

DENGUE WARNING SIGNS

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

Watch out for dengue warning signs!

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

- Headache and continuous fever above 102°F
- Joint and muscle pain
- Diarrhea
- Present vomiting
- A rapid rise in temperature
- Disorientation
- Steady run, pain or rash, bleed or vomit, urine or stool
- Redness

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

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Successful conduct of Amarnath Yatra will restore confidence; 85000 pilgrims have confirmed their participation: LG Sinha



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 26 (KNO)

Asserting that forthcoming Amarnath Yatra, slated to commence on July 3, will restore confidence of the people, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that fool-proof security arrangements have been put in place to ensure safe and secure pilgrimage. Addressing a press conference here, LG Sinha, according to the news agency said that 85000 pilgrims have registered for the Yatra and many more are expected to

participate through on the spot registration process. He said that while last year witnessed a record-breaking turnout of over 5.12 lakh pilgrims, the registration figures this year witnessed decline post April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. "Till April 22, more than 2.36 lakh people had registered for the Yatra. However, after the Pahalgam incident, the numbers dropped," he said. LG Sinha expressed optimism about the turnout improving this year. "More than 85,000

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Ahead of Amarnath Yatra, LG Sinha chairs All Party Meet at Raj Bhawan



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 26 (KNO)

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday met the political leaders of Jammu and Kashmir,

including the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to discuss the forthcoming Amarnath Yatra, slated to commence from July 3. According to the details available with the news

agency several leaders from different political parties were invited by the Raj Bhawan to attend the All-Party Meeting to discuss the 38-day

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Want end to statehood discussions: CM Omar



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 26 (KNO)

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday said that the discussions on restoration of statehood must end to fulfill the demands of people.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a special national integration camp organised by the Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh NCC Directorate in Srinagar, Omar, as per the news agency, said, "It is good to see the discussions taking

place on the restoration of statehood. But, we want the discussions on statehood to end so that the people will get what they have been demanding." Moreover, the Chief Minister also

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Muharram processions will be allowed like last year: LG Sinha

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26 (KNO)

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that Muharram processions will be allowed

along all the routes through which these were permitted in Srinagar last year.

Replying to a query of a reporter here, LG Sinha, according to the news

agency said, "Muharram processions will be allowed like last year."

It may be recalled that in 2023 after a 34-year ban, LG Sinha led

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Operation Bihali: JeM terrorist killed in Basantgarh encounter

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 26 (KNO)

A terrorist of Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit being tracked for past one year was killed in an encounter with security forces on Thursday, while three of his aides remained trapped in a forest area in Udhampur District, officials told news agency.



"The group of four terrorists was being tracked for a year. They were

confronted by a joint search party of the army and police in the remote Bihali area of Basantgarh in the morning," the officials said, adding that the reinforcements were rushed in and a massive search operation was launched despite inclement weather.

The Indian Army's White Knight Corps,

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No exchange of traditional Shakkar, Sharbat with Pak on historical Chamliyal mela at IB

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 26 (KNO)

The historical annual Chamliyal mela on the International Border in J&K's Ramgarh sector was celebrated without the exchange of traditional Shakkar (soil) and Sharbat (water) from the shrine of Baba Dalip Singh with the neighbouring country Pakistan. According to the details available with the news agency thousands of devotees thronged the famous shrine of Baba Chamliyal for an annual fair today, but there was no traditional exchange of "Shakkar and Sharbat" with Pakistan for the eighth consecutive year.

The annual cross-border annual congregation, once seen as a symbol of

spiritual harmony and people-to-people ties falling victim to strained relations between India and Pakistan.

The participation of Pakistani nation including official delegations was discontinued in 2018 following sniper fire from the Pakistani side at Chamliyal BOP in Ramgarh sector that claimed the lives of four BSF soldiers, including an Assistant Commandant, just days before the mela.

Since then, the ceremony at the zero line, which involved the exchange of sacred offerings between the two forces, has remained suspended.

"There hasn't been any formal communication between Pakistan Rangers and the BSF on this year's Chamliyal Mela," said a

senior BSF official. As no delegation came from Pakistan, there was no exchange of Chhadar, Shakkar and Sharbat between the two sides, he added.

Pertinently, the Chamliyal Mela commemorates Baba Dalip Singh Manhas, a spiritual guide whose shrine has served as a symbol of faith for over 325 years. Traditionally, BSF officials would receive a chadar and sweets from their Pakistani counterparts, and in return, hand over the sacred "Shakkar and Sharbat", believed to cure skin diseases.

Until 1971, Pakistani devotees were allowed to visit the shrine. In later years, they would gather across the zero line in large numbers just to

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Cloudburst triggers flash floods, teenager among 3 dead, six rescued in Jammu region

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 26

At least three people including a teenager were killed and six others rescued in flash floods triggered due to cloudburst and heavy rains in various regions of Jammu.

Officials said that heavy rains and cloudburst were reported today in parts of Rajouri, Poonch, Kathua and Doda districts due to which three people including a teenager were killed.

They said that 14-year-old Shaqafat Ali and his cousin Safeena Kousar (11) were washed away in flash floods in Sialsui Mou village of Kalakote of Rajouri district when they were grazing cattle.

Officials said that the rescue team of State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) also recovered the body of one Basharat Hussain (32)



who drowned on June 23 while bathing in Doda district.

Meanwhile, a ten year old girl namely Saima, was also rescued and shifted to hospital in Naushera.

Officials added that some persons trapped in Ujh river in Kathua and in Poonch were also rescued.

They got trapped when

the water level in the river swollen due to heavy rains in the higher reaches and the plains.

Meanwhile the administration has banned swimming, bathing, fishing, and school picnics near water bodies.

Jammu and Kashmir MeT has forecast early rain showers to affect parts of during next 24 hours.

Due to active monsoon conditions, heavy rain showers are expected in parts of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly Jammu Region during the next 24 hours, said an official.

He said that there is a risk of cloudbursts and intense showers and may lead to localized flash flooding in a few vulnerable spots.

ACB arrests mining official in bribery case in Srinagar

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) today arrested a Mineral Supervisor of the Geology and Mining Department in Srinagar, for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 15,000.

According to an official statement from the ACB, Basharat Habib, Mineral Supervisor of Lasjan-Rajbagh Sector was arrested following a written complaint alleging that he had demanded a bribe in exchange for permitting the lifting of minor minerals, specifically sand.

"After discreet verification confirmed the allegations, an FIR under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended), was registered at Police Station ACB Srinagar.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

>>> 'International Day Against Drug Abuse'

14 lakh & counting: J&K's drug crisis reaches 'lose-a-generation' stage

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 26 (KNO)

As Jammu & Kashmir battles a growing substance abuse crisis, social activists and experts are calling for a time-bound, comprehensive drug de-addiction and youth rehabilitation policy, warning that without urgent intervention, the region risks losing an entire generation to addiction.

According to the Parliamentary Standing Com-

mittee on Social Justice and Empowerment, over 13.5 lakh people in J&K are drug abusers, including 1.68 lakh minors aged between 10 and 17, and among them, around 95,000 are Opioid users.

As per the report, accessed by the news agency, among 1,68700 children drug abusers, 8,000 are using cannabis, 95,000 opioids, 19,000 sedatives, 100 cocaine, 400 Amphetamine Stimulants, 46,000 inhalants

and 200 hallucinogens.

It further reveals that 11,80,000 adults of the 18-75 age group are drug abusers and among them, 3,54,000 are using alcohol, 1,36,000 cannabis, 4,47,000 opioids, 1,51,000 sedatives, 89,000 inhalants and 1000 each of cocaine, stimulant and hallucinogens.

Firdous Ahmad, a Srinagar-based social activist working with youth affected by addiction, told KNO: "In some areas,

addiction has reached to extreme level as every home is either directly or indirectly affected. We are seeing children as young as 12 being brought to counselling."

He believes that while awareness has grown, services have not. "We now have enough rehabilitation centres, but most of them are understaffed, and facilities need to be upgraded so that patients can be admitted there," he said.

A de-addiction counsel-

lor in south Kashmir said stigma is a huge barrier. "Families hide their children's addiction out of shame. By the time help is sought, the child is already dependent. We need more school-level interventions and counsellors in every educational institution," he said.

The National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR), launched in 2018, aims to support awareness, treatment, and rehabilitation

nationwide. But social workers in J&K argue that the scheme's implementation on the ground remains patchy.

The NAPDDR also includes skill development, awareness programs, and livelihood support for ex-addicts - measures activists say could be game-changers if properly executed in J&K.

Beyond the numbers, the human cost of drug abuse is staggering. Rising suicide rates linked to

substance use, increased crime, and breakdowns in families are clear indicators of the damage being done. The use of cocaine, amphetamines, and hallucinogens is rising, while tobacco usage stands at 20.8%, the sixth highest in India.

The activists, professionals, and political leaders unanimously urge the J&K administration to formulate a dedicated Drug Policy, focusing on expansion of rehabilita-

tion and mental health infrastructure, School and college-based intervention programmes, community-level awareness drives, livelihood support and skill-building for recovering addicts and strict control on pharmaceutical drug misuse

Experts said that with around 14 lakh drug abusers, de-addiction and counselling are major challenges, and the government needs to think

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Doda observes International Day Against Drug Abuse amid awareness activities, cultural events

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JUNE 26

The District Administration Doda organised a special event in the Community Hall Doda to observe the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, featuring events centered on this year's theme "The evidence is clear: invest in prevention. Break the cycle. #StopOrganizedCrime."

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Harvinder Singh was the Chief Guest, and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sandeep Kumar Mehta was the Guest of Honour. School students, civil society members, representatives from NGOs and government officials formed part of the awareness event.

The program started with a welcome speech by District Social Welfare



Officer Tariq Qazi, who shared the efforts being made through awareness campaigns to encourage grassroots level community participation in the fight against the Drug abuse.

Students delivered thought provoking speeches about the harmful effects of drugs and how youth can play a decisive role in fighting the menace.

Cultural presentations by artists from the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, delivered important messages

against drug abuse through music and dance.

A short film titled "Nasha Mukh Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan" was screened to highlight the looming threat of drugs on the society and the need to eradicate the menace from the society.

In his address, the DC highlighted the importance of the day and shared the steps being taken by the administration to eliminate the menace of drug abuse. He called on everyone, especially young people

and civil society members, to work together to make Doda a drug-free district.

SSP Doda also spoke at the event and urged people to be alert, spread awareness, and support the cause.

Many officers including ACD, Executive Officer MC, Deputy CMO ETO and the Nodal Officer of the Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) also took part in the event.

The program ended with a display of paintings made by two students of Parisha and Palash on the theme of Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan. Both students were awarded trophies by DC and SSP Doda for their creative work.

The day was a powerful reminder of the importance of preventing drug abuse and working together as a community to stop it.

DAJGUA benefit saturation camp held at Panchayat Chounwry Gandoh



JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JUNE 26

As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan, a comprehensive awareness and outreach camp was organized today at Panchayat Chounwry-Gandoh.

The campaign was carried out in close supervision of District AYUSH Officer Dr. Ajay Kumar Tikoo, with the active participation of field-level health institutions.

The staff of Ayush Health & Wellness Centre (AHWC) Kota coordinated the camp attended by a good number of tribal residents from the adjoining area, reflecting communi-

ty participation in the government's welfare activities. During the camp, Ayush medicines were given free of cost to beneficiaries for different ailments including seasonal infections, musculo-skeletal pain, and general wellness. A total of 65 beneficiaries availed medical consultations and medicines during the camp.

The team from AHWC Kota also spread awareness about the preventive and holistic benefits of AYUSH therapies. The event concluded with a vote of thanks and a commitment to continue such outreach services in other far-flung areas of the district.

Power Shutdown rescheduled for 33 KV Mattan-Pahalgam line

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

According to the Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL, in order to carry out the stabilization of 33 KV Mattan-Pahalgam line for ensuring reliable power supply during SANJY-2025, the shutdown of 33 KV Mattan-Pahalgam line has been rescheduled.

In this connection, 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Salia, Hutmura, Sallar, Aishmuqam, Batkoot and GIS/ AIS Pahalgam shall remain off while power supply to Pahalgam, Batkoot, Aishmuqam, Seer, Saller, Akad, Hutmura, Salia and adjoining areas will be affected from 08:00 AM to 02:00 PM on 27 & 30 June, 2025.

KVK Budgam convenes 12th Scientific Advisory Committee meeting

JI NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, JUNE 26

Under the aegis of SKUAST-K, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Budgam, convened its 12th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting today at KVK Budgam campus.

SAC meeting serves as a vital platform for reviewing the progress of KVK activities and aligning the upcoming action plan with the real-time needs of the farming community in the district.

The 12th SAC meeting was presided over by Prof. (Dr.) Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension, SKUAST-K.

In her address, she lauded the efforts of KVK Budgam in building the capacity of farmers and empowering rural youth. She emphasized the importance of close coordination of KVK with line departments, promoting



FPOs and cooperative models for sustainable agricultural development.

She said, KVK Budgam is playing a transformational role in farmer empowerment, innovation transfer, and rural development.

Initiatives like FPOs need to be scaled up as sustainable models for self-reliant agriculture and stressed the need to enhance market linkages, adopt climate-resilient practices, and ensure that scientific advisories reach the grass-

roots level in real time.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue Budgam, Afroza Bano representing district administration praised the efforts of KVK Budgam in reaching farmer communities in far flung areas of district.

Prof. Lyaqat Ali I/C KVK Coordination Cell Directorate of Extension SKUAST-K interacted with officials of line department and progressive farmers for feedback. Dr. Bilal A. Lone, Prof.

& Head, KVK Budgam, presented the Action Taken Report of the previous SAC meeting, the Annual Progress Report for 2024-25, and the proposed Action Plan for 2025-26. He highlighted the major achievements of KVK in technology dissemination, farmer training, demonstration of improved agricultural practices, promotion of farmer producer organizations (FPOs), and youth engagement in agriculture and allied sector entrepreneurship.

The meeting also witnessed active participation from officers/officials of line departments, Associate Director Research, DARS Budgam, heads from KVKs of Kashmir division, DDM NABARD, FPO representatives and progressive

farmers.

On this occasion, manual on 'Chemical analysis of soil' and booklets on 'Challenges and Constraints of Farmers Producer Organization,' 'Trout Farming: ibtidai-haurmahireenkeliyemli-rehnuma' were released by the dignitaries.

Officers from line departments and NABARD addressed the gathering and shared their departmental initiatives, success stories, and collaborative plans with KVK for enhancing farmers income and productivity.

Farmers from different parts of the district also participated in the meeting and shared their experiences as feedback.

The session concluded with an interactive feedback round, leading to actionable recommendations for enhanced community impact and agricultural sustainability.

DDC reviews implementation of Credit-Linked Schemes in Kishtwar district



JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, JUNE 26

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pankaj Kumar Sharma convened a comprehensive review meeting today to assess the progress of Agriculture and allied sector credit-linked schemes in the district. The meeting focused on

case sanctioning and disbursement status of key schemes, including Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Enterprises (PM-FME), PM-KISAN, Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), among others. The Lead District Manager (LDM) apprised the DC of the current status and progress.

The DC Kishtwar directed the LDM to organize camps under the Convergence Plan for door-to-door awareness and services delivery. These camps will be organized in coordination with banks and relevant departments to bring services closer to the people. The DC directed the line departments and banks to spread mass awareness and encourage the youth to set up agro-based enterprises by availing Government schemes. He also instructed the departments to inform beneficiaries about the formalities, benefits, and other relevant aspects of the schemes.

The meeting was attended by CAO Kushal Chandel; CHO Sajid Mustafa; LDM Harsh Rawal; representatives from financial institutions and stakeholder departments.

Srinagar District admin organizes awareness programme on International day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

To mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the District Administration Srinagar today organized an awareness programme at Government College of Education here today.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo was the Chief Guest of the programme aimed to raise awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and deterrent measures undertaken against drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner laid emphasis on effective awareness generation against drug abuse to sensitize people par-

ticularly the youth about its detrimental impact on individuals, families and society. He called for a compassionate and coordinated approach involving deterrence, rehabilitation, and sustained awareness campaign.

The DC emphasized the need to address drug abuse at the grassroots level, advocating for a compassionate approach in dealing with those affected from addiction.

During the seminar, elaborate discussion on the NDPS Act and its enforcement in curbing illicit trafficking, importance of early identification and timely recovery interventions in combating substance abuse was emphasised.

Later, the DC felicitated

the meritorious students for their outstanding contributions in anti drugs awareness campaign. The initiative was the part of ongoing Drugs Free Jammu and Kashmir campaign reaffirming the collective commitment to "Say No to Drugs" and to work together towards a healthier, happier and drug-free society.

Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, District Social Welfare Officer, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad, Professor at IMHANS, Dr. Ashraf Suhas, Government College of Education, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Syed Sleet Shah, Dr. Nazir Ahmad Bhat, Head, Department of Psychology, Amar Singh College, Altaf Paul, Staff and Students of the College attended the event.

Street Play on Malaria Awareness organised at Govt Hospital Sarwal

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

The Directorate of Health Services Jammu, in collaboration with the Department of Information and Public Relations, Jammu, today organized a malaria awareness programme at Government Hospital, Sarwal, as part of its ongoing public health awareness campaign.

To disseminate awareness about prevention and control of malaria, a street play (Nukkad Natak) was presented by the artists of the Cultural Unit, Department of Information and Public Relations, Jammu. The play used powerful dialogue, drama, and relatable characters to educate the public about vector-borne diseases, especially malaria, and how simple precautions can prevent its spread.

The event was attended by the State Malariaologist Dr. D. J. Raina, who addressed the audience and emphasized the importance of cleanliness, use of mosquito nets, and timely medical attention in controlling malaria. He also urged people to eliminate stagnant water sources around their homes and surroundings which serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

The programme was attended by the Medical



Superintendent Dr. Sunil Kailoo, Doctors, Medical staff, ASHA workers, and patients, all of whom appreciated the creative and effective method of awareness employed by the Department. The street play spread the key messages in an effective and engaging manner, especially

among the visiting patients and local community members present at the hospital.

The programme was conducted under the directions of Joint Director Information Jammu, Deepak Dubey and under the supervision of Cultural Officer Jammu Mukesh Kumar Sharma.

Baramulla observes 'International Day against Drug Abuse' with awareness event at KU-North Campus Delina



JI NEWS SERVICE
BARAMULLA, JUNE 26

District administration Baramulla today organised a vibrant awareness programme at Kashmir University North Campus Delina to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

The event was held under the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan and aligned with this year's global theme "Break the Cycle". #StopOrganized-Crime.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, was the chief guest, while Senior Superintendent of Police Baramulla, Gurinderpal Singh, attended as the guest of honour. The event witnessed participation from students, officers of various departments, and civil society members.

Addressing the gathering, DC called on youth

to take the lead in raising awareness against substance abuse. He stressed that collective efforts from families, educational institutions, and communities are vital to building a drug-free society. He also appreciated the contributions of volunteers and organisations working in the field of de-addiction and prevention.

SSP highlighted ongoing enforcement efforts to dismantle drug networks and urged citizens, particularly the youth, to stay vigilant and cooperate with authorities. He reiterated the importance of community involvement in both prevention and intervention.

Programme featured a signature wall, plantation drive, selfie points, and the screening of an awareness video developed by the Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR).

District Admin Udhampur observes International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, JUNE 26

To mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, District Administration Udhampur, in collaboration with Department of Social Welfare, today organized an impressive program to sensitize the public, especially youth about the ill effects of drug abuse and the importance of a drug-free society.

The event commenced with inauguration of a signature campaign by Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai and flagging off an awareness rally.

More than 900 people including PLVs, representatives from Department of Youth Sports and Services, Health, Social Welfare, Poshan, school and colleges and members of



civil society attended the event.

The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, youth volunteers, officials and civil society members, all raising slogans and carrying placards to spread the message of Nasha Mukta Bharat. The event also featured captivating cultural performances including Nukkad Natak, a thought-provoking skit on Nasha Mukta and folk songs on drug addiction and the need for collec-

tive action.

Addressing the gathering, the DC emphasized the importance of creating a safe and supportive environment for the youth both at home and in society. She underlined the role of families in maintaining friendly and open communication with children to detect and prevent drug abuse at an early stage. She further urged the youth to actively engage in recreational and extracurricular activities in addition to their academic

pursuits to reduce mental stress and stay away from harmful influences.

Stressing on the need for collaborative responsibility, the DC called upon the public to act as Brand Ambassadors in the fight against drug abuse by reporting instances of drug consumption and trafficking to the authorities so that timely and appropriate action can be taken. DC appealed to everyone to take a firm pledge to neither indulge in drugs themselves nor allow others around them to fall into the trap of substance abuse. Department of Social Welfare felicitated all the participants from school and colleges as well as youth who had participated in month long run up events to International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit trafficking.

Distt admin Pulwama organises mega awareness event on World Drug Day

JI NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, JUNE 26

District administration Pulwama, in collaboration with the District Social Welfare office, today organised a mega event at Government Degree College Pulwama to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (World Drug Day).

The event focused on raising awareness about drug abuse and the need for community-level prevention.

Resource persons shared insights on the current situation of substance abuse and highlighted the importance of early interventions. They stressed that prevention is both cost-effective and essential for public health.

On the occasion, medical experts spoke about the health risks associated with



drug abuse and underlined the importance of timely treatment and counseling. They also discussed the role of awareness in preventing addiction among youth.

An interactive session was also held, where participants took part in discussions and activities aimed at encouraging a drug-free lifestyle.

Besides, a collective pledge was also taken by the participants and stakeholders, affirming their

resolve to build a drug-free and healthy environment in their respective communities.

The event was attended by the officials from the Department of Social Welfare, staff of District Mission Coordinator (Mission Shakti), Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), ASHAs, Self Help Group (SHG) members, while students from various colleges and youth also participated in the programme.

Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking-2025

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

To mark the International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking 2025, a marathon was organised by ETI Nagrota to generate awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to promote a healthy and drug-free style among the public.

The marathon was flagged off jointly by the Deputy Excise Commissioner (Executive) Sanjay Bhat and Deputy Excise Commissioner (Accounts & Audit) Tinna Mahajan with additional charge of Principal ETI Nagrota in presence of Excise & Taxation officers, trainees of the institute and staff of the Excise Department.

DHSJ reviews progress of ABHIM works in remote blocks of District Kishtwar

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar conducted a 2 day tour of District Kishtwar to ascertain status of Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (ABHIM) Scheme that aims to strengthen the health care infrastructure with newest medical facilities.

The DHS visited Sub District Hospital Atholi Padder, where he took a detailed tour of all sections of the hospital and interacted with doctors and paramedical staff. He also reviewed the preparedness for the upcoming Machail Yatra. Several public delegations led by the local DDC Councillor

met him and projected local demands. The DHS also visited AAM Gulabgarh Padder and took stock of health facilities available.

Later, the DHS inspected the patient care services at NTPHC Sohail Padder, PHC Keeru and interacted with doctors, paramedical staff and the public of the area. Afterward the DHS visited NTPHC Suzana Palmar to review the progress of work on the upcoming Block Public Health Unit (BPHU).

Earlier, on way to District Kishtwar, the DHS inspected the progress of work on BPHU at CHC Batote. The ABHIM Scheme aims to fill critical gaps in health infrastructure, surveillance and research.

Ramban Observes International Day Against Drug Abuse

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, JUNE 26

The District Administration Ramban, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department and other line departments organized a comprehensive awareness programme in the Conference Hall, Maitra to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The programme aimed to raise awareness about the ill effects of substance abuse and promote a drug-free society.

Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan was the Chief Guest at the event. The programme was also graced by Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak, ACR Shokat Hayat Matoo, ACP Mohd Ashfaq, CMO Dr. Kamal Je Zadu, along with Tehsildars, BDOs, TSWO, doctors, officials from the Social Welfare Department and students from various schools and ITI Ramban.



Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized that drug abuse is a grave threat to individuals, families, and society, with the potential to cripple the future of generations. He called for mission-mode efforts involving all sections of society to combat this menace. The DC further highlighted that the District Administration has already launched intensified anti-drug campaigns at district and panchayat levels, aimed at fostering community participation in eliminating drugs abuse from the grassroots.

The ADC, in his remarks, stressed the role of awareness, counseling,

and public participation in building a drug-free society. He urged citizens to utilize the National De-addiction Helpline 14446 for assistance.

Earlier, the programme began with an anti-drug pledge. The participants resolved to fight against drug abuse and build a healthier, addiction-free community.

Resource persons from different departments delivered talks on the psychological, physical, and social consequences of drug abuse, as well as prevention strategies and rehabilitation options. Medical experts elaborated on the stages of addiction and the importance of early intervention.

DC Srinagar reviews progress in implementation of HADP & other schemes of Agriculture Production Department in the District

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

In order to review the progress of various sectors under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) in the District, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex here today.

Besides, Additional District Development Commissioner, Rifat Aftab and Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, the meeting was attended by Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, District Sericulture Officer, AD Director Fisheries, Srinagar and other concerned

At the outset, Deputy Commissioner was given a brief appraisal on the progress under HADP by the respective Depart-



ments in the District aimed to increase productivity, strengthening value addition chains, development of allied sectors like fisheries, floriculture and sericulture and improving farmer outreach.

On the occasion, the DC instructed all the stakeholder Departments to compile a comprehensive data of all registered farm operating families in the district as per the laid down guidelines under the scheme. He stressed on adapting structured framework for tracking and managing the progress of various projects within the HADP.

The DC asked Officers to implement the scheme

with focus on HADP performance metrics to track and evaluate the progress and effectiveness of the programme to achieve saturation under HADP to achieve holistic & sustainable agricultural development.

The DC directed the concerned Officers to intensify efforts to bridge the existing gaps and ensure maximum coverage of eligible farmers under the HADP in Srinagar District. He asked the Departments to lay emphasis on streamlining the application and verification processes to avoid delays in benefit disbursement.

District Administration Kishtwar observes Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking



JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, JUNE 26

To commemorate the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the District Administration Kishtwar organized a grand programme marking the culmination of a 26-day-long IEC campaign aimed at educating and mobilizing the community especially the youth against the menace of drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

The event, held under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner, Pankaj Kumar Sharma featured a series of impactful activities including thought-provoking speeches by students, a street play, and painting competition, focusing on the theme of substance abuse prevention.

Over 200 School Students from across the district delivered moving performances, demonstrating the growing involvement of the younger generation in social causes and their commitment to fostering a drug-free society.

Chief Guest Assistant Commissioner Revenue Idrees Lone underscored the importance of sustained awareness campaigns and highlighted the critical role of community collaboration in eradicating drug-related issues from society. District Social Welfare Officer Zubair Ahmed, delivered the welcome address.

The event concluded with a solemn pledge, wherein all participants vowed to contribute positively to build a healthier and addiction-free future.

District Admin Rajouri scales up preparedness for monsoon season

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, JUNE 26

In view of the ongoing monsoon season and the advisory of inclement weather, Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma today chaired a meeting in his office chamber to review the preparedness of the district administration for any eventualities arising due to heavy rains, flash floods, and landslides.

To ensure public safety, the Deputy Commissioner directed that no movement shall be allowed towards picnic spots such as waterfalls, rivers, nallahs, and other water bodies during this period. He further instructed that necessary steps be taken to shift people residing near vulnerable water bodies to safer locations to prevent any loss of life or property.

Highlighting the need for prompt response in case of road blockages, DC Rajouri instructed to keep the requisite machinery in a state of readiness on the National Highway and other key roads for immediate road clearance. He directed the BRO, PWD,



and PMGSY to augment preparedness for the maintenance and swift restoration of the roads, besides identifying alternate routes.

In view of possible medical emergencies, the DC directed the Health Department to ensure adequate availability of essential medicines in all hospitals, including anti-snake venom, to tackle any health contingencies that may arise due to floods or snake bites.

To strengthen coordination and ensure round-the-clock monitoring, the Deputy Commissioner instructed all ADCs, ACR, and SDMs to establish control rooms at tehsil and sub-division levels and maintain close coordination with the district-level control room already set up in the DC Office. He also directed them to liaise with local police and security

agencies in their jurisdictions for timely response and rescue operations.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of effective communication and instructed that alerts and advisories be disseminated through public representatives, Numberdars, Chowkidars, and other grassroots-level functionaries to keep the public informed and vigilant.

The meeting was attended by SSP Gaurav Sikarwar; ADC Chander Prakash; SE PWD; SE Irrigation and other district and sectoral officers who participated in the meeting through virtual mode.

The District Administration Rajouri has urged the public to strictly adhere to safety advisories and avoid unnecessary movement in flood-prone areas during the ongoing monsoon season.

DC reviews progress of Tourism Development initiatives in Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JUNE 26

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal today chaired a comprehensive meeting to review the progress of promotional activities and infrastructure development in the tourism sector in the district.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed appraisal of the physical and financial progress of ongoing works being executed by the Tourism Department, Poonch Development Authority (PDA) and the Public Works Department (R&B) in the three subdivisions of Poonch, Surankote and Mendhar.

The meeting focused on key developmental initiatives including the establishment of new Tourist Reception Centres (TRCs), Eco Parks, Tourism Parks, Children Parks, and the beautification of promi-



nent tourist destinations. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for a strong and sustainable tourism infrastructure to boost

footfall, generate livelihood opportunities, and contribute to the local economy.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.-56-2025-26-ADEN-JUC Date: 25.06.2025 Sr.DEN-III/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.irps.gov.in with closing date-17/07/2025 up to 15:00 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 tenders, 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 only payment modes available on www.irps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.irps.gov.in.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
Open	Works	Single Packet System	
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time	
24.06.2025	03.07.2025	17.07.2025/15:00 Hrs.	
S.No. :1	Tender No. 56-2025-26-ADEN-JUC		
Details of Tender: Upgradation/Improvement of Kartarpur (KRE) Goods shed under ADEN/JUC.			
Advised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
5,68,18,779.86/-	4,34,100.00/-	60 Days	06 Months
Similar nature of work: "Any civil work other than track work"			
Note1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.			
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE			1918/2025

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Successful conduct...

pilgrims have confirmed that they are coming. There are also several calls being received now for on-spot registration. I am hopeful that a large number of devotees will still participate," he said.

The LG said, "There is no doubt that the terror incident affected the environment across Jammu and Kashmir. However, I am hopeful that the successful conduct of the Yatra will help restore confidence and improve the situation."

On the security front, LG Sinha, as per KNO, reassured that comprehensive arrangements are in place. "Security has been reviewed thoroughly on both the Pahalgam and Baltal routes. All risk factors have been analyzed. We have made every effort to strengthen the security landscape," he said. "The security grid has been strengthened, multi-layer security is in place and Army, CAPFs, J&K Police have ensured all necessary measures for a safe pilgrimage."

In view of the sensitive security situation, the administration has also decided to limit helicopter services for the Yatra. "Only around 8% of pilgrims used helicopters in the past. Given the prevailing circumstances, restricting helicopter services is a precautionary step," LG Sinha said.

He also informed that detailed guidelines for pilgrims would be issued shortly, and weather forecasts are being closely monitored to ensure safe movement. "Health-care facilities have been significantly enhanced along the route. Power and water supplies have also been improved by the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also urged the pilgrims to travel in the designated convoy from Jammu to Srinagar and vice-versa. "It will make the travel easy and comfortable," he added.

The Lieutenant Governor said that an atmosphere of spiritual fervour has filled the air at Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra base camps and Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB) has made preparations for all essential facilities including movement, lodging, electricity, water, sanitation, communication and health of the pilgrims.

LISTS SIGNIFICANT SASB ACHIEVEMENTS

Listing the significant achievements of the SASB in the last two years in creating pilgrims-centric facilities, LG Sinha said, "Previously narrow and steep Yatra tracks along both the routes have been widened to around 12 feet in most of the stretches. Kalimata stretch, which was previously very narrow and with steep gradient, has been widened to almost 12 feet, with much gentler slope. Safer Yatra tracks with stronger safety handrails all along whole of Baltal track and 20+ km on vulnerable stretches on Pahalgam track," he said.

Asked whether these are motorable tracks, LG Sinha said, "Yatra will be held as it was conducted earlier and pilgrims will reach the holy cave as they used to in earlier years. Ant vehicles will ply only in case of emergency."

The Lieutenant Governor said that grid power connectivity along whole of Baltal track till holy cave and from holy cave to Panjtarni has been achieved. "The grid connectivity on remaining stretch of Pahalgam track is being started," he said, adding that enhanced accommodation for pilgrims has been created at SASB's Yatri Niwas complexes at Baltal (800), Nunwan (900) and Pantha chowk (1000)."

"Digital pre-paid system for hiring of various services like pony, pithu, palki would be available for pilgrims. At the holy cave, the wooden darshan platform has been replaced with stainless steel platform of appropriate alignment and height with wood flooring and additional row. Now, pilgrims would be able to have darshans simultaneously in four rows. This shall facilitate better and hassle free darshans," he added.

"Installation of Canopy over the stairs at the Holy Cave for the comfort and protection of yatrīs from rain/snowfall/ scorching sun," LG said.

He said that the clinical bed capacity of health care facilities at Panjtarni and upper camps has been expanded substantially this year. "Integrated Command and Control Centres have been established and deployment of J&K Police and CAPFs Personnel have been increased. Vulnerable spots were identified and dedicated measures have been taken to ensure the safety of the pilgrims," he said, adding, "100-bedded hospitals are functional at both the axis. Yatri Niwas at Baltal and Pahalgam axis are being developed for the convenience of the devotees. Special focus has been laid on cleanliness and making the yatra more sustainable. Prasad counters have been established at holy cave. Foot over bridge at Nunwan base camp, Cloak rooms, e-rickshaw and other such facilities have been extended for the pilgrims and service providers," LG Sinha said.

The Lieutenant Governor also lauded the role of media persons and the local residents of J&K in the smooth and successful conduct of the yatra. KNO

Ahead of Amarnath...

pilgrimage.

The meeting started at around 5:00PM and lasted for one and a half hours. The meeting was attended by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, National Conference Provincial President Showkat Ahmad, BJP leaders including Nirmal Singh, Kavinder Gupta, Sat Sharma, Congress leaders headed by Ghulam Ahmad Mir, PC Chairman Sajad Gani Lone, CPI (M) leader Muhammad Yousuf Tarigami, Apni Party president Syed Altaf Bukhari, PDP leader Iltija Mufti, Peoples Democratic Front (PDF) Chairman Hakeem Muhammad Yaseen.

The Lieutenant Governor briefed the participants about the arrangements made for the smooth and peaceful conduct of the yatra.

Talking to KNO, All India Congress Committee (AICC) General Secretary, Ghulam Ahmad Mir said the meeting discussed arrangements that have been put in place to make yatra a grand success. "Like every year, this meeting was held today. We have pitched for the involvement of maximum civilians for this pilgrimage and also for the facilitation of both yatra and public movement simultaneously," Mir said.

CPI (M) leader and MLA Kulgam, M Y Tarigami said that they were briefed about the arrangements made for smooth and peaceful conduct of the Amarnath yatra.

"We informed the chair that the people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially from the Valley have always played

a key role in making the annual pilgrimage successful. Amarnath Yatra is the legacy for people, who have stood for the wellbeing and safety of the yatrīs every time," he told KNO, adding that the people are yet again ready to welcome the yatrīs with open arms.

Similarly, another senior politician Hakeem Yaseen stated that the participants highlighted traditions of Kashmir. "The people will leave no stone unturned to make this year's pilgrimage successful and memorable for the pilgrims," he added.

Earlier in the day, the Lieutenant Governor while addressing the media persons said that the administration is fully prepared to ensure the safety of pilgrims, logistics, healthcare, and environmental management. KNO

Want end to...

welcomed the approval of 19 key road and tunnel projects worth Rs 10.637 crore, saying that it will give a major boost to the infrastructure development in the region.

The demand for the construction of a tunnel along Mughal Road was raised ever since the road came into existence in 2008. Similarly the demand of Sadhna Top was also long-pending. These projects have now been approved and we expect some more projects like the Gurez tunnel to be approved as well," he added.

Notably, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah called upon National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets from across the country to serve as ambassadors of peace, unity, and harmony by sharing their positive experiences of Jammu and Kashmir with people in their home states.

Addressing the NCC Special Integration Camp-2025 during a vibrant cultural event at Badami Bagh Cantonment, the Chief Minister said the presence of young cadets from different parts of the country was a "morale booster" for the people of the Valley. The 12-day camp aims to promote national integration and cultural exchange among youth.

"I urge you to go back and be our ambassadors," said the Chief Minister, who was the chief guest on the occasion. "Tell your families, friends, and communities about the Jammu and Kashmir you saw—the warmth of its people, the beauty of its culture, and the reality beyond headlines." KNO

Muharram processions...

administration had allowed thousands of Shia mourners to take out the 8th Muharram procession through the traditional Guru Bazaar-Dalgate route in Srinagar.

ourners after assembling at Guru Bazaar area of Srinagar city had marched through Budshah Chowk to M A Road and then to Dalgate amidst tight security.

In the same year the 10th Muharram procession was allowed across Kashmir after a gap of 34 years.

Shia mourners had taken out a massive procession from the traditional route of Botakadal to Zadibal area of Srinagar.

The procession had marked a significant event as for the first time in over 3 decades state head participated in the Zuljina procession when Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha took part.

LG Sinha had taken part in the procession and also distributed refreshment among the Shia mourners. KNO

Operation Bihali: JeM terrorist...

based in Nagrota, wrote on X:

"Op BIHALI Update: In the ongoing joint operation by #IndianArmy & @JmuKmrPolice in #Basantgarh, one #terrorist has been neutralized till now. #Operation continues."

Inspector General of Police (IGP), Jammu Range, Bhim Sen Tuti, provided further details, emphasizing the meticulous tracking of the terrorist group.

Speaking to reporters, he said, "Contact was established with the terrorists around 8:30 AM... they are believed to be four in number, and we have been tracking [this group] for the last one year." He added that the operation is ongoing despite adverse weather conditions, with reinforcements deployed to ensure the remaining terrorists are neutralized."

According to sources, the neutralized terrorist, reportedly a top JeM commander codenamed "Maulvi," had infiltrated into Indian territory in April 2024 and was active in the region, orchestrating multiple terror activities. "The group's presence had been under surveillance for nearly a year," they added. KNO

No exchange of traditional...

catch a glimpse of the sacred site. The 2003 ceasefire rekindled hopes, and for over a decade, the BSF-Rangers ceremony became a fixture of the Mela until hostilities resumed in 2018. KNO

ACB arrests mining...

A trap team was immediately formed and laid a successful trap," ACB said, adding that Habib was caught red-handed while accepting the bribe of Rs 15,000 from the complainant in the presence of independent witnesses.

"The accused was taken into custody," said an ACB spokesperson, adding that further investigation is underway.

This arrest comes just two days after another official from the same department was apprehended in the Safapora area for accepting a bribe of Rs 10,000.

14 lakh & counting...

about it seriously.

"The problem is the social stigma attached to drug abuse, which often discourages families from seeking help, they said, adding that the stigma not only isolates the addicts but also delays intervention.

They called for a comprehensive, community-based approach that includes awareness, early intervention, rehabilitation, and long-term support. KNO

Div Com Jammu reviews progress of NHAI, NHIDCL, & BRO projects



JNEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 26

Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar today chaired a meeting to review the progress of different roads and National Highway projects being implemented by National Highways Authority of India, National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited and Border Roads Organization across the division.

The meeting was attended by all Deputy commissioners of Jammu Division, Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu, Director Geology and Mining, Jammu, Regional Officer NHAI, Jammu, Chief Engineers PWD, Jammu and Pir Panjal, Chief Engineer Project Beacon/Sampark, ED NHIDCL and PD NHAI Udhampur, Jammu and Ramban.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner took appraisal of the to-date status of Lakhampur-Srinagar(NH44), Delhi-Amritsar-Katra express-

way, Jammu Ring road and Chenani-Patnitop-Nashri National Highway projects, projects under NHIDCL viz. Chenani-Sudhmahadev road, Goha Khellani road, Khellani-Khanabal road, Jammu-Akhnoor NH-144A.

Reviewing the project wise progress and bottlenecks, the Div Com directed the concerned agencies to expedite the pace of work by strengthening the men and machinery set up and a close monitoring of the work progress. He further asked them to inform about bottlenecks, if any, to the district administration for their speedy resolution.

The Divisional Commissioner also discussed the pending issues of land acquisition and forest clearance for the Jammu-Poonch and Budhal-Mahore-Gul roads under project Sampark being executed by BRO. Necessary directions were issued to Deputy Commissioners of Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri and Reasi for completion of the said road projects.

Div Com, IGP Jammu review arrangements for forthcoming Pilgrimages across the division



JNEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 26

Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar and Inspector General of Police Bhim Sen Tuti today chaired a meeting to review the civil and security arrangements for the safe and smooth conduct of different major and minor pilgrimages originating from different districts of the Jammu division.

The meeting, attended by DIG Jammu-Samba-Kathua, Deputy Commissioners and SSPs from Jammu Division, SSP Security, Commissioner JMC, CEO Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, Executive Director NHPDCL, RO, NHAI, representatives of AIIMS, DoorDarshan, AIR, BSNL, Fire & Emergency Services also reviewed security of vital installations and major tourist destination.

Reviewing the preparations for the district wise pilgrimages, the Div Com and IGP Jammu took stock of necessary arrangements pertain-

ing to civic amenities and security arrangements to be ensured by the respective district administrations for the smooth and safe conduct of the Pilgrimages.

The pilgrimages based in different districts include Shri Buddha Amarnathji Yatra, Shiv Khori Yatra, Lohar Devta Yatra, Ram Kund Yatra in Poonch and Khandli Mata Yatra in Rajouri, Kousar Nag Yatra, Sudhmahadev Yatra, Kailash Kund Yatra, Jodiyan Mata Yatra in Kathua and pilgrimages in Ramban, Doda and Kishtwar.

Directions were issued to the Deputy Commissioners and SSPs to convene detailed meeting on the arrangements for all the major and minor pilgrimages involving the stakeholders and organizers.

The Divisional Commissioner and IGP Jammu also reviewed the security arrangements of vital installations, critical infrastructures and Tourist destinations falling in Jammu Division.

ADC Baderwah reviews implementation of NGT directions

JNEWS SERVICE

BHADERWAH, JUNE 26

In compliance with the directives issued by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Baderwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal, chaired a significant review meeting today at his office chamber. The meeting aimed to evaluate the implementation status of environmental protection measures and reinforce interdepartmental coordination for effective compliance with the NGT's directives.

During the meeting, a detailed discussion was held on the Action Taken Report (ATR) submitted to the NGT on the ecological concerns in the region. The review primarily focused on the enforcement of plastic ban, conservation of local water bodies, proper solid waste management, and the protection of forest areas. Officers were instructed to ensure that stringent measures are taken at the ground level to preserve the fragile ecosystem of Baderwah.

The meeting witnessed the active participation of key officials including Executive Engineers of PWD (R&B), DFO Forest, JKPC, Tehsildars of Baderwah and Bhalla, BMO Baderwah, AEE PHE, Accounts Officer BDA, and BDOs of Baderwah and Bhalla, along with representatives from the Pollution Control Board and Municipal Committee. All departments were urged to maintain proper documentation and to submit monthly compliance reports to the ADC's office.

Civil, Police officers conducts extensive inspection of water bodies in Doda

JNEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 26

In compliance with the directions of Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, the District Administration Doda along with Police today carried out a comprehensive inspection of key water bodies across multiple locations to ensure safety of the general public.

Teams comprising Tehsildars, SHOs and field officials carried out coordinated visits to Assar, Thanthera, Pari Dal, Bagger, Chiralla Nallah, Malikpura, Shiva Dhal Pull, Kalnai River near Thathi bridge and adjoining areas of Doda district. The inspection aimed to penalise the violators, assess the condition of local water bodies, ensure their proper upkeep and identify any potential risks, especially in view of the ongoing monsoon season.

During the field visits, officials also engaged with locals to spread awareness about the dangers associated with the Chenab River and other nearby water sources. Citizens were advised to remain vigilant, particularly during heavy rainfall, and to refrain from venturing close to riverbanks and nallahs.

The officials stressed the importance of community participation in ensuring safety, urging people to promptly report any emerging risks or incidents to the nearest authorities.

In addition, the Executive Officers of Municipal Council Doda and Municipal Committee Thathi have been instructed to carry out extensive awareness campaigns through public announcements and drum beating in vulnerable areas. These awareness drives are aimed at reaching maximum households, especially in low-lying and flood-prone zones, to reinforce safety messages and precautionary measures.

Thousands of devotees throng Baba Chamliyal Mela in Samba

JNEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, JUNE 26

The annual Baba Chamliyal Mela was held today with religious devotion and festive enthusiasm at the sacred shrine of Baba Dalip Singh Manhas, fondly known as Baba Chamliyal, located in the border village of Chamliyal, Ramgarh Sector, District Samba.

A 17th-century saint, Baba Chamliyal is revered for his healing legacy—particularly the use of sacred Shakra (soil) and Sharbat (water), believed to cure skin ailments. The shrine situated close to the international border stands as a symbol of peace, spiritual unity and cross-border reverence.

The mela witnessed large number of devotees, who came from across Jammu & Kashmir and neighboring states.

Member Legislative Assembly Ramgarh, Dr. Devinder Manyal, Deputy Commissioner Samba Rajesh Sharma and other senior civil and police officials were present. The event was coordinated under the supervision of the Mela Officer Tehsildar Ramgarh Abhimanyu Kalsotra.

As a mark of devotion, chadars were respectfully offered by dignitaries, officials and devotees at the shrine of Baba Chamliyal seeking blessings for peace, prosperity and well-being.

In addition, various departmental stalls were set up by departments including Health, Agriculture, Rural Development, Social Welfare, ICDS and Handicrafts showcasing government schemes, services and awareness initiatives.

The shrine premises was beautifully decorated for the occasion. The district administration ensured smooth management of the event with arrangements for drinking water, sanitation, medical aid, public convenience and security.

International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking observed at Kulgam

JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, JUNE 26

A mega district-level event held at conference hall mini-secretariat besides seminars, awareness programmes, rallies, plantation drives and other events marked the commemoration of International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking across Kulgam district.

The programme was presided over by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan. Speaking on the occasion, DC stated that the district is adopting a multi-pronged strategy to combat the growing menace of drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

He emphasized the need for a collective fight involving all stakeholders, highlighting that a comprehensive and united approach is vital to effectively address this societal challenge.

DC said that there is commitment to zero tolerance against drugs, adding that strict action is being taken against those involved in drug trafficking, while ade-



quate rehabilitation support is being extended to victims through institutional mechanisms.

One of the key highlights shared by the DC was the district's significant progress in eliminating illicit crop cultivation.

In 2023, poppy was cultivated over 750 kanals, which was entirely destroyed. In 2024, the figure drastically dropped to just 40 kanals, and as of now, Kulgam has achieved zero poppy cultivation. Similarly, bung cultivation has also been reduced to zero in the district.

This remarkable achievement was made possible through vigorous enforce-

ment efforts and the promotion of alternative crops among farmers, he added.

DC also added that the district has been conducting intensive awareness campaigns under Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir initiative. These efforts include widespread public outreach involving youth, students, religious leaders and the community at large through cultural, educational, and IEC-based programmes.

On the occasion, DC flagged off an IEC Van to further strengthen awareness efforts, and launched a signature campaign to mobilize community support for a drug-free society.

He also appreciated the efforts of the district Drug De-Addiction Centre (DDAC) for their role in the rehabilitation of patients, terming it crucial in supporting individuals on the path to recovery and reintegration.

Importantly, DC informed that 100 percent of pharmacies in the district are now under CCTV surveillance and operate with a computerized billing system, ensuring greater transparency, accountability, and control over the sale of drugs.

Resource persons also briefed the participants, sharing insights into preventive and rehabilitative measures.

ADC Viqar Ahmed Giri, ACR, Riyaz Ahmad Shah and other officers were present during the programme.

The programme also witnessed enthusiastic participation of frontline workers, officials from various departments, students, civil society members, and other stakeholders, all pledging their commitment to making Kulgam a drug-free and Khushaal Kulgam.

DAJGUA Awareness cum Benefit Saturation Camp held at Nachlana- Ramban

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, JUNE 26

As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gramin Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), the District Administration Ramban on Thursday organised a comprehensive Awareness and Benefit Saturation Camp at Nachlana, Khari Lower-A Panchayat, a remote tribal area in Block Khari.

The camp witnessed active participation from Tehsildar Harvir Singh, Block Development Officer Urfan Khan, and ABF (NITI Aayog) Ishfaq Bashir, along with officials from other departments. The primary objective of the camp was to ensure last-mile delivery of government welfare schemes, enhance public awareness, and facilitate the tribal population's access to various social security, health, and livelihood schemes.

A wide range of departments provided services during the camp. The Health and AYUSH Departments offered free health check-ups, consultations,



and shared information on preventive healthcare and traditional medicine. The Animal Husbandry Department delivered veterinary services and raised awareness about livestock health, vaccinations, and government-supported subsidy programs.

The Revenue and Tehsil Social Welfare Departments facilitated services related to land records, income certificates, caste certificates, and pension schemes, helping resolve several pending issues on the spot. The Women and Child Development (ICDS) department provided valuable guidance on maternal and child health, nutrition, and highlighted key government initiatives like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

The Block Development Officer (BDO) informed participants about various self-employment schemes,

MGNREGA opportunities, and rural development initiatives, encouraging locals to take advantage of the available schemes. Meanwhile, the Agriculture and Horticulture Departments educated farmers on modern farming practices, organic farming techniques, soil health management, and government assistance for seeds, tools, and orchard development.

The camp witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, who engaged directly with officers from different departments. Many issues related to documentation, access to health services, and enrollment in welfare schemes were addressed on the spot, reflecting the administration's commitment to responsive and people-centric governance.

Power Shutdown in Srinagar and Ganderbal areas

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

According to the Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDC, in order to carry out the relocation of old/wooden frames of 33 KV Exhibition line inside PCR Batmaloo, shutdown of 33 KV Bemina Exhibition line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Batmaloo & Exhibition shall remain off while power supply to Silk Factory, Batmaloo, Baranpathr Batmaloo, PCR, HSSH, Exhibition and adjoining areas will be affected from 06:00 AM to 02:00 PM on 29 June, 2025.

In a separate shutdown schedule issued here, it has been informed that in order to carry out replacement of CT / PT unit of M/s Khyber Industries at Khonmoh, Srinagar, shutdown of 33 KV Khunmoh-SIDCO-III line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Cement Plants (Khyber, SAIFCO, TCI MAX) shall remain off while power supply to Cement Plants Viz Saifco, Khyber, TCI Max and adjoining areas will be affected from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM and 05:00 PM to 06:00 PM on 28 June, 2025.

Likewise to carry out the shifting of electrical utilities along the road side, shutdown of 33 KV Badampora Lar Tulumulla line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Lar, Tulumulla shall remain off while power supply to Lar, Waliwar, Repora, Tulumulla, Dangepora, Larsun and adjoining areas will be affected from 08:00 AM to 01:00 PM on 28 June, 2025.

Sialsui mishap: Team of Officers visits site of incident to assess situation

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, JUNE 26

In a heartbreaking incident reported from village Sialsui in Kalakote Sub Division, two children lost their lives due to drowning while grazing cattle near a flooded water body. The deceased have been identified as Raqfat Ali, son of Mohammad Shabir & Safeena Kouser, daughter of Mohammad Kabir.

Another child, Saima Chowdhary daughter of Mohammad Shabir, sustained injuries in the incident.

Soon after receiving information about the tragedy, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma deputed a team of officers led by Additional Deputy Commissioner Kalakote to visit the site.

The team comprised Tehsildar Kalakote, Naib Tehsildar HQ, PHC Sialsui staff, and police personnel, who rushed to the location to assess the situation and extend necessary assistance.

The District Administration expressed grief over the loss of innocent lives and assured all possible support to the bereaved families. Directions were issued to ensure proper medical care for the injured child and to complete all requisite formalities related to the incident.

DC flags off water tanker for Gandoh to strengthen supply service

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JUNE 26

To augment drinking water access in rural areas, Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh today flagged off a newly procured water tanker to Sub Division Gandoh. The flag-off ceremony was held at the DC Office Complex.

The initiative is part of the district administration's ongoing efforts to address water shortage in remote and hilly areas, especially during the summer months. The water tanker will be operated by the Jal Shakti Department and is expected to serve multiple villages within the Sub Division Gandoh, improving access to potable water.

District Magistrate Open Rugby Championship 2025 kicks off at Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JUNE 26

The District Magistrate open Rugby Championship 2025 began today at the Sports Stadium in Poonch, marking a significant step towards promotion of sports culture in the region.

Organized by the District Administration Poonch in collaboration with the District Youth Services and Sports Office (DYSSO) Poonch, the championship aims to encourage sportsmanship, physical fitness, and youth engagement through the awe-inspiring and strategic rugby sport.

The championship was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal, who attended the



opening ceremony as the chief guest.

In his inaugural address, the Deputy Commissioner commended the initiative and urged young athletes to embrace the spirit of fair play, unity and determination. He also highlighted the crucial role of such sports events in instilling discipline, leadership, and teamwork among the youth.

Teams from across different regions of the district are competing in the tournament, reflecting the

growing interest of youth in rugby at the grassroots level. The opening day witnessed a series of exhilarating matches, with players demonstrating impressive skills and competitive spirit, much to the delight of the spectators.

The tournament will continue in the coming days with knockout rounds and the grand finale, providing a platform to identify and nurture local talent for opportunities at higher levels of competition.

DLSA, Dawn comm. commemorates Int'l Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at Budgam



JI NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, JUNE 26

In pursuance to the directions of the National Legal Services Authority, DAWN Unit Budgam (Drug Awareness And Wellness Navigation For a Drug Free Indian) of District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam in collaboration with Drug Department Budgam organized an anti drug rally from the District Court Complex Budgam to the District Hospital Budgam.

The rally was conducted under the chairmanship of O.P. Bhagat, Chairman DLSA (Pr.Distt.& sessions Judge) Budgam and under the supervision of by Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary, DLSA, (Nodal Officer of the DAWN Unit Committee) Budgam, and was

attended by Drug Inspector Budgam and other officials of Drug office, several DAWN unit members, officials of DLSA and TLSCs Budgam, LADCs, Panel Lawyers, PLVs and other stakeholders of the Unit.

In the rally, the slogans were raised 'Say No to Drugs & Yes to Life' 'Drugs free under Yuddh Nashe ke Virudh', 'Nasha Mukht Bharat', 'Nope to Dope' etc. Participants were holding placards displaying the message Stop Drugs, and pamphlets were distributed to the general public.

The DAWN committee members are committed to bring down awareness to the basic unit of society, and eliminate the drug from society and make the society drug free.

Reasi Admin observes Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, JUNE 26

The District Administration Reasi, in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare and Police organized a series of awareness events to observe the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

The event was graced by Deputy Commissioner Nidhi Malik as the Chief Guest. SSP Paramvir Singh; ADC Rakesh Kumar; ASP Iftikhar, and other district officers were also present.

At the outset, a vibrant cultural programme was organised featuring Nukkad Natak, singing performances, and poem recitations by students. The performances powerfully depicted the grave consequences of substance abuse. A special yoga session was conducted by KV Jyotipuram, encouraging participants to adopt a healthy and disci-



plined lifestyle.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner lauded the impactful cultural performances and stressed the importance of spreading mass awareness on this critical issue. "Drug abuse is a pressing social challenge with far-reaching psychological and social consequences. It is our collective responsibility to ensure the youth are guided towards the right path," she stated.

She further highlighted the district administration's commitment towards eradicating drug abuse, mentioning that awareness camps are being regularly organised across various

blocks, schools, colleges, and localities under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.

Earlier in the day, a rally was organised by the District Administration and Police Department to mobilize public participation in the fight against drug abuse. The rally, which witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and local residents, was flagged off by SSP Paramvir Singh.

The event concluded with a renewed pledge from all present to work collectively for a drug-free society and continue spreading the message of health, awareness, and positive engagement for youth.

DAJGUA Awareness camp empowers tribal communities in Marwah, Bounjwah



JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHITWAR, JUNE 26

Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gramin Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) awareness and benefit saturation camps were organized at Marwah and Wachak Mohalla - Bounjwah on the day 12 of the 15 day campaign.

Multiple departments including Health, Agriculture, Education, ICDS, Employment, Rural Development and FCS&CA set up stalls offering registration for their respective schemes and on the spot services.

The citizens received assistance for scheme registration, application processing etc. Officials also addressed public grievances and provided informative material in

local languages.

The camp provided an effective platform for direct interaction between government officials and tribal residents. The open discussions helped bridge information gaps and build trust between the community and service providers.

Tribal Community and residents expressed gratitude for the initiative, appreciating the district administration's efforts to reach to the most remote areas with essential services. The camp not only enhanced awareness but also reinforced a strong sense of inclusion and support. DDC Member Bounjwah Aemna Banoo, BDO Bounjwah and other officers were present at the camps.

Market checking drive conducted at Baba Chamliyal Mela



JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, JUNE 26

A market inspection was conducted at the annual Baba Chamliyal Mela in Tehsil Ramgarh by a team of the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department.

The inspection was carried out to enforce food safety standards, fair pricing and legal metrology regulations by vendors operating at the mela. The drive was conducted under the supervision of Assistant Director FCS&CA Rahul Gupta and under

the overall directions of Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma with TSO Ravi Kumar, leading the on-ground implementation.

The inspection was carried out to prevent unauthorized use of LPG cylinders and unsafe cooking, overpricing, unhygienic practices and use of non-standard weighing equipment. The checking team verified the display of rate list to ensure that the interests of consumers were fully safeguarded.

Speaking on the initiative, the Assistant Director FCS&CA said, "The

department's primary aim is to ensure public safety and safeguard consumer rights, especially during events of such magnitude. Market checking not only deters malpractice but also builds public confidence in the system and promotes a culture of compliance among vendors."

The department reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining transparency, safety, and service quality through continuous monitoring and timely enforcement during all major public events across the district.

EDITORIAL

No end to factionalism!

At a time when the Indian National Congress is trying to re-establish its footing nationally, the persistent internal differences within the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) tell a grim story of a party still struggling to get its own house in order. The recent Executive Committee meeting convened by JKPCC President Tariq Karra, in the presence of AICC In-charge Dr. Nassir Hussain, has done little to inspire confidence. Instead of showcasing unity and purpose, the meeting has amplified the cracks in the party's structure, particularly over issues of representation and inclusivity. What should have been a strategic exercise in strengthening the party's organizational structure has now spiraled into a controversy. The party leaders allege that the meeting's attendee list was skewed in favor of recent entrants, sidelining long-serving Congressmen who have toiled through decades of political upheaval and built the party's base brick by brick in Jammu and Kashmir. The absence of several senior leaders, grassroots workers, and even AICC-approved PCC and Executive Committee members from the meeting raises valid questions: Is the Congress in J&K abandoning its core base in pursuit of short-term optics? And more worryingly, is the leadership prepared to sacrifice experience and ideological commitment for convenience? This exclusionary approach not only risks eroding internal democracy but also sends a disheartening message to loyalists who have stood by the party through its highs and lows. Party veterans are right to demand transparency in the selection process for such meetings. Representation in internal party forums must be earned through merit, dedication, and a demonstrable commitment to Congress values—not handed out as patronage or reward for recent allegiance. What is unfolding in the JKPCC is not just a clash of egos or personalities. It is symptomatic of a deeper malaise that has long plagued the Congress in Jammu and Kashmir: persistent factionalism, ad-hoc decision-making, and a lack of ideological clarity. These problems have not only stunted the party's growth but have also allowed rivals—particularly regional outfits and the BJP—to fill the vacuum left by Congress's internal chaos. If the Congress truly wishes to revive its fortunes in the Union Territory, it must return to the basics. That means valuing institutional memory, honoring grassroots strength, and ensuring that inclusivity is not just a slogan but a practice. The leadership—both at the JKPCC and AICC level—must act decisively to restore internal coherence and credibility. Otherwise, the Congress in J&K risks becoming a fractured force, increasingly irrelevant in the region's shifting political landscape. The road to revival is steep, but not impossible. It begins with listening to those who built the path in the first place.

Bombs, Blunders, and Blowback: The Cost of Miscalculating Iran

ISHAAN SAXENA

As the evolving and fast-deteriorating situation continues to send shockwaves across the world, it is quite clear that global uncertainty will persist in the coming few weeks or months. Political commentators and analysts are closely observing these developments and many have predicted very alarming scenarios. As the hawkish rhetoric between Iran and Israel continues unabated and the fierce missile exchanges by both light up the night skies, it is highly that the recent bombings conducted by the United States (US) on the three nuclear sites – Natanz, Fordow, and Esfahan, by its formidable B12 bomber is not the end game. The repercussions are going to be felt the world over. As the recent reports suggest, the Iranian missile response in Qatar was measured and precise – as the target was only the largest military base in the Middle East – but the attack was contained. Nonetheless, it was a symbolic action. Is the ceasefire agreement ironclad? Israel certainly does not have a stellar track record in honouring and adhering to them in the past; Gaza and Lebanon being a prime example.

The flurry of military actions over the past few days raises several pertinent questions. First, what exactly were Israel's motives in initiating the

strike? Does it have an end game? Why could Benjamin Netanyahu not persuade the US to conduct its deadly B12 operation in the first place? Sure, Iran would have retaliated by launching its missiles towards Israel but then the Israeli response would have been viewed as justified. Second, proxy wars are now evolving into confrontations, where enemies are facing each other. Third, with a slew of intersecting vested and strategic interests in the world today, how will the nomenclature of the political economy be influenced?

Iran is no Iraq and historically, it has been known to be a very resilient state which is very well capable of bouncing back from the damage inflicted on its facilities and energy infrastructure. It possesses the largest arsenal of missiles in the Middle East and the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces are the largest in the region which makes a ground invasion virtually impossible. The recent attacks have not undermined the confidence of the establishment and will only embolden the state. The splintered group will likely unite and confront their enemy with indomitable force shortly. Iran, as it has in the past, will rise from the troughs of damage and will most definitely surprise the world.

The question regarding its nuclear programme for



civilian purposes is open to debate. It's a moot question and all the evidence points to the fact that the Iranians were not actively pursuing an atomic bomb. However, the vulnerabilities and causalities exposed by the airstrikes on the Islamic Republic will strengthen their resolve to relentlessly pursue it. This is indisputable. Heavy damage may have been inflicted on its nuclear facilities but the technical know – how is in place. Assassinating top nuclear scientists will only have a limited impact because the knowledge has percolated and all intelligence points to the fact that Iran had relocated the nuclear material to a safe place. That the ceasefire is far from the truth. Proxy wars will continue and Israel and USA's military manoeuvres will backfire. Essentially, the mission to dismantle the nuclear programme seems to have failed. How the world will deal with yet another 'Islamic Bomb' is

a question for a later date.

How will proxy wars be fought shortly? What are the ramifications of adversaries striking each other to contain terror threats directly? Iran and Israel have fought these wars by engaging in covert missions and arming groups, for decades. But this was the first confrontation. Every country has a threshold and the recent pre-emptive strikes exemplified its resolve to directly assault the enemy.

India showcased its ability in 'Operation Sindoor' by directly targeting and smoothly penetrating Pakistan's Chinese air defence network. India has now demonstrated and articulated its military strategy. A swift war, under the shadow and threshold of nuclear weapons, is a possibility and will be India's response in the future. The ecosystem of terror will not be tolerated. Ukraine also finds itself caught in the battle for power between Russia and America. The former

may use its resources to strengthen Iran's capabilities and it would be naïve to even assume that the Islamic Republic will not activate its assets in Gaza, Lebanon and Syria. China will also exert its power to reinforce a strong message which may bolster Iran's confidence. War mongering with Taiwan may intensify. Proxy wars may very soon transform into real wars.

The political economy of the dynamic region we call 'West Asia' is mired in conflict. Wars and destruction have plagued countries for decades. Nonetheless, it is the energy powerhouse of the world and manipulation and military influence by Western powers is a prominent feature. The 4C's in the framework of political economy are change, context, collective behaviour and conflicting interests.

The coup led to the overthrow of Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh in 1953 when he moved to nationalise oil production. A corrupt regime and an establishment mired with a tarnished public image led to the 1979 revolution which culminated in the overthrow of the puppet installed by the West (Pahlavi Dynasty) and ushered in a new rule. Unarguably, history has taught us that bombing a nation to effect a regime change is a worthless endeavour. Former President Bush failed in his mission to change the political econ-

omy in Iraq swiftly.

Viewed from this context, Iran will not countenance any regime change because history has had a lingering impact on the intellectual discourse regarding this sensitive issue. The collective behaviour of seemingly disparate groups within Iran points illuminatingly to the anti-West posture. In essence, despite conflicting interests within Iran, the common enemy will be the West. The political economy is certainly not immutable but the recent fiery exchanges and America's involvement have only cemented the cracks in the Iranian regime.

If one thought that the October 7th attacks on Israel were a deadly miscalculation and blunder by Hamas, the recent pre-emptive strikes by Israel have only propelled Iran's determination to strengthen its national security in an evolving and fast-changing geopolitical landscape.

This was a grave mistake for which Israel and the US may pay a very heavy price. These memories will have an everlasting influence on the trajectory of the events that will ensue. The cascading effects will be felt the world over in our intricately connected economies and will have an indelible impact on the global political economy.

(The writer is columnist and foreign policy analyst. Views are personal)

Valour and Legacy: Remembering the Gorkha Heroes on VC Day

ASHOK K MEHTA

The Victoria Cross (VC) For Valour was the highest award for gallantry between 1856 and 1947 when the British Indian Army won 153 of the 1340 VCs, 25 VC winners being Gorkhas. The first VC was won on 26 June 1857. Till 1911, Indians were not eligible for VC. Instead, they were entitled to its equivalent Indian Order of Merit. The first Gorkha winner of IOM was Kishanbir Nagarkoti of 1/5 GR (FF). He bagged it four times earning a Gold Clasp. The highest number of VCs awarded in a single action over a protracted period was 11 VCs at Rorke's Drift in 1879 during the Boer War. The Sikh Regiment earned a maximum number of 14 VCs as a regiment. The Indian battalion that won the maximum number of VCs – Three – is the Second Battalion Fifth Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force), all between 1943-44, uniquely two in a single action within 24 hours at Bishanpur near Imphal which along with the Battle of Kohima, prevented the Japanese from invading India.

Today, 26 June 2025 is the 81st anniversary of VC Day being commemorated by the VC Paltan. Winning the For Valour medal is a mix of opportunity, luck and courage. On 26 May 1943, Havildar Gaje Ghale led the assault on Basha Hill for the third time; though severely wounded, he charged with his platoon against murderous crossfire, refusing to

be evacuated to earn the VC. One year later heavily outnumbered by the enemy Subedar Netra Bahadur Thapa defended Mortar Bluff, BP and Water Piquets with his platoon unsuccessfully against repeated Japanese assaults for eight hours and was killed, earning VC posthumously. Naik Agan Sing Rai led the counter-attack, silencing a 37mm gun and later a bunker full of Japanese.

His indomitable courage and ferocity forced the remaining Japanese to flee and the platoon to recapture the post within 24 hours. Rai won the third VC protecting the pivotal post to Imphal. Destiny would take the Battalion back to Mortar Bluff area 65 years later on a routine tour.

The British did not permit Indian officers to command Gorkha soldiers which happened only after Partition 1947. Joining the Gorkhas on commission became very popular; also to travel to Nepal to learn about them, their land, language and culture. In 1959 I visited BARPAK where Gaje Ghale was born. I met his father and others in the village which in 2015 was the epicentre of Nepal's horrendous earthquake. This May, VC Paltan's ex-servicemen in Nepal endearingly called Budhos, visited BARPAK for the inauguration of a Gaje Ghale monument. In 1985, I met Agan Sing Rai again in his village Apwara, Okhaldhunga. He was popular as 'VC Baje'. Rai enacted the Mortar Bluff

battle for me with every bit of battle craft laced with shock and awe but aided by Hercules's rum. He said his recently promoted Brigadier Commander Brig Hedley, who was his former Commanding Officer, was breathing down his neck. He was mortally scared but retook Mortar Bluff. In 1978, I went looking for the late Subedar Netra Bahadur Thapa's village but probably had the wrong address. In 2022, 2/5 GR Budhos found the village – Raghugaon – in Tanhau where Netra's elder brother's children were staying. They found a plaque by the British 5 RGR Association which had built a Middle school in his name.

The Ranchi reunion was no different from previous ones: a Sainik Sammelan followed by a wreath laying at the mobile VC memorial built in Trivandrum after the 1971 war. A Bada Khana was the high point of the VC Day where the Gorkha spirit was unleashed. The Madal or its improvised equivalent a jerry can provide the right rhythms for traditional Gorkha dances.

The British used to call it 'nautch' and male Gorkhas would impersonate females – 'marunis' becoming 'tarunis'. There are stories of happy men falling for Taranis. In a vintage era, Budhos used to the Kodo elixir made from millet would cheerfully yield to Old Monk rum while calling one another with the last two digits of their erstwhile Army numbers – Pachees (25),

Sattavan (57) and Pachasi (85). The Gorkha magic is in full play.

The VC Paltan has its famed institutions and personalities to whom besides the winners of gallantry awards and the martyrs, the Remembrance Day is dedicated. Bachelor Mess Waiter Tek Bahadur fell in love after being superannuated and returned as he was indispensable to the history of every piece of silver and memento in the Officer's Mess though he also ensured young officers were kept on leash in the Mess. Barman Pritam Singh was the solitary sardar in the Paltan. He kept liquor cards and ensured adequate levels of alcohol in the bloodstream.

He kept inventory of any rakhi abuse. Mohammad Yahya, the Tailor Master, was the Battalion's Wikipedia. He went into battle mustered as the Mess Cook. He could never keep his overbooked Order Book on schedule. His reply to the ever-delayed delivery of clothing invariably was Bholi (tomorrow) which never came. The Brits could not pronounce his name so they called him Charly, the Paltan called him Bholi Charly. His son as the Paltan's tailor is Mannu. The Battalion has fought all the wars – the recent actions in Ladakh including Op Snow Leopard – and earned several gallantry awards. The aim is to replicate the triple VCs with Param Vir Chakras. It is getting there through bold and courageous counter-insurgency

operations like Rato Khukuri in J&K and other operations in the northeast. Lt Gen ZC Bakshi MVC, Vrc, VSM, MacGregor Medal was the hero of his time. Later came Lt Gen Fariid Bilimoria PVSM, ADC who rose to be Army Commander. Maj Gen Deepak Mehra KC, AVSM, VSM and Col KK Sharma Shaurya Chakra, Sena Medal and Bar are gallant Gorkhas.

The Battalion's most recent achievement was winning the COAS citation for outstanding performance in Galwan. When not in battle, and in peace station, the battalion excels in sports, adventure and professional competitions. Subedar Krishna Bahadur Kunwar scaled new heights by climbing Mount Everest for a second time last month as part of the Indian Army's expedition. Naib Sub Ros Kumar Gurung represented the Indian Army paragliding team at the Telomoya Cup 2024 in Indonesia.

The Battalion was selected as the only Infantry unit from Eastern Command to lead the Republic Day marching column in 2024 and 2025.

Hav Bhabindra Malla Thakuri captained the Indian Army football team during the Durand Cup 2024 while two other Paltan players were selected for the Army team 2025-26.

The equally memorable Gorkhas are one's buddies, the radio operator and the driver. Tularam Pun was great at the wheel. In 1957 in Srinagar on a shopping errand for

the Officer's Mess, I asked him to park the 1-ton truck behind a black Fiat outside the Nedou's Hotel. I spent the rest of the day looking for Tularam. Late in the evening, I found the 1-ton truck behind the black Fiat outside Badami Bagh.

There was also the religious teacher, Subedar Maniram Pokhrel who belonged to Arghakhan-chi from where his tribe comes. Just before the 1971 war, he developed an unstoppable and loud hiccup. Although the Baman baje is required to go into battle, he had to be made LOB (Left Out of Battle) as he became EW for the enemy. The grand old man of the Paltan is the Subedar Major, many of whom rose to Everest heights in Nepal.

To name a few, Hony Capt Giriprasad Burathoki, Sardar Bahadur, OBI, MC, MBE became Governor of a province, Member of Parliament and Defence Minister of Nepal. Hony Captain Indrabir Thapa, Sardar Bahadur, OBI, IOM, MC was also Governor and Member of Parliament. The list of the brave and famous is unending. To the likes of them, the VCs, the martyrs and the Unknown Soldier, the Paltan makes a grand salute from Ranchi pledging to keep the flag flying high.

(The writer is an Army Veteran. He writes extensively on defence matters and anchors Defence Watch on Doordarshan. Views expressed are personal)

Langeh slams Congress for undermining Constitution of India

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, JUNE 26

Marking the anniversary of the imposition of Emergency in 1975, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) observed Samvidhan Hatya Divas at the District BJP Office in Ramban in a solemn and reflective manner. The event was organized under the leadership of District President BJP Ramban and former MLA, Neelam Langeh.

In memory of the dark chapter in India's democratic history, BJP workers and leaders assembled at the party's district headquarters, wearing black ribbons on their foreheads and wrists as a symbolic protest. A peaceful rally was later taken out through the main town, drawing attention to the unconstitutional suspension of civil liberties and democratic institutions during the



Emergency imposed by the then Congress government under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Addressing the gathering at the conclusion of the rally, senior BJP leader Neelam Langeh condemned the Congress for trampling upon democratic values and undermining the Constitution of India. He said that the Emergency, imposed on June 25, 1975, was a blatant assault on the democratic fabric of the nation, where freedom of speech was muzzled, media was censored, and thousands of opposition leaders

were thrown behind bars.

Senior BJP leader Rajive Charak also addressed the gathering and lambasted the Congress leadership of the time for the tyranny and authoritarianism displayed during the 21-month long Emergency. He urged the younger generation to remain vigilant and safeguard the Constitution from such assaults in the future.

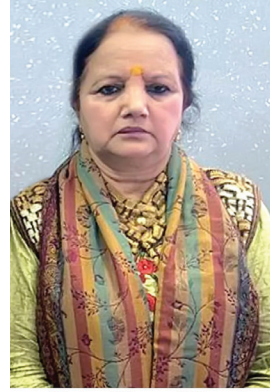
The programme served as a reminder of the BJP's unwavering commitment to upholding democratic values and resisting any attempts to undermine the Constitution of India.

Dogri Sanstha Jammu pays rich tribute to Usha Kiran 'Kiran'

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

Dogri Sanstha Jammu in a condolence meeting organized at Kunwar Viyogi Auditorium, Dogri Bhawan, Karan Nagar Jammu paid rich tributes to Late Usha Kiran 'Kiran', an accomplished Dogri poetess who passed away recently. A number of Dogri writers and the family members of Usha Kiran participated in the meeting and highlighted the contribution of the departed soul in Dogri literature, particularly poetry.

Prof. Veena Gupta presented a detailed insight into creative works and life sketch of the poetess. Prof. Lalit Magotra while sharing his grief on the sad untimely demise of the celebrated lyric writer said that she was not only a very good poetess but her love for mother tongue and regional cultural traditions was commendable and an inspiration for others. He further added that one should seek a lesson from her life that how one may rise to the occasion and



Usha Kiran 'Kiran'
(1957-2025)

fulfill all family obligations and social responsibilities despite all odds that may shake from within. It was her sheer will power that she did not let it dominate her and rather chose poetry to express her inner self.

Dogri Sanstha Jammu's General Secretary Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju' while paying his tributes to the departed soul said that she always behaved affectionately with not only him but everyone and urged them to contribute more and more to the mother tongue Dogri. Her untimely demise is a personal shock.

JMC Commissioner inspects civic amenities in Jammu South

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

To strengthen civic infrastructure ahead of the monsoon season, Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Dr. Devansh Yadav today conducted a whirlwind tour of several wards in South Jammu to assess the status of civic amenities and infrastructure within the jurisdiction of Jammu Municipal Corporation.

During the visit, the Commissioner visited the areas including Green Belt, Gandhi Nagar, and Ambedkar Nagar and took stock of the drainage systems and identified key water-logging points to ensure timely mitigation of flood risks and public inconvenience during the forthcoming rainy season. The visit was aimed at reviewing preparedness and taking corrective measures wherever necessary.

Dr. Yadav reiterated the Corporation's commitment to ensuring improved sanitation, enhanced public health standards, and comprehensive monsoon preparedness with active cooperation from citizens and stakeholders. He also stressed for desilting of drains and nallahs and removal of broken pipes with coordination with line departments on war footing basis.

Earlier, Dr. Yadav also visited the Urban Forestry Division Nursery at Talab Tillo, Jammu, where DFO



Urban Jammu, Ashwani Kumar Mittal, apprised him of the developmental works undertaken under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). The Commissioner was informed that the capacity of the nursery is being upgraded to accommodate 1.5 lakh saplings. The infrastructure enhancement includes construction of state-of-the-art shade houses and greenhouses equipped with sprinklers and mist irrigation systems and temperature control mechanisms. This development is expected to boost the supply of quality seedlings and meet the growing demand for plantation initiatives undertaken by JMC.

Later, the Enforcement and Revenue wings of JMC, in coordination with the local police, carried out a major demolition drive

at Sainik Colony. As many as 18 insanitary huts were demolished across seven different locations. The plot owners have been directed not to permit or support the construction of such unauthorized and insanitary structures on their premises. JMC has warned that violations of these directives will attract action under the relevant provisions of law.

Among others, Joint Commissioner, (R&E) Subah Mehta, Joint Commissioner (H&S) Abdul Star, Deputy Commissioner (South) JMC Lal Chand, Executive Engineer, UEED, Ashwani Kumar, Chief Transport Officer Dharamveer Singh, Chief Revenue Officer, Sunil Gupta, Enforcement Officers, Harditya Singh, besides other senior officers of JMC accompanied the Commissioner during the tour.

DC Poonch reviews execution of Samagra Shiksha Projects

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JUNE 26

Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal, today chaired a high-level meeting to review the physical and financial progress of development works taken up under the Samagra Shiksha program in the district.

At the outset, the District Education Planning Officer (DEPO), Mukhtar Ahmed Manhas, gave a comprehensive presentation outlining the current status of projects. According to the report, out of the 360 sanctioned works under the scheme, 128 have been completed, 81 are in progress, and 151 are yet to be started.

The Deputy Commis-



sioner took a detailed review of division-wise status and fund utilization under the scheme. He directed the concerned Executive Engineers to expedite the pace of work and ensure the completion of 27 identified projects across all sub-divisions

within a one-month time-frame. The review meeting was aimed at ensuring transparency, accountability, and the timely execution of educational infrastructure projects under the centrally sponsored Samagra Shiksha initiative. The Deputy Commissioner stressed that any delays in implementation, directly impact the delivery of quality education and called for close monitoring to fast-track remaining works.

The administration reiterated its commitment to strengthening the education sector and improving learning environments in government schools through efficient execution of development plans.

DC reviews flood preparedness in Kishtwar district

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, JUNE 26

Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma today chaired a crucial meeting to review the district's flood preparedness and response strategy.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all executing agencies like Jal Shakti, PDD, R&B, PMGSY, Mechanical and others to immediately establish a dedicated 24x7 Control Room.

The DC emphasized that the emergency contact numbers must be widely circulated across all platforms, including social media, to ensure

timely communication with the public. He directed all concerned departments to keep their manpower and machinery in a state of readiness to respond swiftly to any emergent situation.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, JAMMU FOREST DIVISION, JAMMU

E-TENDERING

Tender Notice: e-NIT No. 06 of 2025-26 dated 24.06.2025

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders (two cover system) are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. /Central Govt. Organizations for the following work:

S. No.	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In lac)	Earnest Money (Rs. In Rupees)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion	Receiving/Opening Authority
Re-Stocking at established closures at different location (Copy Enclosed) under CAMPA (CA)- 2025-26 - Kalidhar Forest Range							
1	A. Fencing Repair 35600 Rft. by the way of replacing damaged PCC Poles and Barbed Wire. B. Planting of saplings 43100 Nos. (Polybags) in pits of size 45cmx45cmx45cm within the available blanks of identified site including carriage/lifting of plants from different nurseries of Jammu Forest Division and headload carriage including loading /unloading upto site of work with all operations complete C. Patch Sowing 18600 Nos. in 45cmx45cmx15cm patches.	23.31560	Rs. 69947.00	A, B, C	Rs. 600/-	30 days	Tender Opening Committee

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website: [-www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)

Position of funds: Budgeted
Position of AA/TT:Accorded

Publishing Date	24.06.2025
Download Start Date	24.06.2025
Bid Submission Start Date	24.06.2025
Bid submission End Date	30.06.2025
Date of opening of Technical Bid	30.06.2025 at 03.00 PM (in the Office of Divisional Forest Officer, Jammu).
Date of opening of Financial Bid(online)	30.06.2025 at 03.30 PM (in the Office of Divisional Forest Officer, Jammu).

- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the Departmental Website: <https://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The price bids uploaded on the website in time will be opened on 30.06.2025 at 03:30 PM in the office of Divisional Forest Officer, Jammu. In case of public holiday on the date of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

Divisional Forest Officer
Jammu Forest Division
Jammu.

No:-DFO-J/Tender/62-67

Dated 24.06.2024

DIP/J-2667/25

Date: 26-6-25

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR HANDICRAFTS/HANDLOOM,
RAMBAN
3rd Floor Jhelum Block D.C Complex, Maitra Ramban.

Sub: Online applications are invited for the in different crafts of District Ramban NOTIFICATION

Online applications are invited from the interested candidates through Single Window system (<http://singlewindow.jk.gov.in>) having attained the age of 18 years or above for the new batch of training in different crafts as per the proposed location of District Ramban for the session 2025-26. Last date of submission is 30 June, 2025 for the in different crafts of District Ramban

S.No.	Name of Trg Centre	Proposed place of trg center	Date of Start	Date of Closing	Duration
1	Crewal Emb. Trg. Centre	Khari upper B, Block Khari	01-07-2025	30-06-2026	12 months
2	Crewal Emb. Trg. Centre	Sujmatna C, Block Ramsu	01-07-2025	30-06-2026	12 months
3	Stapple Emb. Trg. Centre	Thopatl, Block Batote	01-07-2025	30-06-2026	12 months
4	Crewal Emb. Trg. Centre	Pogal Upper, Block Ukhral	01-07-2025	30-06-2026	12 months
5	Stapple Emb. Trg. Centre	Siba Gool C, Block Gool	01-07-2025	30-06-2026	12 months
8	Handloom Weaving Trg. Centre	Chapnari, Gund Adalkote B, Block Banihal	01-07-2025	30-06-2026	12 months

Total no. of trainees to be selected is 20 in each training centre in location from where maximum number of applications received. During the said course a stipend of Rs. 1000 per month per trainee shall be paid. The desirous trainees have to fill up their enrolment through online JK Single Window System alongwith the relevant documents and details.

No: - ADHR/Estt./2025-26/131
Dated: 25-06-2025

Assistant Director
Handicrafts
Ramban

DIP/J-2683/25
Date: 26-6-25

Massive Infra Boost for J&K: BJP Credits PM

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, 26 JUNE 2025.

J&K BJP spokespersons addressed a press conference today at the party headquarters, celebrating the Centre's sanctioning of Rs 10,637 crore worth of infrastructure projects, including two strategically significant tunnels—Pir Ki Gali Tunnel on Mughal Road and Sadhna Tunnel on the Kupwara Highway.

BJP Spokesperson Arun Gupta, addressing the media, said the sanctioning of such high-magnitude projects is the result of "intense and continuous efforts" by the J&K BJP unit in coordination with the Central leadership.

Gupta was accompanied by party spokespersons, Dr Tahir Choudhary, and Vikram Malhotra, while addressing the press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. He emphasized that



these projects are not just announcements but will be executed with the same seriousness, reflecting BJP's track record of delivering on development promises.

"These tunnels, worth nearly Rs 10,637 crore, are crucial for all-weather connectivity, especially for border and remote areas like Rajouri, Poonch, and Kupwara. Mughal Road remains cut off for half the year, affecting develop-

ment and logistics. With this, an alternate national highway link becomes a reality," he stated.

Dr. Tahir Chowdhary, senior BJP leader and spokesperson, also highlighted the strategic importance of these tunnels, especially in improving troop mobility, emergency access, and tourism connectivity.

"Such long-pending projects are only possible due to the serious commitment of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji

and Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari toward J&K's development," he noted.

BJP Spokesperson Sh. Vikram Malhotra underlined the tunnels' significance for national security and their role in strengthening alternate connectivity for border areas.

"The Sadhna Tunnel, connecting key regions in north Kashmir, will be a game-changer for Kupwara and surrounding areas, both from a security and tourism perspective," he

said.

The leaders also responded to opposition criticism alleging regional bias in project allocation.

Sh. Arun Gupta clarified that both Jammu and Kashmir divisions are beneficiaries, citing the Pir Ki Gali tunnel on the Jammu-Poonch-Rajouri axis as a clear example.

He also addressed concerns raised about pending urban projects in Jammu city, citing technical challenges and ongoing evaluations.

"Unlike previous regimes, BJP ensures projects are not just started but completed with sustainable planning and execution," he said.

The BJP leaders affirmed that J&K's development is a top priority under PM Modi's leadership and reiterated that the region is finally witnessing long-overdue infrastructure and economic growth.

Indian Army organizes Interaction with Veer Naris Chaired by Zonal President AWWA at Draba, Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE

POONCH: 26 JUN 2025

The Indian Army organized an interaction with Veer Naris and conducted video conference with Zonal President AWWA on 26 June 2025. The Zonal President, Army Women Welfare Association (AWWA), White knight Corps, chaired the Video Conference with Veer Naris, reaffirming AWWA's unwavering commitment to their welfare and dignity. The Zonal President personally interacted with the Veer Naris, acknowledged their immense sacrifices and assured them of continued support from AWWA in all aspects of their lives. Welfare measures, grievances redressal and



opportunities for empowerment were discussed during the event. The conference focused on reviewing ongoing welfare project, discussing future initiatives and ensuring uniform implementation of AWWA policies for the benefit of families, widows and veterans. The dual

engagement underlined AWWA's proactive and compassionate approach to community welfare and its enduring commitment to the extended Army family. A medical check-up and CSD facilities to all the attendees were also provided during said event.

AIRNF raises serious concerns over discrimination facing nursing cadre in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 26

The All India Registered Nurses Federation (AIRNF) has raised serious concerns over the ongoing discrimination faced by the nursing cadre in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in relation to pay scales and professional nomenclature. The federation has filed an official objection against the draft rules proposed for non-gazetted employees under Jhelum Valley Medical College (JVC), SKIMS Bemina, Srinagar.

In a detailed representation submitted to the Health and Medical Education Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, AIRNF emphasized the urgent need to

address the disparities being faced by thousands of nursing professionals across the region.

AIRNF has demanded the adoption of updated nursing designations in line with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) guidelines. They emphasized that Jammu and Kashmir must implement the national standard nursing nomenclature to ensure uniformity across all states and union territories.

The federation pointed out that many essential nursing posts that exist in other parts of India have not been created in Jammu and Kashmir including Gazetted and Non-gazetted Nursing Cadre posts, leading to limited career progres-

sion opportunities for the nursing workforce.

AIRNF called for the implementation of a unified pay structure across India. Nurses in Jammu and Kashmir currently receive significantly lower pay compared to their counterparts in other states despite performing similar duties and the Entry Pay of Nurses should be Pay Level 7 as a Nursing Officer.

The federation urged the government to immediately revise the pay scales for nurses from Entry Pay Level to Last Gazetted post, aligning them with their qualifications, professional responsibilities, and service delivery standards. The current disparities not only demotivate

the workforce but also hamper healthcare quality in the region.

Lack of Recruitment Rules or Non-finalization of Recruitment Rules of All Non-gazetted Employees of 5 New Medical colleges (Doda, Rajouri, Kathua, Baramulla and Anantnag) from 2020 to till date.

Acute shortage of nursing staff in both rural and urban healthcare facilities.

Numerous vacancies in sanctioned posts remain unfilled for years.

Injustice in pay grades and absence of additional allowances.

Lack of promotional avenues and proper cadre structure.

The federation appealed to the adminis-

tration to take swift action to rectify these longstanding issues and implement reforms that will benefit thousands of nurses working under immense pressure and inadequate support systems.

Speaking on the matter, an AIRNF State President said, "Our nurses have shown unmatched dedication, especially during public health emergencies. It's time the system recognizes their contribution with justice, dignity, and equal rights."

AIRNF reaffirmed its commitment to advocating for the nursing community and vowed to continue raising its voice until fair treatment and reforms are delivered.

Indian Army Flags Off 'Forever in Operations Mountain Terrain Bicycle Expedition

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 26

In a spirited celebrations of the upcoming 26th Kargil Vijay Diwas, the Indian Army flagged off 'Forever in Operations Mountain Terrain Bicycle Expedition 2025' from the Siachen Base Camp on 25th June 2025. A total of 20 trained Army Personnel will participate in this expedition, reflecting the Indian Army's spirit of adventure and resilience.

During this expedition, the cyclists will traverse over a distance of 650 kms through the harsh and unforgiving terrain of Ladakh, and culminate at the Kargil War Memorial, Dras on 10th July 2025. The route includes high mountain passes, glaciated roads, river crossings, and



rarefied altitudes testing not only physical strength, but also one's mental grit.

This symbolic ride will connect Siachen the highest active battlefield of the world with Kargil, a lasting emblem of courage and sacrifice. The journey serves as a bridge between history and the present, rekindling the memories of the valiant fight for India's sovereignty.

Along the way, the cyclists will engage with local communities, students and veterans, conducting awareness drives, patriotic outreach events and interac-

tive sessions to instill pride and national unity among them.

This high-altitude mountain terrain biking expedition is a tribute to the unparalleled courage and supreme sacrifice of the bravehearts, who secured India's victory during the Kargil War in 1999. The expedition not only honours the valour of our heroes, but also reinforces the unwavering spirit of India's Armed Forces, who remain ever ready to serve in the most formidable environment.

Every act of terrorism is criminal & unjustifiable, SCO must unite in eliminating menace for collective safety & security: Raksha Mantri at SCO DMs' Meeting at Qingdao, China

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 26

Every act of terrorism is criminal & unjustifiable, SCO must unite in eliminating the menace for collective safety & security: Raksha Mantri at SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting at Qingdao, China "Peace & prosperity cannot co-exist with terrorism and proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the hands of non-state actors and terror groups. Dealing with these challenges requires decisive action. It is imperative that those who sponsor, nurture and utilise terrorism for their narrow and selfish ends must bear the consequences. Some countries use cross-border terrorism as an instrument of policy and provide shelter to terrorists. There should be no place for such double standards. SCO should not hesitate to criticise such nations," said Shri Rajnath Singh. Raksha Mantri asserted that India launched Operation Sindoor in response to the heinous terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir, exercising its right to defend against terrorism and pre-empt & deter further cross border attacks. "Epicentres of terrorism are no longer safe, we will not hesitate to target them"

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, on June 26, 2025, laid down the broad contours of India's transitional shift in its policy against terrorism at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' Meeting at Qingdao, China, calling upon the member countries to unite in eliminating the menace for collective safety and security. Addressing the Defence Ministers, SCO Secretary General, Director Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) of SCO and other distinguished

delegates, Raksha Mantri stated that the biggest challenges faced by the region are related to peace, security and trust-deficit, with increasing radicalisation, extremism & terrorism being the root cause of these problems. "Peace and prosperity cannot co-exist with terrorism and proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the hands of non-state actors and terror groups. Dealing with these challenges requires decisive action. It is imperative that those who sponsor, nurture and utilise terrorism for their narrow and selfish ends must bear the consequences. Some countries use cross-border terrorism as an instrument of policy and provide shelter to terrorists. There should be no place for such double standards. SCO should not hesitate to criticise such nations," said Shri Rajnath Singh. Raksha Mantri asserted that India launched Operation Sindoor in response to the heinous terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir, exercising its right to defend against terrorism and pre-empt as well as deter further cross border attacks. "During the Pahalgam terror attack, victims were shot after they were profiled on religious identity. The Resistance Front, a proxy of UN-designated terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) claimed responsibility for the attack. The pattern of Pahalgam attack matches with LeT's

previous terror attacks in India. India's zero tolerance for terrorism was demonstrated through its actions. It includes our right to defend ourselves against terrorism. We have shown that epicentres of terrorism are no longer safe and we will not hesitate to target them," he said. Shri Rajnath Singh reiterated the need to hold the perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of reprehensible acts of terrorism, including cross-border terrorism, accountable and bring them to justice. He termed any and every act of terrorism as criminal & unjustifiable regardless of their motivation whenever, wherever and committed by whom-so-ever. SCO members must condemn this evil unequivocally, he said, reaffirming India's resolve to fight terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Raksha Mantri called for proactive steps to prevent the spread of radicalisation among the youth, acknowledging the significant role of the RATS mechanism in tackling the challenge. "The joint statement of the Council of SCO Heads of State on 'Countering Radicalisation leading to Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism' issued during India's Chairmanship symbolises our shared commitment," he stated. Shri Rajnath Singh underscored the importance of countering the technology used by terrorists including drones for

cross-border smuggling of weapons and drugs, pointing out that traditional borders are no longer the sole barriers against threats in this interconnected world. He stressed that the world faces an intricate web of challenges that range from transnational terrorism and cyber-attacks to hybrid warfare. These threats, he said, do not respect national boundaries, and demand a unified response rooted in transparency, mutual trust, and collaboration. Highlighting SCO's crucial role in the current uncertain geopolitical scenario, Raksha Mantri stated that the member countries contribute around 30 per cent of the global GDP and about 40 percent of the world's population resides in them. He described the creation of a safe, secure and stable region as a collective stake, which can contribute towards progress and improvement of peoples' lives. Shri Rajnath Singh said globalisation has been losing momentum, and the weakening of multilateral systems has made it harder to address urgent challenges, from maintaining peace and security to rebuilding economies after the pandemic. He added that competition between major powers is intensifying, with trade and technology being increasingly used as tools in geopolitical rivalries. "India believes that reformed multilateralism can help build cooperation to prevent conflict

between countries by creating mechanisms for dialogue and collaboration," he said. Raksha Mantri voiced India's commitment to increasing its connectivity with Central Asia. "Better connectivity not only enhances mutual trade but also fosters mutual trust. However, in these efforts, it is essential to uphold the basic principles of the SCO charter, particularly respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of member states," he said. Shri Rajnath Singh added that India has been consistent and steadfast in its policy in support of peace, security & stability in Afghanistan. He enumerated the immediate priorities in Afghanistan including providing humanitarian assistance to its people and contributing to overall developmental needs. As Afghanistan's largest regional development partner, India continues to implement capacity-building initiatives for the Afghan people, he said. Raksha Mantri also shared insights on how non-traditional security challenges like pandemics, climate change, food & water security, and associated societal disruptions recognise no boundaries and impact peoples' lives. He stressed that these challenges cannot be addressed without responsible policies and cooperation among nations. "India's initiative on Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure aims

not only at promotion of disaster resilient infrastructure, but also infrastructure risk management, standards, financing and recovery. It is also an example of how countries are coming together to create and share capabilities to deal with humanitarian assistance & disaster relief," he added. Shri Rajnath Singh stated that India's vision of SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) and MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions) are testament to create a conducive environment for growth and economic development, with security & stability being the most essential components. He underlined India's support to greater cooperation and mutual trust among SCO members, urging them to collectively aspire to fulfill the aspirations and expectations of the people while tackling today's challenges. "We must all be in lockstep in our endeavour in strengthening stability and security in our neighbourhood," he said. Raksha Mantri highlighted that India seeks to build consensus on dealing with global challenges on the basis of the motto 'One Earth, One Family, One Future', which is founded on its civilisational ethos of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family). Mutual understanding and mutual benefit must be our guiding principles, he said.

ADC Bheaderwah reviews implementation of NGT directions

JI NEWS SERVICE

BHADERWAH, JUNE 26

In compliance with the directives issued by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bheaderwah Sunil Kumar Bhutyal, chaired a significant review meeting today at his office chamber. The meeting aimed to evaluate the implementation status of environmental protection measures and reinforce interdepartmental coordination for effective compliance with the NGT's directives.

During the meeting, a detailed discussion was held on the Action Taken Report (ATR) submitted to the NGT on the ecological concerns in the region. The review primarily focused on the enforcement of plastic ban, conservation of local water bodies, proper solid waste management, and the protection of forest areas. Officers were instructed to ensure that stringent measures are taken at the ground level to preserve the fragile ecosystem of Bheaderwah.

DC Jammu reviews functioning of Labour Department



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

Deputy Commissioner Jammu Sachin Kumar Vaishya, chaired a meeting today to assess the functioning of the Labour Department in the district, with a strong focus on the implementation of labour laws, formal registration of workers and employers and the extension of welfare benefits to the unorganised workforce. The meeting was attended by Sub Divi-

sional Magistrates, Additional Commissioner Revenue Dr Rajesh Kumar, Assistant Commissioner Development Danish Rasool, Assistant Labour Commissioner Jammu Rupali Jasrotia, Labour Officer Shivika Sharma and concerned officials from other departments. Deputy Commissioner underlined the vital role of the Labour Department in protecting the rights of workers and ensuring that legislative measures aimed at

improving working conditions, safety standards and social security are fully enforced. He reiterated the administration's commitment to the welfare of both organised and unorganised workers, calling for strict compliance with provisions under the Contract Labour Act, Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, Shops & Establishments Act, and the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act.

Kupwara Police organizes Drug Awareness Rally on Eve of Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, JUNE 26

In observance of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Kupwara Police organized a comprehensive Drug Awareness Rally on 26th June 2025 with the objective of generating mass awareness regarding the ill effects of drug abuse and reinforcing the collective resolve to combat this societal menace.

The event was formally inaugurated with the welcome address of the Worthy Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kupwara, Shri Gulam Jeelani Wani (JKPS). The occasion was also graced by the presence of Additional Superintendent of Police Kupwara, Deputy Superintendent of Police Headquarters, Deputy



Superintendent of Police DAR, Station House Officer Kupwara, and Duty Officers from various Police Posts. Their presence reaffirmed the commitment of the police department to eradicate the threat of drug addiction and trafficking from the district.

The rally witnessed overwhelming participation from students, local youth, various sections of civil society, local resi-

dents, ASHA workers, ICDS functionaries, and other concerned stakeholders. The rally commenced from the Dak Bungalow Kupwara and culminated at the Martyrs' Memorial, Regipora Chowk, where participants raised anti-drug slogans and displayed placards emphasizing the urgent need for societal vigilance and responsibility. The primary objective

of the rally was to sensitize the general public about the dangers posed by narcotic substances, and to foster a shared sense of duty among citizens towards eliminating drug abuse. On the sidelines of the event, a pledge was administered to all participants, wherein they vowed to act proactively in the fight against drug addiction and its associated harms.

Several critical concerns and grassroots-level observations regarding the drug menace were articulated by students and community participants, underscoring the need for sustained awareness and enforcement efforts.

It was reiterated during the programme that Kup-

wara Police has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards narcotics and psychotropic substances. To this effect, numerous FIRs have been registered, and stringent legal action has been initiated against identified drug peddlers and traffickers. Simultaneously, the police continue to implement community outreach, education, and rehabilitation initiatives, aimed at preventive intervention and social reintegration of affected individuals.

Kupwara Police remains steadfast in its commitment to uphold the rule of law and safeguard the community from the scourge of drug abuse. The department shall continue to take proactive and lawful measures to ensure a safer, healthier, and drug-free society.

Congress to intensify movement for statehood: Nasir

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

AICC General Secretary Incharge J&K & Ladakh affairs Dr Sayeed Naseer Hussain has said that the party shall intensify the struggle for restoration of statehood to J&K.

Addressing a press conference at PCC HQ Srinagar today, Dr Naseer lashed out at the BJP and Centre government for delay in granting statehood to J&K, after committing the same in Parliament and before the Supreme Court.

Flanked by JKPC President Tariq Hameed Karra, AICC General Secretary & CLP Leader G A Mir, AICC Secretaries Manoj Yadav & Divya Maderna, Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma, Senior leaders Bashir Ahmed Magrey, Sdr S S Channi & MLA Nizamuddin Bhat, he said he held detailed deliberations with party leaders during



his current visit here and earlier in Jammu he asked party cadres to intensify the ongoing movement.

He said that he will also undertake a tour of different Districts along with PCC President & senior leadership to meet workers and strengthen the organization.

Replying to a question on the vacancies to Rajya

Sabha, he said that there is no representation of J&K in Rajya Sabha, which is the house of council of states, so it should be filled without delay.

In reply to another question, he said that Congress party has raised several important questions over the role of Elections Commission, after detailed investigations, however

any constituent of INDIA block can have own view on the issue.

Regarding new joining of leaders into the party, he said that senior leadership of JKPC will be taken on board and case to case basis decisions will be taken.

In another reply, he said that PCC and other Congress Committees shall be reconstituted, in due course, as all such committees are dissolved at present. He further said that anyone found guilty of indiscipline shall be dealt with as per norms and any harsh decision required in the interest of the party will also be taken, as organization is supreme.

Earlier addressing

extended executive of the party and during meetings with different delegations from across Kashmir valley and Jammu region, AICC General Secretary stressed for

Strengthening Congress party at grass root levels in order to come out stronger in next elections including in the ULB and Panchayat elections. He said it is the desire & effort of every party to Strengthen its base and come to power, so work hard at the ground level and highlight important issues of people.

Dr Naseer asked party cadres to prepare beforehand for the panchayat & ULB elections whenever held, as these are overdue in Jammu and Kashmir. He said grass root units will be further strengthened in near future to face the future electoral & other challenges.

Indian Army conducts Lecture on Women Empowerment, Interaction with Asha Workers at Haribudha, Poonch

J1 NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, 26 JUN 2025

The Indian Army organized an insightful lecture on Women Empowerment and conducted an interaction with ASHA Workers focused on the well-being of women in rural areas at Dehri Masjid School, Haribudha in Poonch District. The event aimed at raising awareness about various women empowerment schemes available in rural Jammu and Kashmir. The session emphasized that empowering women is essential for building a brighter future. When women are empowered, the entire society progresses, paving the way for development and prosperity. The lecture shed light on multiple government initiatives designed



to uplift and empower women, including the National Policy of Education, Mahila Samakhya, the National Commission for Women, Balika Samridhi Yojana, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the National Programme for Education of Girls at the Elementary Level, the Swayam Sidha Women Empowerment Programme, Mahila Kosh among others. Special emphasis was laid

on encouraging women's participation in the Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) through various schemes. The girls and ASHA Workers present expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the Indian Army's initiative, acknowledging that the awareness generated would have a lasting impact, leading to an improved quality of life and greater opportunities for growth.

District Administration Rajouri observes International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, JUNE 26

The District Administration Rajouri, on the directions of District Development Commissioner Abhishek Sharma, today organized an awareness programme to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at the District Headquarters.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from a cross-section of society including health professionals, educationists, students, media persons, and members of the civil society, who came together and pledged to contribute towards a Nasha Mukta Rajouri.

The event commenced with a formal welcome address followed by a pledge-taking ceremony, reaffirming the collective resolve to combat substance abuse. A compelling video presentation highlighting the journey from addiction to recovery was screened, setting the tone for the sessions ahead.

Head of Department Psychiatry, GMC Rajouri Dr. Parvaiz Alam delivered an insightful lecture, explaining the signs of addiction and the importance of timely interven-



tion. Students from various schools engaged the audience through a thought-provoking elocution competition on the theme "Nasha Mukta Bharat".

Speaking on the occasion, District Social Welfare Officer Abdul Raheem provided an overview of key government schemes, helplines, and the pivotal role of welfare officers in supporting individuals battling addiction. He also shared the details of the ongoing Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign being conducted under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan across Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies in the district.

The Deputy Superintendent of Police (Headquarters) underscored the role of law enforcement in curbing the drug menace and informed the gathering about punitive measures under the NDPS

Act. He urged the youth to resist peer pressure and assured continued vigilance and support from the police in creating a drug-free society.

Chief Medical Officer spoke on the severe health consequences of drug abuse and highlighted the available healthcare interventions, including counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation services under the Nasha Mukta Bharat initiative.

A representative from the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) spoke on legal provisions under the NDPS Act and reiterated the importance of legal awareness in fighting the spread of drugs in society.

The event was attended by Secretary, DLSA Rajouri; Programme Officer, Mission Poshan; CDPO; District Youth Services & Sports Officer; District Cultural Officer; Chief Education Officer; and officials from other departments.

Students across Delhi NCR reimagine the Future with Samsung Solve for Tomorrow

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

Classrooms lit up with curiosity, corridors buzzed with conversations around innovation, and young students stood confidently pitching bold ideas for a better tomorrow. The recent Samsung Solve for Tomorrow roadshows and open houses have been igniting minds across cities, and Delhi NCR was no exception. Samsung Solve for Tomorrow, launched on April 29, 2025, is more than just a national innovation challenge. It is a call to action for India's youth – an invitation to step up, identify real-world issues, and build technology-based solutions that can impact lives. The programme equips students with design thinking tools, mentorship from Samsung leaders and IIT Delhi faculty, investor connects, and prototyping support. It also offers INR 1 crore to the top four winning teams. As part of the outreach, the Samsung team visited Mamta Modern School in Vikaspuri, Kamal Model Sr. Sec. School in Mohan Garden, DAV Sector 14 in Gurgaon, St. Teressa School in Indirapuram, and WCTM Gurgaon. In



these open houses, students interacted with programme facilitators, asked questions, explored case studies from previous seasons, and began shaping their own problem statements. At the New Delhi leg of the roadshow, the excitement was palpable. Students from schools gathered with ideas ranging from AI-based solutions for senior citizen care to sustainable energy innovations and mental health apps tailored for teens. Among them was Aarna Kaushal, a class II student, who has been deeply moved by the sight of overflowing landfills in her city. Inspired by the programme, she's now working on a smart segregation system for waste collection. "Sam-

sung Solve for Tomorrow made me feel like someone is finally listening to students like us. I'm not just dreaming anymore – I'm planning, researching and designing," said Aarna.

For Bhumika Rawal, it was the experience of watching kids around her struggle with dyslexia that sparked an idea. "I want to create a voice-based learning app that helps kids learn at their own pace. The roadshow helped me shape that dream into a project," said Bhumika, her eyes lit with determination. The energy in these sessions went beyond pitches and prototypes. Students discussed the importance of inclusion, accessibility, climate responsibility, and rural

connectivity. They learnt that ideas don't have to be perfect to be powerful – they just need to be rooted in purpose. As the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow roadshows continue to travel across India, they're not just spreading awareness about the programme – they're awakening a generation of problem-solvers and change-makers.

India is full of young innovators. Samsung is providing them the tools, the platform, and the confidence to build something meaningful.

With open houses like these, Samsung is doing more than scouting for the next big idea – it's investing in the next generation of changemakers who believe that solving for tomorrow begins today.

Civil, Police officers conducts extensive inspection of water bodies in Doda

J1 NEWS SERVICE
DODA, JUNE 26

In compliance with the directions of Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh, the District Administration Doda along with Police today carried out a comprehensive inspection of key water bodies across multiple locations to ensure safety of the general public.

Teams comprising Tehsildars, SHOs and field officials carried out coordinated visits to Assar, Thanthera, Pari Dal, Bagger, Chiralla Nallah, Malikpura, Shiva Dhal Pull, Kalnai River near Thathri bridge and adjoining areas of Doda district. The inspection aimed to penalise the violators, assess the condition of local water bodies, ensure their proper upkeep and identify any potential risks, especially in view of the ongoing monsoon season.

During the field visits, officials also engaged with locals to spread awareness about the dangers associated with the Chenab River and other nearby water sources. Citizens were advised to remain vigilant, particularly during heavy rainfall, and to refrain from venturing close to riverbanks and nallahs.

DST iTBI IIM Jammu empowers Unorganized Food Vendors in Katra with FoSTaC Workshop in Association with FICSI & LEAD J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, through its DST iTBI (IIMJ-FEISD), in collaboration with the Food Industry Capacity and Skill Initiative (FICSI) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, organized a one-day training workshop under the Food Safety Training and Certification (FoSTaC) program for unorganized food vendors and women SHGs in Katra. The workshop was conducted in association with Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) and LEAD (LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue). The training focused on Basic Food Safety (Catering) and aimed to equip street food vendors operating in and around the Vaishno Devi Shrine area with essential food safety and hygiene practices.



This initiative aligns with IIM Jammu's broader mission to promote inclusive growth and support grassroots entrepreneurs and workers in Jammu and Kashmir. Under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, the initiative underscores the Institute's strong commitment to building inclusive and sustainable food tech ecosystems in the region.

Present on the occasion were The Chief Guest, Shri Pawan Goswami, Deputy CEO, SMVDSB and Guests of Honour included Shri Rakesh Wazir and Shri Virender Kesar, office bearers of PHDCCI and Katra Hotel Association. Also present on the occasion was Ms. Pushpita Rana,

Manager - Industry and Education Engagement & Placements, FICSI, Shri Vinay K Stephen, FSSAI, Dr. Vivek Sharma, Chief Innovation Officer, IIM Jammu, Shri Kannav Padha, Manager, FEISD, and Ms. Dhruvi, Deputy Manager, FEISD, IIM Jammu.

IIMJ-FEISD envisions scaling such initiatives across the Union Territory to deliver long-term impact. This event marks the beginning of a sustained collaboration between IIM Jammu and FICSI to foster entrepreneurship, innovation, and skill development in the region while empowering the unorganized workforce through structured training and certification.

Int'l Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking SDRF 2nd Battalion Jammu organises awareness programme

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

As per the directions of Commandant General HG/CD & SDRF Alok Kumar ADGP J&K, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF 2nd Bn. Jammu, organised an awareness programme at Bn. Hqrs Gandhi Nagar against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking to mark "International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking."

Students from MAM College and officers/Jawans of SDRF participated in the simple but impressive awareness programme. The initiative aimed to spread awareness about the ill effects of drug abuse and to promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle among the youth.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation



from college students who joined SDRF personnel in taking a solemn pledge to stand against drug abuse and contribute actively in building a drug-free society.

Students of MAM college/officers of SDRF, while speaking on the occasion, emphasized on the importance of educating young minds and empowering them to make informed choices.

The speakers highlighted this year's United Nation's theme, "The evidence is clear: Invest in prevention," as well as the Indian

theme "NASHA MukT BHARAT" underlining the need for early awareness, community involvement, and proactive prevention strategies. The pledge ceremony served as a reminder of the collective responsibility of society in combating the growing menace of substance abuse.

The SDRF 2nd Battalion Jammu has been consistently engaging in community-based awareness activities, and this observance further reinforced its commitment to social responsibility beyond disaster response duties.

ICG inducts 'Adamyia' the first FPV out of the eight being built by GSL

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

'Adamyia' the first Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) under the eight FPV Project at Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) was inducted in the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) on June 26, 2025, in Goa. The FPV is the first ship in its class within the ICG fleet to feature Controllable Pitch Propellers (CPPs) and indigenously developed gearboxes, offering superior maneuverability, operational flexibility, and enhanced performance at sea.

The vessel is equipped with state-of-the-art technology, including a 30mm CRN-91 gun, two 12.7mm stabilized remote-control guns with fire control systems, an Integrated Bridge System (IBS), an Integrated Platform Man-

agement System (IPMS), and an Automated Power Management System (APMS). These advanced systems will empower the ICG to perform its charter of duties with increased precision, efficiency, and responsiveness across India's extensive maritime domain.

Designed and built entirely by GSL, 'Adamyia' exemplifies India's growing shipbuilding capability and represents a major stride towards the nation's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. These FPVs will act as force multipliers in the ICG's operational fleet, enabling swift response for maritime law enforcement, coastal surveillance, search and rescue operations, and the protection of India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

India's stand against terrorism uncompromising, bold at SCO meeting: Kavinder

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

Strongly endorsing India's unflinching stand against terrorism at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' Conclave, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta said that the message delivered by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was a clear reflection of India's zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and its sponsors. In a press release issued here today, the BJP stalwart lauded Defence Minister Rajnath Singh for refusing to endorse the SCO joint communique that failed to explicitly acknowledge India's core concerns regarding cross-border terrorism, particularly emanating from Pakistan. He said India's decision to withhold its signature reflects New Delhi's resolute stance that terrorism must not be diluted or ignored in the garb of consensus. He stated that Defence Minister Rajnath Singh rightly emphasized that there can be no double



standards in the global fight against terrorism, urging SCO member nations to unite and unequivocally condemn the menace. "Terrorism, radicalisation, and extremism are the root causes of instability in the region, and countries using terrorism as an instrument of policy must be exposed and held accountable," he said.

In a veiled reference to Pakistan, the Defence Minister had pointed out that some nations continue to shelter terrorists and use cross-border terrorism as a tool to further their strategic aims. Kavinder supported this assertion and said the global community must realise that peace and prosperity cannot coexist with terror sanctuaries

and radical ideologies.

Referring to the recent Pahalgam terror attack, the senior BJP leader said India's response through Operation Sindoor sent a strong and clear message to terror sponsors and their proxies. "India has demonstrated zero tolerance towards terrorism and has shown the resolve to pre-empt and strike at terror epicentres beyond its borders," he asserted.

The former Deputy Chief Minister further praised Rajnath Singh's call for unified and decisive action against terrorism, proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs), and the spread of radicalisation among youth. He urged the SCO nations to adopt a transparent and collaborative approach to address common threats like cyberattacks, hybrid warfare, and transnational terror.

"India stands firmly for peace, but not at the cost of its sovereignty and security. The world must rise above politics and take decisive steps to combat terrorism in all its forms," he added.

AM Hyundai extends Grand Welcome to Jong Tae Park, Executive Director – Hyundai Motor India Ltd

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

AM Hyundai, one of the most trusted names in Hyundai dealership networks, had the distinguished honor of welcoming Mr. Jong Tae Park, Executive Director of Hyundai Motor India Limited, during his official visit to the AM Hyundai showroom.

The event was graced by Mr. Jong Tae Park, Executive Director of Hyundai Motor India Limited, Mr. Y.B. Hwang, Zonal Business Coordinator, and Mr. Rupesh Kapoor, Vertical Head - Business Planning of Hyundai Motor India. Their presence added immense value and motivation for the entire AM Hyundai team and management.

This special visit reinforces Hyundai's strong



association with its dealer network and highlights the brand's commitment to delivering excellence at every customer touchpoint. The presence of senior leadership from Hyundai Motor India was a moment of pride and recognition for AM Hyundai.

The event was led by the leadership of the AM Group, including Chairman Mr. Jatinder Gupta, Managing Director Mr. Sanjay Mahajan, and

Directors Mr. Ankur Mahajan, Mr. Akshay Mahajan, Mr. Aryan Mahajan, Ms. Sahira Mahajan, and Mrs. Sharmila Mahajan, who extended a warm and gracious welcome to the Hyundai Motor India delegation.

During the visit, Mr. Park and his team engaged in meaningful interactions with the leadership and staff, appreciated the dealership's achievements in sales, service

excellence, and customer satisfaction, and discussed future growth plans for the region. Their encouraging words further energised the team to continue setting benchmarks in the automobile retail experience.

Mr. Ankur Mahajan, Director of AM Hyundai, shared,

"It was an absolute privilege to host Mr. Jong Tae Park and the senior leadership of Hyundai Motor India. Their visit is a tremendous motivation for all of us at AM Hyundai to stay aligned with Hyundai's vision of innovation, sustainability, and progress for humanity."

AM Hyundai remains committed to offering best-in-class automotive experiences, upholding Hyundai's core values of quality, trust, and customer delight.

DH Reasi observes World Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, JUNE 26

District Hospital Reasi commemorated the World International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2025 by organising an awareness event in collaboration with the NGO (Youth Brigade Welfare Society Reasi) and Government Nursing College.

The event featured engaging presentations by Dr. Pratibha Rakwal and Dr. Swati Mahajan. Additionally, student speakers from the Government Nursing College shared their insights, reinforcing the importance of awareness and proactive measures against drug abuse.

Dr. Gopal Dutt reiterated the significance of community involvement and highlighted the resources available for prevention and recovery. The program was hosted by Sumeet Sawhney.

Indian Army organizes Outreach Program on "Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking" at Garhi, Rajouri

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, 26 JUN 2025

Indian Army conducting a lecture on "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking". The outreach programme was aimed to raise awareness about the major problem that illicit drugs represent to society and strengthen action and cooperation in achieving a world free of drug abuse. The outreach programme provided valuable insights to promote action by governments, Army, organisations, and individuals to prevent



drug abuse. The outreach programme was a step towards government initiative of "Nasha MukT Bharat Abhigyan" Aimed at spreading awareness about drug abuse and illicit trafficking in the rural areas, schools and remote location of the country. The event saw active partici-

ation from 35 villagers, including ESMS, teachers, and community members. The initiative strengthen the bond between the Army and the local community while promoting actions by governments, Army, organisations, and individuals to prevent drug abuse.

BSP pays tribute to Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) organized a programme in RS Pura Jammu South Assembly constituency and paid emotional tribute to social reformer Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj on his birth anniversary. BSP state president Darshan Rana was the Chief guest. During this program organized under the chairmanship of party District President Tarsem Lal. Apart from this, other party leaders and workers participated in the program, who paid emotional tribute on Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj's Birth anniversary and also highlighted his contribution for the betterment of the society. On this occasion, BSP Jammu Kashmir President Darshan Rana

said that Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj took concrete steps for the rights of Dalits and women, in 1919 he gave the right to untouchables to enter the hospital for treatment. By an order, he ended the injustice and mistreatment of Dalits from primary schools to colleges.

Rana recalled the contribution of Shahu Ji Maharaj and said that Shahu Ji Maharaj, born on 26 June 1874, was the king of Kolhapur state. He first implemented the reservation system in his state. He also made a law for free education for all and widow remarriage. Along with this, he said that Bahujan Samaj Party will not tolerate any kind of tampering with reservation. He said that 27 percent reservation should be implemented for the people of

OBC category in Jammu and Kashmir and reservation should also be implemented in the promotion of government jobs, which the government has been ignoring for a long time. On this occasion, BSP District President Tarsem Lal said that Shahu Maharaj opened the doors of education for the exploited, deprived and backward classes. He gave equal rights to the people. He worked as a true social reformer while facing caste challenges. He said that we need to work for the betterment of the society by following the path shown by such social reformers. Apart from this, the party also organized programs in other districts and paid tribute to Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj.

Poonch unites against drug abuse: Awareness event marks International Day against Drug abuse and Illicit Trafficking



JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JUNE 26

The International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was observed with fervor and a strong message of awareness in Poonch on Wednesday. The event was held in the Conference Hall of Dak Bungalow, drawing the attention of a cross-section of society to the growing challenge posed by drug abuse and its associated impacts.

Chief Guest, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Tahir Mustafa Malik, presided over the program and emphasized the vital role of community participation and awareness in the campaign against the menace of drugs.

District Social Welfare Officer Khalil A. Bandy explained the significance

and objectives of the day, highlighting the urgent need to sensitize the masses about the dangers posed by drugs and to foster a sense of responsibility within the community.

Representatives from the Health Department, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Sports Department, and Police also spoke on the occasion, focusing on the importance of inter-departmental cooperation in tackling the issue of drug abuse effectively.

The event witnessed active participation from civil society representatives, including Muhammad Fareed Malik, Surjan Singh, and Sarfraz Mir, who shared their thoughts and stressed the urgency of collaborative efforts and enhanced awareness to eradicate the threat of drugs from society.

DFCO organises UT wide awareness events to mark Int'l Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

To observe the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Drugs & Food Control Organisation (DFCO), J&K organized series of events/ awareness programs across all the Districts of Jammu & Kashmir to educate the public, particularly youth, about the dangers of drug abuse and the importance of living a healthy, drug-free life.

An awareness program was held in the Conference Hall of Rama Krishna Mission Charitable Hospital, Udhewwalla, Jammu. Speaking at the program, the Officers from DFCO underlined the importance of public cooperation in tackling drug trafficking and ensuring strict regulation of pharmaceuticals to prevent misuse.

The event witnessed participation from students, healthcare professionals, law enforcement officials, and members of civil society.

The event also featured

informative sessions by Swami Yajnadhananda ji, Arvind Sharma, Assistant Drugs Controller, Jammu, Pankaj Malhotra, ADC (HQ) J&K, Dr B.D Sharma Ex- DHS, Jammu & Swami Vijayeshananda ji. The event was coordinated by S. Tejveer Singh Sodi, Drugs Control Officer.

Awareness event and a rally was also organised at Katra and Reasi respectively to raise public awareness about the imminent need to combat the menace of drug abuse.

Drug and Food Control Organisation Samba, in collaboration with the Chemists and Druggists Association, conducted an awareness program. The initiative included the distribution of IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) material, which was displayed prominently at nursing homes, chemist shops, and other key locations across Samba. The event was conducted under the supervision of Deputy Drug Controller Rajesh Anguralla.

Awareness Programs

and Rallies were also conducted at Doda, Kishtwar & Baderwah, under the supervision of Drug Control Officer Munish Gupta, which witnessed participation from a large number of people from different sections of the society & members of Pharma trade fraternity.

Udhampur Wing of Drugs & Food Control Organisation, in collaboration with the District administration and social welfare department conducted an awareness program in which a singer cum guitarist Anirudh Sharma gave a mesmerising performance. The Program was chaired by Deputy Commissioner and attended by several district officers and students who were presented mementos for the cultural activities by the social welfare department's Sanjeev Gupta, ADC, Udhampur coordinated the said program.

Similarly, Rallies, Symposiums and Debate Competitions were also held in Rajouri, Poonch, Kathua and parts of Kashmir Division.

DC Jammu, JMC Commissioner lead Tree Plantation Drive under 'Clean Jammu, Green Jammu' Campaign

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

In a significant stride towards environmental protection and sustainable urban development, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya and Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation, Dr. Devansh Yadav today spearheaded a tree plantation drive at Jambu Lochan Rotary near Civil Secretariat.

The initiative is part of the larger "Clean Jammu, Green Jammu" campaign, an ongoing effort aimed at increasing green spaces, mitigating the impact of climate change, and promoting eco-consciousness among citizens. This campaign has become a flagship environmental movement in the city, inspiring people across wards and localities to contribute towards a greener future.

During the drive, the Deputy Commissioner and the Commissioner planted saplings alongside several senior officials, setting a powerful example of leadership in climate action. They urged citizens to take individual responsibility for preserving nature and enhancing the city's environment through tree



plantation and sustainable living practices.

A large number of officials from the Jammu Municipal Corporation and Urban Forestry Division Jammu actively participated in the drive. Their presence not only ensured the operational success of the event but also demonstrated institutional support and commitment toward building an ecologically sound Jammu.

Deputy Commissioner Sachin Kumar Vaishya, while addressing the gathering, emphasized that increasing green cover is crucial for improv-

ing air quality, reducing urban heat, and ensuring a healthier life for future generations. He called for consistent, community-led efforts and inter-departmental cooperation to address environmental challenges effectively.

Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav reinforced the vision of making Jammu an environmentally vibrant city. He stressed that the Clean Jammu, Green Jammu campaign is not just about planting trees, but also about nurturing them, spreading awareness, and developing a culture that respects and

protects nature.

The plantation drive received overwhelming support from the local community. Residents, environmental volunteers, and social activists gathered at the venue and joined hands with officials, adding a sense of shared responsibility and public enthusiasm to the initiative.

Other dignitaries and officers were present on the occasion, including Joint Commissioner Health and Sanitation Abdul Star, Superintendent Engineer Jal Shakti Sunil Gandotra, Health Officer Dr. Vinod Sharma, Divisional Forest Officer Jammu Ashwani Kumar Mittal, Assistant Floriculture Officer Rabia Khan, IEC Incharge Dr. Divya Sharma, and former councilor Anil Masoom. Their participation added further value and visibility to the campaign.

The Clean Jammu, Green Jammu campaign continues to gain momentum, with regular plantation drives being organized across the city, transforming vacant spaces into green zones. The administration remains committed to making Jammu a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable city for all.

CM Abdullah's double standards exposed on Statehood Issue: Dr. Tahir Chowdhary

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 26 JUNE 2025:

Reacting strongly to former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's remarks on the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, BJP spokesperson Dr Tahir Chowdhary on Wednesday said Omar is trying to mislead the people and divert attention from real issues by playing politics over a sensitive matter.

"Omar Abdullah is fooling the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He fought the J&K Assembly elections under the constitutional framework of a Union Territory, and now suddenly he's trying to stir emotions for political mileage," Dr Chowdhary said.

He was responding to Omar Abdullah's comments in Gulmarg, where the National Conference leader said he had "no objection" if the Assembly is dissolved and fresh elections are held after the restoration of statehood.

"Omar failed to deliver tall promises which made during poll campaigns. He has now resorted to making provocative statements just to stay politically relevant," Chowdhary added.

The BJP spokesperson reiterated that the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Hon'ble Union Home Minister Amit Shah have clearly assured the nation that Jammu and Kashmir's statehood will be restored at an appropriate time.

"The government is working with a vision of inclusive development, peace, and prosperity in J&K. Statehood will be returned, but not at the whims of politicians who lost ground. It will be done in national interest, not for political convenience," Dr Chowdhary said.

Dr Chowdhary said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are now more politically aware than ever before and won't be swayed by outdated rhetoric. "The future of J&K lies in progress, not propaganda," he concluded.

Being Human Clothing champions India's Global Future as Headline Sponsor at Oxford India Forum 2025

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

Being Human Clothing is proud to have served as the Headline Sponsor for the Oxford India Forum 2025, one of the most prestigious student-led conferences at the University of Oxford. Held at the University of Oxford, the forum brought together some of the brightest minds across disciplines to engage in meaningful dialogue on India's evolving global identity, placing purpose, compassion, and social impact at the heart of the conversation.

This partnership between Being Human Clothing and Oxford India Forum marked a powerful alignment between academia and philanthropy. As a foundation deeply committed to education, healthcare, and empowerment, Being Human amplified the forum's vision of fostering critical thought, inclusive dialogue, and cross-cultural collaboration. The support of a purpose-led brand added resonance to the discussions, which spanned public policy, entrepreneurship, the creative economy, and sustainability.

Being Human has long championed the six humane values of Love,



Care, Share, Hope, Help & Joy leading to dignity, opportunity, and access—values that mirrored the spirit of this year's Oxford India Forum. Held at the iconic Saïd Business School, the 2025 edition featured keynote addresses, panel sessions, and fireside chats with global leaders, policy experts, and emerging changemakers, all of whom reflected on the path ahead for India on the world stage.

Ayaan Agnihotri, Executive Director Being Human Clothing from Being Human shared during the event, "It has been an honor to support a forum that brings powerful minds together in service of a shared future. At Being Human, we believe that genesis of transformation is in knowledge, empathy, and dialogue—values that this forum embodies. What truly stood out

to us was the diversity of thought and the sincerity with which every speaker approached the challenges and opportunities facing India today. Discussions across sectors, sustainability, innovation, or consumption reinforced our belief in changes are led by collaborative conversations with purpose and compassion. We're proud to stand alongside thought leaders who are not only asking the right questions but also shaping the answers."

With each session, the Oxford India Forum 2025 deepened its role as a platform for global exchange and thoughtful leadership. The collaboration with Being Human Clothing not only strengthened the forum's impact but also underscored the role of socially conscious partnerships in shaping India's global narrative.

Baba Chamlyal Shrine symbolizes faith, harmony; BJP committed to Border area devp: Sat

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, JUNE 26

Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP accompanied by General Secretary & MLA Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, DDC Chairperson Keshav Dutt, MLAs Chander Prakash Ganga, Prof Gharu Ram Bhagat, Adv. Vijay Sharma, Dr. Rajeev Bhagat, & Dr. Bharat Bhushan, and other senior party functionaries visited the revered shrine of Baba Chamlyal at the International Border in Ramgarh sector and paid obeisance to the saint, seeking peace, prosperity, and security for the region.

DDC & BJP Kissan Morcha President Sarbjit Singh Johal, DDC Vice-Chairperson Raghunandan Singh Bablu, DDCs Dharminder Kumar & Anita, District President Updesh Andotra, Gopal Mahajan, Prem Pal, Choudhary Parkash, Billu



Choudhary, Nancy Choudhary, Narinder Jamwal, Radhey Sham, as well as civil and administrative officers including the BDO, Tehsildar, BMO and others were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma said, "The shrine of Baba Chamlyal is a symbol of deep-rooted faith and

communal harmony in the border belt. It attracts devotees not just from Jammu and Kashmir but from across the country and beyond. Our government and the BJP are committed to ensuring the development of border areas and providing all possible infrastructure and security support to the local population."

He stressed that the visit underlines the BJP's dedication to preserving cultural heritage and ensuring holistic development of border districts.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal emphasized the importance of strengthening border infrastructure and welfare schemes for border residents. "The people living in these sensitive regions are the real sentinels of the nation. We are working continuously to provide better healthcare, education, road connectivity, and employment avenues for them," he stated.

The leaders also interacted with the locals and took stock of the arrangements made for the annual Baba Chamlyal Mela. They appreciated the efforts of local administration and security forces in maintaining order and facilitating smooth conduct of the religious gathering.

Indian Army organizes Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at Samote, Rajouri



J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, 26 JUN 2025

With an aim to promote clean and healthy lifestyle in the society, Indian Army at Samote organised 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' at JNV, Kotranka on 26 Jun 2025. The initiative is aimed to raise awareness among the students about the importance of cleanliness in their environment and its direct impact on health and well-being. The campaign was designed to

raise awareness about the importance of maintaining cleanliness not only for personnel well-being but also for the overall health of the community and environment. It highlighted the link between cleanliness and a healthy society, urging the participants to take proactive steps in their daily routines to ensure better waste management, improved sanitation and better personal hygiene. The event culminated with all par-

ticipants taking pledge of keeping their names and surrounding area and country side clean. The aim of campaign was to spread awareness about the need for cleanliness in their lines and surroundings for a healthy society. The students were made to understand various health problems related to waste disposal, unhygienic living conditions, sewage problems and personal hygiene.

GDC, Sunderbani organizes Extension Lecture, Pledge Taking Ceremony



J1 NEWS SERVICE
SUNDERBANI, JUNE 26

On Drug Abuse to commemorate International Day on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking to curb the menace of drug abuse. The lecture was organized in order to aware the students about the ill effects of drugs as the young generation are most vulnerable to this malpractice. Prof. Davinder Kumar,

Convener Nasha Mukta Committee was the keynote speaker for the lecture. He talked in detail about the symptoms and habits of an addict and the ways to deal with them. He also stressed upon the fact that addiction occurs only when one weakens one's will power. The lecture ended with a healthy discussion and a few queries of the students were also discussed eloquently.

JKSPYM SLCA organizes Walkathon to observe "International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking"

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 26

On the occasion of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking - June 26, 2025, the State Level Coordinating Agency (SLCA), J&K and Ladakh in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India organized a Walkathon/ Awareness

Run to spread awareness against drug abuse and promote a drug-free society.

The Walkathon commenced from South Block, Bahu Plaza parking and culminated at Panama Chowk, Jammu. More than 100 participants including students, staff members, and volunteers enthusiastically participated in the event, holding plac-

ards and raising slogans to spread the message of "Say No to Drugs".

The event aimed to sensitize the public, especially the youth, about the harmful effects of drug abuse and the importance of choosing a healthy lifestyle. Through this initiative, SLCA emphasized the collective responsibility of all stakeholders in curbing the drug menace.

Legislative Committee on Environment assesses environmental issues across J&K

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

The Legislative Committee on Environment of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly held a high-level review meeting at Assembly Complex here today to assess and examine the pressing environmental issues and challenges faced across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was presided over by Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami, Chairman of the Committee and attended by MLAs Peerzada Mohammad Syed, Rajiv Jasrotia, Peerzada Feroze Ahmad, Khurshid Ahmed, Mushtaq Ahmad Guroo, Irshad Rasool Kar and Darshan Kumar; members of the committee.

Commissioner Secretary, Forests, Ecology and Environment, Sheetal Nanda; Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Manoj Kumar Pandita; PCCF J&K, Chairman Pollution Control Committee; Director Ecology, Environment and Remote Sensing and other senior officers of department also attended the meeting.

Speaking during the meeting, Chairman of the Committee, M.Y Tarigami, highlighted that Jammu and Kashmir is very sensitive in terms of environment and nature and therefore we need to collectively work for strengthening our grassroots-level awareness and community involvement for various conservation initiatives. "The ecological balance of Jammu and Kashmir is



very fragile. We must act decisively to protect our forests, rivers and biodiversity for future generations", M.Y Tarigami stated.

Underlining several critical issues of environmental degradation, the Chairman of the Committee emphasized on the department to conduct routine checks on industries and industrial estates and assess whether they are operating under established norms and regulations. He also asked them to keep vigil on operations of stone crushers across the UT and take appropriate measures for reducing their impact on river banks and river beds.

While speaking on waste management and other issues, M.Y Tarigami called upon the officers of the department to organise regular awareness campaigns in schools and colleges across Jammu and Kashmir regarding waste management techniques and environmental protection. He asked the offi-

cers to utilise the services of environmental experts and activists, NGOs, scientists and other groups for protection and preservation of environment across UT.

During the meeting, the members of Committee voiced deep concern over growing environmental degradation in several regions like illegal deforestation, pollution of water bodies and improper waste management practices. They also expressed displeasure over pollution due to unregulated mining activities and non-functioning of several Sewage Treatment Plants across UT.

The members emphasized on the critical need for sustainable development and called for urgent, coordinated action by government departments and enforcement agencies for environmental preservation and protection.

During the meeting, the Committee resolved to monitor the implementation of key environmental regulations more rigorously. It underscored the importance of strict compliance with the Environment regulations and rules. The Committee also called for enhancing real-time monitoring of environment through digital tools and bolstering inter-departmental coordination. They also asked the officers to conduct regular field visits, engage with stakeholders and locals to gather first hand information regarding environmental concerns.

Mission Yuva transforming lives in J&K: Chief Secretary

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

Chief Secretary, Atul Dulloo, today said that Mission Yuva is a transformative movement aimed at changing mindsets and empowering the youth across Jammu and Kashmir economically.

He made these remarks while chairing a one-day session held for members of the Small Business Development Unit (SBDU) and Business Help Desk (BHD) under Mission Yuva at Srinagar.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Secretary emphasized that Mission Yuva seeks to shift the youth's mindset away from viewing government jobs as the only career path. "It is an effort to bring about psychological and mental transformation among our youth. Once this happens, institutional support will enable them to realize their dreams and aspirations," he said.

Atul Dulloo underscored the programme's focus on sustainable economic opportunities, entrepreneurship and self-employment, stressing that vast employment potential lies across industries, agriculture, allied activities and the MSME sector in J&K. He called for creation of a strong economic ecosystem to facilitate the business development and community upliftment. "This is not merely a policy initiative; it is a people's movement towards empowerment, social upliftment and economic self-reliance," he added. Highlighting the



need for wider outreach, the Chief Secretary directed the officials to launch door-to-door awareness campaigns on employment opportunities under Mission Yuva besides proper handholding of aspiring entrepreneurs.

He urged all stakeholders including government agencies, private institutions and banks to work in close coordination to make J&K a model of successful youth entrepreneurship.

The Chief Secretary also instructed the banks to ensure hassle-free loan disbursement. "Treat every loan seeker as a business opportunity. Support them until their units are successful. Let J&K become a model for youth-led enterprise," he said.

Atul Dulloo spoke on various self employment schemes and cited the success of the NRLM, where nearly two lakh "Lakhpati Didis" have become symbols of economic empowerment in the region.

Speaking on the occasion, MD & CEO of J&K

Bank, Amitava Chatterjee, said that Mission Yuva presents a significant business opportunity for the banks to expand their loan portfolios while contributing to J&K's socio-economic development. He highlighted the bank's active role in shaping the Detailed Project Report (DPR) and reiterated its commitment towards empowering the youth and boosting entrepreneurship in the region.

Earlier, Administrative Secretary, Labour & Employment Department, Kr. Rajeev Ranjan, presented an overview of the progress under Mission Yuva, focusing on awareness, documentation and timely loan disbursement.

The event was attended by Shahzad Alam, Director Employment/Mission Director, Mission Yuva; Aushtosh, General Manager Corporate Banking (Agriculture & MSME); Rakesh Magotra, Deputy General Manager, J&K Bank besides officers from NABARD, JKEDI, SIDBI and members of SBDU and BHD.

MLA Karnah calls on CM, thanks him for efforts in sanctioning of Sadhna tunnel



JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Karnah, Javaid Ahmad Mirchal, today called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and expressed gratitude for his untiring efforts regarding the sanctioning of the Sadhna Tunnel, a long-pending demand of the people of Karnah.

The 7-km long Sadhna tunnel, to be commissioned at a cost of Rs 3,330 Cr on NH 701, will provide all-weather connectivity between Karnah and Kupwara district headquarters improving access to essential services and significantly easing the hardships faced by residents during winter months.

Terming it a transformative step, MLA Mirchal thanked the Chief Minister

for his continued commitment to the development of remote and frontier regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, MLA Lolab Qaysar Jamsaid Lone also raised the demand for a similar tunnel project for the Machil area, another far-flung region in Kupwara district.

He sought Chief Minister's intervention to take up the proposal with the Government of India and ensure year-round road connectivity for the Machil Sector.

The Chief Minister assured the legislators that the Government remains committed to addressing the connectivity challenges of border and remote areas and will take up the matter for Machil tunnel with the concerned authorities.

DC Srinagar reviews implementation of Water Supply projects under AMRUT 2.0

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 26

To review the implementation of water supply projects under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 in the District, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo today chaired a meeting with Engineers of Jal Shakti Department here at meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner held comprehensive discussions on the progress of various approved schemes under AMRUT 2.0. He also conducted a project wise

review of all the schemes.

On the occasion, the DC emphasized on swift pace of works to ensure expeditious completion of water supply projects being executed under AMRUT 2.0 in Srinagar District. He underscored that any issue hampering the progress of AMRUT 2.0 shall be resolved through inter-departmental coordination forthwith for smooth implementation of the projects on ground.

He directed the Officers to expedite the formulation of the pending DPRs besides promptly initiating & completing the tendering process for the approved projects.



While highlighting the significance of AMRUT 2.0., the DC said that the scheme is aimed to priori-

tize ensuring quality water availability and timely augmentation of existing water supply capacities for urban areas and stressed upon the officers to intensify the efforts to ensure timely completion of all projects so that people are benefited from the scheme.

Earlier, the DC was apprised by Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circle Srinagar through a detailed powerpoint presentation the progress of different projects under the scheme.

The DC was informed that a total number of 20 projects have been approved for Srinagar City,

out of which 18 projects have been tendered out and allotted.

The DC was further informed that with the execution of AMRUT 2.0 scheme, Srinagar City shall be self-sufficient to address water demand for a long time ahead.

Besides Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar and Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circle Srinagar, Er. Anbreena Anjum, the meeting was attended by Executive Engineers of Water Works Division, Water Supply Master Plan Division, Rural Water Works, PHE Mechanical & I&FC and other concerned Officers.

International Day against Drug Abuse observed at Budgam

JNEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, JUNE 26

In context with the International Day against Drug Abuse, a one day seminar was organised by district administration Budgam in collaboration with the Social Welfare department, here today.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat presided over the function as chief guest.

Besides ADC Budgam, CMO, DSWO, DIO, representatives from education department, other officers and officials of the department were present on the occasion.

The event witnessed active participation from students, officials, and civil society members, reflect-



ing a collective commitment towards combating the menace of drug abuse in the district.

On the occasion, DC administered a pledge to the participants against drug abuse. He emphasised generating massive awareness on drug abuse, followed by enforcement and treatment to curb the menace in the society.

He said, though the civil and police administrations

are doing their part efficiently, however, as a society we all have to play the role and save our youth.

Dr Bilal warned of strict action by the district administration against peddlers, assuring that every single peddler will be put behind bars.

DC said small camps need to be organised at village level so that awareness against the menace of drugs percolates to the person living in the last corner of the district.

He emphasized the crucial role that parents, teachers, and educational institutions play in addressing this pressing social issue. He highlighted that timely guidance and emotional support from families and mentors can act as the first line of defense against substance abuse among youth.

DC said, "we should treat drug victims as a patient not as a criminal, so that together we could take him out from this drug-net which is spreading in our community at large."

The programme featured thought-provoking skits performed by students and artists from the Cultural Academy, conveying powerful messages on the consequences of drug addic-

DCO organizes awareness/ training prog. to observe Intl. Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking

JNEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, JUNE 26

In observance of the International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking, Drug Control Organization (DCO) Kulgam today organized an awareness-cum-training programme at Town Hall Devsar.

The event witnessed active participation of local chemists, who were sensitized about the prevailing drug abuse scenario, its detrimental effects on society, and their critical role in combating this menace.

During the training

session, various software modules related to the implementation of a computerized billing system were also demonstrated to the participants, aiming to streamline pharmacy operations and enhance transparency in drug sales.

Assistant Drug Controller, Rumessa Mohammad, along with Drug Control Officers attended the event and addressed the participants. They stressed the need to bridge gaps in prescription drug misuse and underscored preventive strategies to curb the rising threat of drug abuse.

JNEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, JUNE 26

As part of the ongoing Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), district administration Pulwama today conducted a comprehensive outreach and benefit saturation camp at Achgooze, with the objective of ensuring equitable access to government services and welfare entitlements for the tribal population.

The camp witnessed overwhelming participation from members of the tribal community, including women, children, elderly citizens, tribal leaders, activists and youth. The initiative is aligned with the vision of the DAJGUA campaign to ensure holistic development and empowerment of

tribal residents through targeted saturation of welfare schemes.

A wide array of departments, including Health, Social Welfare, ICDS, Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal and Sheep Husbandry, Forest, and Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Fisheries established dedicated stalls at the venue to deliver on-the-spot services.

These departments facilitated registrations under key schemes such as Jal Jeevan Mission (Functional Household Tap Connections), MGN-REGA Job Cards, PMAY-G, PM Ujjwala Yojana, Mudra Yojana, PM Vishwakarma among others. Eligible citizens were guided and assisted on-site to ensure timely and complete coverage under these schemes.