Nation on Wheels, but Bumpy Roads

India has over 63 lakh kilometers of road network—the second-largest in the world—yet a significant portion is in poor or deteriorating condition. As per a 2023 Ministry of Road Transport and Highways report, nearly 35% of rural roads and 25% of urban roads require urgent repair or complete reconstruction. In metropolitan cities like Benga-

luru, Mumbai, and Delhi, commuters routinely spend hours navigating traffic made worse by shoddy road surfaces and haphazard repairs.

According to the same report, India recorded over 461,000 road accidents in 2022, resulting in 168,491 deaths—roughly 19 deaths every hour. Shockingly, pothole-related accidents alone account for an average of 6,880 incidents and more than 2,300 deaths each year. These figures not only reflect negligence in road construction and maintenance but also expose the tragic human cost of systemic apathy.

## Why Are Indian Roads So Bad?

## 1. Poor Planning and Execution

Infrastructure projects in India often suffer from rushed planning and flawed execution. Road design frequently ignores local terrain, drainage systems, and long-term maintenance. Substandard materials are often used to cut costs or accelerate timelines, leading to premature damage.

## 2. The Corruption Conundrum

Corruption plays a deeply corrosive role. In many road contracts, materials such as bitumen or cement are diluted or replaced with inferior alternatives. Even worse, a prevailing mindset among some contractors and officials is that poorly constructed roads ensure repeat contracts. A road built to last 10 years means no contract renewal—a dangerous incentive that perpetuates a cycle of mediocrity.

## 3. Neglected Maintenance

India spends far more on building new roads than maintaining existing ones. Maintenance budgets are meagre, inconsistent, or misused. Often, roads are only repaired when elections approach or after fatalities occur—a reactive instead of proactive system.

## 4. Bureaucratic Overlap

The responsibility for roads is divided between multiple government bodies—municipal corporations, state PWDs, NHAI, and rural agencies—leading to confusion, delays, and lack of accountability. In many instances, a road may be dug up multiple times by different departments (electricity, water, gas), each restoring it poorly.

## 5. Weather Extremes and Engineering Gaps

India's climate is harsh—from intense monsoons to scorching summers—which tests the durability of roads. However, engineering practices haven't evolved proportionately. Roads often lack proper drainage, leading to waterlogging and rapid deterioration.

## 6. Lack of Citizen Pressure and Transparency

While people suffer, there's limited civic engagement in demanding accountability. Road quality audits, though mandated, are rarely published or scrutinized by the public. Without public pressure, the status quo remains.

## Recent Tragedies That Could Have

## Been Prevented

The human cost of poorly maintained roads is devastating and all too frequent. Across the country, avoidable accidents caused by potholes and dangerous road conditions have claimed hundreds of lives. Here are just a few of the recent examples:

In Thane, Maharashtra (Sept 2023), Akash Jadhav died after his motorcycle hit a deep pothole on the Bhiwandi-Wada road. The contractor in charge was booked under culpable homicide charges.

On the Mumbai-Ahmedabad highway at Naigaon (Aug 2023), a young woman pillion rider fell into a pothole and died. Months of local complaints went unheard.

During the 2023 monsoon in Mumbai suburbs, at least five deaths were linked directly to pothole-related accidents, mostly involving motorcyclists and pedestrians slipping into waterlogged craters.

In October 2023, MP: a pickup vehicle overturned near Amzhera while maneuvering around a pothole, injuring passengers. The dangerous stretch had long been neglected.

In Jammu & Kashmir's Rajouri district (Feb 2025), a man named Gulzar Hussain died, and a 3-year-old child was critically injured when their car skidded off a dilapidated road and plunged off a bridge into a river. Locals attributed the crash to poorly maintained, gaping potholes and absence of guardrails—despite repeated pleas to the Public Works Department. The road, widely used by daily commuters, had not been

resurfaced or repaired in over a decade.

In Doda district, J&K (May 2025), a heavily overloaded passenger vehicle skidded off the road and plummeted into a gorge, killing seven people, including a woman, and injuring 17 others. Officials cited treacherous terrain, poorly lit roads, absence of safety barriers, and chronic neglect of road maintenance as contributing factors. The incident reignited local protests demanding urgent intervention from the administration.

In Poonch district, J&K (April 2025), a Tata Sumo vehicle carrying passengers lost control and plunged nearly 100 meters into a gorge near Dhargloom in Mendhar area. Nine people were injured, including seven women. Locals blamed the accident on lack of safety barriers, eroded roadside edges, and severely potholed terrain, which made it nearly impossible to navigate the road safely.

These cases underscore a national crisis. Every pothole left unattended is not just a symbol of inefficiency—it becomes a potential deathtrap. The link between poor road infrastructure and fatality rates is undeniable, and yet it receives a fraction of the policy urgency it deserves.

## Signs of Hope

To be fair, not everything is bleak. Programs like PM Gram Sadak Yojana and Bharatmala Pariyojana have brought visible improvements in remote connectivity and highway expansion. Technologies like plastic-infused roads, GIS mapping, and road quality sensors are slowly being

adopted. Some states like Gujarat and Kerala have taken the lead in road upkeep, offering a model for others.

Moreover, Supreme Court interventions and increasing media coverage have helped bring road safety into public discourse. Citizens in urban pockets are beginning to push back—with civic tech apps and legal action to hold contractors and officials accountable.

## The Road Ahead

For India to truly transform its road infrastructure, systemic reform is necessary. This includes:

Independent quality audits with publicly available reports

Digital tracking of every road contract and its timeline

Citizen reporting portals with response mandates

Lifetime bans on corrupt contractors

Increased maintenance budgets, especially in rural and hilly areas

A shift from short-term repair to long-term sustainability

Good roads are not a luxury—they're foundational to growth, dignity, and safety. If India dreams of becoming a global superpower, it cannot afford to have a broken spine. The road to progress must first be paved—and paved well.

**The writer SHAHID AHMED HAKLA POONCHI is a Published Writer in the daily leading newspapers of J&K and an Independent Researcher. He can be contacted at shahidhakla360@gmail.com**

## Cervical cancer: Over 10 cr women above age 30 screened in Ayushman Arogya Mandirs: govt

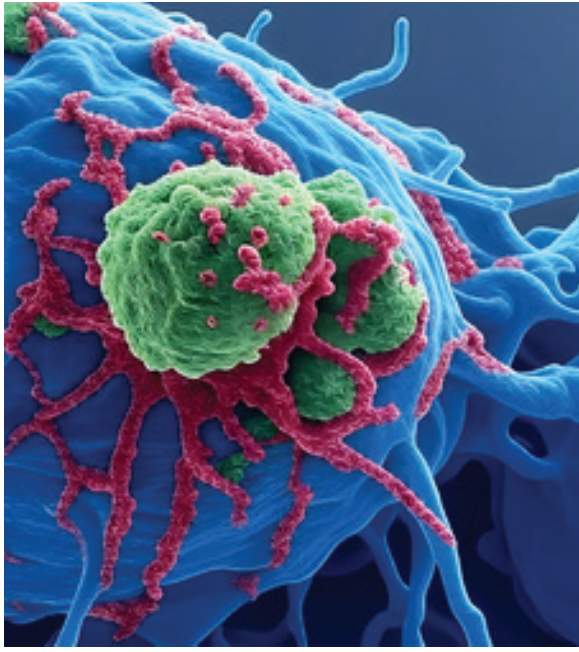
AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

To prevent the rising burden of cervical cancer and related deaths in India, more than 10.18 crore women aged 30 years and above have been screened for the condition across the country at the Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs), the government informed the Parliament during the ongoing Monsoon session.

India accounts for 25 per cent of global cervical cancer deaths -- largely due to delayed diagnosis.

"Till July 20, data from the National NCD Portal indicates that 10.18 crore women out of an eligible population of 25.42 crore females aged 30 years and above have been screened for cervical cancer," Jadhav said.

"This reflects the government's strong commitment to comprehensive and preventive healthcare delivery through Ayushman Arogya Mandirs," he



added.

The achievement is part of the population-based initiative for screening, prevention, and management of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), being implemented under the National Health Mission (NHM).

"The initiative targets

women aged 30 to 65 years, with screening primarily done using Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (VIA) at Sub-Health Centres and Primary Health Centres under AAM by trained health workers. VIA-positive cases are referred to higher centres for further diagnostic

evaluation," Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Prataprao Jadhav stated in a written reply in the Lok Sabha.

Further, to prevent cervical cases at the grassroots level, the government has roped in Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) who play a critical role by using Community Based Assessment Checklist (CBAC) forms to identify individuals at risk. They facilitate the women's participation in regular health check-ups and screenings at AAMs.

ASHAs also help generate awareness about the importance of early detection and adopting a healthy lifestyle.

The Ministry had also launched a time-bound NCD Screening Campaign from February 20 to March 31, to accelerate screening efforts for individuals aged 30 years and above. The success of this campaign has contributed to the current achievement, Jadhav said.

## Ivermectin can lower new malaria infection in children by 26pc: Study

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

Ivermectin can be an effective strategy to control malaria transmission, according to a new study that showed the drug can lower new malaria infections by 26 per cent.

Ivermectin, a drug traditionally used to treat neglected tropical diseases like onchocerciasis, which causes river blindness, and lymphatic filariasis, which causes elephantiasis, has been shown to reduce malaria transmission by killing the mosquitoes that feed on treated individuals.

Given the rising resistance to conventional insecticides, ivermectin could offer an effective new approach to tackle malaria transmission, especially in regions where traditional methods have become less effective, said researchers from the Barcelona Institute for



Global Health (ISGlobal).

"Ivermectin administered to the whole population significantly reduces malaria transmission, offering new hope in the fight against the disease," the team said.

In the study, conducted in Kwale County, Kenya, children aged 5-15 who received ivermectin experienced a 26 per cent reduction in malaria infection incidence compared to those who received albendazole, the control drug used in the study.

The findings, published in The New England Journal of Medicine, demon-

strated that ivermectin significantly reduced malaria infection rates -- particularly among children living further from cluster borders or in areas where drug distribution was more efficient.

Moreover, the safety profile of ivermectin was favourable, with no severe drug-related adverse events and only mild, transient side effects already seen with ivermectin in campaigns against neglected tropical diseases.

"We are thrilled with these results," said Carlos Chaccour, co-principal investigator and ISGlobal

researcher.

"Ivermectin has shown great promise in reducing malaria transmission and could complement existing control measures. With continued research, ivermectin MDA could become an effective tool for malaria control and even contribute to elimination efforts," said Chaccour, who is now a researcher at the Navarra Centre for International Development at the University of Navarra.

Malaria remains a global health challenge, with 263 million cases and 597,000 deaths reported in 2023.

Current vector control methods, such as long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) and indoor residual spraying (IRS), have become less effective due to insecticide resistance and behavioural adaptations in mosquitoes to bite outdoors and during dusk or dawn, when people are not protected by these measures.

## Vaccines prevented over 2.5 million Covid deaths worldwide: Study

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

Vaccines prevented more than 2.5 million deaths from SARS-CoV-2, the virus behind Covid-19 infections, worldwide, according to a study.

The study, led by researchers from the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Italy, showed that one Covid death was avoided for every 5,400 doses of vaccine administered.

Some 82 per cent of the lives saved by vaccines involved people vaccinated before encountering the virus, 57 per cent during the Omicron period, and 90 per cent involved people aged 60 years and older.

In all, vaccines have saved 14.8 million years of life (one year of life saved for 900 doses of vaccine administered), revealed the findings, published in the journal Jama Health



Forum.

"Before ours, several studies tried to estimate lives saved by vaccines with different models and in different periods or parts of the world, but this one is the most comprehensive because it is based on worldwide data, it also covers the omicron period, it also calculates the number of years of life that was saved, and it is based on fewer assump-

tions about the pandemic trend," said the researcher Dr. Angelo Maria Pezzullo, and Dr. Antonio Cristiano from the varsity.

For the study, the experts studied worldwide population data, applying a series of statistical methods to figure out who among the people who became ill with Covid did so either before or after getting vaccinated, before or after the Omicron

period, and how many of them died (and at what age).

"We compared this data with the estimated data modeled in the absence of Covid vaccination and were then able to calculate the numbers of people who were saved by Covid vaccines and the years of life gained as a result of them," Dr. Pezzullo explained.

It also turned out that most of the saved years of life (76 per cent) involved people over 60 years of age, but residents in long-term care facilities contributed only 2 per cent of the total number.

Children and adolescents (0.01 per cent of lives saved and 0.1 per cent of life years saved) and young adults aged 20-29 (0.07 per cent of lives saved and 0.3 per cent of life years saved) contributed very little to the total benefit, the researchers said.

## Sun Pharma, Lupin, Dr Reddy's recall medicines in US over quality issues

AGENCIES  
MUMBAI

Indian pharmaceutical companies Sun Pharma, Lupin, and Dr Reddy's Laboratories are recalling some of their medicines from the US market due to manufacturing problems and product mix-ups, as per the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) latest enforcement report.

Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, headquartered in Mumbai, is recalling 5,448 bottles of a generic drug used to treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

The medicine in question is Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate capsules, which failed to meet the required dissolution standards during testing.

The recall was initiated by Sun's US arm, Princeton-based Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Inc., on June 16. The USFDA



has classified this as a Class II recall.

Lupin, another leading drug maker based in Mumbai, is recalling 58,968 bottles of a generic medicine used to treat high blood pressure.

The medicine, a combination of Lisinopril and Hydrochlorothiazide tablets, was manufactured at Lupin's Nagpur facility and recalled by its US

unit, Lupin Pharmaceuticals Inc, based in Naples.

The recall began on June 20, following a complaint that a sealed bottle of the blood pressure drug contained a different medicine -- a tablet of Atazanavir and Ritonavir, used for HIV treatment.

The USFDA termed this a case of "Product Mix Up" and also classified it under Class II recall.

In a similar case, Dr Reddy's Laboratories is recalling 1,476 bottles of Omeprazole delayed-release capsules, which are commonly used to treat stomach and oesophagus problems.

According to the USFDA, the recall was initiated by Dr Reddy's US unit based in Princeton on June 30. The affected lot was manufactured at the company's Bachupally plant in India.

The reason for the recall was the presence of foreign tablets -- specifically, Divalproex Sodium extended-release tablets -- found in bottles that were supposed to contain only Omeprazole capsules.

According to the USFDA, a Class II recall is issued when the use of a defective product may cause temporary or medically reversible health problems, but the chances of serious health issues are low.

## Proposed new criteria to impact obesity prevalence, say researchers

AGENCIES  
NEW YORK

An international team of researchers has found that obesity prevalence would shift significantly under proposed new criteria that could hinder the prevention and early detection of serious health conditions.

The study, published in Plos Global Public Health, analysed data from 56 countries to compare the prevalence of pre-clinical and clinical obesity using the existing BMI criteria with what the prevalence would be under the proposed criteria that requires at least one health condition to already be present before a person is considered clinically obese, such as diabetes, hypertension, or high cholesterol.

"Obesity is a serious problem and the definitions we use have implications for clinical treatment, health expenditures, disease surveillance, and for peoples' awareness of their own health risks. So,



it is important to understand how much any new definition would impact the prevalence of obesity," said lead author Rodrigo Carrillo-Larco, assistant professor of global health at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health.

The study was authored by researchers from Emory University and Johns Hopkins University in the US, University of Queensland in Australia, Zhejiang University School

of Medicine in China, and Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia and Universidad Científica del Sur in Peru.

When the additional health issues were included into the criteria for obesity, the prevalence dropped significantly among the 142,250 adults surveyed -- with some nations seeing a drop of more than 50 per cent -- but the results varied by nation and gender.

For example, the East

African nation of Malawi had among the highest decreases in obesity prevalence under the proposed definition, but the decline was uneven among men (68 per cent) and women (53 per cent).

While the new definition could be more aligned with current disease risk, the researchers urged caution before considering a shift in obesity surveillance to the proposed standard because doing so would create substantial challenges in terms of measurement, equity, and implementation. And for individuals who would no longer be considered obese, it could provide a dangerous false sense of security.

"At the population level we would expect the prevalence of obesity to drop, but we should be mindful that it's an artificial drop because the new definition is more strict or complex -- that reduction in obesity is not real," Carrillo-Larco said.

## Dementia takes 3.5 years to diagnose after symptoms begin: Study

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

People with dementia are diagnosed an average of 3.5 years after symptoms are first noticed, according to a new study.

Early signs of dementia may include memory loss, difficulty finding words, confusion, and changes in mood and behaviour.

The study, published in the International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, showed that younger age at onset and having frontotemporal dementia were both linked to a longer time to diagnosis.

For those with early-onset dementia, the diagnosis can take 4.1 years, with some groups more likely to experience longer delays.

"Timely diagnosis of dementia remains a major global challenge, shaped by a complex set of factors, and specific health care strategies are urgently needed to improve it. Timely diagno-



sis can improve access to treatments and, for some people, prolong the time living with mild dementia before symptoms worsen," said lead author Dr. Vasiliki Orgeta, from the Division of Psychiatry at the University College London (UCL).

For the study, UCL researchers reviewed data from 13 previously

published studies that took place in Europe, the US, Australia, and China, reporting data on 30,257 participants.

Dementia is a growing public health concern, affecting over 57 million people globally. Studies estimate that only 50-65 per cent of cases are ever diagnosed in high-income countries, with many

countries having even lower diagnostic rates.

Timely diagnosis of dementia remains elusive, and specific healthcare strategies are urgently needed to improve it.

Dr. Phuong Leung, from UCL's Division of Psychiatry, pointed out that "symptoms of dementia are often mistaken for normal ageing, while fear, stigma, and low public awareness can discourage people from seeking help."

Orgeta urged the need for public awareness campaigns to help improve understanding of early symptoms and reduce stigma, encouraging people to seek help sooner.

"Clinician training is critical to improve early recognition and referral, along with access to early intervention and individualised support so that people with dementia and their families can get the help they need," the expert said.

## JKNC MLA Arjun Singh Raju represents J&K at NCSL Legislative Summit in Boston, USA

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 30:

In a moment of immense pride for Jammu and Kashmir, Arjun Singh Raju, MLA from Ramban, is representing the Union Territory at the prestigious National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Legislative Summit being held in Boston, USA, from August 4-6, 2025.

The Indian legislative delegation to the summit is being facilitated by National Legislators' Conference Bharat (NLC Bharat)—a pioneering and non-partisan initiative aimed at building the capacity of Indian lawmakers and promoting democratic cooperation at both national and international levels.

Arjun Singh Raju is part of a historic delegation comprising over 130 MLAs and MLCs from 24 states and 21 political parties,



marking the largest-ever Indian legislative presence at a global democratic forum. The participation of such a diverse and sizable group underscores India's deepening commitment to strengthening democracy through dialogue, collaboration, and cross-border knowledge exchange.

While interacting with media in Jammu, Shri Raju expressed his gratitude and enthusiasm, stating:

"It is a proud moment to represent my state and constituency at a global platform like NCSL. This initiative is not just about international exposure—it is about learning from global best practices in governance and bringing those insights back to serve our people more effectively. I am especially thankful to Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Omar Abdullah, for reposing his trust in me and nominating me to be

a part of this prestigious conference.

During the three-day summit, the Indian delegation will engage with more than 7,000 lawmakers from across the world, participating in high-level discussions on pressing global challenges such as AI in governance, digital democracy, cybersecurity, voter trust, and policy innovation. The summit will also offer academic sessions on U.S. legislative systems and foster engagement with Indian-origin leaders in government, business, and academia.

This landmark participation by Indian legislators at NCSL reflects the evolving vision of Bharat's democratic leadership—one that values continuous learning, fosters global partnerships, and proudly represents India on the world stage with integrity and purpose.

## Ashok Koul chairs BJP organizational meet of Jammu North, emphasizes grassroots strengthening

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, 30 JULY 2025:

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) General Secretary (Organization), J&K, Ashok Koul, chaired an organizational meeting of BJP District Jammu North, led by District President Nand Kishore.

The meeting was attended by key party functionaries including DDC Chairman Bharat Bhushan, Jammu North MLA Sham Lal Sharma, Marh MLA Surinder Bhagat, District Prabhari Rajinder Singh Chib, Seh-Prabhari Vinay Mahajan, Vistarak Inderjit, former District President Omi Khajuria among others. District Team, Mandal Presidents and General Secretaries and senior workers of the district were also present. Ashok Koul, in his



address, reviewed the party's organizational functioning and activities in the district. He took stock of the programmes conducted under the 'Viksit Bharat Ka Amritkaal - Sewa, Sushasan, Gareeb Kalyan Ke 11 Saal' including the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, Choupals, Professional Meets, Ek Ped Maan Ke Naam campaign, Yoga Diwas, Emergency Day, and more. He lauded the efforts of the district team and stressed the need for further strengthening the organization at the grassroots level.

"Our mission is to empower every booth and every activist. The BJP's strength lies in its cadre, discipline, and the ability to connect with the last person in the queue," said Ashok Koul. He urged the workers to focus on people-centric campaigns and prepare for upcoming organizational and public outreach programmes. Bharat Bhushan praised the consistent coordination between elected representatives and the party's organizational structure. He attributed the success of various

developmental schemes at the ground level to the dedicated effort by BJP cadre.

Sham Lal Sharma appreciated the enthusiasm of grassroots workers and called for robust booth-level management and termed the BJP activists as backbone of the party.

Surinder Bhagat said the BJP's policies have instilled confidence among the masses. He said that the people trust BJP because party activists work with commitment, not slogans.

Nand Kishore, in his presidential address, extended gratitude to the party leadership and assured full dedication from the Jammu North unit. He said that the district team is ready to implement every directive of the leadership with utmost sincerity.

## Asmita Yogasana Championship 2025-2026 concludes in Kathua

J I NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, JULY 30

Asmita Yogasana Championship 2025-2026 concluded today at Nav Adarsh Higher Secondary School, Kathua, with vibrant participation from women across various age groups who showcased their skill, strength, and discipline through different Yogasanas. The championship was held under the Khelo India initiative and was organised in a planned and grand manner, bringing pride to district Kathua, which was chosen by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) for this prestigious event. The success of the programme is largely attributed to the tireless efforts of Yoga Guru Sunita Verma, who not only supervised the entire event but also motivated large-scale participation through her continuous community engagement and daily yoga sessions held at her residence for individuals of all age groups.

While addressing the gathering, Sunita Verma underlined the importance of yoga in women's lives, stating that "Yoga is vital for physical and mental well-being of women, regardless of



age. Those who regularly practice yoga witness a visible positive transformation in their health and confidence." She also emphasized that yoga is not bound by any religion or barrier and encouraged all women to embrace it freely. She further highlighted how the Asmita Yogasana programme has become a source of livelihood for many women, as those who trained in yoga are now teaching it to elderly women and others in their community, earning up to 10,000 per month—a significant step in women empowerment.

The event was graced by Dr. Rachna Raj, Government Women College

Kathua as the Chief Guest; Meenakshi Jamwal, Principal DAV School; Lalita Katal, Chairperson Nav Adarsh HSS Kathua; and noted social activist Smt. Kusum Salaria as Special Guests and Guest of Honour respectively.

In the results declared during the closing ceremony, participants from multiple categories were awarded for their exemplary performances. In the Sub Junior Category (10-14 years), Aliya Akhtar from Amba Kids Panthar Katra secured the first position, followed by Madhvi Sharma from APS Janglote in second and Bhawani Rajput from Amba Kids Panthar Katra in third

place. In the Junior Girls Category (14-18 years), Janvi Sharma claimed the first spot, Anmol Sharma stood second, and Anshi Sharma took third. In the Senior Girls Category (18-28 years), Manvi Sharma was awarded first position, Ritika Rajput second, and Monika Verma third. In the Senior Category (45-55 years), Veerta Sharma bagged first place, Nirmal Sharma second, and Sandhya Devi stood third. In artistic performances, Tanvi Sharma (14-18 years) secured a gold medal in the Artistic Single category, while Sania and Sanskriti Thakur won first place in the Artistic Pair. Sania Devi won first position in Artistic Single (10-14 years), and the Rhythmic Group (7-10 years) also bagged gold. Association members including Monika Verma, Monika Thakur, Kartika, Amandeep, and Balraj Sharma played a key role in the smooth execution of the championship.

The programme concluded on a positive and motivational note with a vote of thanks delivered by Divya Gupta, applauding all participants, organizers, and supporters who made the event a grand success.

## Indian Army conducts Lecture on Importance of Physical Fitness at Morian School Rajouri

J I NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, JULY 30

The Indian Army organized a lecture on the importance of physical fitness at Morian School, PK Top on 30 Jul 25. The event aimed to spread awareness among locals and youth about the benefits of leading a healthy lifestyle through regular physical activity. The lecture highlighted the significance of physical fitness in enhancing overall well-being, improving mental health, and increas-



ing productivity. The speaker emphasized the importance of incorporating physical activity into daily routines, such as exercise, sports, and outdoor

activities, to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The event was attended by 30 individuals, including 28 youth, 2 children, and 8 combatants, who actively participated in

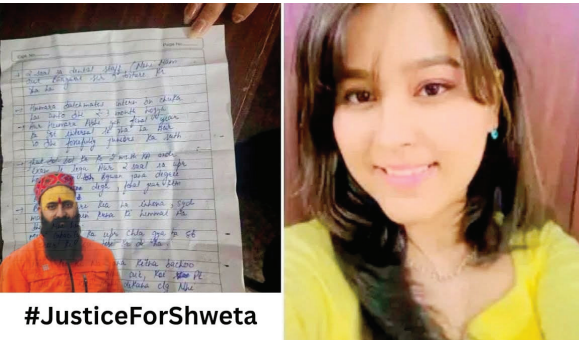
the interactive session. The lecture provided a platform for the audience to understand the benefits of physical fitness and its impact on their daily lives.

## "Justice for Shweta": Manoj Padha demands CBI probe, writes to LG Sinha, Rajasthan CM

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 30

In a strong call for justice, Manoj Padha, Political Activist and State President of Ekam Sanatan Bharat Dal (J&K), has written to Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, and Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Bhajan Lal Sharma, demanding a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) inquiry into the tragic suicide of Shweta Singh, a final-year BDS student from Doda.

Shweta Singh, a resident of Prem Nagar Sharote, Doda (J&K), was studying at Pacific Dental College in Udaipur, Rajasthan. She reportedly



ended her life following two years of relentless harassment, mental abuse, and financial exploitation, as revealed in a suicide note recovered by authorities.


Calling the incident a "grave miscarriage of justice", Padha emphasized the need for an impartial, high-level probe by the CBI, citing the sensitive

nature and cross-state dimensions of the case.

"This isn't just about Shweta—it's about preventing future tragedies. The system failed her. We cannot afford silence or delay," said Manoj Padha. "A CBI inquiry is essential to hold the guilty accountable and restore trust in our institutions."

### Notice

I Raju S/o Dhani Ram R/o Village Sangar, Ransoo, Distt. Reasi (J&K) my wife name Varsha Devi deliver a male child on 22.12.2020 at Govt. SMGS Hospital Shalamar, Jammu that in the hospital record my name is wrongly been written as Rajveer Singh instead of Raju. Now I want to correct the same. Objection if any may be conveyed to concerned authority within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.



**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**  
**OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION GANDHI NAGAR JAMMU**  
e-mail : [xenpwddivgandhinagar@gmail.com](mailto:xenpwddivgandhinagar@gmail.com)

**SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
**Short e-NIT No. DGN/45of 2025-26 Dated 28-07-2025**

For and on behalf of the **Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**-tenders are invited on **percentage basis** from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works :-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (₹ in Lacs)	Cost of document (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Improvement / Modernization of Existing Infrastructure of Old Kissan Ghar Jammu (Under M.H "4401-0612")	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	33.08	600	66160 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	02 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 08-08-2025	"A"&"B" Class

**Position of AAA** :- **Accorded by Director Horticulture (P&M) J&K order No. 107-DHPM of 2025 dated 20-06-2025 amounting to Rs. 40.00 Lacs**

**Position of TS** :- **Sanctioned by this office order No. 51/PWD Div. Gandhi Nagar/2025-26 dated 25-07-2025.**

**Project Authority** :- **Director Horticulture (P&M) J&K.**

**Major Head of Account** :- **Under M.H "4401-0612".**

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> per below schedule :-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-07-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 28-07-2025 to 07-08-2025, 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	01-08-2025 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu
4	Bid submission Start Date	28-07-2025
5	Bid Submission End Date	07-08-2025 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	08-08-2025 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

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

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

**DIP/J-4070/25**  
**Date: 30-7-25**

## Kia Launches its First Made-In-India Electric Vehicle Built for the India that Moves Together – Carens Clavis EV starting at INR 17.99 Lacs

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

Kia India, a leading mass-premium automaker, today launched its first made-in-India electric vehicle, the Carens Clavis EV, starting at INR 17.99 lacs. Designed to meet the evolving needs of prospective EV customers, the Carens Clavis EV offers a unique blend of space, clever features, and flexibility without compromising on affordability. Whether it is a long road trip with friends or family, a quick weekend getaway, or a regular inter-city commute, the Carens Clavis EV is designed to handle it all



with ease. With its inclusive design and impressive performance, it embodies Kia's vision of electric mobility that goes beyond a select few, making it a vehicle for everyone who seeks—smarter, greener, and more practical driving experience.

Commenting on the announcement, Mr.

Gwanggu Lee, Managing Director and CEO of Kia India, said, "We are committed to leading the future of electric mobility through innovation, sustainability and a deep understanding of evolving consumer needs. Over the years, we have built a strong global EV portfolio and are proud

to bring that expertise to India. The Carens Clavis EV represents the next step in this journey. It is built on three core pillars – our proven global EV technology, advanced features that simplify the driving experience, and our unique RV philosophy that stands for movement, flexibility, and togetherness. The Kia Carens Clavis EV, India's first Electric RV, has been thoughtfully built for a nation that moves with ambition and togetherness. Inspired by India, our first made-in-India electric vehicle carries forward the idea of 'E-We' defining a new way to move."

## Indian Army conducts Three Day Integrated Disaster Management Symposium and Mock Exercise for Delhi - NCR



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

Exercise Suraksha Chakra, a three-day Integrated Disaster Management Symposium and Mock Exercise commenced today at Manekshaw Centre, Delhi Cantt. The exercise is being conducted by Headquarters Delhi Area in coordination with National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

Exercise Suraksha Chakra aims to bring together State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs), Central Response Agencies including the Armed Forces and Technical & Early Warning Institutions to collec-

tively validate planning frameworks, strengthen inter-agency coordination and synergise Whole-of-Government approach. The exercise will specifically address preparedness for earthquake and industrial chemical hazards, across 18 districts - 11 from Delhi, 5 from Haryana and 2 from Uttar Pradesh. It will mark the first such initiative in the National Capital Region (NCR) and aims to extend these lessons to one of the India's most densely populated and complex urban regions. The event drew distinguished delegates from civil, military and scientific communities, underscoring the critical importance of unified execution and joint planning in disaster management. The inaugural day focussed on understand-

ing the disaster threats to Delhi and NCR as well as capabilities of various agencies. Shri Rajendra Singh, HoD, NDMA opened the proceedings and Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar, PVSM, AVSM, GOC-in-C, Western Command delivered the inaugural address for the event. He highlighted the importance of identifying vulnerable areas, risk assessment and proactive pre-positioning of equipment and supplies for agility in response. The event witnessed insightful presentations and panel discussions on disaster management and capabilities of various agencies involved in the task. Lt Gen Bhavnish Kumar, AVSM, VSM, GOC, Delhi Area gave an Overview on Disaster Threats in the Area of Operations of

Delhi Area identifying the disaster vulnerabilities and efforts being put by all agencies in mitigating the same.

The event also saw an exhibition of cutting-edge relief and rescue equipment by NDRF and participating vendors.

The symposium cum table top exercise will be followed by a simulated situation exercise on 01 Aug 2025, wherein all agencies will participate.

The symposium marks a pivotal step toward institutionalising joint mechanisms for disaster management. By integrating ground-level expertise with strategic oversight, India moves closer to a resilient future where swift, unified action minimizes impact of the disaster and accelerates recovery.

## MLA Marh engages with villagers in Muraripur

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
MARIH, JULY 30

MLA Marh Surinder Kumar visited village Muraripur today and held a productive meeting with the local residents. During his visit, he listened attentively to the concerns and issues faced by the villagers, focusing on essential services and infrastructure. The villagers highlighted several critical issues, including the need for improved road conditions, reliable electricity supply, access to clean water, and other public amenities.

MLA Marh Surinder Kumar took note of these concerns and assured the villagers that he would work towards resolving them. The MLA engaged in discussions with the relevant authorities, urging them to take prompt action to address the issues raised by the villagers. He emphasized the impor-



MLA Marh Surinder Kumar re-affirmed his commitment to the welfare of his constituents, working tirelessly to bring about positive change and development in the area. The villagers expressed their apprecia-

tion for the MLA's efforts and looked forward to seeing tangible improvements in the village's infrastructure and services. The MLA's visit to Muraripur and his assurance of timely resolution of issues reflect his dedication to the welfare and development of his constituency. The community can expect focused efforts to address their concerns and enhance their quality of life.

the residents of Muraripur. The MLA underscored his commitment to ensuring that the concerns raised by the villagers are resolved efficiently and effectively. He has instructed the relevant authorities to prioritize these issues and work towards tangible solutions within specified timelines. The villagers expressed their appreciation for the MLA's proactive approach and commitment to addressing their concerns. They look forward to seeing prompt action and tangible improvements in the village's infrastructure and services. The MLA's visit to Muraripur and his assurance of timely resolution of issues reflect his dedication to the welfare and development of his constituency. The community can expect focused efforts to address their concerns and enhance their quality of life.

## Jammu Club organizes Plantation Drive under PM Modi's 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JULY 30

In a heartfelt tribute to the environment and motherhood, the Jammu Club organized a plantation drive under the central initiative of the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The event took place in the lush green lawn of the Jammu Club and witnessed enthusiastic participation from the club committee members, staff, and dignitaries.

The plantation drive aimed to promote environmental awareness and deepen the emotional connect of people with nature by dedicating each planted tree to one's mother.

Gracing the occasion as Chief Guest, Anuradha Jangid, wife of the Divisional Commis-

sioner Jammu and Vice President of the Club, lauded the initiative. A versatile artist known for her contributions to the preservation of heritage and culture in Jammu & Kashmir and Rajasthan besides work for religious art, she personally planted a sapling and called upon women and youth to spearhead such green movements "Every tree we plant is not just a sapling—it is a legacy. This initiative weaves together love for our mothers with the urgent call to protect Mother Earth. It is a truly beautiful step towards a more compassionate and sustainable world," said Anuradha Jangid.

Speaking on the occasion, Honorary Secretary of Jammu Club, Gaurav Gupta emphasized the importance of environmental responsibility in today's times.


"This campaign is a beautiful initiative that connects personal emotions with ecological well-being. Planting a tree in the name of our mothers not only honors them but also contributes to a greener and healthier tomorrow," he said. Appreciating the efforts of Club committee members for promoting eco-friendly initiative, Gupta said that Jammu Club will continue such activities in the future and encourage more members to actively participate.

He also appreciated the tireless effort of Kavita Gupta, Chairperson of the Garden Sub Committee of Jammu Club, for maintaining the green cover in the Club's lawn and to ensure that the Club remains a green, vibrant, and serene space.

The plantation drive ended with a group

pledge to protect nature and contribute to sustainability. Refreshments were served to all participants following the event. The Jammu Club's initiative under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign has set an example of how local organizations can contribute meaningfully to national environmental goals.

Managing Committee Members who were present during the occasion Er. Ashok Gandotra, Dr. Meenakshi Kotwal, Indu Puri, Ashwani Gupta, Sidharth Samnotra, Dr. Hema Gandotra Jandial, Dr. Ritesh Gupta, Vikram Dhawan besides Dr. Yudhvir Gupta, Manish Gupta, Neha Gupta, Dr. Rakesh Gupta, Ashok Kumar Angural, Ashok K. Vaid, Er. Rakesh Baru, Er. Sanjeev Mohan, Anil Aggarwal, Dr. Kuldeep Singh, Ashwani Khullar and others.



**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**  
**OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION GANDHI NAGAR JAMMU**  
e-mail : [xenpwwdivgandhinagar@gmail.com](mailto:xenpwwdivgandhinagar@gmail.com)

**SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
**Short e-NIT No. DGN/44of 2025-26 Dated 28-07-2025**

For and on behalf of the **Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**-tenders are invited on **percentage basis** from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works :-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (₹ in Lacs)	Cost of document (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of drain and Improvement of road at Upper Bathindi near H/o Hon'ble MP Khatana Sahib Jammu (Part-I) (Under Non Plan for the year 2025-26)	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	4.88	600	9760 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	01 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 06-08-2025	"A", "B" "C" & "D" Class
2	Construction of drain and Improvement of road at Upper Bathindi near H/o Hon'ble MP Khatana Sahib Jammu (Part-II) (Under Non Plan for the year 2025-26)	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	4.38	600	8760 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	01 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 06-08-2025	"A", "B" "C" & "D" Class
3	Construction and repair of drain from H/o Gurbam Niwas to H/o Mohinder Singh Sec-13 Nanak Nagar and allied links (Under Non Plan for the year 2025-26)	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	4.17	600	8340 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	01 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 06-08-2025	"A", "B" "C" & "D" Class
4	Construction of drain in lane opposite Champions Arena Chowadhi Jammu. (Under Non Plan for the year 2025-26)	PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar	2.49	600	4980 (2% of the Advertised Cost)	01 Month	(1200 Hrs) on or after 06-08-2025	"A", "B" "C" & "D" Class

**Position of AAA** :- Accorded by Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu order No. 227 of 2025 dated 29-05-2025 for S.No. 1, Order No. 228 of 2025 dated 19-05-2025 for S.No. 2, order No. 268 of 2025 dated 15-07-2025 for S.No. 3 and order No. 273 of 2025 dated 21-07-2025 for S.No. 4

**Position of TS** :- Sanctioned by Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu order No. 286 of July 2025 dated 19-07-2025 for S.No. 1, and order No. 287 of July 2025 dated 19-07-2025 for S.No. 2, order No. 285 of July 2025 dated 19-07-2025 and this office order No. 48/PWD Div. Gandhi Nagar/2025-26 dated 24-07-2025.

**Project Authority** :- Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu for S.No. 1, 2, 3 & 4.

**Major Head of Account** :- Under Non Plan 2025-26.

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule :

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-07-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 28-07-2025 to 05-08-2025, 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	31-07-2025 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu
4	Bid submission Start Date	28-07-2025
5	Bid Submission End Date	05-08-2025 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	06-08-2025 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Gandhi Nagar Jammu
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

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

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

**DIP/J-4071/25**  
**Date: 30-7-25**

## No US Prez role in halting India's military action during OP Sindoor: Jaishankar

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

Foreign Minister S Jaishankar today reiterated that US President Donald Trump had no role in stopping India's military operation against Pakistan during Operation Sindoor.

Speaking in the Rajya Sabha while resuming the discussion on "India's strong, successful, and decisive Operation Sindoor in response to the terrorist attack in Pahalgam," Jaishankar said there was no conversation between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Trump to halt the military action. He added,



"There was no telephonic conversation between the two leaders from April 22 to June 16."

Rejecting opposition allegations of diplomatic failure during Operation Sindoor, the Foreign Min-

ister stated that Indian diplomacy was perfectly on track given that the BRICS summit condemned the Pahalgam terrorist attack.

"The BRICS countries condemned the conspira-

tors behind the Pahalgam attack and cross-border terrorism, whereas in the BRICS summit statement after the Mumbai attacks, cross-border terrorism was not mentioned," he said. He also highlighted that Germany, France, Russia, and the European Union condemned the Pahalgam attack.

Jaishankar informed that the United Nations Security Council issued a statement condemning the Pahalgam terrorist attack on April 25, when Pakistan was still a member of the Council and India was not a member of the global body.

## Priyanka urges Centre to waive loans for Wayanad landslide victims

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra today expressed concern over lack of adequate rehabilitation and financial support for the victims of the devastating landslide that struck Wayanad last year.

Raising the issue during zero hour in Lok Sabha, the Wayanad MP said, "I would like to inform the House that it has been one year since a terrible natural disaster struck Wayanad, resulting in the loss of hundreds of lives and the wipeout of 17 whole families. As many as 1,600 buildings were destroyed



in the landslide, and hundreds of acres of land and crops were destroyed, affecting the livelihoods of farmers and businesses".

Expressing disappointment over the Centre's response, Priyanka said, "It's been one year, and I'm sorry to say that the

affected people have not been able to rehabilitate properly due to the lack of support and funding from the Centre. For one year, we've been requesting the release of funds for Wayanad. Some funds were released, but they were insufficient and given as

loans, which is unprecedented. People have lost their lives and entire livelihoods, and we expect them to repay loans while rebuilding their lives?"

She also highlighted that although the disaster was eventually classified as one of "severe nature," it still fell short of being declared a national disaster.

"We requested that it be declared a national disaster, which wasn't done initially, but it was finally designated as a disaster of a severe nature. However, this hasn't been enough, as the victims' families are still struggling one year later," she said.

## SC hears Delhi govt plea on ban of older vehicles

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

The Supreme Court today heard a plea filed by the Delhi government, seeking enforcement directions on the ban on old petrol and diesel vehicles within the capital.

The plea highlights the need for strict implementation of existing court and National Green Tribunal (NGT) directives, which prohibit petrol vehicles older than 15 years and diesel vehicles older than 10 years from operating on Delhi roads due to concerns about pollution.

A bench led by Chief Justice of India BR Gavai considered the matter and sought a status report from the authorities on



In a move aimed at reducing case pendency, the apex court constituted a special bench to exclusively hear old Motor Accident Claim Tribunal (MACT) cases and criminal appeals.

According to a notice issued by the Supreme Court Registry on July 29, the newly formed bench will comprise Justice K Vinod Chandran and Justice NV Anjaria, and will sit every Monday and Friday at starting August 1.

The Registry has also appealed to members of the bar, parties-in-person, and all stakeholders to cooperate by avoiding adjournment requests so that pendency in these matters can be effectively reduced.

the implementation and monitoring mechanisms adopted so far.

The court has indicated that the matter will be taken up further after submission of the report, given the urgency

of addressing environmental degradation and public health hazards in the national capital.

In a related issue, the apex court also set up a special bench to hear old motor accident cases.

## "CJI not a Post Office, has duty to act on misconduct": SC reserves verdict in Justice Yashwant Varma case

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JUL 30

The Supreme Court today reserved its verdict on Justice Yashwant Varma's plea challenging the in-house inquiry report and the removal recommendation made by former CJI Sanjiv Khanna, even as Members of Parliament in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha formally initiated the impeachment process against the Allahabad High Court judge.

The Allahabad High Court Judge Justice Yashwant Varma, has challenged the in-house inquiry report indicting him in the infamous cash-at-residence controversy,



as well as the recommendation by the then Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna to the President and Prime Minister seeking his removal.

A bench of Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice AG Masih, after a detailed hearing, reserved the matter for judgment. The Court also took up a separate petition filed by Advocate Mathews J Nedumpara seeking the registration of an FIR against Justice

Varma in connection with the incident.

At the outset, Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Justice Varma, presented the core of the constitutional challenge. He contended that the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 fully governs the procedure for the removal of a judge, and that the in-house inquiry mechanism, being an administrative process, could not trigger or influence impeachment proceedings under Article 124 of the Constitution.

Sibal argued that the recommendation of the CJI for removal, if based solely on such a report, would carry undue weight in Parliament due to the

high constitutional position of the CJI, thereby compromising the independence of the legislature's decision-making process.

Justice Datta, however, countered that the in-house mechanism had legal grounding in Supreme Court precedents such as K. Veeraswami and Ravichandran Iyer, and that it was recognized as valid law under Article 141.

He clarified that the clause "otherwise" in Section 3(2) of the Judges Protection Act allowed for in-house proceedings and administrative steps such as withdrawal of judicial work from a judge.

## Army Chief meets Manipur Governor, discusses security

AGENCIES  
IMPHAL, JULY 30

General Upendra Dwivedi, PVSM, AVSM, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), today called on the Governor of Manipur, Ajay Kumar Bhalla, at the Raj Bhavan in Imphal.

He was accompanied by the Army Commander of Eastern Command, the General Officer Commanding 3 Corps, and other senior Army officials.

During the meeting, Governor Bhalla extended his heartfelt congratulations to the Army leadership for the successful execution of Operation Sin-



door, lauding the Indian Army's professionalism, unwavering commitment, and sustained efforts in maintaining peace and stability in the region.

The discussions also touched upon the commencement of the 134th edition of the Durand

Cup, one of Asia's oldest and most prestigious football tournaments, which begins today. General Dwivedi expressed his appreciation to the Governor and the Government of Manipur for their consistent support and facilitation in organising

the high-profile sporting event.

The interaction underscored the strong civil-military cooperation in the region and reaffirmed the Army's role not just in national security but also in promoting sporting and cultural engagement.

## ISRO-NASA joint satellite NISAR set for launch today from Sriharikota

AGENCIES  
SRIHARIKOTA, JULY 30

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and NASA are set to launch their joint Earth observation satellite, NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar), today, at 5:40 pm IST from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

This landmark mission, over a decade in the making, represents a joint investment of more than \$ 1.5 billion and is poised to revolutionize the way natural disasters and environmental changes on Earth are being monitored.

NISAR brings togeth-



er the technological strengths of both agencies. NASA has provided the L-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), a high-rate telecommunication subsystem, GPS receivers, and a 12-meter deployable, unfurlable antenna. ISRO, on its part, has contributed the S-Band SAR payload, a customized spacecraft bus

to host both payloads, the GSLV-F16 launch vehicle, and all associated launch services.

Weighing 2,392 kilograms, the satellite will be inserted into a sun-synchronous orbit, enabling repeat imaging of Earth's land and ice-covered surfaces every 12 days. The data will be captured using

advanced dual-frequency SAR technology, offering high-resolution observations across a wide 242-kilometer swath.

The satellite's radar systems are mounted on the Integrated Radar Instrument Structure (IRIS), and together with the spacecraft bus, they form a comprehensive Earth observation observatory. This joint project, realized by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) and ISRO, will support both national priorities and global scientific research, including surface deformation studies using the repeat-pass InSAR technique.

## Assam actress Nandini Kashyap held in hit-and-run case that killed student

AGENCIES  
GUWAHATI, JULY 30

Assamese actress Nandini Kashyap was arrested in the early hours today in connection with the July 25 hit-and-run case that took the life of 21-year-old Samiul Haque, a polytechnic student and part-time municipal worker.

Her arrest came after days of police inquiry and mounting pressure from the student bodies and civil society organisations demanding justice.

Kashyap was arrested in north Guwahati late yesterday night and brought to Dispur police station for preliminary questioning before being shifted to the



All Women Police Station in Panbazar, where her arrest was formally recorded at around 1:30 am.

Police confirmed that Section 105 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which refers to culpable homicide, has been added to the case.

On the night of July 25, the fatal incident took place in Guwahati's Dakhingaon area, where Samiul, a second-year student at Nalbari Polytechnic and a

temporary employee with the Guwahati Municipal Corporation, was hit by a speeding vehicle allegedly driven by Kashyap.

The car did not stop after the collision as per the eyewitnesses. Samiul was first taken to the Gauhati Medical College and later shifted to Apollo Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries the following evening.

The tragedy sparked widespread outrage across the state, with the All Assam Polytechnic Students' Union (AAPSU) filing an FIR and organising protests demanding immediate arrest and accountability.

Police are reviewing the CCTV footage, forensic evidence, and eyewitness

accounts to piece together the sequence of events. Officials have indicated that additional legal provisions may be added depending on the final forensic and post-mortem reports.

Nandini Kashyap's family issued a public statement in response to allegations of indifference, expressing sorrow over the incident. Her mother said that the family had attempted to help Samiul from the starting, mentioning that Nandini's father went to the hospital with money but was stopped and threatened by a group of youths. She also explained that the family was advised by the police to avoid public appearances for safety reasons.

## 9 killed, 2 injured after firework factory explosion in central Thailand

AGENCIES  
BANGKOK, JULY 30

Nine people were killed and two others injured in a firework factory explosion in central Thailand's Suphan Buri province on Wednesday, local authorities said.

According to the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, the explosion occurred at 11:10 a.m. local time, prompting emergency services to respond and transport the injured to a nearby hospital.

The authorities were currently investigating the cause of the explosion.



## Bayern Munich sign Luis Diaz from Liverpool on four-year deal

AGENCIES  
MUNICH, JULY 30

Luis Diaz has sealed a permanent move to Bayern Munich as the Colombia international signed a four-year deal with the German club to bring his three-and-a-half-year stay at Anfield to an end.

The Bavarian giants have reportedly paid up to a fee of 65 million pounds to bring the 28-year-old to Germany. The forward, who has been handed a contract until June 30, 2029, will wear the number 14 for the German champions.

"It means a lot to me to



be part of FC Bayern - one of the biggest clubs in the world. I want to help my new team with my style of playing football and my personality," said Diaz.

The Colombian forward

joined the Reds from FC Porto in January 2022 and quickly became a key figure under then-manager Jurgen Klopp.

Diaz made an immediate impact at Anfield, daz-

zling fans with his pace and flair. In his debut half-season, he registered six goals and four assists in 26 appearances, helping Liverpool secure both the Carabao Cup and FA Cup, each won on penalties against Chelsea. He also featured in the Champions League final and narrowly missed out on the Premier League title that season.

A serious knee injury in 2022-23 briefly stalled his momentum, but Diaz bounced back, gradually rediscovering his top form. Over the next two campaigns, he played 101 matches, scoring 30 goals and providing 10 assists.

## Gauff battles past Collins; Ito stuns Paolini in Montreal

AGENCIES  
MONTREAL, JULY 30

Top seed Coco Gauff survived a tough battle against Danielle Collins after nearly three hours at Canadian Open to earn her first match win since winning Roland Garros in June.

Gauff was two points away from defeat in the third set of her eventual 7-5, 4-6, 7-6(2) win, as Collins wiped away deficits of 2-0 and 4-2 over the last 80 minutes of the match. But the elder of the two Americans never reached match point, and lost nine of the last 11 points played inside IGA Stadium, WTA reprints.

"I was practicing well



and I don't think I transferred it today, but hopefully I got my bad match of the tournament out of the way," Gauff said post-match.

"Danielle is a great ball striker and for me to break her as many times as I did, there's definitely some positives to take from

today," she added.

Gauff will face another former Top 10 player, Veronika Kudermetova next. The former World No. 9 was a 6-4, 6-2 winner over No. 29 seed Olga Danilovic in the second round.

Having announced herself by reaching the Osaka

semifinals on home soil in her WTA debut last October, Ito backed that up with her first WTA 125 title in Canberra to start 2025 and broke into the Top 100 in May. However, she had not won a tour-level match this season until her first-round win over Katie Volynets this week -- also her first victory in a WTA 1000 main draw, according to WTA.

Elsewhere, Japanese qualifier Aoi Ito pulled off the biggest upset, knocking out No. 7 seed Jasmine Paolini 2-6, 7-5, 7-6(5) in 2 hours and 27 minutes. The World No. 110 had trailed by a set and 4-1, and saved one match point down 5-4 in the second set.

## Private ownership and expansion of BBL among recommendations sent to Cricket Australia

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

Private ownership and expansion of the Big Bash leagues are among the recommendations that were given to Cricket Australia (CA), as they look for next steps in the evolution of the leagues.

The CA Board commissioned the Boston Consulting Group to consult with experts and stakeholders from across CA, Australian Cricket and around the world and provide recommendations for the next phase of the BBL and WBBL evolution.

In a statement on Wednesday, CA revealed the recommendations it



realise the potential for growth, including consideration of private investment.

As of now, BBL and WBBL teams are by CA and the states, while franchise leagues worldwide like the Indian Premier League (IPL), South Africa's SA20, USA's Major League Cricket (MLC) and the ILT20 in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are by major Indian companies.

CA added the report will now be subject to a thorough exploratory process before any decisions are made about the potential implementation of recommendations, and any associated timelines.

has received from BCG. The first one talks about attracting the world's top players and enhancing Australian player availability through an optimised schedule, including a later start to the BBL season,

and a higher salary cap; It is followed by different operating models and administrative structures, potential for expansion, and recommendation of alternative forms of investment and ownership to

CA added the report will now be subject to a thorough exploratory process before any decisions are made about the potential implementation of recommendations, and any associated timelines.

## India Champions beat West Indies Champions to qualify for WCL semifinal

AGENCIES  
LEICESTER, JULY 30

India Champions will aim for victory in the semifinals of the ongoing World Championship of Legends after defeating West Indies Champions in just 13.2 overs in their last group match on Tuesday.

The Indian team, filled with legends like Yuvraj Singh, Shikhar Dhawan & Harbhajan Singh, needed to chase the target of 145 in 14.1 overs, and with the help of a fiery innings of 50 runs in just 21 balls by Stuart Binny, India Champions secured their spot in the last four of the tournament.

With this win, the



India Legends have demonstrated their strength and potential to excel in the tournament ahead of the important clash in the semifinal.

India's captain Yuvraj Singh said, "We're thrilled to have qualified for the semifinals and are confident about our chances of

progressing further in the tournament. The target was tough, but we were confident that we would be able to chase it within the overs required to take us into the semifinals. Now we focus on our upcoming matches to clinch the tournament.

Batting first, the West

Indies Champions had scored 144 runs in 20 overs. Apart from Binny, Dhawan (25), Yuvraj (21) and Yusuf Pathan (21) also played key roles in victories. Piyush Chawla took three wickets for the team.

India, however, are slated to play arch-rivals Pakistan in the semifinal and fate of the match is uncertain, as the league stage clash between the two nations was officially called off, following strong objections from Indian players and a principal tournament sponsor in the wake of the Pahalagam terror attack earlier this year, which escalated military tensions between both nations.

## Owen gets ODI call-up as Australia name squad for white-ball series against Proteas

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

Mitchell Owen's rapid ascent has continued with him earning a maiden call-up to Australia's ODI squad for the upcoming home series against South Africa in August.

Australia will be hosting South Africa for three ODIs and as many T20Is in Darwin, Cairns, and Townsville, with Owen included in both squads.

Owen recently played all five T20Is against West Indies and finished with a strike rate of 192.30, and is now very much in contention for a spot in the squad for next year's T20 World Cup in India and



Sri Lanka.

Travis Head and Josh Hazlewood have made a return to both white-ball squads, so as Matt Short, who's recovered from a minor side strain. In the

absence of Pat Cummins, Mitchell Marsh will be the ODI squad captain, which also has Cameron Green, Xavier Bartlett and Lance Morris.

Morris returns to an

Australian squad for the first time since his last game against Pakistan in Perth in November last year. Sean Abbott, Jake Fraser-McGurk, Tanveer Sangha, Cooper Connolly and Aaron Hardie are not part of the ODI squad.

Moreover, with the T20I squad reduced to 14 members, as well as Head and Hazlewood returning, Fraser-McGurk, Hardie, Connolly and Xavier Bartlett were not selected. Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc are not in both squads as they continue their build-up towards the home summer which has the all-important five-match Ashes.

## Really hope Gill delivers another big contribution in crucial final Test: Patel

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

Former wicketkeeper-batter Parthiv Patel said he is hopeful of skipper Shubman Gill delivering another huge contribution with the bat in the upcoming fifth Test against England, starting at The Oval on Thursday.

In four matches played so far, Gill has amassed 722 runs, including hitting four centuries at an average of 90.25. The right-handed batter is also 11 runs shy of surpassing Sunil Gavaskar's record of the most runs scored in a Test series as an Indian captain.

"Everyone would want



him to maintain the kind of form he has shown. There were a lot of questions raised earlier in this series -- about his struggles in overseas conditions, where he wasn't getting runs or convert-

ing starts. But he has answered all those questions brilliantly. Hopefully, he continues this momentum.

"Even before this fifth Test match, people were talking, and that too after

he had already scored 600 runs in the series. One bad Test at Lord's, and questions started coming up again. So, I really hope Shubman Gill delivers another big contribution in this crucial final Test," said Patel, who saw Gill as Gujarat Titans' assistant coach in IPL 2025, to JioHotstar.

Apart from Gill, senior opener KL Rahul has been a consistent run-scorer for India by making 511 runs at an average of 63.87. "I think the way KL Rahul has batted throughout this series has been impressive. In the past, we've often seen him start a series well but struggle to maintain that form.

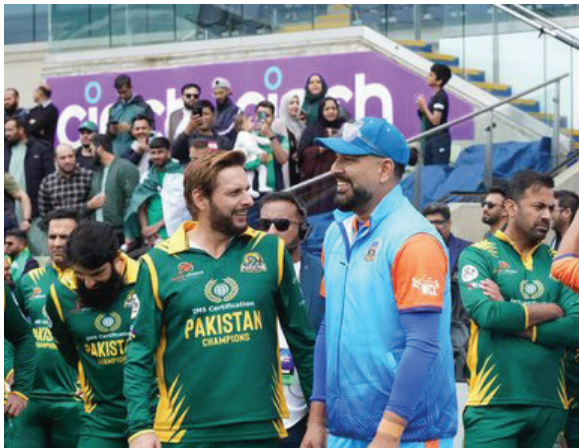
## Nation first, business later: Major sponsor withdraws from India-Pakistan WCL semifinal

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 30

With India and Pakistan once again set to meet in the World Championship of Legends semifinals, there is a question mark on the fate of the game as the top sponsor of the tournament announced that it will not be "associated with the India vs Pakistan match in WCL."

WCL's one of the main sponsors EaseMyTrip pulled out of the India-Pakistan WCL semifinal, reaffirming its long-standing policy of non-participation in any match involving Pakistan.

"We applaud Team India @India\_Champions



for their outstanding performance in the World Championship of Legends, you've made the nation proud. However, the upcoming semi-final against Pakistan is not just

another game, Terror and cricket cannot go hand in hand. @EaseMyTrip, we stand with India. We cannot support any event that attempts to normalise relations with a country

that promotes terrorism. "The people of India have spoken and we hear them. EaseMyTrip will not be associated with the India vs Pakistan match in WCL. Some things are bigger than sport. Nation first business later, Always," Nishant Pitti, co-founder of the travel-tech company said in a statement.

Earlier, the India-Pakistan league stage clash was officially called off, following strong objections from Indian players and a principal tournament sponsor in the wake of the Pahalagam terror attack earlier this year, which escalated military tensions between both nations.

## Zverev, Rune and Musetti win in Toronto opener

AGENCIES  
TORONTO, JULY 30

Top seed Alexander Zverev began his Canadian Open campaign by ousting Adam Walton 7-6(6), 6-4, during which the 28-year-old survived a lung-busting exchange to crucially earn set point in the opener.

After trailing 3/5 in the tie-break, Zverev seized momentum following that lengthy rally at 5/5 and found more rhythm from the baseline to advance. Zverev was broken when he served for the match at 5-3, yet quickly regrouped to close out the one-hour, 42-minute match the following game, ATP reports.

A seven-time ATP Masters 1000 champion, including a triumph in Canada in 2017, the No. 3



player in the ATP Rankings will continue his quest to add to that haul against 32nd seed Matteo Arnaldi, who defeated Australian Tristan Schoolkate 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. Zverev leads Arnaldi 1-0 in their ATP head-to-head series, with their lone meeting coming in Acapulco this year.

Eighth seed Casper Ruud, competing in just

his second tournament since Roland Garros, raced past Roman Safiullin 6-3, 6-3. The Norwegian next faces Nuno Borges, who rallied past Argentine qualifier Facundo Bagnis 5-7, 7-6(3), 6-2.

After withdrawing from his opener in Washington last week due to back pain, Holger Rune returned to claim a 7-6(7), 6-3 victory

in Toronto, his first hard-court win since reaching the Indian Wells final in March. Mewnwhile, Daniil Medvedev overcame lucky loser Dalibor Srvcina 7-6(3), 6-4, but the 2021 champion is looking for more out of his game.

Lorenzo Musetti, who is sixth in the Live Race and aiming to debut at the ATP Finals, also came through his opening Toronto test in straight sets, beating James Duckworth 7-5, 6-1. With his win, the 23-year-old Italian snapped a three-match losing streak after first-round exits in Wimbledon and Washington.

Musetti will next play Alex Michelsen, who edged Tomas Barrios Vera 7-6(7), 6-3 in a tense second-round clash.

## Nasha Mukt J&K Abhiyan: Cultural Unit Srinagar DIPR organises play on drug abuse awareness at GHSS Rawalpora

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JULY 30

As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukt J&K Abhiyan, Cultural Unit Srinagar of the Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), in collaboration with Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Rawalpora, today organized a play to raise awareness on drug abuse.

The event aimed to address the rising menace of substance addiction among youth.

A local artist group delivered a gripping performance that portrayed the devastating impact of drug abuse on individuals, families, and society, leaving a deep emotional imprint on



the students and staff.

Principal of the school, Shafiq underlined the critical role of education and awareness in combating the growing threat of drugs.

Burhan Hussain, Cultural Officer, DIPR, commended the performers and reiterated the importance of using cultural mediums like drama and storytelling to awaken young minds

and foster a collective stand against drug abuse.

The programme culminated with a unified pledge by all participants to support a healthy, drug-free society.

## DC B'la visits remote village Naribal in Rafiabab to honour Kargil Martyr L.Naik GM. Khan (Vir Chakra)

JINNEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, JULY 30

As part of the ongoing efforts to honour India's national heroes in the run-up to Independence Day 2025, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, today visited Naribal, a remote village in the Rafiabab area of Baramulla district, to pay solemn tribute to Lance Naik Ghulam Mohammad Khan, a recipient of the Vir Chakra (Posthumous) for his exceptional gallantry during the Kargil War (Operation Vijay).

Accompanied by ADC Sopore, S.A Raina and other senior officers, the DC visited the residence of the martyr and interacted with the family members. The officers conveyed their deep respect and appreciation for the valiant sacrifice made by Lance Naik



Khan, who laid down his life on June 7, 1999, while fighting bravely at Point 5203 in the Kargil sector.

The officers present asserted his unmatched courage, during which he eliminated multiple enemy soldiers before succumbing to his injuries, made him receive one of the nation's highest gallantry awards, the Vir Chakra.

To honour the memory

of the braveheart, DC announced that the Government Middle School in Naribal will be renamed after Lance Naik Ghulam Mohammad Khan. He also revealed that a memorial gate bearing the martyr's name will be constructed on the Shalkote-Naribal road, as a lasting symbol of respect and recognition.

The visit also served as a platform for public out-

reach. A large number of local residents gathered and shared several long-pending demands and grievances pertaining to the lack of road connectivity, inadequate drinking water supply, poor power infrastructure, healthcare issues, and upgradation of school facilities.

Demonstrating a citizen-centric approach, DC listened patiently to all the concerns raised and issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned officers of the PHE, PWD, Power, Health, and Education departments to initiate prompt action. He assured the locals that the administration is committed to extending equitable development to far-flung and underdeveloped areas like Naribal, and every genuine demand will be addressed in a time-bound manner.

## Committee on Subordinate Legislation meets in Srinagar

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUNE 30

The Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today convened a meeting at the Assembly Complex in Srinagar to examine and review the rules, regulations and by-laws framed by the Revenue Department.

The meeting was chaired by Committee Chairman, Hasnain Masoodi and attended by members Reyaz Ahmad Khan, Hilal Akbar Lone, Shabir Ahmad Kullay, Satish Kumar Sharma, Irfan Hafiz Lone and Dr. Rameshwar Singh.

The Committee con-



ducted a detailed examination of various rules, sub-rules, regulations and bye-laws framed by the Revenue Department.

Emphasizing the need for efficient and seamless service delivery, the Committee underscored the importance of transparent land transfer mechanisms and user-friendly revenue services for the general public.

In-depth discussions

were held on key legal provisions related to land laws.

The Committee stressed the need for hassle-free registration processes and easy access to revenue records to enhance public convenience. It deliberated on key rules including Migrant Rules, Agrarian Reforms Rules, Land Grant Rules and Evacuees' Property Rules.

The Chairman highlighted the pivotal role of land laws in ensuring justice and equity and reaffirmed the Committee's commitment to public welfare. He urged all members to contribute constructively towards legislation that benefits every section of society.

During the meeting, the members shared valuable suggestions and raised pertinent issues within the Committee's purview, reiterating their collective resolve to promote transparency and accountability in subordinate legisla-

## Massive haul of suspected adulterated Rasgullas seized at Bishnah

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 30

In a significant enforcement action, the Department of Food & Drugs Administration (DFCO), Jammu, under the leadership of Commissioner FDA J&K Smita Sethi, successfully busted a large-scale food adulteration racket in Bishnah, today.

Acting on specific intelligence, a joint team of Food Safety Officers, in collaboration with the Police and Revenue Department officials, raided a cold storage facility at the Co-operative Society, Tehsil Bishnah.

During the inspection, an alarming quantity of adulterated sweets (Rasgullas)—approximately 440 quintals contained in 2750 tins—was seized. These products were suspected to pose a significant threat to consumer health and public safety.

The enforcement oper-

ation was spearheaded by Joint Commissioner (Food Safety) Sanjeev Kumar and supported by Deputy Commissioner Food Safety (Jammu Division) Madan Magotra and Deputy Commissioner, ICIL Jammu Pankaj Soni. The Food Safety Officers involved in the raid included Vijay Verma, Zulfkar Malik, and Khaiminder Choudhary.

During the inspection, the team discovered that the adulterated food was stocked in a Cold store run by Bishnah Cooperative Marketing Society and the Food Business Operator (FBO) was running the establishment without a valid license and in gross violation of the Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSA), 2006. Legal action has been initiated against the defaulters under the relevant provisions of the Act.

As part of the operation, two random legal samples of the suspected

sweets were lifted by FSO Zulfkar Malik and sent to the National Food Laboratory (NFL), Ghaziabad for detailed analysis. The outcome of the laboratory report will determine further punitive actions.

Commissioner FDA Smita Sethi emphasized the department's unwavering commitment to consumer safety and public health, especially in view of the upcoming festive season. She reiterated that such malpractices—especially prevalent during the summer—pose serious health risks and will be dealt with stringently. Special drives have already been launched across the Jammu Division to curb food adulteration, and these will continue with intensified vigilance.

The Department also urges all food business operators to maintain hygiene and comply with safety regulations. Specific instructions have been

issued against the sale of cut fruits, usage of unpermitted food colors, and sale of uncovered or improperly stored food items.

The public is encouraged to remain vigilant and report any food safety violations. For any complaints related to food quality or safety, the Department can be reached on the toll-free number: 104.

This large-scale seizure marks a milestone in the department's efforts to eliminate adulteration and uphold food safety especially in view of the upcoming festive season. The Department of Food Safety (DFCO), Jammu, remains committed to enforcing the FSS Act in letter and spirit and will continue to take proactive steps to ensure safe, pure and hygienic food for the citizens of Jammu & Kashmir.

## DLSA Budgam convenes review meeting of Legal Aid Defence Counsels

JINNEWS SERVICE  
BUDGAM, JULY 30

District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam today organized a review meeting of all Legal Aid Defence Counsels (LADCs) of Budgam at the office chamber of the Secretary, DLSA Budgam.

Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary DLSA Budgam chaired the meeting to assess the performance of the Legal Aid Defence Counsels and to ensure that they are meeting the standards of service delivery.

The meeting was attended by Lateef Ahmad Khan (Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel), Javaid Ahmad



Mir and Nazeer Ahmad Wagay (Deputy Legal Aid Defence Counsels), as well as Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsels.

During the meeting, the counsels shared their experiences; highlighted chal-

lenges faced in the field, and offered constructive suggestions for enhancing the delivery of legal aid services. Key points of discussion included ensuring quality legal representation, expediting the

disposal of pending cases, and improving coordination among the counsels to strengthen access to justice.

Secretary DLSA stressed the importance of providing efficient, accessible, and high-quality legal aid services. She reaffirmed the commitment of DLSA Budgam to delivering free and effective legal assistance to the underprivileged and marginalized sections of society.

The meeting concluded with a shared resolve to further streamline legal aid mechanisms and improve the overall efficiency of legal service delivery in the district.

## Mega Blood Donation camp held at GLDM GDC Hiranagar, 76 units of Blood collected

JINNEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, JULY 30

District Administration Kathua, in collaboration with Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial (GLDM) Government Degree College, Hiranagar and Yuva Bharat, organized a one-day Blood Donation Camp-Awareness Program in the College premises.

Deputy Commissioner Kathua Dr. Rakesh Minhas graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while noted social activist from Yuva Bharat Mr. Anurag, was the Guest of Honour. The Principal of the college, Dr. Pragya Khanna, was the Special Guest for the event.

The program commenced with the plantation of Chinar saplings and other plants by the Chief Guest and other guests, symbolizing the commit-



ment to both health and environmental sustainability. The event proceeded with the lighting of the traditional lamp and a formal welcome address by SDM Hiranagar Phulail Singh.

The event witnessed participation from community members, social workers, school students, and faculty from various institutions across the Hiranagar Block.

The Deputy Commissioner exhorted the youth to actively participate in social causes. He said blood donation is not just a medi-

cal need but our moral duty and a true expression of being humane. "Each unit of blood donated has the potential to save not just one but multiple lives", he added. He also congratulated the college Principal, Yuva Bharat team, team of sub district administration Hiranagar and NSS volunteers for their efforts.

Earlier, an insightful awareness address by a medical expert set the tone for the importance of blood donation.

The entire proceedings were conducted by

Advocate Ketan Kumar, Yuva Bharat activist, with the dedicated support of Prof. Rakesh Sharma (NSS Advisor) and Prof. Shapia Shameem (NSS Program Officer) of GDC Hiranagar.

A team of doctors and paramedical staff from the Sub-District Hospital, National Health Mission, and Bee Enn General Hospital Talab Tillo, extended their medical expertise, ensuring safe and successful blood collection.

The event witnessed a turnout of around 300 students from nearby schools and faculty members. A total of 72 units of blood were collected during the camp, making the event a resounding success in service to humanity.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Tehsildar Hiranagar, Anoop Kumar.

## RSGC– Four Ball Best Ball Golf Tournament 2025 concludes

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JULY 30

Royal Springs Golf Course (RSGC) successfully concluded its much-anticipated Four

Ball Best Ball Golf Tournament 2025 (Partners by Draw).

The championship, played over five intense rounds on a Match Play Knockout basis, was

claimed by Yasub Wani and M Numan Bedar, who emerged victorious in a thrilling final against Dr. Arsheed Iqbal and Sheikh M. Yasin (Baboo).

The winning duo

sealed the match continued beyond 18 holes and marked the victory by winning the sudden death hole.

The tournament featured 52 prominent club

golfers, and a total of 41 matches were played. The event was marked by close contests, with several matches stretching to extra holes and being decided through sudden

death playoffs, showcasing the high level of competition and sportsmanship.

Secretary of RSGC and the Tournament Committee extended heart-

felt congratulations to the winning pair, lauding their determination, teamwork, and exemplary sportsmanship throughout the tournament.

They also expressed sincere appreciation to all participants for their enthusiasm and competitive spirit, which made the tournament a memorable and spirited event.