

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
- Diarrhea
- Present vomiting
- A sharp rise in temperature
- Disorientation
- Bleeding from gums or nose, blood in stool, urine or vomit
- Redness on the face

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

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New generation needs to know how democracy was held captive for 21 months: LG Sinha

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 25 (KNO)

Terming imposition of 'Emergency' in 1975 by the Indira Gandhi led Congress Government as the darkest period in the history of Independent India, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said the new generation needs to know how nation's democracy was held captive for 21 months. Addressing "Samvidhan Hatya Diwas" here, the Lieutenant Governor, according to the news agency said, "The youngsters need to understand how our democratic



values were tarnished and how some handful of people ruthlessly bled the very soul of the democratic republic, assaulted our democratic norms, shattered India's ancient democratic form and

damaged the four pillars of democracy, for sheer political gain." Calling "dictatorship" as a mindset that needs to be understood, he said, "The new generation also

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To revive tourism, Centre to organise high-level meet in Pahalgam in July

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 25 (KNO)

In a significant move to bring the tourists back to Kashmir, the Centre is planning a high-level review meeting in Pahalgam on July 7 and 8, sources said on Wednesday. Top sources in the know of the development told the news agency that the meeting is being organised by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and will be attended by tourism secretaries from all the states. They said the high-level meeting is being held in Pahalgam to give a clear message to the people and tourists that the destina-

tion is safe and they need not to worry. They said that that the Jammu and Kashmir government may also build a memorial for the victims of the Pahalgam attack within the next six months. On April 22 this year terrorists killed 26 innocent civilians, mostly tourists, in the Baisaran Valley of Pahalgam, bringing the tourism industry in Jammu and Kashmir to a grinding halt. According to the officials, there has been a sharp decline in the number of tourists visiting Pahalgam – from 18,000 in April to just 3,000 in June. Preparations are underway to revive the stalled tourism industry they said. Tourism in Pahalgam and other parts of the Valley has suffered a major setback, severely affecting livelihoods in the region," they said. After the April 22 terror attack the occupancy in hotels across the region also declined drastically. "Most of the advance bookings were cancelled and the footfall has been almost been negligible," an official told KNO. The Centre and the J&K government have been making all-out

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Parliamentary panel to visit J&K in first week of July

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 25 (KNO)

In a significant development, a parliamentary panel is scheduled to undertake a study tour of Kashmir Valley in the first week of July. This is the first such visit following the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 civilian lives, most of them tourists. The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel, headed by BJP MP Anurag Thakur, will tour Srinagar as part of its multi-city itinerary that includes Mumbai and

Coorg. Ahead of the visit of the panel, the Jammu and Kashmir government has appointed S.P. Rukwal, Director of Geology and Mining, as coordinator of the visit. According to an official order accessed by news agency, Rukwal will oversee all logistical, administrative, and protocol-related arrangements. Two other officers from the Mining Department will work in coordination with the Lok Sabha Secretariat to ensure the success of the visit, the order reads. The visit assumes sig-

nificance as it will be first visit of a parliamentary panel to Kashmir following April 22 Baisaran attack in which 26 civilians were killed by terrorists. After the terror attack, parliamentary panels had stopped visiting Kashmir. Three such panels- Department-related Standing Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs, Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Housing & Urban Affairs and Joint Parliamentary Committee on "One Nation, One Election" had cancelled/abandoned their plans to visit J&K. KNO

AMARNATH YATRA 2025

No pilgrimage can take place without support of locals : IGP Birdi

JI NEWS SERVICE
PAHALGAM, JUN 25 (KNO)

Asserting that the indispensable contribution of locals is must for the success of the Amarnath Yatra, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir Zone, V K Birdi, on Wednesday said that no pilgrimage can take place without the support of the natives. Talking to reporters here in South Kashmir, IGP Birdi, according to the news agency said, "It



is only with their cooperation and assistance that these pilgrimages are successful. For this pilgrimage as well, whenever we interact with

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Mock drill held to test coordination, emergency response ahead of Yatra: SSP Srinagar

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 25 (KNO)

Senior Superintendent of Police Srinagar, Dr Sandeep Chakravarti on Wednesday said that a joint mock drill was conducted at Yatra Niwas in Pantha Chowk to test coordination and emergency response ahead of Amarnath Yatra. Speaking to reporters, the SSP, per news agency, said the aim of today's drill was to assess preparedness in

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DIG NKR visits Shadipora Transit Camp



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 25 (KNO)

In a proactive move to guarantee the safety of pilgrims during SANJY-2025,

Deputy Inspector General of Police North Kashmir Range Maqsood-ul-Zaman conducted a detailed security review at

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Chief Secretary chairs 2nd SEC meeting of DMRRR



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 25

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today chaired the 2nd State Executive Committee ((SEC) meeting of the Department of

Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR) to review the status of disaster preparedness and assess the allocation and utilization of

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Hot, dry weather cast shadow over monsoon season in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 25 (KNO)

The ongoing hot and dry spell in Jammu and Kashmir has resulted in a large deficit of rainfall in multiple stations across the region during the ongoing monsoon season. However, heavy rains and thunderstorms forecasted for the next 48 hours could play a crucial role in reducing this precipitation deficiency, especially in Srinagar, the summer capital, and other areas. According to data obtained by the news agency, Srinagar recorded

the hottest night in June at 25.0°C. The persistent dry spell has caused temperatures to rise both during the day and at night across the region. The data shows that Srinagar and other parts of the valley, including Budgam, Bandipora, Kishtwar and Kulgam, have experienced rainfall deficits ranging from 60% to 99%. Some stations, such as Anantnag, Baramulla, Ganderbal, Kupwara and Shopian, have recorded rainfall deficits between 20% and 59%. Pulwama is the

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MEA honours J&K Police for outstanding passport verification performance

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 25 (KNO)

In a significant development, Jammu & Kashmir Police has been adjudged among the best-performing police forces in India for their outstanding contribution to passport verification services for the year 2024-25. "Based on official verification data, J&K Police finalized an impressive 134219 passport application verifications during the period April-2024 to March-2025 reflecting an exceptional disposal rate



and a commitment to timely service delivery," a statement issued to the news agency.

The award was given by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) during

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Srinagar man arrested for using forged CIK document to cheat public, grab money

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 25 (KNO)

The Counter Intelligence Kashmir on Wednesday said it apprehended and handed over a fraudster to police in Srinagar for using a forged document of the agency to cheat public and grab money from them. According to a statement, issued to news agency the CIK said it arrested one Bilal Ahmad Rather son of Abdul Samad Rather, originally from Allochi Bagh and presently residing in Zakura, Srinagar

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Jhelum shrinks as heatwave scorches Kashmir

Water levels dip across valley's rivers | Jal Shakti Dept assures supply

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 25 (KNO)

As a prolonged dry spell and heatwave grip the Kashmir Valley, water levels in the River Jhelum and its tributaries have significantly declined, raising concerns over water availability and irrigation supplies.

According to details obtained by the news agency, key gauging stations along the Jhelum showed a drop in water levels on Wednesday morning. At 9:00 am, the river measured just 0.96 ft at Sangam, 2.79 ft at Munshi Bagh, 2.78 ft at Asham, while the Pampore gauge recorded a negative depth of -1.16 metres. Wullar Lake stood at

1575.02 metres—well below its average of 1578.00 metres. The tributaries feeding the river system show stress. Vishow Nallah at Khudwani registered 2.38 metres, Rambiyara Nallah at Wachi dropped to -0.35 metres, Lidder Nallah at Batkoot stood at 0.37 metres, and Sindh Nallah at Doderhama was at 1.30 metres.

However, independent weather forecaster Faizan Arif Keng told KNO that while the situation is concerning, it is not the worst or most alarming seen in the region. "Kashmir has experienced more severe dry spells in the past," he stated. Meanwhile, the Jal Shakti Department assured last week that water supply across the Valley remains

"normal" despite rising demand and misuse. Er Taj Mohammad Chowdhary, Chief Engineer of Jal Shakti (PHE) Kashmir, informed KNO that several areas, especially in Srinagar, are receiving water via tankers. "Over a dozen tankers are operating in the city, and more can be deployed if needed. Misuse is a major concern;

people are using potable water for lawns and other non-essential purposes," he said. Chowdhary added that all filtration plants are functioning efficiently, with priority given to essential services like hospitals. Surveillance teams have been established to monitor and curb misuse.

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Mega Awareness and Benefit Saturation Camp held under DAJGUA in Gurez

J I NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, JUNE 25

As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), district administration Bandipora today organised a mega awareness and benefit saturation camp at Auditorium, Boys HSS Dawar, Gurez.

The initiative aims to ensure the saturation of government welfare schemes and doorstep delivery of services to the tribal population of the district.

The event was presided over by the Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Gurez, Nazir Ahmad Khan, and Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, besides witnessing participation of DDC Member for Tulail, Raja Aijaz; DDC Member for Gurez, Tasleema begum.

DPO ICDS Bandipora,

SDM Gurez, CMO Bandipora, CAHO Bandipora, CAO Bandipora, CHO Bandipora, DSHO Bandipora, among others attended the event. Additionally, officers from various line departments, tribal NGOs, community leaders, and a large number of local tribal residents also participated in the event, making it a vibrant and inclusive outreach effort under the DAJGUA campaign.

On the occasion, MLA Gurez, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, DDC Member for Tulail, and DDC Member for Gurez, jointly inspected stalls set up by various departments, interacted with the beneficiaries, and reviewed the services being delivered on the ground.

MLA Gurez underscored that DAJGUA is not merely an awareness drive but a mission to saturate government schemes, uplift tribal populations, and promote



equitable development. He further urged district officers to maintain close coordination with sectoral heads.

He termed the initiative as a vital step toward inclusive governance. He called on the local population to actively participate in such camps to avail the benefits of various central and UT-sponsored schemes.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Bandipora highlighted the vision of the DAJGUA campaign, reaching the last mile and ensuring that no eligible tribal household remains outside

the ambit of government support.

He urged the tribal community to take pride in their identity and heritage. He stated that the DAJGUA campaign is a vital initiative aimed at promoting tribal culture, generating awareness, extending the benefits of government schemes, and plugging developmental gaps to ensure inclusive growth.

DDC Member for Tulail, while addressing the gathering, said that the campaign serves as a powerful reminder of the invaluable contributions of tribal

communities to society. He emphasized the need to recognize and celebrate their legacy while working collectively for their development.

The camp witnessed the participation of various departments including Health, Ayush, ICDS, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal and Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, Social Welfare, Employment, Food and Civil Supplies, Revenue, NRLM, and Handicrafts. Stalls provided a wide range of on-spot services such as Aadhaar enrolment, Ayushman Bharat registration, PM-JAY certification, pension and ration card processing, and distribution of entitlements under various welfare schemes.

The event featured vibrant cultural performances by various educational institutions, including GGHSS Dawar, Habba Khatoon Dramatic Club,

and EMRS Gurez, which presented a Nukkad Natak on the life of Birsa Munda. BHSS Dawar contributed with a traditional Shina song, celebrating the region's rich cultural heritage and promoting a spirit of unity and pride.

Gurez camp forms a key component of the 15-day district-wide DAJGUA campaign launched earlier at GHSS Aragam. The campaign is targeting 31 identified tribal villages across Bandipora district with a mission to ensure 100% saturation of welfare schemes, foster inclusion, and bridge developmental gaps in remote areas.

The event concluded with a collective reaffirmation of the district administration's commitment to tribal welfare, social justice, and equitable development, in line with the vision of Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyaan.

Joint Naka laid by District Police & MVD Rajouri on NH; 29 challans issued, 17 vehicles seized

J I NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, JUNE 25

Acting on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma, a joint Naka was laid today by the District Police and Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) Rajouri on the National Highway to intensify enforcement of traffic regulations and ensure road safety.

The special drive was carried out under the supervision of ARTO Rajouri, Rajesh Gupta; Motor Vehicle Inspector, Rahul Singh and DySP Headquarters, Satish Kumar. During the Naka, a total of 29 challans were issued for various violations, including plying of vehicles without valid Route Permits, non-functioning of Speed Limiting

Devices (SLD) and lack of valid fitness certificates.

In a significant move to curb illegal and unsafe transportation, 17 vehicles were seized and handed over to PS Rajouri. A fine amounting to Rs. 1,11,600 is to be realized from the violators.

The enforcement team strictly warned all vehicle operators to adhere to traffic rules and regulations. The officials emphasized that such joint enforcement drives will continue in the future to promote safer road behavior and reduce the risk of accidents. The district administration urges the public, especially commercial vehicle operators, to ensure their vehicles are properly documented, mechanically fit and in full compliance with all legal provisions.

District Admin observes 50th Samvidhan Hatya Diwas in Udhampur



J I NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, JUNE 25

To raise awareness about the suspension of democratic rights and constitutional values during the emergency imposed on June 25, 1975, the District Administration Udhampur today organized an impressive programme to observe the 50th Samvidhan Hatya Diwas here at Conference Hall, DC Office Complex, Udhampur.

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai was the chief guest on the occasion.

The event witnessed

the presence of Additional Deputy Commissioner Prem Singh, Chief Planning Officer Mohd Iqbal, General Manager DIC Kishore Singh, Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dr. Umesh Shan, other district officers, civil society members and students.

While addressing the gathering, the DC emphasized the importance of safeguarding democratic institutions and drawing lessons from the past to protect the rights enshrined in the Constitution of India. She stated it is crucial to reflect on this dark chapter of our

history and reaffirm our collective commitment to the Constitution. Rights such as the Right to Equality, Right to Life and Right to Dignity are not mere words they are living guarantees bestowed upon us by the framers of our Constitution, to whom we owe a deep sense of gratitude.

She further urged everyone to uphold and propagate the constitutional values that form the bedrock of India's democracy. During the programme, various speakers delivered insightful lectures highlighting the constitutional, social and

political implications of the Emergency. They apprised that the period was marked by the suspension of fundamental rights, strict censorship of the press and unprecedented centralization of executive power. Thousands of political leaders, journalists and members of civil society were imprisoned and constitutional safeguards were severely compromised.

Later, District Social Welfare Officer, Kanika Gupta, administered the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan pledge to all participants.

Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr. Jehangir Bakshi, today chaired important meetings in Srinagar to ensure seamless healthcare arrangements for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2025.

The first session, held at the TRC Srinagar, was a sensitization meeting with Camp Directors who will be deployed across various base camps along the Pahalgam and Baltal axis.

The meeting organized by the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, focused on strengthening coordination and enhancing preparedness of healthcare services at these vital locations.

Dr. Bakshi briefed the camp directors on the available medical infra-

Director Health chairs coordination meetings for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2025

J I NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 25

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Dr. Bakshi briefed the camp directors on the available medical infra-

structure and services established by the Directorate, followed by an interactive session to highlight operational roles and streamline communication protocols vis a vis effective health care services.

In the second meeting, Dr. Bakshi held a comprehensive coordination meeting with key stakeholders involved in providing healthcare services during SANJY 2025.

The meeting saw participation from representatives of Indian Army, BSF, SSB, SDRF, SKIMS Soura, SKIMS MCH Bemina, Associated Hospitals GMC



Srinagar, Police Hospital Srinagar, CMO Anantnag/Ganderbal, COS/ Officer Yatra Incharge DHSK, Yatra Unit DHSK and relevant officers from the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir.

During the meeting, Director delivered a detailed PowerPoint presentation outlining the healthcare action plan prepared for the Yatra.

During both the sessions key focus areas included infrastructure readiness along both Yatra routes, deployment of medical teams and availability of medical supplies, emergency response pro-

ocols including medical referrals and evacuation plans, coordination mechanisms with local hospitals, establishment of a real-time communication and information sharing platform for all stakeholders, and regular coordination meetings to monitor implementation and respond to emerging needs.

Dr. Bakshi emphasized the importance of effective coordination and prompt communication among all participating agencies to ensure a fool-proof and responsive healthcare system during the Yatra period. The discussions covered all aspects of medical preparedness, including logistics, emergency interventions and inter-agency coordination, aiming to provide timely and high-quality medical care to all pilgrims.

Dharti Aaba Abhiyan

DC Kathua presides over Awareness & Benefit Saturation Camp at Panchayat Mahichak



J I NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, JUNE 25

As a part of Dharti Aaba Abhiyan 2.0, an Awareness and Benefit Saturation Camp was today held at Panchayat Mahichak of Barnoti Block to extend the benefits of government schemes to the tribal population residing in the area.

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Rakesh Minhas presided over the camp. Addressing the gathering, the DC said that the outreach initiative under Dharti Aaba 2.0 is a dedicated step to saturate all components of development, ensuring comprehensive welfare of the tribal communities in the district. He added that the camp showcases schemes and services of more than 17 departments, providing a unified platform for delivering benefits and

raising awareness among the tribal population.

The DC highlighted that departmental stalls are disseminating information regarding welfare schemes specially designed for the tribal populace, offering them an excellent opportunity to access tailored government services and entitlements.

Heads of the departments briefed the public about the schemes on offer, while on-the-spot services like Aadhaar registration, generation of Ayushman Bharat Golden Cards, distribution of AYUSH medicines and medicinal plants were provided to the beneficiaries. Other departmental stalls also displayed respective schemes and services for public benefit.

Earlier, locals also projected various issues of public importance before the Deputy Com-

missioner. Responding to the demands, Dr. Minhas assured that all genuine grievances shall be addressed in a time-bound manner and directed concerned officers for prompt redressal.

The Dharti Aaba Abhiyan 2.0 is being implemented across 7 tribal-dominated panchayats of 4 blocks—Duggan, Bani, Barnoti, and Marheen—in district Kathua. The campaign commenced on June 15 and will culminate on June 30, 2025, with the objective of ensuring last-mile delivery of government schemes to tribal communities.

CPO Kathua Ranjit Thakur, ACD, DPO, CAO, XEN PHE, CMO, DSWO, DAHO, AD FCS&CA, ALC, CDPO Barnoti, BDO Barnoti and other concerned officers and large numbers of locals were also present.

MLA Lolab reviews development profile of Machill block, directs early resolution of public issues

J I NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, JUNE 25

Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Lolab, Qaysar Jamshaid Lone after conducting a four day detailed tour of far flung border block Machill of Lolab Assembly Constituency today chaired a joint meeting of district and block level officers at Tehsil Headquarter Machill to review the progress and achievements of different departments, besides, resolving the projected issues of the people.

The meeting was attended by ADC Kupwara, Gulzar Ahmad; ACD, CMO, CEO, CAO, CAHO, CHO, DSHO; Executive Engineers of KPDC, STD, R&B, I&FC, PHE; AD Food, BDO, Tehsildar, BMO, besides, representatives and officials from various departments were also present.

Addressing the meeting, MLA Lolab said that the objective of visiting this far flung Machill block was to ease the sufferings of the people by addressing their day to day developmental issues and grievances.

He said that the Government is committed for upliftment and development of all far flung border areas like Machill. He enjoined upon all the officers to work with added zeal and commitment to



ensure that the basic amenities are delivered to the people at their doorsteps in a proactive approach given the challenging topography of this area.

MLA took a detailed review of the functioning of all the departments in Machill block.

Reviewing the School Education department, the chair was informed that 32 schools are functional in Machill block out of which 10 are housed in rented buildings. MLA said that the construction of buildings have been approved for the area and directed Tehsildar Machill to facilitate making the land available for construction of these buildings.

Regarding food, it was informed that sufficient stock of ration and essential commodities are available in the block, MLA directed the AD Food to ensure Aadhaar mapping of all the beneficiaries so that they can get the ration supply at ease.

Regarding KPDC, MLA

completion of all ongoing road projects and buildings before the onset of winter season.

Reviewing PHE, MLA directed the concerned for coverage of all the left out areas under the JJM scheme.

Progress and achievements of other sectors were also reviewed which include Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries and others.

Later, MLA flagged-off the Vaccination Express vehicle for conducting free of cost FMD vaccination under Round-6 of NADCP, covering 100 per cent bovine population at farmers doorsteps. Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Kupwara, Dr. Shabir Ahmad was present on the occasion.

Lone also distributed 4 Artificial Insemination kits to MAITRI's under Rashtriya Gokul Mission. Besides, Tablets and GPS enabled Weighing Balances were issued to Poshu Saki's for ration balancing and milk recording under HADP. Animal Husbandry Kissan Credit Cards were also distributed among the dairy farmers. For augmenting fodder production in the area, Hybrid Seed Kits were distributed among livestock farmers under HADP.

Director Horticulture Jammu visited PEQ Centre Marta

J I NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, JAMMU 25

Director Horticulture Jammu Gul Sayed today visited Post-Entry Quarantine Centre Marta, Tehsil Ram Nagar, District Udhampur and inspected the Clonal Root Stock of Apple belonging to M9 series planted under P-21 of HADP. During the visit, Chief Horticulture Officer, Udhampur Brij Vallabh Gupta briefed the Director Horticulture Jammu that about 6,78,500 nos. of clonal root stock of Apple (M-9) was planted at the centre.

Progress of different works under NABARD for an approved action plan of Rs 10.00 crore viz: Construction of Approach Road, Terraces Formation, Working Shed, Cold Room, Parking Sheds etc. were also inspected by Director Horticulture Jammu. Multiplication of clonal root stock through mound layering was also viewed.

Director Horticulture issued on spot instructions for speed up of different works under progress. He also instructed the staff to work with zeal & dedication for the welfare of the farming community and appreciated the works executed and other activities being carried over in PEQ Marta.

ADDC Baramulla reviews IEC campaign under DAJGUA

JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, JUNE 25

To assess the on-ground impact of the ongoing Information, Education & Communication (IEC) campaign under the Dharti Aabha Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Baramulla, Gh Rasool Mir today chaired a comprehensive review meeting at the District Administration Complex here.

The campaign, which spans from June 15 to June 30, 2025, focuses on ensuring 100 percent saturation of government welfare entitlements for the tribal population across the district.

The meeting saw participation from Joint Director Planning, ACD Baram-

ulla and key officers from departments including ICDS, Agriculture, Horticulture, FCS&CA, Health, Education, Social Welfare, Revenue, NRLM, Labour, CSCs, and banking institutions.

These departments play a pivotal role in conducting awareness and benefit saturation camps, a core component of DAJGUA, aimed at providing tribal households with access to a full range of government schemes and services.

During the meeting, Chaudhary Mudasar Husain, Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Baramulla and Nodal Officer for DAJGUA presented a detailed report on the status of IEC activities. He highlighted the achievements in tribal-dominated blocks, ongoing challenges,



and steps being taken to improve service delivery in remote areas.

The briefing included updates on household level surveys, door-to-door awareness drives, community engagement through panchayats, and the role of Common Service Centres (CSCs) in delivering services.

In his concluding remarks, ADDC emphasised the need for maximised outreach in far-flung tribal belts, enhanced coordination between departments at block and panchayat levels, timely submission

of progress reports, bridging service delivery gaps through focused and community-centric interventions.

He reiterated that full saturation of entitlements such as health insurance, scholarships, housing benefits, livelihood support, and banking access must be achieved in a time-bound and mission-driven manner.

IEC campaign under DAJGUA represents a commitment of the district administration towards inclusive and equitable development, ADDC emphasised. By prioritising tribal welfare through a whole-of-government approach, Baramulla aims to become a model district in tribal empowerment and grassroots governance, ADDC reiterated.

“Samvidhan Hatya Diwas” observed at DC Office Complex Doda



JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JUNE 25

The District Administration Doda today solemnly observed “Samvidhan Hatya Diwas” at the Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex, in alignment with the National theme, “Upholding Constitutional Morality and Safeguarding Democratic Institutions.”

The event was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh and witnessed the participation of Additional Deputy Commissioner Doda Anil Kumar Thakur,

Programme Officer ICDS, Chief Planning Officer Doda, ACD, ACP and officers from various line departments.

Prominent political leader and social activist Mast Nath Yogi highlighting the significance of observing the day and the collective duty of citizens to protect the sanctity of the Indian Constitution.

The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the Constitution of India and resisting any attempts that undermine its core principles.

DC Doda emphasized the

need for collective responsibility in safeguarding the values of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity as enshrined in the Constitution.

Participants also took a pledge to uphold constitutional morality, promote democratic values, and work towards strengthening democratic institutions at every level of governance.

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DC Budgam reviews conservation measures at Hokarsar, chairs meeting on Namble Narkara wetland proposal

JI NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, JUNE 25

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat today conducted a comprehensive review of conservation measures at Hokarsar Wetland and also discussed the proposed designation of Namble Narkara as a protected wetland under the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules.

During the review of Hokarsar Wetland, DC assessed the ongoing works aimed at improving water flow and mitigating flood risks.

He stressed the timely resolution of all revenue-related matters associated with Hokarsar Wetland and directed Tehsildar Budgam for overseeing the demarcation of wetland boundaries and its peripheries.

DC directed the concerned departments to expedite this process on a priority basis.

Emphasising the impor-



ance of ecological integrity, DC issued clear instructions to enforce a complete ban on all land conversions within wetland zones, urging officials to take prompt legal action against any violations.

He also expressed concern over illegal garbage dumping along the wetland's peripheries, particularly along the Soibugh road.

DC directed immediate removal of waste, strict surveillance, and regular monitoring to prevent further dumping. He stressed the need for stringent enforce-

ment measures against offenders.

He also discussed the formal process of notifying Namble Narkara as a designated wetland.

Discussions centered around the ecological and hydrological value of Namble Narkara, which plays a potential role in groundwater recharge, flood mitigation, and biodiversity support. While the site has not yet been designated as a wetland, DC emphasized the urgent need to initiate formal procedures for its protection.

ACR Budgam apprised

that ground-truthing i.e., the physical verification and mapping of the site both will begin shortly as a first step in the notification process.

DC urged all departments to ensure interdepartmental coordination, adherence to environmental protocols, and community awareness regarding wetland protection. He highlighted that once notified, Namble Narkara could offer long-term ecological and socio-economic benefits for the region.

He directed timely follow-up actions including field assessments, preparation of technical documentation, and other required submissions to facilitate the notification process.

The meeting was attended by ACR Budgam, officials from Forest & Wetlands Division, Fisheries department, Rural Development department, Tehsildar Budgam and other line departments.

JKEDI commences week-long Management Development Programs in 04 districts; 84 entrepreneurs, MSMEs enrolled

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 25

The Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) on Wednesday commenced Management Development Programs (MDP) in 04 Districts of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) scheme. The initiative is funded by the Union Ministry of MSME and is being implemented in the Union Territory by the Industries and Commerce Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Management Development Programmes (MDPs) were inaugurated in district Jammu, Doda, Ramban and Kulgam. A total of 84 candidates including 70 women have been registered for the MDP, who shall undergo a 30-hour training over six days.

The MDPs coordinated by JKEDI District Centres has participation from the local MSMEs, who will be provided with the real time know-how of running and managing the busi-



nesses. The programme will help the MSMEs of the area to enhance their skills and interact with the experts from different line departments.

The program aims to strengthen managerial, financial and strategic skills of entrepreneurs and small business owners, empowering them to scale up operations, enhance competitiveness and create sustainable enterprises. This flagship initiative is being implemented in alignment with the broader objectives of the Government of India's RAMP program to bolster the MSME ecosystem.

The MDP curriculum has been meticulously designed by subject matter experts and includes modules on business planning, marketing strategies, digital tools, financial literacy, compliance, innovation and leadership. The pro-

gram also includes mentorship sessions, case studies and hands-on workshops to provide real-world insights.

Over the next six days, local entrepreneurs, MSME operators and aspiring business leaders will engage with industry professionals, JKEDI faculty and certified trainers in an interactive learning environment. The simultaneous launch of MDP's ensures equitable access to resources and training opportunities, particularly in remote and underdeveloped areas. The MDPs under RAMP initiative in the remaining five districts of Jammu and Kashmir shall begin shortly on June 30, 2025. This initiative is expected to benefit the entrepreneurs directly, while creating a ripple effect of enhanced business practices and job creation across the UT.

Deputy Commissioner visits flash-flood affected Qazi Mohra area, assures swift restoration measures

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JUNE 25

To assess the ground situation, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal on Wednesday visited flash-flood hit Qazi Mohra area (Ward No. 01) to assess the damages and evaluate ongoing flood prevention measures.

Accompanied by Additional Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Tehsildar Haveli, Executive Officer (EO) Municipality and other concerned officials, the DC undertook a strenuous uphill journey to inspect the most affected locations and residential areas.

The Deputy Commissioner took a comprehensive review of the damages caused to infrastructure and private property and issued directives for immediate action. He instructed the EO Municipality to thoroughly examine the existing watercourse in the area and implement remedial measures to min-



imize future flood risks.

The Tehsildar Haveli was directed to carry out a prompt damage assessment to both public and private properties. He was also asked to identify and clear any encroachments that may obstruct natural water flow or emergency restoration efforts.

Locals interacted with the Deputy Commissioner and apprised him of the challenges they are facing, including property damage and related concerns. The Deputy Commissioner assured

the residents that restoration work will be initiated promptly and their grievances would be addressed on a priority basis.

While engaging with the residents, the DC also sought feedback and suggestions from them to help improve disaster preparedness and response in the future.

The visit underscores the district administration's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of the public, especially in disaster-prone areas.

JKB RSETI Rajouri completes Beauty Parlour Training Batch

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, JULY 25

Jammu and Kashmir Bank's Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) Rajouri successfully completed a batch of beauty parlour training, empowering 35 young women with vocational skills.

The training program, conducted under the Ministry of Rural Development's initiative, aimed to make rural women self-reliant by imparting skills in beautician services. The trainees, who hailed from Rajouri district, were provided with hands-on training in various aspects of beauty care.

Director of RSETI Rajouri, Suniel Sharma, highlighted the institute's role in promoting self-employment and enabling unemployed youth to become job creators. The trainees expressed gratitude to the Central government for launching such schemes and appreciated the guidance and support provided by RSETI.

DC and SSP Doda review arrangements for Annual Religious Yatras

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JUNE 25

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Harvinder Singh and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Doda, Sandeep Kumar Mehta along with ADC Doda, Anil Kumar Thakur today jointly chaired a comprehensive review meeting to discuss the preparations for the upcoming annual religious yatras across the district.

DC Doda discussed Annual Yatra in the district Shri Chandi Mata Yatra, Kulhand, Chandi Mata Yatra, Yatra Sarva Dharma Shenhkli, Dessa, Annual Chounda Mata Yatra, Charri Yatra, Monthla Nag, Chandi Mata Kenithi Dhar Yatra, Yatra from Kansar to Malni Dhar, Bhaderwah, Dandasana Mata Yatra and



Shri Chandi Mata Lakabar Yatra.

The meeting witnessed the participation of religious heads, including the President of Sanatan Dharam Sabha, and representatives from various Mandir Committees.

During the meeting, DC Doda reviewed the arrangements related to uninterrupted power and water supply, adequate availability of firewood and essential commodities, sanitation and cleanliness along the yatra routes, Smooth traffic movement and transport facilities.

SSP Doda reviewed the

security and traffic management plans for the yatras. He stressed the importance of coordinated efforts between the police, civil administration and local stakeholders to maintain law and order. Deployment of adequate security personnel and traffic regulation measures were also discussed in detail.

DC Doda and SSP Doda emphasized inter-departmental coordination and sought active participation from local religious and civil society representatives to ensure a peaceful and successful yatra season in the district.

DC Budgam chairs DCIC meeting, reviews Heritage Preservation projects

JI NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, JUNE 25

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of the District Coordination cum Implementation Committee (DCIC) to comprehensively review the progress of various heritage-related projects approved under Phase-I, Phase-II, and Phase-III of the scheme titled 'Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage in the District.'

The meeting held detailed deliberations on the implementation status of approved Project Reports (DPRs) aimed at the conservation and upgradation of several significant heritage sites and religious landmarks spread across the district.

Key heritage sites discussed during the meeting include, upgradation of Charari-Sharief Shrine, Dianag Temple, Budgam, Markazi Imambara Budgam, Imambara Khumani Chowk Bemina, Vasuki-Nag Temple Wagam, Ziyarat Sharief Peth Makhma Beerwah, Syed Allaud-Din Astanpora Khag, Ziyarat Sharief Nowroz Baba Faqer, Ziyarat Shamas Faqeer Khansahib, Ragneya Mata Asthapan, Raitan Khansahib, Nanak Charan Astan Beerwah, Ziyarat Samad Mir Sahib Kremshore, Nandawan Ashram Hussroo Chadoora and Ziyarat Syed Qasim Shah Balkhi, Nowbugh Chadoora.

DC took a detailed review of each project, assessing both the physical and financial progress, and identified gaps, if any, in implementation. He emphasized the cultural and historical significance of these sites, stating that heritage conservation is not only about preserving physical structures but also about protecting the community's identity and legacy for future generations.

DC directed all concerned departments to ensure time-bound execution of the ongoing works and stressed the importance of streamlining inter-departmental coordination for improved outcomes. He also instructed that all pending DPRs be submitted at the earliest to the Directorate of Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K, to expedite approvals and initiate timely restoration.

Dr Bilal called for adherence to stipulated timelines, maintaining both the structural integrity and aesthetic essence of each site during restoration.

The meeting was attended by ADC Budgam, Superintending Engineer R&B, CPO Budgam, Executive Engineers of R&B and RDD, representatives from the Tourism department, Chief Education Officer, District Statistics & Evaluation Officer, and other committee members.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

New generation...

needs to be told how our great leaders and vigilant citizens displayed great courage and unshakeable loyalty to democratic values."

On the occasion of "Samvidhan Hatya Diwas", the Lieutenant Governor also inaugurated the 1975 Emergency Exhibition at Convention Centre, Jammu.

Commemorating the torturous events of the darkest chapter in the history of Independent India, the Lieutenant Governor honoured the victims of Emergency who made numerous sacrifices to safeguard constitutional values.

"I consider Emergency to be the most inhuman act of Indian democratic history and today's observation of 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' is also an opportunity for deep reflection and reaffirmation of commitment to democratic values and constitutional morality," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the commemoration of imposition of Emergency on 25th June 1975, is not merely a date for historical remembrance, but a call to action to resist any future attempts to undermine India's democratic fabric, and to strengthen our resolve to deepen the foundations of our democracy and work with complete dedication for greater success of our nation.

"We must learn from those incidents and prepare young generations to prevent such atrocities in future. It is also an opportunity to create awareness about constitutional values in every section of the society so that no dictatorial mentality can repeat it in future," he said.

He paid homage to the countless individuals, political leaders, journalists, activists, and citizens, who bravely resisted the authoritarian regime and safeguarded the democratic values.

"In that darkest period in India's democratic history, the soul of the country was crushed, Civil liberties were attacked, Constitutional safeguards were violated and dreams of nation-building were buried.

The suspension of fundamental rights, press censorship, and the widespread arrests of political opponents and citizens was a direct assault on the democratic dreams that fuelled India's independence movement and were enshrined in its Constitution," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the youth to take the lead in exposing those responsible for the murder of the Constitution and democratic values.

The Lieutenant Governor also shared his personal experiences from the Emergency period and emphasized on educating the people about their rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

"Democracy is in the nature of India, democracy is ingrained in our veins since time immemorial, that is why India is called the mother of democracy. I also salute those great personalities who nurtured the rich tradition and heritage of this nation, those who truly enriched democratic values generation after generation.

I have full faith that the saga of sacrifices and resilience of our satyagrahis who valiantly protected the democratic values during the Emergency will continue to inspire us to further strengthen our democracy and build a truly developed India," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Political leaders and citizens who were the victims of Emergency shared the accounts of sufferings they endured during the dark period of Emergency. The Lieutenant Governor assured them that their issues and concerns will be taken up with the concerned authorities. KNO

To revive tourism...

efforts to bring tourists back to Kashmir to revive the stalled tourism industry.

Last week, Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat visited Baisaran, the site of the terror attack and praised the resilience and spirit of the Kashmiris.

He also assured that foolproof security measures would be in place for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra and tourists visiting the Valley.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also chaired a cabinet meeting in Pahalgam, a first of its kind, to send a clear message that violence has no place in Jammu and Kashmir. KNO

No pilgrimage can...

the local people, they are very enthusiastic about welcoming the devotees and providing them with every possible service and facility, so that the pilgrims' journey is also successful."

Stating that the comprehensive security arrangements have been finalized for the annual Amarnath Yatra, set to commence next week, IGP Birdi said, "The Jammu and Kashmir Police, in collaboration with other security agencies, has implemented a robust, multi-layered security plan."

He said, "Compared to last year, this time we have multi-layered and in-depth security arrangements so that we can make the pilgrimage safe and smooth for the devotees," IGP Birdi said.

He elaborated that security measures have been systematically divided across different sections and sectors along the Yatra route and throughout the valley. Each area is currently undergoing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) drills, aimed at enhancing preparedness and refining the response of security forces in the event of any contingency.

"The purpose of these drills is to ensure that our operations and responses during any contingency are more prompt and refined. Such drills are being carried out today in all parts of the valley—be it camps, road sections, or interior sectors—so that all security forces remain alert regarding their tasks and know exactly what specific tasks they are assigned, allowing them to effectively handle any situation," the IGP said. KNO

Mock drill held...

handling emergencies like bomb blasts, stampedes, road accidents, fire incidents, and potential terror attacks.

"Police, CAPF, SDRF and other agencies participated collectively. This mock drill sends out a strong message that the yatra is secure, and the administration is fully ready to deal with any situation," he said.

He also appealed to people to cooperate in the smooth implementation of cut-off timings and overall yatra preparations.

Meanwhile, as per a statement issued to KNO, in a proactive move to ensure robust emergency preparedness during the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2025, Srinagar Police conducted a large-scale Mock Drill in collaboration with multiple key agencies at various strategic locations along the Yatra route in the district.

The exercise was aimed to evaluate operational readiness, inter-agency coordination, and communication mechanisms in the event of critical incidents.

The main objectives of the Mock Drill were to assess emergency response procedures and protocols, evaluate coordination among agencies including J&K Police, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), Fire and Emergency Services, Ambulance Services, Health Department, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), the Traffic Department and Civil Administration, test the effectiveness of communication systems and rescue operations and ensure real-time response monitoring and procedural adherence.

Before the drill commenced, all the participating agencies were thoroughly briefed on the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) by Zonal and Sector Officers of J&K Police. Emphasis was laid on real-time monitoring of response times, communication flow, and coordinated action, the spokesman said.

In anticipation of any exigency, arrangements for food, shelter, and medical assistance have been streamlined through coordinated efforts by the CAPD, Revenue, and Health Departments, under the unified command of the Joint Police Control Room (Joint-PCR).

The drill was conducted across multiple strategic locations, simulating various emergency scenarios like Road Traffic Accidents, Fidayeen attack, Law & Order Scenarios etc.

Following the exercise, detailed debriefing sessions were held with all stakeholders to identify operational gaps and refine the existing Emergency Response Plan.

The drill not only demonstrated the strengths of the emergency response framework of the District but also provided actionable insights into areas requiring improvement.

Exercises of this nature are crucial to safeguarding lives, strengthening institutional resilience, and ensuring a safe and secure pilgrimage for all.

Srinagar Police, along with its partner agencies, reaffirm their unwavering commitment to public safety and effective disaster management response mechanisms for one and all. KNO

DIG NKR visits...

the Shadipora Transit Camp in district Bandipora.

DIG NKR was accompanied by SSP Bandipora Harmeet Singh-JKPS, CO 45 Bn CRPF Aporwa, CO SSB Adhoc 16 Bn Shashi Shekhar, CO SSB Adhoc 17 Bn Kashtoori Lal, SDPO Sumbal Mohd Amin, SHO PS Sumbal along with senior officers from the J&K Police, CRPF, and SSB, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

The inspection focused heavily on mock drills conducted at the camp, where all agencies practiced real scenario responses viz. crowd surges, emergency responses and evacuations to test inter-agency coordination. Further emphasis was placed on ground deployment rehearsals, verifying that police, CRPF, SSB, and other paramilitary forces are positioned precisely according to the layered security plan along Yatri corridors.

DIG NKR Maqsood-ul-Zaman also ensured that specific, role-based SOPs were clearly defined and disseminated to all forces, covering surveillance duties, intelligence sharing, convoy regulation, traffic control, and emergency response. He stressed that these SOPs are mandatory guidelines for full spectrum preparedness.

During the visit, DIG NKR along with other officials also assessed the overarching deployment plan, surveillance infrastructure including CCTV, emergency response systems, and the logistical support framework encompassing traffic management, sanitation, and contingency response mechanisms essential for facilitating a safe and seamless pilgrimage experience. KNO

Chief Secretary chairs...

State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary Home, Chandraker Bharti, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Suresh Kumar Gupta and other senior officers.

For strengthening of Civil Defence, SEC approved the release of Rs 1.72 crore under preparedness and capacity building to Commandant General, Civil Defence for procurement of sirens and generators in all the districts.

As an initiative of community based disaster management, the SEC also considered to approve the release of Rs 4 lakh to NCC units of Degree Colleges of Jammu, Reasi, Srinagar and Anantnag districts in the first phase for conduct of trainings on disaster preparedness and response.

The SEC also considered the nomination of Director General of Police as member of SEC (ex-officio) to make necessary amendments in the JK disaster management, rules 2007.

The Chief Secretary stressed the importance of utilising the existing resources efficiently which is critical towards saving lives, reducing response times and minimizing overall damage in case of a disaster.

The SEC also highlighted the significance of each agenda item for augmenting the capacity of the UT to be better prepared against the disasters the region is prone to.

The SEC reaffirmed its commitment to transparent and accountable use of SDRF resources. It also resolved to hold periodic reviews to monitor progress and address any emerging gaps in the disaster management framework.

Hot, dry weather...

only station with near-normal precipitation, receiving 26.9 mm against a normal of 30.8 mm.

Independent weather forecaster Faizan Arif Keng said there will be some relief from the heatwave starting tomorrow (Thursday), lasting for the next three to four

J&K Oil Tanker Drivers Union appoints Harasis Singh as Spokesperson

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 25

Sardar Ranjit Singh Raina, President of the All J & K Oil and LPG Tank Truck Drivers and Cleaners Union, has re-appointed S. Harasis Singh, son of Sh. Darshan Singh, as his official Spokesperson.

Union President S. Ranjit Singh Raina took this warm decision after Harasis's earlier term came to an end. Harasis is a prominent social activist and remain vocal in raising issues concerning the vulnerable section of the society including workers, farmers, drivers and other people from unorganized sector.

As Spokesperson, Harasis Singh will represent the Union President and share the Union's views



with the media and public. He will issue press statements, attend media

events, and maintain communication with government officials, journalists, and other unions. He will also handle social media work and take part in public awareness efforts for the Union.

Union members congratulated Harasis Singh and wished him success in his responsibilities. His role as Spokesperson will continue until further notice or his resignation. It is important to mention that Union elections are due and may be held anytime.

days. "Monsoon showers expected in the coming days will bring down maximum temperatures slightly, leading to some improvement in heatwave conditions," he said. He added that these showers are expected to reduce the rainfall deficiency, particularly in Jammu, where heavy rains are forecasted in the next 24 to 48 hours.

Temperatures across various locations on Wednesday ranged as follows: Srinagar at 32.5°C, Qazigund at 30.2°C, Pahalgam at 27.4°C, Kokernag at 30.8°C, Kupwara at 32.8°C, and Gulmarg at 23.2°C. Jammu city recorded 32.6°C, while Banihal was at 27.7°C. Batote, Bhaderwah, and Katra experienced maximum temperatures of 26.2°C, 30.6°C, and 29.0°C, respectively.

Some parts of Kashmir, including areas in Srinagar, received monsoon showers in the morning.

The weatherman here has forecast heavy rainfall in Jammu over the next 24 to 48 hours, with Kashmir Valley also expected to receive monsoon showers during the next two days. KNO

MEA honours J&K...

the Passport Seva Divas, commemorating the enactment of the Passport Act, 1967. This day is observed every year to mark the provision of a statutory framework for the issuance of passports and other travel documents by the Government of India.

A high-level segment of the celebration was held at CB Muthamma Hall, Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan, New Delhi, graced by Pabitra Margherita, Minister of State for External Affairs, alongside senior officials from the MEA, other government departments, representatives from 37 Passport Offices across the country, officials from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and key service providers.

One of the key highlights of this year's observance was the recognition of exemplary performance in the crucial area of Police and CID verification by J&K Police, an essential component in the passport issuance process.

The recognition is a testament to the relentless efforts of the officers and officials of the CID and Police departments, who stepped beyond their comfort zones and worked tirelessly to ensure quick and efficient passport application verifications. Their hard work has brought pride to the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and its police force.

The prestigious Certificate of Recognition was presented to J&K Police by the Minister of State for External Affairs. The award was received by Rayees Mohammad Bhat (IPS), DIG CID, who represented J&K Police at the national event.

This is the first time that the dedicated efforts of J&K Police in the timely disposal of passport cases have been formally acknowledged at the national level. KNO

Srinagar man arrested...

was apprehended following a reliable information.

The statement reads that Bilal had collected a huge amount of money from the public by adopting dishonest and fraudulent means.

"The victims repeatedly approached Bilal for return of their money taken by committing fraud and cheating on them but he refused to return the money. He in order to mislead these people forged a letter shown to have been issued by the office of SSP CIK," it reads.

It added that Bilal was questioned and on preliminary examination and analysis of his mobile, the forged letter (enquiry notice) in question was found and same was retrieved.

"Bilal confessed that he has forged the enquiry notice to grab the money from different individuals. Accordingly, he was handed over to police in Zakoora for necessary legal action. A case FIR No 39/2025 U/S 318(4), 336(3), 336(4), 340(I) BNS, has been filed against him and investigation is in progress," the statement reads. KNO

Jhelum shrinks as...

To address the increasing demand, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah earlier chaired a high-level review meeting in Jammu on June 19. He directed departments to ensure uninterrupted water and power supply during peak summer months, including during the Amarnath Yatra and Muharram.

The Meteorological Department (MeT) Srinagar has forecast that from June 25 to 27, the weather will be generally cloudy with intermittent spells of light to moderate rain and thunderstorms in many parts of Kashmir, with a possibility of heavy rainfall in some areas of Jammu Division. KNO

Tony leads delegation to SE PDD; seeks urgent redressal of farmer issues



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 25

Senior Congress leader and DDC Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony today led a deputation and met with Ashok Kumar, Superintendent Engineer (SE) of the Power Development Department (PDD) and submitted a charter of demands aimed at resolving pressing power-related issues affecting the farming community.

During the meeting, Tony highlighted the acute distress faced by farmers due to defunct pumpsets in several areas. He emphasized that with the paddy season underway, the non-availability of irrigation water—especially at the tail-end of the canal network—is severely impacting agricultural productivity. He urged the SE to immediately restore all non-functional pumpsets to ensure timely irrigation support to the farmers.

Tony also raised concerns about multiple

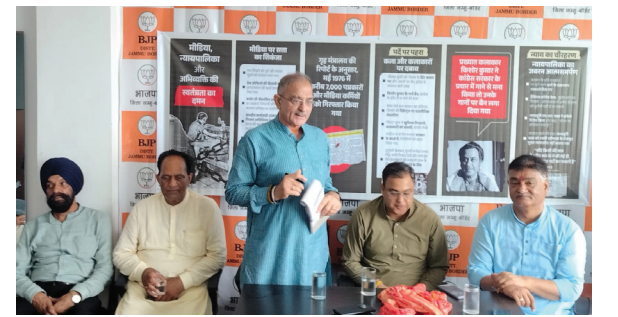
power transformers that were damaged during the recent hailstorm. He demanded that these transformers be replaced on a priority basis to prevent prolonged outages and further hardship for rural households.

In addition, he appealed for the installation of new electric poles in low-lying and vulnerable areas to strengthen the power infrastructure and minimize future disruptions.

Tony also made a fervent appeal to the Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah to intervene and issue immediate directions to the concerned departments to expedite the redressal of these long-pending issues. He stressed that any further delay would deepen the crisis for the already struggling farmers.

"Farmers are the backbone of our economy, and they deserve timely support from the administration, especially in critical times like these," he asserted.

Emergency: A Black Chapter in Indian Democracy, says Kavinder



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 25

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta on Wednesday termed the Emergency imposed on June 25, 1975, as the "darkest chapter in the history of Indian democracy,"

stating that it was a ruthless assault on the Constitution and the fundamental rights of the people.

Addressing a programme organised at R.S. Pura on the occasion of Emergency Day, which was observed as Constitution Murder Day under the leadership of Jammu Border District President Rinku Choudhary, Kavinder Gupta said the events of 1975 must serve as a grim reminder of how the then Congress regime trampled upon democracy for the sake of power.

The senior BJP leader recalled that during the Emergency, thousands of political leaders, activists, journalists, and ordinary citizens were imprisoned without trial, press freedom was crushed, and civil liberties were suspended. "The imposition of Emergency was not just a political blunder; it was an unconstitutional act that undermined the very soul of India's democratic framework," he asserted.

Kavinder stressed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led BJP government

is committed to upholding democratic values, transparency, and accountability in governance—values that were brutally suppressed during the Emergency.

"Emergency reminds us of the importance of safeguarding our constitutional institutions. It is our duty to ensure that such an attack on democracy never happens again," he added.

A special exhibition highlighting the atrocities and excesses committed during the Emergency was also organised at the event to educate the younger generation about this dark era. The exhibition featured photographs, news clippings, and accounts from those who were imprisoned during that period.

Prominent BJP leaders including Suchetgarh MLA Prof. Guru Ram Bhagat, District Incharge Rajinder Singh Chib, and Co-Incharge Harbhajan Singh also addressed the gathering and urged citizens to remain vigilant against any attempt to subvert democracy.

The programme witnessed participation from party workers, local residents, and youth, who pledged to uphold democratic ideals and remember the sacrifices made by those who resisted the tyranny of the Emergency.

Star players of Khelo India Center to represent J&K in Soft Tennis Junior Nationals

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 25

Three promising players of khelo India Soft Tennis Center would be representing J&K in the 20 Junior National Championship going to be held at Panchkula Haryana from 26th to 30th June 2025.

The players including Soham Bhat, Madhavendra Singh Sambyal and Shreemai Bhat, have already proved their metal in the UT and National level championships, winning medals for J&K.

Prior to their participation in the nationals, the players have attended the national coaching camp, organised by the J&K Amateur Soft Tennis Association in collaboration with



the J&K Sports Council.

All the players are being trained by the International Soft Tennis player and

Coach/Mentor of khelo India Soft Tennis Center MA Stadium Jammu Indu Bushan Padha.

MLA Nizamuddin reviews sports infrastructure in Bandipora



JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, JUNE 25

Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) Bandipora, Nizamuddin Bhat, along with the Secretary of the Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull, on Tuesday held a comprehensive review of the sports infrastructure and facilities in Bandipora during a meeting held at the Mini Secretariat.

The meeting witnessed the participation of Vice Chairperson District Development Council Bandipora, Kowsar Shafeeq, members of local Sports Associations, Bar Association, youth representatives, senior citizens, and other stakeholders.

During the meeting, a detailed discussion was held on the current status and future plans for the development of sports infrastructure in the district. Speaking on the

occasion, MLA highlighted the potential of SK Stadium, Bandipora, to evolve into a hub for multi-disciplinary sporting events.

He proposed the development of facilities such as dedicated courts for lawn tennis, basketball, volleyball, and skating, a standard cricket turf, and the installation of high-mast lighting with generator backup to facilitate year-round activities and training.

He also emphasized the effective utilization of the existing Khelo India Centres in the district, particularly in disciplines like Hockey, Handball, and Rugby.

MLA called for the expedited completion of the ongoing construction at the stadium, including the removal of damaged structures and the development of mini-stadiums and playfields across the district to promote grass-

roots sports.

Bhat urged the Sports Council to approve and fund proposals aimed at making Bandipora a model district in sports excellence.

Responding to the concerns raised, Secretary Nuzhat Gull reaffirmed the commitment of the Sports Council to strengthening sports infrastructure in Bandipora. She informed the meeting that Rs.1 crore have been sanctioned for the upgradation of SK Stadium, out of which rupees 20 lakh have already been released for various works.

Following the meeting, the MLA and Secretary visited SK Stadium to inspect the ongoing construction of the indoor sports hall and pavilion. On-spot instructions were issued to expedite the works to ensure timely completion and operationalization of the facilities.

DDC reviews status of irrigation and water availability for ongoing paddy season in Kulgam



JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, JUNE 25

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, today reviewed the irrigation status and water availability in all 48 major canals and irrigation systems across the district.

During the meeting discussions were held on water availability, canal head status, command area status, besides irrigation coverage as of today was reviewed for canals including Noorabad canal, Watoo canal, Yari canal, Grimtoo canal, Buman, Banimullah canal, Sonman canal, Mav canal, Amnoo Lad, Bani Lad, Tethbuj, Hardchoon, Nandi Canal, etc.

DDC issued directions to officials of Irrigation, RDD, Revenue, Mining departments to stay available on field in their respective areas and ensure issues are timely resolved.

It was informed that 24*7 Control Room has been made operational.

DDC also instructed that no employee shall leave headquarters without specific permission from district administration.

He instructed that for tail end areas of canals, special efforts by way of warbandi, manpower mobilization and leakage reduction of canals shall be taken.

Ex. Engineer Irrigation was directed to coordinate with Tehsildars to redress the issues with respect to Nandi Canal which is at the tail end of the district.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), DMO, all Tehsildars, Executive Engineer of Irrigation and Flood Control, (AEEs), Block Development Officers (BDOs) among others.

Ramban Administration organises Tribal Welfare Outreach Camp at Bawa, Trigam under "Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Abhiyan"



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, JUNE 25

As part of the celebrations under the "Tribal Pride Year" (Janjatiya Gaurav Divas), the District Administration Ramban organized a comprehensive Awareness and Benefit Saturation Camp under the banner of "Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Abhiyan" at Bawa, Trigam Upper Pan-chayat in the remote tribal region of Block Khari.

The camp witnessed the active participation of Block Development Officer Khari, Urfan Khan, Naib Tehsildar Manzoor Ahmad, ABF (NITI Aayog) Ishfaq Bashir, along with other officials from various line departments at district and block levels.

The primary objective of the camp was to facilitate last-mile delivery of welfare schemes and ensure saturation of benefits among the tribal population.

Multiple departments joined hands to extend

services and disseminate information on various government schemes. The Health and AYUSH Departments provided free health check-ups, preventive healthcare advice and information on traditional medicine. The Animal Husbandry Department delivered veterinary services and educated participants about livestock health schemes and related subsidies.

Officials from the Revenue and Tehsil Welfare Departments addressed concerns related to land records, issued caste and income certificates, and processed pension-related applications on the spot. The ICDS (Women and Child Development Department) sensitized locals on child nutrition, maternal health and key initiatives like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

The Block Development Office (BDO) educated the public about self-employment avenues, MGNREGA and other rural develop-

ment initiatives. Additionally, the Agriculture and Horticulture Departments informed farmers about modern agricultural practices, organic farming, soil health management and schemes supporting seeds, tools and orchard development.

The camp served as a robust platform to strengthen the coordination between administration and the tribal community, helping in grievance redressal, document verification and on-spot registration under various welfare schemes. A significant number of issues were addressed during the event, reflecting the administration's commitment to responsive and inclusive governance.

This extensive outreach effort empowered tribal communities, ensuring that no area or household remains deprived of government welfare benefits, particularly in far-flung regions like Trigam in Block Khari.

Sidha rolls out "MISSION INSPECTION" by Archives, Archaeology & Museums Department, J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 25

With an aim to gather first-hand account of preservation and conservation works as well as status of State Protected Monuments across UT, the Department of Archives, Archeology and Museums, J&K has launched Mission Inspection from 25th to 30th of June, 2025.

During this period the teams will inspect 150 works and 54 Protected Monuments across the UT.

Director, Archives, Archeology and Museum, J&K, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha has conceived the initiative and has framed six teams which will be conducting inspection of the works of Department being executed under Capex, Phase-I and Phase-II of the Scheme of Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage in Jammu & Kashmir.

The teams will be conducting inspection of each work in the district assigned and also visit the State Protected Monu-



ment in the districts to record the status and provide with the recommendations viz a viz beautification and restoration of monuments. The teams will also bring to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner concerned any intervention required for removing encroachments and monitoring of the works under execution.

The teams through Divisional Administration, Deputy Commissioners and PW (R&B) Department will be accompanied by Nodal Officers in the District and Jurisdictional Executive Engineers.

The aim of the mission is to have effective collaboration with District Administrations and Executing Agencies for efficient execution of works and monitoring. The teams will also have needs assessment of the recommendations for Phase-III Projects and heritage monuments to be recommended for notification as State Protection Monuments. Further, the teams will also visit the sites where the works could not be executed as a result of some dispute or litigation or for want of NOC.

The teams will appraise the District Development Commissioners with the status, issues and the intervention required by the District Administration.

Sidha, has expressed the commitment of the Department for playing an effective role towards restoration and preservation of Heritage & Culture in the UT and urges upon the stake holders and executing agencies in particular to adhere to the quality and timelines.

DC Reasi emphasises full readiness for flood, landslide emergency ahead of Monsoon

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, JUNE 25

In view of the approaching monsoon season and the potential risk of floods and landslides, Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik chaired a high-level meeting to review the district's emergency preparedness and response mechanisms.

The DC directed all Executive Engineers (XENs) to identify vulnerable spots within their jurisdictions and prepare detailed action plans to address any eventualities. She stressed the need for maintaining additional standby machinery in every subdivision to ensure immediate clearance of roads blocked due to heavy rains or land-



slides.

To enhance coordination, the Deputy Commissioner instructed Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) to remain in regular contact with the concerned XENs and OC GREF. She underscored the importance of inter-departmental synergy for effective disaster management.

Further, emphasis was laid on advance measures to avoid interruption of essential services, particularly power and water supply to save people from undue hardships.

The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) was directed to ensure the availability of adequate medical staff, ambulances and medicine stocks to handle emergency health situations efficiently.

To strengthen communication and monitoring, a central control room will be established at the District Headquarters. DC Reasi Rakesh Kumar, CPO Narinder Kumar, XENs, CMO, DIO, Tehsildars and other concerned officials were present at the meeting.

Further, the police department was asked to

keep its quick response teams (QRTs) on high alert. The Deputy Commissioner proposed refresher training for tehsil-level QRTs, including Aapda Mitras to enhance their preparedness. Tehsildars were directed to prepare and submit timely damage reports to the office of the ADC Reasi for swift relief and rehabilitation actions.

Concluding the meeting, DC Nidhi Malik reiterated the administration's unwavering commitment to public safety and disaster readiness. ADC Reasi Rakesh Kumar, CPO Narinder Kumar, XENs, CMO, DIO, Tehsildars and other concerned officials were present at the meeting.

I&FC deptt Kashmir restores irrigation supplies to Shallabugh, adjacent areas

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 25

The Mechanical Irrigation department has restored all the two units of lift irrigation schemes with capacity of 10 cusec each and started irrigation supplies to the affected areas today early this morning.

The locals of Shallabugh and adjacent areas had faced difficulties for irrigation supplies for the last few days due to some technical snag in the lift irrigation schemes namely LIS Gund I Rehman.

Following the restoration, the supplies will serve the irrigation facilities for 1200 Kanal affect-

ed land approximately. The restoration of pumps has relieved the public of stress caused due to the technical snag in the lift irrigation scheme.

The department of Irrigation and Flood Control is committed to providing irrigation supplies to the farmers so that their livelihood is safeguarded.

Rs 1.19 lac fine imposed on erring FBOs under FS&SA at Handwara



JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, JUNE 25

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi, who is also Adjudicating officer Handwara today imposed a fine of Rs.1,19,000 on various erring Food Business operators (FBOs) for violations of various provisions of Food Safety and Standard Act (FS&SA) 2006.

The fine was imposed on the erring traders (for mis-

branded and sub standard food) during the proceeding of cases related to the FSSA 2006 which were listed before the Adjudicating officer.

The Adjudicating officer warned them to abide by the legal regulations adding that non-compliance of Food safety and standards Act-2006 and rules there under by the food business operators will be dealt with more strictness in coming time.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on <https://www.ireps.gov.in> against Tender Notice no. 433-Sig-T-12-25-26 Closing Date/Time 17.07.2025 12:30 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money **only through online payment modes** available on IREPS portal like Net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

NIT HEADER	
Contract Type	Works
Name of Work	Replacement of worn out mechanical lifting barriers with electrically operated lifting barriers in D route over Firozpur division.
Tender Closing Date Time	17.07.2025 12:30
Advertised Value (Rs.)	33837171.42
Earnest Money (Rs.)	319200.00
Date Time of Uploading Tender	25.06.2025 10:41
Bidding Start Date as per IREPS	319200.00
Period of Completion	9 Months
NOTE: Tenderer should keep himself updated about the Tender amendments, Corrigendum, etc. by remaining in touch regularly with the website.	
Tender Notice No: 433-Sig-T-12-25-26 Date:- 25.06.2025 Closing Date/Time : 17.07.2025 12:30 1914/2025	

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Auction Notice

The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/FS, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for the following works over Firozpur Division:

Catalogue No.	Auction Start	Name of work
EAFZR-SLR25-84	16.07.2025 at 11:00 Hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 12318/F1, 14654/F2 & 14654/R1.

For other details and registration, please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in. No. 179-C/E-auction/FZR/25 Date:- 25.06.2025 1914/2025

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

EDITORIAL

Statehood uproar in J&K

The political firestorm over the demand for restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir has yet again thrown the spotlight on an issue that remains at the heart of public sentiment and political debate in the Union Territory. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's dramatic offer to step down to pave the way for the return of statehood has added fuel to this already volatile discourse—one that reflects both desperation and defiance in equal measure. Omar Abdullah's strong-worded statements—ranging from his readiness to dissolve the Assembly the day statehood is restored, to his challenge to the Centre for clarity, also speak volumes about the simmering tension between Srinagar and New Delhi. His assertion that statehood is the “right of the people” resonates deeply in a region that has long felt politically disempowered, especially after the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 and the subsequent downgrade of J&K into a Union Territory. Yet, this latest declaration has also opened Omar to criticism. His political opponents were quick to pounce on what they termed a “drama”, questioning why he doesn't resign unconditionally if he truly means to stand by his words. Some have pointed to his party's own election promises and accused him of failing to deliver on the ground—turning the debate from one about democratic rights to a war of legacies and leadership credibility. While Omar insists that his government is functioning effectively—citing improvements in public delivery system and approval of mega infrastructure packages—the public remains divided. The Chief Minister also raised a valid and worrying question: will statehood only be restored if the BJP installs a government in J&K? This allegation, if true, would signal a subversion of federal principles. His offer to vacate office for a BJP chief minister, if it means restoring statehood, is both an act of challenge and an appeal to conscience. However, Omar's rhetoric also carries a note of contradiction. He claims commitment to a five-year mandate while simultaneously invoking the possibility of dissolving the Assembly. This duality reflects the larger paradox of J&K politics—where demands for stability often walk hand-in-hand with bouts of disruptive uncertainty. What remains clear is that the restoration of statehood is not a mere symbolic gesture. It is a matter of identity, dignity, and democratic empowerment. For the people of Jammu and Kashmir—across all regions—the status of being a full-fledged state is not just constitutional semantics; it defines the extent of their self-governance and local accountability. The Centre must now respond to the growing demand with sincerity and clarity. Vague assurances, selective media leaks, and political manoeuvring will only deepen the divide. If fresh elections are needed post-restoration, so be it. The focus must remain on restoring institutional dignity, not managing electoral outcomes. While Omar Abdullah has made a politically bold move, the onus is now equally on the Centre to rise above partisanship. The people of J&K deserve more than competing headlines and credit wars. They deserve a roadmap—transparent, time-bound, and anchored in constitutional faith. It's time the uproar leads to resolution, not just another round of rhetoric.

DR KAUSHAL KANT MISHRA

On June 25th, India observes the Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas – “Constitution Murder Day” – to remind us of the horrors of the 1975 Emergency. On that fateful night 50 years ago, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress swept aside India's vibrant democracy in a dictatorial power grab. As Home Minister Amit Shah notes, Indira Gandhi “strangled the soul of Indian democracy by imposing an emergency” and had “lakhs of people... jailed without any reason and the voice of the media was suppressed”.

Civil liberties were crushed, opposition leaders like JP Narayan, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and L.K. Advani were jailed; the press was gagged; forced sterilisations and slum demolitions terrorised the poor.

For the BJP, this day is more than a historical event; it's personal. The RSS and Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the BJP's ideological roots, bore the brunt of Congress tyranny. Thousands of ‘karyakartas’ were jailed, beaten, and silenced.

The BJP was born out of resistance to this tyranny. Its rise after the Emergency – first as part of the Janata Party coalition and later as a national party – was rooted in a commitment to constitutionalism, the rule of law, and genuine federalism. This memory has shaped the BJP's long-standing emphasis on institutional integrity, grassroots par-

ticipation, and merit over dynasty.

Congress's Authoritarian Legacy

It would be a betrayal of India's democratic spirit to label the Emergency as merely the aberration of the 1970s. The same Congress mindset still lurks in today's politics – repackaged, but equally corrosive. Take “dynastic nepotism”, for example. Even after its Emergency crimes, the Congress Party continued to make power a family affair. For decades, it cultivated “family raj” in national politics. As PM Modi puts it bluntly: (Today in Congress), “Nothing is more important than corruption and dynastic politics”. It can be seen how party tickets go to Gandhis and their kin rather than grassroots reformers, adding to an ongoing threat to fair competition and meritocracy.

Corruption is another carryover. The Emergency followed allegations that Mrs Gandhi protected corrupt henchmen – and critics argue little has changed. Successive Congress governments at the Centre and in the states have been dogged by nepotism and scandals, enriching insiders at the public's expense.

No wonder the Congress has a “dictatorial” attitude – whipping up a fuss at any hint of scrutiny. Just recently, while India was responding firmly to Pakistan through “Operation Sindoor”, Rahul Gandhi kept questioning why the government had accepted third-party mediation

autocracy. On February 8, 1976, writing from prison, he made a grim yet composed observation – he had no regret about being jailed. It was as though he had mentally prepared for it. Unlike others in the Congress who quietly complied or suppressed their dissent, Chandrashekhar chose to oppose Indira Gandhi openly and fearlessly. His integrity was unwavering, and that made him unique in a party that had largely succumbed to sycophancy.

In 1974, when Morarji Desai sat on a fast demanding the dissolution of the Gujarat Assembly, it was Chandrashekhar who met Indira Gandhi and warned her: “You decide whether you are ready to lose Gujarat or all of India.” It was this kind of blunt honesty that Indira both respected and feared. She relented then, but the tide was already turning.

Chandrashekhar never wavered in his belief that JP was not seeking political power but fighting to restore the democratic soul of India. He famously wrote, “JP is not fighting for political power, therefore he cannot be defeated by using state power.” He also made efforts to facilitate a dialogue between Indira Gandhi and Jayaprakash Narayan (JP), but their meeting on November 1, 1974, failed. Perhaps even he didn't foresee the gravity of what would follow.

“I did not know that Indira Ji would take a step like this Emergency,” he wrote with dismay.

Even before the Emer-



– even after the government clearly stated that no such mediation took place and the ceasefire was the outcome of direct talks between the two nations. Instead of acknowledging the facts, Congress cried foul, showing the same disregard for national interest and accountability that marked the Emergency era.

And when it comes to defending electoral mandates, Congress's record is equally suspect.

The party frequently questions or protests out comes it dislikes. Rather than accept defeat gracefully, Congress leaders regularly accuse others of “conspiracies” against them. This is a far cry from the democratic tradition Vajpayee championed – “Political parties will come and go... but the country's democracy must remain eternal,” he famously said.

Congress's current antics-stalling fundraising reforms in Parliament, filing endless court petitions, and staging ad hoc protests-reveal not confi-

dence in the people's mandate, but a deep-seated fear of losing control over the narrative and institutions. Such tactics echo the old Emergency playbook: manufacture chaos and stall progress instead of building consensus.

In short, today's Congress reeks of the same anti-democratic impulse. When BJP governments push reforms – from economic liberalisation to social welfare schemes – Congress often opts for obstructionism, crying foul in the media and on the floor rather than offering ideas.

Voices of Conscience

It is imperative to recall what respected leaders have said about this history of authoritarianism. Narendra Modi and Atal Bihari Vajpayee – both survivors of the Emergency's jail cells – have repeatedly invoked its lessons. PM Modi has stressed to India's youth that the Emergency is a cautionary tale: “The Emergency was imposed 50 years ago but it remains a fitting example

of what happens when the Constitution is trampled over, public opinion is stifled and institutions are destroyed”. On Twitter, he called June 25 “Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas” precisely to honour those who suffered and to warn future generations.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee, India's true statesman, offered a broader vision. Although he was incarcerated under Mrs Gandhi, he never shrank from upholding democracy's dignity. He declared that no political squabble should imperil the nation: “The political game would always continue. Political parties will come and go. Parties would form and break. But the country must remain. The country's democracy must remain eternal.”

And from our Constitution's architect comes the clearest warning: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar famously taught that “political democracy cannot last unless there lies at the base of its social democracy”. In other words, rights and liberties mean little if inequality and injustice are entrenched.

Today, Ambedkar's words remind us that if we allow a powerful minority (be it a family clique or any political gang) to dominate at others' expense, we betray the very foundation of “liberty, equality, and fraternity” embedded in our Constitution. On “Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas”, his message resonates: protecting democracy demands constant vigilance.

Call of Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas

We cannot let the sacrifices of the Emergency era be forgotten or dismissed. Congress may claim it was a one-off, but the facts say otherwise. History – and leaders like Ambedkar, Vajpayee, and Modi – all teach us that equality, peace and prosperity flower only under true democracy.

In PM Modi's words: “India must imprint the Emergency's lessons on its collective memory”. He warned that those “who imposed Emergency have no right to profess love for [our] Constitution”. Today's generation must resolve not to repeat that mistake. We must speak up for freedom of speech, respect for institutions, and the rule of law whenever they are challenged.

Let us pledge to defend the Republic Indira Gandhi tried to silence. Let us heed Vajpayee's and Modi's clarion call: Indian democracy is eternal, but only if we refuse to forget its darkest chapter.

The BJP believes that remembering June 25, 1975, is our moral duty. Congress might feign outrage at any mention of its Emergency, but the truth is clear: if we do not learn from the past, we risk its return. Let us ensure India never goes back to that dark place. Defend democracy – for that is the promise of our Constitution and the enduring legacy of those who paid for it under fire.

(The writer is BJP Spokesperson. Views are personal)

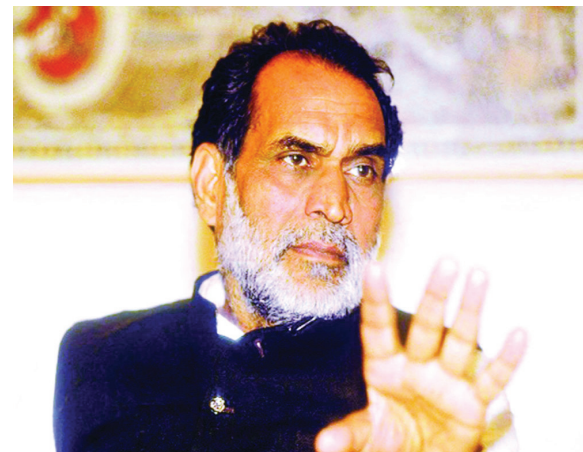
A Mahabharata of Conscience in the Shadow of Emergency

RAM BAHADUR RAI

The political relationship between Chandrashekhar and Indira Gandhi during the tumultuous years of the Emergency is one of the most remarkable episodes in post-independence India. In it lie lessons of courage, conviction, betrayal, and the irreparable cost of authoritarianism. This political drama – steeped in democratic values and personal anguish – has been likened to a Mahabharata, where Chandrashekhar stood as a lone Yudhishtira amidst a Kaurava – like establishment, and Indira Gandhi, once hailed as Durga, gradually assumed the blind and rigid mantle of Gandhari.

The Emergency, imposed on the midnight of June 25, 1975, was not born out of a sudden conflict with Jayaprakash Narayan (JP), but from a prolonged erosion of democratic norms. Yet, had Indira Gandhi possessed a more democratic spirit, the very conflict with JP could have been avoided. If Indira respected JP, the Mahabharata of the Emergency could have been averted. Instead, she chose confrontation, arrogance, and repression – actions that isolated her from the democratic ethos and painted her in the colours of Gandhari, blind to the consequences of her choices.

Chandrashekhar's writings, especially his jail diary and autobiography, provide an unvarnished account of this decline into



Democracy returned, but not without scars. After the defeat of Indira Gandhi, Chandrashekhar went to meet her at her residence in Safdarjung Road. What transpired there revealed the human cost of autocracy. Indira looked defeated and vulnerable. “Sanjay Gandhi will be humiliated... We won't get a house... Our security will be taken away,” she said, voicing fears that seemed more personal than political.

Chandrashekhar responded with compassion, assuring her that nothing like that would happen. It was a startling encounter between a woman who once ruled like an empress and a man who had opposed her with unwavering courage, yet still retained the grace to empathise. He was left wondering: Is this the same Indira Gandhi who was once synonymous with the country? The question remains timeless.

Few understood the

spirit of resistance as deeply as Chandrashekhar. During his imprisonment, while others were broken or silenced, he remained intellectually and emotionally alert. When an officer told him communists had engineered the rift with Indira, Chandrashekhar replied with clarity: “Indira Gandhi's anger towards me is due to other reasons. I disagreed with her policies and functioning. A person like me bearing such witness, she could not tolerate.”

His dissent wasn't motivated by ambition. It stemmed from a conviction that democracy must never become hostage to a single individual. “How can I say that the future of India depends on one person?” he wrote. “Such sycophancy is not possible for me.” He was deeply disturbed by the growing culture of praise for Lalit Narayan Mishra, the rise of Sanjay Gandhi, and Indira Gandhi's increasing intolerance. All signs pointed to an authoritarian future.

The Emergency was eventually lifted, and elections were held in 1977.

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Chandrashekhar's courage wasn't about grandstanding. It was about moral clarity. He knew the price of silence in times of oppression. He knew the seduction of power and the corruption of conscience that accompanied it. His life reminds us that dissent is not disloyalty. It is, in fact, the highest form of patriotism in a democracy.

Indira Gandhi's Emergency was a dark chapter, but within it shone the light of leaders

like Chandrashekhar. He was not the loud, vindictive opposition of

the self-righteous, but the principled stand of a man who believed that India deserved better. His writings – introspective, firm, and often sorrowful – show a leader who was pained by the degradation of democracy, but never defeated by it.

History may not remember all who were jailed during the Emergency. But it will always remember those who walked into jail with peace in their hearts, truth in their minds, and the courage to oppose tyranny on principle. Chandrashekhar was one of them.

He stood not just against the Emergency, but for democracy. Not just against Indira Gandhi, but for the idea of India itself.

To conclude, Indira Gandhi became Gandhari during the Emergency, willfully blind to the consequences of her actions. But in Chandrashekhar, democracy found its Yudhishtira: resolute, dignified, and unwavering, even when surrounded by darkness.

The story of Chandrashekhar and Indira Gandhi during the Emergency is not just about two individuals. It is the story of a nation's conscience, tested and tormented, but ultimately preserved through the moral strength of those who refused to remain silent. And in that long night of political despair, it was Chandrashekhar who held the lamp.

Ram Bahadur Rai is an Indian Journalist and the former news editor of Hindi daily Jansatta.

Maternal exposure to pollution linked to changes in foetal brain structures

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

Maternal exposure to pollution, particularly during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy, can affect specific brain structures of unborn babies in the womb, according to a study.

The study, published in The Lancet Planetary Health, showed that the changes were linked to brain imbalances, loss of motor coordination, and slow development.

"During mid to late gestation, the foetal brain enters a key phase of its development, making it particularly vulnerable to external factors such as pollution," Payam Dadvand, a researcher at Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal) in Spain.

"As clinicians, we are now seeing compelling evidence that even in pregnancies that appear



healthy by all conventional measures, factors such as air pollution can subtly affect foetal brain development," added Elisa Llurba and Lola Gómez-Roig, clinicians at the Hospital de Sant Pau and BCNatal-Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, respectively.

For the study, the researchers analysed data collected between 2018 and 2021 from 754 mother-foetus pairs.

A specialised ultrasound that allows the analysis of foetal brain shape and structures --

transvaginal neurosonography -- during the third trimester showed that prenatal exposure to nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), particulate matter (PM2.5), and black carbon led to an increase in the volume of various brain cavities that contain cerebrospinal fluid.

Specifically, direct associations were identified between exposure to these pollutants and increased volume of the lateral ventricles, located in each brain hemisphere, as well as an enlargement of the cisterna magna, a

cavity located at the lower part of the brain.

An increase in the width of the cerebellar vermis -- the central part of the cerebellum, essential for balance and motor coordination -- was also detected.

The results also suggested less maturation of the brain.

"The point is that these differences, although small at the individual level, are indeed relevant from a population perspective, as they inform us about how pollution affects the foetal brain and its vulnerability to environmental exposures," said Laura Gómez-Herrera, ISGlobal researcher.

The researchers emphasised the need for further studies to confirm the findings and stressed the need for increased awareness and education, both within the health community and across society.

Healthcare workers enthusiastic about using GenAI, most firms not ready to adopt: Report

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

While healthcare professionals widely recognise the transformative potential of generative AI (GenAI) in solving sustainability problems, including the workforce crisis, most organisations are not yet ready to harness its full value, according to a report on Friday.

The new report from Wolters Kluwer Health identified strong enthusiasm for using GenAI to address the current challenges of workforce shortages, burnout, high healthcare costs, and rising administrative burdens, as well as keen interest in leveraging GenAI to achieve the next level of innovation and efficiency across the enterprise.

However, the data, based on a survey of physicians, nurses, pharmacists, allied health professionals, and administrators, showed a clear



disconnect between what organisations say they want to achieve with GenAI and how prepared they are to deliver on that promise.

For example, the report showed that while 80 per cent of respondents cited "optimising workflows" as a top organisational goal, only 63 per cent feel prepared to use GenAI to do so.

"GenAI has the potential to be a powerful tool for supporting sustainability in healthcare organizations right now, as well as preparing them for a more efficient future," said Greg

Samios, CEO of Wolters Kluwer Health.

"The challenge is developing a strategy that can both optimise the current state in a highly volatile environment and simultaneously equip organisations with the digital capabilities they need to remain competitive over the next several years. Right now, organisations are at risk of falling behind unless they take a more cohesive approach to making GenAI standardised, scalable, and impactful," he added.

The report noted that GenAI-driven technolo-

gies are likely to be part of the solution for long-standing challenges, such as addressing the burdens of prior authorisations (67 per cent), electronic health record (EHR) management (62 per cent), cybersecurity preparedness (68 per cent), and supporting telehealth/virtual care programmes (65 per cent).

But only 18 per cent of survey respondents were aware of formal organisational policies governing GenAI use, and only one in five reported being required to take structured training.

As a result, more than half (57 per cent) believe that overreliance on GenAI may erode clinical decision-making skills. The report showed that 55 per cent are concerned that lack of transparency around GenAI's potential role in making diagnoses could contribute to unclear reasoning behind patient-facing decisions.

Study shows alcohol-linked liver deaths rising in women, young adults

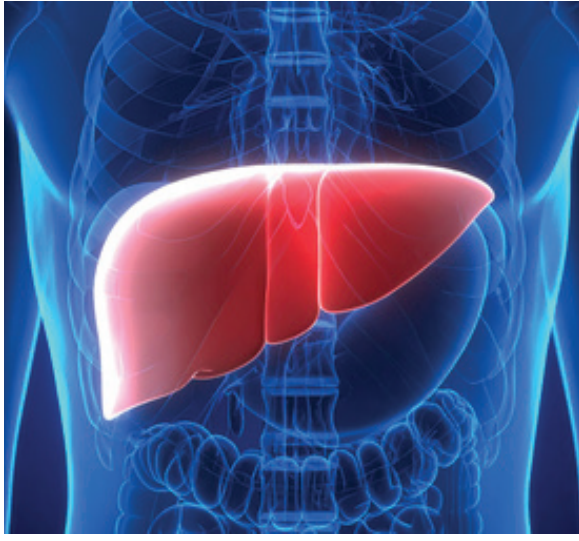
AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

Alcohol-related liver disease deaths are increasing rapidly among women and young adults, according to new research.

Researchers from the Universities Hvard, Stanford, and Southern California (USC) attributed the rise to higher drinking during the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as to increasing health problems like obesity and high blood pressure.

"The pandemic itself came under control, but the disparities that came with it continued and lingered," said Dr. Nasim Maleki, a psychiatry professor at Harvard Medical School.

The findings, published in JAMA Network Open, based on death certificates from across the US showed that between 2018 and 2022, deaths



That means even a little drinking can have a bigger impact on their organs over time, the researchers explained.

Further, young adults between ages 25 and 44 were found to have the biggest yearly increase in deaths from alcohol-associated hepatitis between 1999 and 2022.

"Alcohol-related cirrhosis takes time to develop. So we may not see the true extent of the consequences until five, probably 10, years from now, which is very concerning," said Dr. Robert Wong, a liver specialist at Stanford University.

Recent research showed a spike in the number of annual alcohol deaths due to cancer.

Data presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology 2025 conference revealed that alcohol-related cancer deaths doubled -- to 23,207 by 2021 from 11,896 in 1990.

from alcohol-associated liver disease (ALD) rose nearly 9 per cent a year. Between 2006 and 2018, ALD deaths stood at 3.5 per cent per year.

While men still had the highest number of deaths -- 17 per 100,000 people -- women's death rates grew faster.

In 2022, eight of every 100,000 women died from

ALD, up from three per 100,000 over the study period. Women's death rates rose by about 4.3 per cent each year, nearly twice the rate of men.

One reason women may be affected more is because of how the body processes alcohol.

Biologically, women are less able to break down alcohol than men.

Australian researchers launch pioneering trial targeting untreatable cancers

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

Australian researchers have launched a pioneering clinical trial that aims to combat aggressive cancers previously deemed untreatable.

The trial led by a team from the Australian National University (ANU) focussed on malignancies driven by the elusive MYC protein -- a protein implicated in 70 per cent of human cancers --, Xinhua news agency reported.

The success of the trial could redefine treatment paradigms for aggressive malignancies globally, offering a template for tackling other molecularly complex diseases, said the team.

The study will test an experimental drug, PMR-116, designed to disrupt cancer growth mechanisms in patients with prostate, breast, ovarian, and blood cancers, or MYC-driven tumours.



The MYC protein is a key regulator of cell growth. It is often implicated in cancer, contributing to tumour development.

Led by the ANU and Canberra Health Services the trial adopts an innovative "basket" approach, grouping participants based on molecular biomarkers rather than cancer type.

This method streamlines research by target-

ing MYC through its downstream effects, meaning it blocks the processes MYC triggers in the cell rather than trying to block MYC itself, according to the study.

PMR-116, developed by ANU researchers and biotech firm Pimera Therapeutics, inhibits ribosomal biogenesis, a cellular process exploited by MYC-driven tumours.

"MYC is one of the most

notorious cancer-causing genes, and tumours driven by MYC overexpression are often among the most aggressive and difficult to treat," said hematologist and ANU professor Mark Polizzotto, who will lead the clinical trial.

"MYC has long been considered 'undruggable,' but early results of PMR-116 show promise in changing that perception," he added.

The trial will enroll patients at major hospitals in Canberra, Melbourne, and Sydney starting in late 2025, prioritising those whose cancers resist standard therapies, said the research team.

ANU professor Ross Hannan, co-developer of PMR-116, highlighted that this approach represents a new direction in precision oncology, focusing on cancer's molecular drivers instead of its location, potentially speeding up treatments for many patients worldwide.

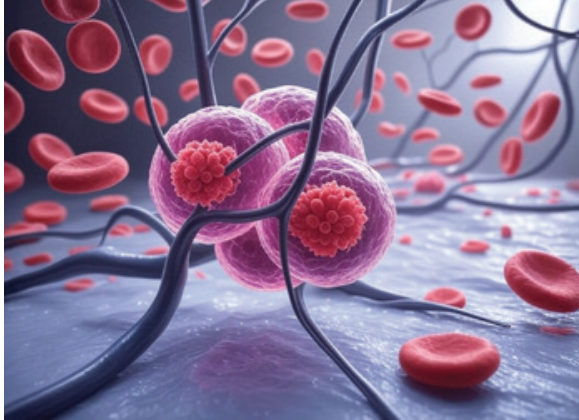
New AI tool analyses DNA for faster, affordable cancer monitoring

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

A team of researchers from Singapore has developed a new artificial intelligence (AI)-based method that makes tracking cancer easier and faster-using blood tests.

The method called "Fragle", developed by a team from the A*STAR Genome Institute of Singapore (A*STAR GIS), requires only a small blood sample, and analyses the size of DNA fragments in the blood to reveal distinct patterns that differentiate cancer DNA from healthy DNA. This can help doctors track cancer treatment responses more accurately and frequently.

"Just as scientists tracked Covid-19 outbreaks by detecting viral particles in wastewater, Fragle analyses DNA fragments in blood to monitor cancer treatment response and detect relapse early," said lead author Dr. Anders Skanderup,



Senior Principal Scientist at A*STAR GIS Laboratory of Computational Cancer Genomics.

Existing methods for measuring cancer DNA in the blood, also known as circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA), often require complex and expensive DNA sequencing to screen for common cancer mutations. However, because cancer mutations vary between patients, test results can be inconsistent, making it difficult for doctors to track cancer treatment response with

blood tests effectively.

On the other hand, Fragle uses AI to analyse the size of DNA fragments in the blood.

Cancer DNA tends to exhibit different size patterns compared to healthy DNA, and the Fragle AI-model can identify these differences using very small amounts of DNA. As a result, the method allows for faster and more affordable cancer tracking, said the researchers in the paper, published in the journal Nature Biomedical Engineering.

It has also demonstrated high reliability, delivering accurate results across blood samples from hundreds of cancer patients and distinct cancer types. In addition, the method is versatile and compatible with most DNA profiling techniques commonly used in hospitals or offered by commercial providers.

In an ongoing study of more than 100 clinical trial patients, the GIS-NCCS team is using Fragle to monitor ctDNA levels every two months during treatment, with the aim of catching signs of relapse before they appear on routine scans.

The team is also studying whether early changes in ctDNA can identify which patients are likely to have a favourable or poor response to the therapy. The goal of the study is to assess the value of incorporating ctDNA tests in routine monitoring of cancer patients during treatment.

Researchers develop new app to boost wellbeing, resilience of adults

AGENCIES
SYDNEY

A team of Australian researchers has launched a new app aimed at boosting the wellbeing and resilience of adults.

This innovative mobile application, called ReNeuWell, shifts the focus from managing distress to actively promoting mental flourishing, offering a neuroscience-backed, personalised approach to mental health, said the team from NeuRA and University of New South Wales Sydney.

This validated tool assesses both subjective hedonic-composure, positivity, life satisfaction) and psychological (eudaimonic - self-worth, mastery, achievements) wellbeing, providing users with a comprehensive profile.

"The app is designed for anyone looking for ways to understand and boost their own level of mental wellbeing," stated Associate Professor Justine Gatt, emphasising its



role in guiding individuals towards optimal mental health.

According to researchers, ReNeuWell offers a unique personalised programme of activities over four-week periods, drawing on psychological

concepts such as mindfulness, meditation, self-compassion, and goal setting. These activities are tailored to improve specific aspects of a user's wellbeing, grounded in the COMPAS-W scale's proven link to brain func-

tion, genetics, cognitive performance, and even physical health indicators.

A 12-week clinical trial is currently underway, with NeuRA actively recruiting at least 500 adult participants from the general public. Eligible individuals will receive free access to the app, committing to just 10 minutes of daily use and three short surveys. This trial aims to further validate the app's effectiveness and gather user feedback for refinement.

Funded by the Mindgardens Neuroscience Network and developed by Miroma Project Factory, ReNeuWell exemplifies a successful collaboration between research and industry to address real-world mental health needs.

The ReNeuWell app is now available for download on the Apple App Store in Australia for a one-time fee of AUD\$24.99 for those who do not wish to participate in the trial.

151 Bio-Gas Stoves provided to Tribal Families under Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan

JNEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, JUNE 25

An awareness programme was organised today under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan at the District Administrative Complex Samba.

The event was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma, who interacted with members of the tribal community from village Rakh Barotia, Block Vijaypur. He emphasized the core objective of the campaign- envisaging door-to-door governance and empowerment of tribal communities.



As part of the clean energy initiative, the Deputy Commissioner distributed 151 bio-gas cooking stoves to tribal families with the support of JAKEDA (J&K Energy

Development Agency). A large number of tribal members along with GM DIC, ACR Samba, Chief Planning Officer and other senior officers were present during the programme.

DC Poonch inaugurates blacktopping work at Chandak Bypass on NH 144A

JNEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JUNE 25

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today inaugurated the blacktopping work on the vital road stretch from Kalai Bridge to Drungli Nallah on Chandak Bypass of National Highway 144-A. He was accompanied by Officer Commanding GREF, Tehsildar Haveli and other concerned officials during the visit. After the inauguration, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with the site engineers and representatives of the executing agency. He called for strict adherence to the



quality standards and emphasized the need for timely completion of the project.

Highlighting the importance of the work, the DC

stated that infrastructure upgrades like these play a pivotal role in boosting regional connectivity and ensuring long-term convenience for the public.

DAJGUA Day 10: Pulwama Admin organises mega outreach camp at Sonabanger Achgooze



JNEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, JUNE 25

Continuing its ongoing campaign to inclusive development and last-mile delivery of services under the nationwide Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), district administration Pulwama today organised a mega Awareness and Benefit Saturation Camp at Sonabanger Achgooze.

The initiative aimed to ensure the holistic development of tribal communities through focused interventions in sectors such as infrastructure, healthcare, education, livelihoods, and digital empowerment.

Various government departments including

Health, Education, Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Forest, and others participated in the camp. Each department set up dedicated stalls offering real-time beneficiary registration, on-spot enrolments, personalized scheme consultations, and distribution of informative materials such as brochures and pamphlets to promote informed participation.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from local tribal residents, including youth and senior citizens, who availed a broad range of government services delivered directly to their doorstep.

Health, Education, Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Forest, and others participated in the camp. Each department set up dedicated stalls offering real-time beneficiary registration, on-spot enrolments, personalized scheme consultations, and distribution of informative materials such as brochures and pamphlets to promote informed participation.

Furthermore, during the event a collective pledge was also taken by the officials and stakeholders present, reinforcing their commitment to the socio-economic upliftment of tribal communities and the saturation of welfare services at the grassroots level.

The outreach event received an overwhelming response from the local population, who appreciated the administration's efforts in making governance accessible and responsive to the needs of tribal households.

NCORD: DC Shopian reviews anti-drug & substance abuse measures

JNEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, JUNE 25

District Level Narco Coordination (NCORD) meeting was held today at the mini-secretariat here, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta.

On the occasion, department wise action taken reports were assessed, and directions were issued to strengthen the fight against drug abuse.

Police action including registration of FIRs and detention of accused persons along with poppy destruction drives and inspections of pharmacies was particularly reviewed.

DC emphasized the importance of keeping strict vigil on students and educational institutions across the district being the most vulnerable to the menace. The strict enforcement of COTPA was also stressed upon and department heads were directed to take more stringent measures against the menace.

He also stressed on the importance of keeping close vigil on poppy cultivation areas and taking strict action against the cultivators besides enhancing poppy destruction drives. Other departments were instructed for enhancing counseling services and Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities to raise awareness about drug abuse, aiming to for-



mulate a comprehensive action plan to curb drug abuse and ensure effective grassroots-level awareness so that the anti-drug message reaches one and all. ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz, ACR, ACP, Tehsildars, district officers and other concerned officers of Police were present in the meeting.

Clean Jammu, Green Jammu Campaign: Plantation Drive Held Near Channi Himmat Pond

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 25

In continuation of the Clean Jammu, Green Jammu campaign, a plantation drive was organized today by the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) in collaboration with the Urban Forestry Division Jammu near the pond at Ward No. 51, Channi Himmat.


The event was graced by Mr. Hitesh Gupta, Under Secretary to the Government, Jal Shakti Department, who attended as the chief guest. Mr. Gupta



inaugurated the program by planting a sapling and emphasized the collective responsibility of citizens in preserving the environment. He also personally adopted two saplings, setting an example for the community.

A large number of local residents from Ward No.

51 actively participated in the drive, displaying great enthusiasm and commitment towards environmental conservation. Various species of saplings including Peepal, Mango and Neem were planted around the pond to enhance greenery and support biodiversity.


Government of Jammu and Kashmir
DIRECTORATE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT JAMMU
Tel. 0191-2505443 (O) 2503537 (F) E-Mail drdijammu@yahoo.com, jdardj17@gmail.com
Website- www.drj.nic.in

Sub:- Appointment of Candidates against the post of "Junior Assistant" Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, **District Cadre Rajouri.**
Ref:- I. J&K Service Selection Board Jammu/Srinagar letter No. JKSSB-Scry/2/2025-06 (E-7628025) Dated: 30-04-2025.
II. Administrative Department letter No. RDD-Estt0NG/37/2025-12 (E-7646503) Dated: 09-05-2025.

ORDER No. 342 - DRDJ of 2025
DATED 24 - 06 - 2025

Pursuant to the recommendations received from Service Selection Board, J&K, Jammu/Srinagar through Administrative Department vide letters number and date referred above, Sanction is hereby accorded to the temporary appointment of the following candidates as "Junior Assistant" in "District Cadre Rajouri" in the pay Level-4 (25500-81100) with immediate effect;

S. No	S. No. in the SSRB Select List	Candidate's Name	Parentage	Address	Selection Category
Open Merit (OM) Category					
1	01	Danish Kumar	Bansi Lal	Gharian Kallan Chenani Udhampur	OM
2	04	Nasir Ul Islam	Habibullah Bhat	Ayathmulla Bandipora	OM

The above appointment shall be subject to following terms and conditions:-

- The appointee(s) shall report to Project Officer Wage Employment (Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD)), Rajouri within a period of 21 days from date of issuance of this order failing which his/her appointment shall be deemed to have been cancelled without any notice in terms of Circular No: 08-JK (GAD) of 2019 Dated 04.12.2019 issued by General Administration Department, J&K.
- The appointee at the time of joining shall produce following testimonials in original which shall subsequently be got verified by the concerned DDO from respective issuing authorities:
 - Domicile Certificate.
 - Date of Birth Certificate.
 - Qualification Certificate(s).
 - Relevant Category Certificate (if any).
 - Physical fitness certificate.
 - Any other certificate required under rule.
 Project Officer Wage Employment (Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD)), Rajouri after verifying his/her testimonials and other requisite document(s) shall post them as per the requirement/suitability.
- That if the appointee has taken loan for self-employment from DIC/Employment Department, to be ascertained from the District Industries Centre (DIC) and District Employment & Counselling Centre of the Domicile District, he/she shall relinquish the proprietorship of unit/enterprise and also stakes, if any, in such self-employment unit/enterprise before joining the Government service. He/she shall be required to repay the entire loan liability in suitable EMIs to be worked out by the DDO concerned from his/her salary. DDO concerned shall obtain an affidavit from the concerned appointee regarding both relinquishment of proprietorship and stakes, if any, in such a self-employment unit/enterprise and recovery to be made and also personally monitor its recovery.
- That appointee(s) shall give an undertaking in the shape of an affidavit to the effect that if on verification, his Qualification/Date of Birth/Category Certificates, if any, from the concerned issuing authority are found to be fake/forged, the claim of the appointee for appointment as Junior Assistant, shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio and legal action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against him/her.
- The salary of the appointee shall not be drawn and disbursed unless a satisfactory report in respect of genuineness of Qualification/Date of Birth/Category Certificate, if any, is received from the concerned authorities.
- The appointment of the candidate shall be governed by the "New Pension Scheme" as notified vide SRO-400 of 2009 dated: 24-12-2009.
- The seniority of the members of cadre shall be regulated under J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956 and shall be fixed in accordance with the merit obtained by appointees in the final selection list issued by JKSSB.
- The appointment of the above appointees shall be subject to outcome of writ Petition(s), if any, pending before Competent Court of law.
- The appointees shall be initially on probation for a period of two years.

Sd/-
(Shahnaz Akhter) JKAS
Director
Rural Development Deptt.
Jammu

DIP/J-2604/25
Date: 25-6-25

No: -DRDJ-Estt/85/2025-02 (7693537) | 3129 - 58
Dated: 24 - 06 - 2025.

ABRSM delegation meets JD School Education, Jammu, discusses teachers' issues

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 25

A delegation of Akhil Bhartiya Rashtriya Shaishik Mahasangh (ABRSM), under the leadership of State President Sh. Rattan Sharma ji, met the newly posted Joint Director School Education, Sh. Gurdev Kumar ji, to discuss pressing concerns of the teaching fraternity.

Key issues raised during the meeting included the undue delay in transfer of teachers, importance of early conduct of DPCs for promotion of Teachers to Masters, and effective implementation of central government education policies aimed at qualitative improvement in the



education sector.

The delegation comprised of Sh. Rahul Sharma (State Additional Secretary), Sh. Rakesh Sharma (State Executive Member), Sh. Mohan Singh (Seh Pramukh - Mera Vidyalay Mera

Tirth), Sh. Ved Parkash (Jammu District General Secretary), Sh. Tarsem ji (Jammu District Media Prabhari), Sh. Narrotam ji, Sh. Deepak ji, and Sh. Vinod Sharma ji (Zonal General Secretary, Chauki Chaura).

Emergency was darkest day in Indian democracy: Er. Khatana

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 25:

Marking the 50th anniversary of the imposition of the Emergency in 1975, Member of Parliament and BJP Senior Leader Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana today strongly condemned the events of the 21-month authoritarian rule, calling it "a black blot on the soul of Indian democracy."

Addressing a massive public gathering in Srinagar, Khatana paid homage to the thousands of political activists, journalists, students, and ordinary citizens who were illegally jailed, silenced, and stripped of their constitutional rights during the Emergency imposed by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

"The Emergency was a



brutal attack on the Constitution, civil liberties, and democratic values of our nation. It was a time when the voice of the people was suppressed, the media muzzled, the judiciary compromised, and opposition leaders jailed without trial. It stands as a grim reminder

of how democracy can be strangled by political greed," Khatana said.

He lauded the resilience of the Indian people, the sacrifices of leaders like Jayaprakash Narayan, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, LK Advani, George Fernandes, and others who fought bravely from jail cells to restore democracy.

Highlighting the significance of Jammu & Kashmir in India's democratic journey, Khatana said:

"Kashmir has always believed in the idea of India. And as we remember this dark chapter, we must pledge that no force—internal or external—will be allowed to ever trample upon the democratic rights of our people again."

Khatana also emphasized the role of the current leadership under

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in safeguarding constitutional institutions, empowering citizens, and ensuring that the mistakes of the past are never repeated.

A two-minute silence was observed in memory of those who suffered during the Emergency. Several prominent community leaders, party functionaries, youth activists, and civil society members were present at the gathering.

Khatana concluded his speech with a powerful message:

"Let June 25 not just be a day of mourning—but a day of awareness, unity, and democratic vigilance. Never again should India fall into the trap of dictatorship in the guise of democracy."

Dr Tahir Chowdhary Hails Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla's ISS Mission as a "Proud Moment for Every Indian"

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 25 JUNE 2025:

J&K BJP spokesperson Dr Tahir Chowdhary on Wednesday lauded Shubhanshu Shukla's historic journey to the International Space Station (ISS), calling it a monumental moment that marks India's glorious return to human spaceflight after 41 years.

Reacting to the successful launch of Axiom-4 mission from the Kennedy Space Centre, Dr Tahir said the event has "reignited the spirit of scientific achievement and national pride across the length and breadth of India, including the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

MLA Jasrotia slams Govt's decision to make Urdu compulsory for Naib Tehsildar Test

JI NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, JUNE 25

MLA Jasrotia, Rajiv Jasrotia, has strongly criticized the government's decision to make Urdu compulsory for the Naib Tehsildar test, terming it "highly discriminatory" and "unnecessary". Jasrotia expressed his resentment over the move, stating that it creates an unfair language barrier for aspirants.

Jasrotia argued that making Urdu compulsory is discriminatory, as it unfairly disadvantages candidates who are not proficient in the language. He questioned the necessity of Urdu language proficiency for the role of Naib Tehsildar, emphasizing that it should not be a criterion for selection. Jasrotia warned that if Urdu

remains compulsory, it will be a gross injustice to the aspiring youth, potentially depriving them of opportunities based on language rather than merit.

Jasrotia has requested the government to review its decision and reconsider the language requirements for the Naib Tehsildar test. He emphasized that the decision should be based on merit and relevant skills, rather than language proficiency. The government's decision has sparked concerns about the fairness and inclusivity of the recruitment process. It remains to be seen how the government responds to Jasrotia's request and addresses the concerns of aspiring candidates.

Jasrotia lambasted the Omar Abdullah-led admin-



istration for introducing a policy that sidelines youth from the Jammu region. "This imposition of Urdu is a deliberate attempt to exclude deserving candidates from Jammu. Such regional discrimination will not be tolerated. We demand an immediate rollback," he stated and urged the Services Selection Board (JKSSB) to reconsider this policy immediately. He strongly condemned the JKSSB notification and described

the move as arbitrary, exclusionary, and in violation of the spirit of the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

While the J&K Official Languages Act, 2020 recognizes Hindi, English, Kashmiri, Dogri, and Urdu as official languages, the selective imposition of only Urdu—especially where it holds no administrative relevance in the majority of Jammu districts—reflects blatant linguistic discrimination, Jasrotia said and added, "This is more than a language issue—it impacts the futures of thousands of capable candidates from Jammu."

Jasrotia termed the government decision as betrayal with Jammu candidates and further said the government decision

to include Urdu as a compulsory descriptive paper with a weightage of 30 marks in recent syllabus under JKSSB is going to have negative repercussion on the Jammu job aspirants. He said why Urdu is being made mandatory only to Naib Tehsildar and not for Tehsildar and other revenue officers who qualify KAS. "The KAS, appointed to such posts performs their work as well, even though they have not qualified such Urdu paper as referred for Naib Tehsildar," he said adding that such a decision of government is a deliberate attempt to ignore Jammu aspirants as government knows very well that very few candidates know descriptive Urdu language in Jammu division.

JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24, 2025:

In a significant organizational development, the Hon'ble Congress President has approved the appointment of Shri Bharat Priye as the new Chairman of the Kisan Congress, Jammu & Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (J&K PCC). This decision comes into immediate effect, as per an official press release issued by K.C. Venugopal, General Secretary of the All India Congress Committee (AICC).

Shri Bharat Priye, a dedicated grassroots leader and advocate for farmers' rights, will now lead the party's farmers' wing in the Jammu & Kashmir region. His appointment is seen as part of the Congress party's ongoing



efforts to strengthen its farmer-centric outreach and organizational structure in the Union Territory.

The Kisan Congress is the agrarian wing of the Indian National Congress, focusing on the issues and welfare of farmers across the country. With Shri Bharat Priye at the helm in J&K, the party aims to intensify its campaigns and initiatives on issues like crop insurance, minimum support prices

(MSP), irrigation support, and agricultural reforms.

Party workers and supporters from various parts of the Union Territory have welcomed the move and expressed confidence that Bharat Priye's leadership will give new momentum to farmer-related activities and concerns in the region.

The AICC has emphasized that this appointment takes effect immediately.

Bharat Priye is Young leader of the party belongs to border area of Akhnoor and has been associated with the Kissan movement of the party for long time. He had been national Coordinator of All India Kissan Congress since 2015 and appointed as acting Chairman of J&K Kissan Congress in September last year.

Emergency exposed Congress's lust for power: Vibodh

JI NEWS SERVICE
SUNDERBANI, JUNE 25

On the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today observed *Samvidhan Hatya Diwas* across Jammu & Kashmir. An exhibition was inaugurated at the BJP Office in Sunderbani by BJP J&K General Secretary and Former MLC Vibodh Gupta along with BJP MLA Thakur Randhir Singh and District President Pritam Sharma to educate people about the draconian chapter of Indian history when democracy was strangled and constitutional values were crushed.

As part of the program, RSS volunteer Dr. Som Dutt ji, who was arrested during the Emergency was honoured with a shawl in recognition of his courage and sacrifice. His presence served as a powerful reminder of the resistance and resilience shown by countless patriots during that time.

In his address, Vibodh delivered a scathing attack on the Congress party, under whose government the Emergency was imposed on 25th June 1975. "The sole reason behind the Emergency was to stay in power by



hijacking the judiciary, executive, and legislative systems. The Congress party, which imposed the Emergency, has neither the moral nor legal right to talk about the Constitution," said Vibodh.

Calling it a blatant abuse of power, Vibodh added that June 25 is remembered as the day the Constitution was assassinated. He strongly asserted that it was not merely an 18-month shock, but a calculated and systemic attack on India's constitutional values whereby the Constitution was deliberately amended to facilitate the dictatorship of a single family, revealing the extent to which the Congress could go to crush dissent and democracy in order to retain power.

Vibodh maintained that the Emergency was not just a political mis-

step but a direct betrayal of the people's trust. "It was a time when the Constitution was overridden, voices were silenced, and the entire nation was turned into a jail. We must ensure that such authoritarianism never returns," he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Thakur Randhir Singh stated that *Samvidhan Hatya Diwas* is a stark reminder of how far the Congress regime went to retain power at the cost of democratic principles. "The 1975 Emergency was a dark chapter in India's history. Today, as we observe 50 years since that grave injustice, we recommit ourselves to protecting constitutional values and ensuring that power remains with the people not with dynastic politics," he added.

IIM Jammu bestowed with Award for Excellence in Implementation of Official Language Policy for the Second Consecutive Time

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 25

Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu was honored for the second consecutive time for excellence in the implementation of the Official Language Policy of the Government of India during the semi-annual meeting organized by the Town Official Language Implementation Committee, Jammu. This prestigious recognition reflects the Institute's continued commitment and outstanding efforts toward the effective implementation of Hindi in administrative and academic functions.

Under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu has consistently prioritized the promotion and use of Hindi in its administrative activities, cultural programs, and official communications.

On this occasion, Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu stated that the award reflects the Institute's commitment to preserving India's linguistic and cultural heritage. He emphasized that the effective use of Hindi in official functions not



only enhances administrative efficiency but also strengthens inclusivity and national unity. He further noted that such recognition inspires the Institute to continue innovating and excelling in the implementation of the Official Language Policy.

The Hindi Rajbhasha Committee of IIM Jammu, under the guidance of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu is making dedicated and consistent efforts in this direction. The committee includes Dr. Anuja Akhouri, Co-Chairperson, Hindi Rajbhasha Samiti, IIM Jammu, Cmdr. Kesavan Baskaran, Chief Administrative Offi-

cer, IIM Jammu and Shri Ashish K. Isher Hindi Rajbhasha Officer, who have played a vital role in achieving this milestone through their commitment and efforts.

This award further motivates IIM Jammu to strengthen its initiatives in promoting the use of Hindi and contributing to the preservation and empowerment of India's linguistic and cultural identity. The Institute remains fully committed to the effective use of Hindi across all administrative and academic platforms, in alignment with the Official Language Policy of the Government of India.

Indian Army conducts First Annual Meet of Flag Women of Kupwara Girls at Pathahirri, Kupwara



JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, JUN 25

Empowerment of women is a process that leads women to claim their rights to have access to equal opportunities in economic, cultural, social and political spheres of life and realise their full potential. This progress has to go together with their freedom to work to influence the direction

of social change. Indeed, empowerment is a bottom-up process rather than something that can be formulated as a top-down strategy.

Indian Army's Kupwara Terriers aligned with this ideology has been working constantly towards an empowerment approach to enable women of Kupwara to assess their situation and shape a transformation in society critically.

IN THE COURT OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS, TEHSILDAR JAMMU
Rajesh Singh S/o Ludder R/o Surinsar Tehsil & District Jammu. (Applicant)

Vs

(Non-Applciant)

In the matter of:- Application for seeking direction of the Registrar Births & Deaths Block Development Nagrota, Jammu for issuance of birth certificate.

Whereas the applicant here in above has filed the above titled application in this court for the registration and issuance of Date of birth of applicant's son namely Vansh Singh Jammwal S/o Rajesh Singh R/o Surinsar Tehsil & District Jammu, date of birth is 14.12.2005.

PROCLAMATION

Therefore through the medium of this proclamation general public is informed that any person having any objections with respect to registration of date of birth of applicant's son namely Vansh Singh Jammwal S/o Rajesh Singh R/o Surinsar Tehsil & District Jammu, date of birth is 14.12.2005 may file his/her their objections before this court within a period of 10 days from the date of publication of this notice and after the lapse of said period no objections shall be entered and appropriate order shall be passed in the matter issued under my hand seal of this office today on 25-06-2025.

Sd/-
Executive Magistrate 1st Class
Tehsildar Jammu

Historic AX-4ISS Mission piloted by Indian Astro takes off for 14-day docking at ISS

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, JUNE 25

Carrying the hopes and dreams of billions, the Axiom-4 Mission piloted by decorated Indian astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, along with three other crew members to the International Space Station (ISS) for a 14-day experiment, lifts off from Kennedy Space Centre Florida at 12.01 pm IST (02.31 EDT) today onboard the Space Dragon Aircraft.



After about a 28 hour flight duration, the four crew from India, US, Hungary and Poland, will dock at ISS at 7.00 am tomorrow.

PM welcomes successful launch of Axiom-4 space mission

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUNE 25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today welcomed the successful launch of the Axiom-4 Space Mission carrying astronauts from India, Hungary, Poland and the US and said

Indian astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla carries with him wishes, hopes and aspirations of 1.4 billion Indians.

The Prime Minister said Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla is on the way to becoming the first Indian to go to International Space Station.

"We welcome the successful launch of the Space Mission carrying astronauts from India, Hungary, Poland and the US. The Indian Astronaut, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla is on the way to becoming the first Indian to go to International Space Station. He carries with him the wishes,



hopes and aspirations of 1.4 billion Indians," the Prime Minister tweeted.

The Axiom-4 Mission piloted by the decorated Indian astronaut Group Captain Shukla, along with three other crew members to the International Space Station (ISS) for a 14-day experiment, lifted off from Kennedy Space Centre Florida at 12.01 pm IST (02.31 EDT). After about a 28 hour flight duration, the four crew members will dock at ISS at 7.00 am tomorrow. The Mission, in association with NASA, will herald a new milestone in India's space journey paving way for exploring new horizons.

Rajnath to spell out India's vision on global security at SCO meet in China

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUNE 25

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will be travelling to Qingdao, China, today to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) defence ministers' meeting.

In a post on X, the Defence Minister said he will engage with his counterparts from SCO member-states on a wide range of strategic issues and also present India's vision for global peace and security. "Today, I shall be leaving for Qingdao, China, to take part in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation



(SCO) Defence Ministers' Meeting," Rajnath Singh said.

"I will have the opportunity to interact with various defence ministers on a wide range of issues. Looking forward to pres-

ent India's vision for global peace and security and also, call for joint and consistent efforts to eliminate terrorism."

During the meeting, Rajnath is expected to highlight India's continued commitment to the principles and mandate of the SCO, outline India's vision towards achieving greater international peace and security, call for joint and consistent efforts to eliminate terrorism and extremism in the region, and stress the need for greater trade, economic cooperation and connectivity within SCO.

Operation Sindhu 224 Indians arrive from Israel, 282 from Iran



AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUNE 25

More Indian nationals evacuated from Iran and Israel arrived in New Delhi, as part of Operation Sindhu.

One flight arrived from Israel today carrying 224 Indian nationals from Israel, while another arrived in the wee hours, carrying 282 Indian nationals from Iran, according to updates provided by the MEA spokesperson.

Another flight is expected to arrive from Iran later today.

The spokesperson said in posts on X: "#OperationSindhu update 'MoS Ms. Shobha Karandlaje received 224 Indian nationals who returned to India from Israel on an IAF aircraft at 10:30 Hrs on 25th June."

"With this, 2858 Indian nationals have been brought home from Iran." The Indians who arrived from Israel were on a CI7 Indian Airforce aircraft, which landed in Palam air base.

Another evacuation flight from Mashhad will be arriving later in the day. India launched Operation Sindhu to evacuate its nationals from Iran and Israel amid the war between the two nations.

ment. "Till date, 818 Indian nationals have returned home from Israel as part of Operation Sindhu."

On the flight from Mashhad in Iran that arrived in the wee hours today, he posted: "#OperationSindhu

"282 Indian nationals were evacuated from Iran on a special flight that arrived in New Delhi from Mashhad at 00:01 hrs on 25th June."

"The very Constitution drafted by Babasaheb Ambedkar, Pandit Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi, and the Constituent Assembly was once burned by RSS members at Ramleela Maidan. They even burned effigies of Ambedkar, Nehru, and Gandhi, claiming the Constitution lacked elements of Manusmriti and traditional culture," he said.

Alleging that the BJP government handing over wealth of the country to

Cabinet passes resolution on Emergency

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUNE 25

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi today passed a resolution to commemorate and honour those who sacrificed valiantly resisted the Emergency and its attempt at subversion of the spirit of the Indian Constitution.

Addressing the media, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said, "To mark the solemn occasion, a two-minute silence was observed during the Cabinet meeting in tribute to those whose constitutionally guaranteed democratic rights were suspended and who endured 'unimaginable horrors'."

Reading the resolution, Vaishnav said, "Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi resolved to commemorate and honor the sacrifices of countless individuals who valiantly resisted the Emergency and its attempt at subversion of the spirit of Indian Constitution, subversion which began in 1974 with a heavy ended attempt at crushing the Navnirman Andolan and Sampurna Kranti Abhiyaan."

"To Mark the occasion,



a two minute silence was observed in today's meeting of the Union cabinet, as a tribute to those whose constitutionally guaranteed democratic rights were taken away and who were then subjected to unimaginable horrors," the statement said.

The resolution said, "The Union Cabinet paid tributes to their exemplary courage and valiant resistance to the Emergency's excesses. The year 2025 marks 50 years of the Samvidhan Hatya Divas, an unforgettable chapter in the history of India where the Constitution was subverted, and the Republic and democratic spirit of India were attacked, federalism was undermined, and fundamental rights, human liberty, and dignity were suspended."

Reaffirming faith in the Indian Constitution and the resilience of the coun-

try's democratic ethos, the Cabinet stressed the importance of remembering the sacrifices made to protect democratic values.

"The Union Cabinet reaffirmed that the people of India continue to repose unflinching faith in the Indian Constitution and the resilience of the country's democratic ethos. It is as important for the young as it is for the old to draw inspiration from those who resisted dictatorial tendencies and stood firm to defend our Constitution and its democratic fabric," the resolution said.

"India, as the mother of democracy, stands as an example of preserving, protecting and safeguarding constitutional values. Let us as a nation renew our resolve to uphold our Constitution and its democratic and federal spirit," the statement added.

SC to hear Thiruchendur temple priest's plea on July 1 over consecration timing

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUNE 25

The Supreme Court today agreed to hear on July 1 a petition filed by the Vidhayahar (chief temple priest) of the historic Arulmigu Subramaniya Swamy temple in Thiruchendur, Tamil Nadu, challenging the Madras High Court's approval of the consecration (Kumbhabhishekam) ceremony timing fixed by an expert committee.

The plea, filed by R. Sivarama Subramaniya Sasthriyal, contends that the High Court erred in allowing the ceremony to be conducted on July 7 between 6 a.m. and 6.47 a.m., as recommended by a court-appointed Agama expert committee.

The petitioner asserts that the auspicious time should be 12.05 p.m. to 12.47 p.m., as fixed by him in his capacity as Vidhayahar of the temple.

The matter was mentioned orally before a bench of Justice KV Viswanathan and Justice NK Singh for urgent listing. Justice Viswanathan, upon learning that the temple in question was Thiruchendur's famous Subramaniya Swamy Temple, remarked, "It is a good temple."

During the exchange, the judge asked if the petitioner had fixed the time last year as well, to which the counsel confirmed and added that even the High Court had previously recognized the Vidhayahar's authority in such matters. However, this year, the High Court had constituted a committee to determine the timing.

Justice Viswanathan,



after examining the High Court's order on a digital device presented by counsel, noted that the High Court had specifically directed the temple administration to follow the traditional procedure of seeking written opinions from the Vidhayahar, with clear indication of whether a Pattolai (astrological chart/timing) is a draft or final version.

Despite this, the High Court, in its review judgment, upheld the expert committee's timing, which the petitioner has now challenged. The bench agreed to list the matter on July 1, but declined the petitioner's request for a hearing on June 26.

The petition stems from a Madurai bench judgment delivered by Justices S Srimathy and R Vijayakumar, which refused to interfere with the timing fixed by a five-member expert committee. The committee was appointed following an earlier petition by the Vidhayahar himself, who had opposed the authorities' selection of the early morning window as "inauspicious."

Ironically, the same Vidhayahar later questioned the very constitution of the expert committee through a review petition. The High Court, however, noted that it was compelled to form the committee only because the peti-

tioner had issued three separate Pattolais, without clarifying whether the first two were draft versions.

"Had the Vidhayahar been careful and pointed out that the first two Pattolais were drafts

and that a final version would follow after consulting the Panchangam, this confusion would not have arisen," the division bench noted.

The High Court observed that both parties had consented to the formation of the committee at that time and that the majority decision of the experts could not now be revisited merely because it was unfavourable to the petitioner.

The High Court judgment emphasized that, The expert committee's recommendation for the 6:00 a.m. to 6:47 a.m. window was based on Agama principles.

The formation of the committee was "peculiar to the facts of this case" and should not be treated as a precedent.

Until a civil court decides otherwise, the religious supremacy of the Vidhayahar over temple rituals must be preserved.

Going forward, the temple administration must seek written opinion from the Vidhayahar on consecration timings, with a clear label indicating whether it is a draft or final Pattolai.

Despite this recognition of the Vidhayahar's traditional role, the court upheld the July 7 morning ceremony timing, prompting the current appeal in the Supreme Court.

SAD's Majithia arrested in assets case

AGENCIES
CHANDIGARH, JUNE 25

Shiromani Akali Dal leader Bikram Singh Majithia was today arrested in a disproportionate assets case after the state Vigilance Bureau raided his Amritsar house.

The former Punjab minister was present in the house at the time of the raid and confronted officials alleging that they had "barged into his house."

Ruling Aam Aadmi Party spokesman said the raids were being conducted at 25 places across Punjab under the 'war against drugs' campaign and that if Majithia had done no wrong, he should not fear.

Besides SAD, opposition parties like BJP and



Congress have come out in support of Majithia, alleging that it was a case of political vendetta.

BJP leader and Union Minister of State for Railways Ravneet Singh Bittu said that the "misuse" of VB by Bhagwant Singh Mann's government was a sign of shallow politics. He compared it to the Emer-

Emergency a black day in the history of independent India: Nitish

AGENCIES
PATNA, JUNE 25

Describing the imposition of Emergency in the country as a symbol of the dictatorship of the then government, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said that the day, June 25, 1975, is called a black day in the history of independent India.

Kumar posted on his social media account X that Emergency was imposed by the then Congress government. He said freedom of expression was banned during the Emergency, he said, adding that it was Loknayak Jaiprakash Narayan, popular as JP, who stood against the dictatorial decision and began a

movement against the Emergency.

Kumar said he, too, participated in the movement along with several of his colleagues and actively opposed the Emergency.

Kumar said he along with others were put in the jail for raising voice against dictatorship. He said the people of the country remained united against the Emergency and showed courage.

Describing the people's voice as the core of democracy, Kumar said protecting it in every situation was the major responsibility of the leaders and activists. Protecting the spirit of the Constitution, Bihar has always made social justice as the path of its development.

Leeds centurions Pant & Duckett big winners in latest rankings update

AGENCIES
DUBAI, JUNE 25

India's Rishabh Pant and England's Ben Duckett have been rewarded for their big scores during the first Test in Headingley by reaching new career-high ratings in the latest ICC Men's Test Batter Rankings.

Pant became just the second wicket-keeper behind Zimbabwe's Andy Flower to score two centuries in the same Test match when contributing 134 and 118 in the thrilling Leeds contest that England won by five wickets and gained a new career-best rating by improving one spot to move to seventh overall on the list for Test batters.

Duckett claimed Player of the Match honours for his innings of 62 and 149, with the left-hander also obtaining a new career-best rating, jumping up five places to eighth in the updated rankings for Test batters.

Duckett's England team-



mates Ollie Pope (up three spots to 19th) and Jamie Smith (up eighth places to 27th) also made some ground on the weekly update to the rankings, while India captain Shubman Gill jumped five rungs to 20th overall following his century in the first innings of the match.

England veteran Joe Root remains the No.1 ranked Test batter, with teammate Harry Brook his closest challenger.

The drawn first Test between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh saw a host of their players make some inroads in the latest batter rankings, with Mushfiqur

Rahim leading the way, following his innings of 163 in Galle.

Rahim gained 11 spots to move to 28th for Test batters, while teammate Najmul Hossain Shanto jumps a whopping 21 places to improve to 29th on the same list after he scored a pair of tons in the same match.

There was little change on the latest rankings for Test bowlers, with India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah maintaining his place at the top of proceedings following yet another five-wicket haul in the Headingley Test.

There was some joy

for England skipper Ben Stokes, who gained three places to move up to fifth on the list for Test all-rounders following solid contributions with both bat and ball across the same Test.

There was also a few changes to the latest T20I rankings following the completion of the tri-series between Scotland, Nepal and the Netherlands that saw the hosts prevail in Glasgow.

Netherlands dasher Michael Levitt (up 16 spots to 14th) and Scotland all-rounder Brandon McMullen (up 20 rungs to equal 38th) made ground on the latest list for T20I batters, while spinner Mark Watt (up two places to 38th) made gains on the updated rankings for T20I bowlers.

There were also gains for Nepal spinner Lalit Rajbanshi, with the left-armer rising 29 places to 54th, following his four wickets across the tri-series.

West Indies, Australia lock in playing XIs for first Test

AGENCIES
BARBADOS, JUNE 25

The West Indies and Australia have locked in their playing XIs for the opening Test here that commences today.

The hosts have handed Brandon King a debut on the back of some good white-ball form, while hard-hitting batter Shai Hope returns for his first Test appearance since 2021 and will keep wickets and bat at No.6.

There is also a recall for opener John Campbell, with Shamar and Alzarri Joseph and Jayden Seales making up a three-player pace attack with some help from bowling all-rounder Justin Greaves and spinner Jomel Warrican.

New West Indies skipper Roston Chase is confident the changes to the XI will provide a more attacking style of play, as both sides get ready to commence the new ICC World Test Championship cycle.

"We're looking to play with a bit more flair and bring back that Caribbean style to the game," Chase said.

"We're just looking forward to making the Carib-



bean nation proud. I just want to ask the fans to just support the boys through and through," he said.

Australia, meanwhile, had already revealed that Sam Konstas and Josh Inglis would replace the injured Steve Smith and dropped Marnus Labuschagne for the clash, with skipper Pat Cummins confirming the batting order for the opening match of the three-game series that will see the teams battle it out for the Frank Worrell Trophy, an ICC report said.

Konstas will open alongside veteran left-hander Usman Khawaja, with Cameron Green continuing at No.3 despite a pair of failures in the recent World Test Championship Final against South Africa at Lord's.

Inglis will slot in at No.4 in Smith's usual position ahead of Travis Head and Beau Webster, while the Aussies will use the same four bowlers that featured in the Ultimate Test in London earlier this month.

That means there is no spot in the XI for back-up spinner Matt Kuhnemann, with Cummins instead deciding to stick with the three-pronged pace attack that has served the side so well during the last World Test Championship cycle.

"Coming over here with a few unknowns, that's fine, you have to think on your feet. We feel like the three quicks are better suited for this wicket," Cummins said.

Cummins said he wanted to give Green an extended run at No.3 to

provide a bit more stability to the batting line-up.

"I always like to not have too many moving parts," he said.

"We see that (Green at No. 3) as a long-term option. I think going into last week he's hitting the ball really well, he's moving really well," Cummins said.

"He had a Test match where it obviously didn't go to plan. Think he only faced three or four balls, so the message is not to look into that too much. We're really happy with where his game's placed and I dare say we'll get a decent run of number three," Cummins added.

West Indies XI: 1. Kraigg Brathwaite, 2. John Campbell, 3. Keacy Carty, 4. Brandon King, 5. Roston Chase (c), 6. Shai Hope (wk), 7. Justin Greaves, 8. Jomel Warrican, 9. Alzarri Joseph, 10. Shamar Joseph, 11. Jayden Seales

Australia XI: 1. Usman Khawaja, 2. Sam Konstas, 3. Cameron Green, 4. Josh Inglis, 5. Travis Head, 6. Beau Webster, 7. Alex Carey (wk), 8. Pat Cummins (c), 9. Mitchell Starc, 10. Nathan Lyon, 11. Josh Hazlewood.

New Zealand reveal schedule for upcoming home summer



AGENCIES
WELLINGTON, JUNE 25

New Zealand have released their schedule for the upcoming home summer, with a whopping five different teams visiting for a total of 46 days of international cricket.

The three-match ICC World Test Championship series against the West Indies in December highlights the schedule release, but the Black Caps will also host trans-Tasman rivals Australia and England in white-ball series prior to taking on the Caribbean side across all formats.

The team will host South Africa in a five-game T20I series in March just outside the expected slot for the next edition of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka, while New Zealand's women's side also host the Proteas and Zimbabwe for the first time early in 2026.

New Zealand fast bowler Kyle Jamieson is already looking forward to the busy upcoming schedule and is hoping he can continue to feature across all three formats.

"It feels like a marquee summer," he said.

"The calibre of oppo-

sition means we'll be constantly tested for the duration of the season and that's what you want as a cricketer," Jamieson said.

"It's great to have another three-Test series at home and I'm sure the fans will get in behind the Test team as they have in seasons gone by," he said.

"It's always special to play in front of a home crowd and we're hoping Kiwis will get out in force to support us once again this summer," Jamieson added.

Much of the White Ferns focus heading into the summer will be the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup in India and Sri Lanka later this year, though batter Georgia Plimmer is excited about what lies ahead in the new year, an ICC report said.

The White Ferns will host Zimbabwe for the first time across six white-ball fixtures and then have eight matches against South Africa which includes some double headers with the men's side.

"We can't wait for the international season and the chance to play in another ICC Cricket World Cup," Plimmer said.

"We want to play as

New Zealand men's fixtures:

Against Australia
Oct 1 - 1st T20I, Mount Maunganui
Oct 3 - 2nd T20I, Mount Maunganui
Oct 4 - 3rd T20I, Mount Maunganui
Against England
Oct 18 - 1st T20I, Christchurch
Oct 20 - 2nd T20I, Christchurch
Oct 23 - 3rd T20I, Auckland
Oct 26 - 1st ODI, Mount Maunganui
Oct 29 - 2nd ODI, Hamilton
Nov 1 - 3rd ODI, Wellington
Against West Indies
Nov 5 - 1st T20I, Auckland
Nov 6 - 2nd T20I, Auckland
Nov 9 - 3rd T20I, Nelson
Nov 10 - 4th T20I, Nelson
Nov 13 - 5th T20I, Dunedin
Nov 16 - 1st ODI, Christchurch
Nov 19 - 2nd ODI, Napier
Nov 22 - 3rd ODI, Hamilton
Dec 2-6 - 1st Test, Christchurch
Dec 10-14 - 2nd Test, Wellington
Dec 18-22 - 3rd Test, Mount Maunganui
Against South Africa
Mar 15 - 1st T20I, Mount Maunganui
Mar 17 - 2nd T20I, Hamilton
Mar 20 - 3rd T20I, Auckland
Mar 22 - 4th T20I, Wellington
Mar 25 - 5th T20I, Christchurch
New Zealand women's fixtures
Against Zimbabwe
Feb 25 - 1st T20I, Hamilton
Feb 27 - 2nd T20I, Hamilton
Mar 1 - 3rd T20I, Hamilton
Mar 5 - 1st ODI, Dunedin
Mar 8 - 2nd ODI, Dunedin
Mar 11 - 3rd ODI, Dunedin
Against South Africa
Apr 15 - 1st T20I, Mount Maunganui
Apr 17 - 2nd T20I, Hamilton
Apr 20 - 3rd T20I, Auckland
Apr 22 - 4th T20I, Wellington
Apr 25 - 5th T20I, Christchurch
Apr 29 - 1st ODI, Christchurch
Apr 1 - 2nd ODI, Wellington
Apr 4 - 3rd ODI, Wellington

much cricket as we can, especially in front of our home fans and it's exciting to have a 14-game home summer to prepare for," he said.

"It's great to see more

T20I double headers as they are such a great experience for teams and fans alike and it was awesome to see such strong crowds last season," Plimmer added.

Neymar renews Santos contract

AGENCIES
RIO DE JANEIRO, JUNE 25

Neymar has extended his contract with Santos until December, the Brazilian Serie A club said on Tuesday.

The 33-year-old former Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain forward returned to his boyhood club on a six-month deal in January after part-

ing ways with Saudi Pro League side Al-Hilal.

Brazil's all-time leading scorer had been linked with a move to Major League Soccer or a possible return to Europe before agreeing to remain at Santos until the end of the 2025 season.

"I made a decision and I listened to my heart," Neymar said in a statement on the club's web-

site. "Santos is not just my team, it is my home, my roots, my history and my life."

"Here I was a boy who became a man, and I am truly loved. Here I can be myself, truly happy. And it is here that I want to fulfil the dreams that are missing in my career. And nothing will stop me. I go, I come back and

I stay. Where it all began and where it will never end."

Neymar made his professional debut for Santos in 2009 and has made 243 appearances for the club, scoring 141 goals and providing 69 assists. Injuries have limited him to just 12 appearances this year for the eight-time Brazilian Serie A champions.

Taking 20 wickets is the only way to win: Gambhir

AGENCIES
LEEDS, JUNE 25

In the aftermath of India's narrow loss to England in the opening Test at Headingley, team mentor Gautam Gambhir delivered a frank and insightful assessment of the team's performance, emphasising that "taking 20 wickets is the only way to win Test matches."

"Batting runs alone can't win Tests" Gambhir, in a clear strategic message, said, "You can score 1000 runs, but unless you take 20 wickets, you don't win Test matches." He added that team selection going forward would hinge on pitch conditions and the ability to dismiss the opposition twice. "Our top priority is always 20 wickets, but the balance depends on the surface we play on."

Amid criticism of India's lower-order batting collapse, Gambhir refused to single out the tail. "It's not about blaming the tail. We lose together. Even top batters can fail. The effort is there, and they



are working hard. These are moments to learn, not point fingers," he said.

Speaking on Shubman Gill's first outing as Test captain, Gambhir said, "He showed character with the bat. Scoring a century while leading for the first time shows maturity. Captaincy needs time, and he deserves that."

India had individual brilliance in the game: five centuries - from Yashasvi Jaiswal, Gill, KL Rahul, and Rishabh Pant (two)- and a five-wicket haul from Jasprit Bumrah. But Gambhir was clear: "Performances are positive, but we play

to win. It's the result that defines the effort in Test cricket."

While India fielded an inexperienced bowling unit, Gambhir expressed confidence in their development. "They showed promise across four and a half days. We're building a pace battery for the long run. They will improve with more exposure," he said.

Rejecting the "young team" narrative, Gambhir stated, "We represent 140 crore Indians. Whether young or experienced, there are no excuses. We're here to win."

On rotation and injuries, Gambhir confirmed some players were picked as backups and workload would be managed. "We had decided some players would play selected matches. Managing fitness is key with so much cricket ahead."

On the pitch and ball shape issues during the match, Gambhir acknowledged the unpredictability but emphasised adapting to the situation. "We were in the game from Day 1 to Day 5. These things happen, but it's about how we respond."

Reiterating belief in the squad, Gambhir said, "We trust these bowlers. They are inexperienced but improving. Shardul gave us breakthroughs, Jadeja provided control, and Prasidh used bounce well. Everyone played a role."

As India heads into the second Test, Gambhir's message was simple and focused, "We take the learnings, keep believing, and move forward together. No excuses - only intent to win."

Xabi Alonso call crucial to Real Madrid move: Mastantuono

AGENCIES
SEATTLE, JUNE 25

Teenage River Plate forward Franco Mastantuono has said that new Real Madrid manager Xabi Alonso had played a major role in his decision to sign with the Spanish club.

Mastantuono is set to arrive at the Bernabeu in August after Madrid triggered his buyout clause of 63 million euros (around 72 million US dollars).

The 17-year-old revealed that a phone call with Alonso, who replaced Carlo Ancelotti as Real Madrid's manager last month, had immediately convinced him it was the right move.

"The way Xabi handled things with me was incred-



ible. I'm really grateful," Mastantuono said in an interview with DAZN on Tuesday.

"That conversation had a big impact on me. When a coach genuinely wants you, that's a huge show of trust, especially when you're leaving a club as massive as River. That's not an easy decision, but his words gave me the motiva-

tion I needed to make the leap."

Mastantuono has enjoyed a breakout season for River Plate with seven goals and four assists in 21 games across all competitions. His performances earned him a call-up to Argentina's national team, and he became the youngest player to appear in an official match for the Albi-

ceste when he featured in a World Cup qualifier against Chile earlier this month.

Despite attracting interest from several top European clubs - including newly crowned Champions League winners Paris Saint-Germain - Mastantuono said Real Madrid's offer was too good to refuse.

"It's the team that has won the most in Europe, any player wants to play there, and the fact that it's happening to me is a dream come true," he said.

Mastantuono pointed out that his current focus is on helping River Plate at the FIFA World Cup in the United States, but he is already looking forward to the new challenge.

IIT Jammu to develop Innovation & Future Technology Park

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 25

In what could contribute to the further development of Information Technology and related fields in Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu, has initiated the process to establish Innovation and Future Technology Enabled Services Park.

This was revealed during a meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo at Civil Secretariat here.

IIT Jammu mooted the idea of the Park that could serve as a single point location for technology and scientific research ecosystem. The Institute is in talks with the government of Jammu and Kashmir to work out the modalities.

The proposed Park will come up near IIT Jammu on the 200 acres of land already allotted to IIT Jammu.

While chairing the meeting, Atal Dulloo empha-



sised upon the concerned to study successful IT Park models in other parts of the country that can be replicated in Jammu and Kashmir.

He directed the officers to have in-depth study of successful models and submit a comprehensive proposal for the establishment of a state-of-the-art Innovation & Future Technology Park in Jammu and Kashmir, tailored to the unique socio-economic conditions of J&K.

Emphasizing the impor-

tance of sustainable development, he noted that the model should prioritize innovation, job creation, and infrastructure development while ensuring alignment with local resources and talent pools.

Atal Dulloo also directed the Secretary Revenue to demarcate the land that has already been allotted to IIT Jammu.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation was given that outlined the modalities for the establishment of the Park,

including land demarcation, infrastructure requirements, investment models, policy incentives, and stakeholder engagement strategies.

It was given out in the meeting that the focus will be on technology based job creation that are relevant for the next 5-7 years and the aim will be to create tangible jobs for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

It was also given out that IIT Jammu will work with government of Jammu and Kashmir and GoI in their

endeavour to create an ecosystem for socio-economic growth of Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting noted that there was lack of technology ecosystem for youth to contribute to the region and with the establishment of the Park, IT savvy students won't need to migrate to other states for employment opportunities.

It was further given out that the companies at the Park will draw strength from the trained manpower, skilled mentors and research facilities at IIT Jammu.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary Higher Education; Principal Secretary, Finance; Commissioner Secretary, I&C; Secretary Planning; Secretary, Information Technology; Dean IT, IIT Jammu; DG, Budget; CEO, JaKeGA along with other concerned officers.

Director IIM Jammu attended the meeting through video conferencing.

DC Ramban reviews implementation of HADP in district

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, JUNE 25

In a significant push to strengthen the agricultural and allied sectors in Ramban, Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alys Khan today chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) being implemented across the district.

The meeting aimed at accelerating the execution of various components under HADP to enhance farmers' income, promote sustainable practices and boost rural livelihoods.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of ensuring equitable and balanced development across all panchayats. He directed all line departments to intensify efforts to achieve 100% coverage of HADP and other schemes at the grassroots level ensuring uniform and inclusive development across the district.

He also highlighted the need for the active participation of farmers in the implementation process, stressing that their awareness and engagement are key to the success of HADP.

The CAHO and District Nodal Officer HADP, informed that 10,187 applications were received on the Kissan Sathi Portal, out of which 8,704 applications have been approved, and 1,484 units established. Additionally, 3,257



farmers have been registered, with 2,627 course enrollments and 1,979 courses completed on the Daksh Kissan Portal.

The CHO informed that 7,515 applications were received under various agriculture schemes, out of which 6,925 were approved by the District Level Committee while 407 were rejected and 183 are currently pending. The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned officers to review the reasons for application rejections and ensure that proper guidance shall be provided to farmers to provide them benefit of the schemes.

Focusing on the horticulture sector, the DC directed CHO to identify potential areas for fruit cultivation, ensure quality production, scale up

output, and mandated the enrollment of at least 7,500 farmers on the portals while emphasizing enhanced local agricultural production to address unemployment.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the Chief Planning Officer to compile daily reports on HADP implementation and monitor the progress meticulously.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Shakeeb Rather, CAHO and District Nodal Officer (HADP) Dr. Rajesh Arora, CAO Vinay Jandial, DSHO Dr. Shabir Khan, CHO Rajinder Kumar, Area Marketing Officer Tashin Iqbal Chib, Assistant Directors of Fisheries Attahullah Khan, District Resource Officer Sanjay Rohmetra and other concerned officers.

Kishtwar Adm organises awareness camp under Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gramin Utkarsh Abhiyan at panchayat Tipri



J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, JUNE 25

In its continued effort to promote inclusive development and ensure efficient service delivery to tribal communities, the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gramin Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) celebrated Day 11 of its awareness campaign with a successful multi-departmental IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) outreach camp at Patshalla, Panchayat Tipri, Block Drabshalla, District Kishtwar.

The camp witnessed the active participation of DDC Member Bounjwah Aemna Banoo, BDO Bounjwah, along with other senior government officials, further strengthening the collective push for better service access for tribal populations.

The 15-day IEC awareness campaign is aimed at fostering both social and economic upliftment within the tribal communities.

The camp brought together key departments including Health, Agriculture, Education,

ICDS, Employment, Rural Development, and Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA).

These departments set up dedicated booths where they provided crucial information, scheme registration assistance, application support, and distributed materials in the local languages.

This initiative was designed to ensure that members of the tribal community, particularly those from remote areas, could directly engage with the services offered by the government. Officials were present to address queries, offer guidance and provide immediate solutions with clear timelines, emphasizing transparency and a proactive approach to service delivery.

One of the key highlights of the camp was the ongoing dialogue between field-level officers and local residents.

The camp has received widespread appreciation from the tribal community, with local residents commending the district administration's commitment to outreach and its people-centric approach.

DC Kishtwar chairs meeting to finalize arrangements for Sarthal Devi Ji Yatra



J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, JUNE 25

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma today presided over a meeting with various line departments and religious representatives to discuss and finalize the necessary arrangements for the upcoming Sarthal Devi Ji Yatra.

During the meeting, the Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Management Council informed the chair that the annual Sarthal Devi Yatra, in honor of Shri Ashtadashbhujia Mata Sarthal Devi Ji, will take place on 03 July and 04th, 2023.

The Shobha Yatra will commence from Gauri Shankar Mandir Sarkoot at 2 PM on July 03 2025, following the conclusion of the Hawan (religious ceremony) and Puran Aahuti (offering).

Emphasizing the importance of timely arrangements, Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar urged all relevant line departments to ensure that all necessary preparations are made ahead of time.

Police authorities assured the meeting that foolproof security measures will be implemented, starting from the Gauri Shankar Mandir and extending along the route to Sarthal Mata Bhawan, on both days of the Yatra.

To ensure the successful conduct of the Yatra, Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned line departments to make necessary arrangements, including uninterrupted water supply and water tankers, power supply, installation of high mast lights at Sarthal Bhawan and other temples,

healthcare facilities at the specially established Medical Camp at Bhawan, provision of an ambulance with medical staff and allied medicines, and the placement of fire tenders for emergency response.

Furthermore, ARTO Kishtwar was instructed to ensure an adequate number of vehicles with valid technical fitness certificates, as well as the preparation of alternative routes within the town to mitigate congestion and traffic.

Assistant Commissioner Development, District Panchayat Officer, and Municipal Council Authorities were specifically tasked with maintaining cleanliness and ensuring the upkeep of streets, lanes and drains under their respective jurisdictions to guarantee the safety and well-being of the pilgrims.

The executing agencies responsible for road maintenance were directed to conduct necessary repairs and upkeep on the roads from Hasti to Sarthal.

ACD Kishtwar was entrusted with the responsibility of installing dustbins at the venue and taking appropriate measures to provide sanitary and toilet facilities at Bhawan.

The DC also directed the AD FCS&CA and the DO Food Safety Kishtwar to check the rates of shops around the temple areas.

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar appealed to both the local residents and pilgrims to uphold the Religious sanctity and environmental serenity of the

region by strictly adhering to the government's guidelines, including the avoidance of plastic usage.

ADC Udhampur reviews flood preparedness measures in district

J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, JUNE 25

In a proactive measure in advance to deal with any eventuality of flash floods, landslides occurrence during the monsoon season, Additional Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Prem Singh chaired a meeting with officers from various line

departments to review and discuss their flood preparedness strategies.

During the meeting, the ADC emphasized the importance of inter-departmental coordination in managing emergencies effectively. He stressed the need for robust flood prevention measures in vulnerable areas.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

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