

Kashmir Convener



'Conspiracy to manage headlines': Cong slams ED raids on premises of Bhupesh Baghel in Chhattisgarh

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Budget Session 2025

CM Omar announces committee to devise framework for regularization of Daily Wagers

“This is a humanitarian issue, not just a financial issue”

KC News Network

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today announced to constitute a committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo to devise a roadmap for the regularization of daily-rated wagers.

Replying to the discussion on Budget 2025, the Chief Minister said, “Through this House, I am announcing the formation of a committee under the Chief Secretary, with the Additional Chief Secretary to the CM, Commissioner Secretary GAD, Planning Secretary, and Law Secretary. Within six months, we will finalize a framework, determine the exact number of daily wagers, and legally and financially assess how they can be regularized. Then, the policy will be discussed here in the next budget.”

Speaking about the plight of daily wagers, the Chief Minister emphasized that this is not



merely a financial issue but a humanitarian and social concern. Referring to the use of force against protesting daily wagers in Srinagar and

Jammu, he remarked, “What happened to them yesterday, I do not want to repeat. But I must ask—why did the situation reach this stage?”

He recalled that during his previous tenure as Chief Minister, his government had initiated a framework for regularizing daily wagers. However, he noted that the 2014 elections and the devastating floods had disrupted these plans. Taking a dig at the opposition, he questioned their inaction, stating, “What did you (the opposition) do? I reviewed past budget speeches from your tenure and found no mention of daily wagers except in the fourth budget speech, where you vaguely spoke about ‘sustainable livelihood.’” He further pointed out that even after the issuance of SRO-520, only 577 daily wagers were regularized.

Challenges in Regularization
The Chief Minister highlighted that, over the past decade, opposition which were in power then failed to address the issue, despite having both state

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People should keep civilisational values alive: LG Sinha

KC News Network

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today attended ‘Bihar Kesari Samman’ Samaroh at Patna and felicitated eminent personalities with the prestigious award for their distinguished services.

The award is given in the honor of Dr. Krishna Singh, the great freedom fighter and first Chief Minister of Bihar.



The Lieutenant Governor paid tributes to Dr. Krishna Singh and recalled his significant contribution to the development of Bihar and the nation building.

“Krishna Singh was the creator of modern Bihar. By initiating agricultural reforms, river development projects in the first five-year plan and subsequently building the monuments of modern Bihar like Barauni Refinery, Heavy Engineering Corporation, Barauni Fertilizer Plant, Barauni Thermal Power Station, Damodar Valley Corporation, Patratu Power Station, Scooter Factory,

Garhara Locomotive Shed, First Railway and Road Bridge of Independent India Rajendra Setu, Natarhat School, Engineering Colleges in Muzaffarpur, Jamshedpur, Sindri, Gaya, Motihari etc., he made Bihar the powerhouse of the country’s progress.

Krishna Singh was fondly called Shri Babu. His name is recorded in golden letters in the tradition of great personalities who were born in Bihar and dedicated themselves to nation-building. He laid the foundation for industries and infrastructure.

Shri Babu had independent consciousness right from his teenage years and I believe that it was this spirit which helped him become an embodiment of good governance. During his tenure Bihar became one of the fastest developing states,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted public welfare and empowerment of poor and underprivileged sections of the society by him.

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Centre bans Awami Action Committee, J&K Ittihadul Muslimeen for five years



KC News Network

NEW DELHI: The Central Government has banned the Awami Action Committee (AAC), led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 for five years.

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“Bound To Face Crushing low” HM Amit Shah

KC NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: After the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) banned Jammu and Kashmir Ittihadul Muslimeen (JKIM) and Awami Action Committee Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said that anyone found involved in activities against the nation’s peace is bound to face the “

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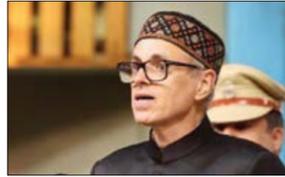
India, Bharat or Hindustan, call it by whichever name you prefer: CM Omar

KC News Network

JAMMU: Asserting that this country is known by its three names – Bharat, India and Hindustan – Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday said citizens may call it by any name that resonates with them.

Responding to a question on the comments made by RSS General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale, who insisted at a function that if the country’s name is Bharat, it should exclusively be called that, Abdullah said, “We call it Bharat. We call it India. We call it Hindustan. We have three names. Whichever name resonates with you, you can call it that.”

Speaking to reporters outside the Assembly, he said, “It is the ‘Constitution of India’ and the ‘Reserve Bank of India’. Why is that? That



question should be asked. If the country’s name is Bharat, shouldn’t it have been called only that?”

Pointing out that both ‘Bharat’ and ‘India’ are written on the Prime Minister’s plane, he added, “It is called the Indian Air Force and the Indian Army. But we also speak from the perspective of Bharat.”

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J&K per capita income remains below national average: Economic Survey

KC NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: The per capita income (PCI) of Jammu and Kashmir has remained below the national average with UT’s PCI estimated to be 1,54,703 in 2024-25 in comparison to the national average of 2,00,162.

The PCI is a measure of the amount of money earned per person.

As per the Economic Survey 2024-25, the PCI of J&K at current prices is estimated to attain a level of Rs 1,54,703 in 2024-25 (advance estimates) as compared to national level per capita income of Rs 2,00,162 in 2024-25.

The Economic Survey report however states that the per capita income of J&K at current prices is anticipated to grow at a rate of 10.6 percent in 2024-25 as compared to all-India growth of 8.7 percent.

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LG orders remittance in life imprisonment to three convicts

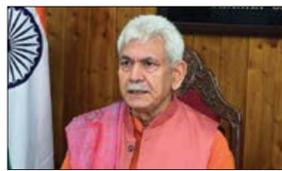
KC News Network

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today ordered remittance in life imprisonment to three convicts who were arrested under sections 302, 34, 201 of Ranbir Panel Code earlier.

A notification issued by J&K Home department on the directions of Lieutenant Governor reads, “In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 473 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 read with S O 2506 (E) of 2024 dated 28 of June 2024 of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, the Lieutenant Governor is pleased to order that the remaining term of imprisonment of the life convict prisoners, mentioned in the Annexure to this notification, shall be remitted with effect from the date of issuance of this notification, subject to the conditions”.

According to notification the convicts

have been directed to maintain peace, stay away from indulging into any unlawful activities, refrain from intimidating any member or relative of the victims’ family, ensure their presence before authorities once



in six months, and furnish legal formalities required for the premature release before jail authorities.

Besides the concerned police stations have been directed to keep watch on their activities, and in case of any violation their release shall be cancelled.

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GoI reiterates its commitment to make J&K terror free

Raja Syed Rather

NEW DELHI: The Government of India on Tuesday reiterated its commitment to make Jammu & Kashmir terror-free by eliminating terror networks, dismantling financing mechanisms and preventing infiltration.

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai, outlined key measures proposed in the Budget to enhance internal security, including steps specifically focused on J&K.

“The government plans to modernize law enforcement by integrating new criminal laws into a digital system, enhancing crime prevention, and improving criminal investigations. Also, mobile forensic labs will be deployed in every district, and state forensic labs will be modernized to strengthen

evidence-based policing,” the reply stated. “To bolster cyber security, the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) will be expanded, along with cyber fraud



mitigation centres and a National Cyber Threat Intelligence system to counter digital threats,” it added. “Border security is also a key focus, with plans for

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Each MLA to get Rs 3 cr as Constituency Development Fund

Raja Syed Rather

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has decided to allocate Rs 3 crore annually for each Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) under the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) scheme.

This decision, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) will enable MLAs to recommend and oversee the implementation of key development projects in their constituencies.

The funds will be used to support infrastructure development, public welfare projects, and essential services, with a clear focus on ensuring the timely completion of all approved works.

The Finance Department has issued a detailed circular outlining the guidelines for the implementation of the CDF scheme. Under these guidelines, each MLA can propose development works worth up

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‘Monitor anti-national activities closely’: IGP Kashmir to officers



KC News Network

SRINAGAR: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir Zone, V K Birdi today chaired a security review meeting at the Police Control Room (PCR) Kashmir. The meeting was attended by all range DIGs, District SSPs, SO to IGP Kashmir, JDP ZPHQ, SP PC

Srinagar, and other senior officers. He stressed upon the participants to keep close eye on anti-national activities and intensify area domination exercises and night patrolling in vulnerable areas to fortify the security grid.

The meeting began with updates from the district officers on recent security trends, highlighting the importance of maintaining stability and readiness across the Kashmir Zone. The officers gave presentations outlining the evolving security landscape. The key discussions focused on the need for forward-thinking tactics, seamless intelligence coordination, and active public cooperation to ensure peace and security.

IGP Kashmir stressed the importance of closely monitoring anti-national activities and reinforcing territorial control across all districts. He urged officers to intensify area domination exercises and night patrolling in vulnerable areas to fortify the security grid.

Addressing the operational side, IGP Kashmir emphasized the improvement of policing at the Police Station and Sub-Divisional levels, particularly in record building

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Govt announces inquiry on identifying flood prone site for GMC Handwara

KC NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, today announced in the Legislative Assembly that the government would conduct a detailed inquiry into the selection of flood prone site for construction of Government Medical College (GMC), Handwara, which caused significant losses to government exchequer.

The Minister said this while replying to supplementary questions asked by legislators Sajad Gani Lone, Fayaz Ahmad Mir, Kaiser Jamsheed Lone, Mir Saifullah and Sheikh Khursheed regarding establishment of GMC Handwara. While raising the supplementary question on the matter, Legislator Sajad Gani Lone said that the then administration

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28,996 new ration cards issued under Food Security Act in J&K: Govt

Waris Fayaz

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday informed that the Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) has issued 74,071 new ration cards since September 2022, ensuring the inclusion of left-out households.

In response to a question by MLA Rajiv Jasrotia, the minister incharge, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said that government has taken consistent measures to bring all left-out eligible families under the Public Distribution System (PDS).

“Since the transition to the Ration Card Management System (RCMS) in September 2022, 28,996 new ration cards have been issued



under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and 45,075 under the Non-Priority Household (NPHH) category, ensuring that eligible households are not deprived of benefits,” the department stated.

The government also said that the distribution network

currently consists of 6,630 sale outlets, including Fair Price Shops (FPS) and Government Sale Centres.

It said that it is contemplating the opening of new Fair Price Shops (FPS) under the Jammu and Kashmir Targeted

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Pay Salary, Benefits To Consumer Body Members Sans Delay: SC To States



of service of President and Members of the State Commission and District Commission) Model Rules, 2020.

"We direct all the state governments to ensure that without prejudice to various contentions raised in this group of cases, salary and perquisites as per existing state rules shall be immediately paid to the chairpersons/members," the bench said.

In case there was no decision from the Government of India on the prospective amendment, the court said, it would "consider exercising power under Article 142 of the constitution".

The top court in the March 5 order said, "In the event compliance is not made by some of the state governments, the parties concerned are free to hand over a note to that effect to the learned amicus curiae so that the court can pass an appropriate order." The bench was hearing a plea related to the salaries and service conditions of the members of consumer fora.

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has directed all state governments to immediately pay the salary and perquisites of the chairpersons and members of the state and district consumer redressal bodies as

per existing rules. A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and N Kotiswar Singh also directed the Centre to take a call on amending the Consumer Protection (Salary, allowances and conditions

Court Directs Registration Of FIR Against Arvind Kejriwal For 'Misusing' Public Money

NEW DELHI: A court here on Tuesday directed Delhi Police to register an FIR against AAP leader and former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal and others for allegedly



misusing public money in putting up large hoardings in the national capital.

"This court is of the considered opinion that the application u/s 156(3) Cr.P.C. deserves to be allowed. Accordingly, the concerned SHO is directed to register FIR immediately under section 3 of Delhi Prevention of Defacement of Property Act, 2007 and any other offence that appears to have been committed from the facts of the case," Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Neha Mittal said.

The complaint filed in 2019 alleged that Kejriwal, then Matiala MLA Gulab Singh (AAP) and then Dwarka A ward councillor Nitika Sharma "deliberately misused public money by putting up large-sized hoardings at various places in the area.

Drone Dropping Of Arms In Punjab: 6 Terrorists Linked To Khalistan Zindabad Force Get Life Term

NEW DELHI: A special NIA court in Mohali has sentenced six terrorists linked to proscribed Khalistan Zindabad Force (KZF) to life imprisonment for smuggling explosives and arms through drones in Punjab for launching a terror attack in 2019.

Besides the KZF, the convicts are also linked to designated individual terrorists - Germany-based Gurmeet Singh alias Bagga and Pakistan-based Ranjeet Singh alias Neeta, officials said Tuesday.

Three other persons have been sentenced to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment in the case by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) special court, they said.

"While Akashdeep Singh, Balwant Singh, Harbhajan Singh, Balbir Singh, Maan Singh and Gurudev Singh have been sentenced to life imprisonment, accused Shubhdeep Singh, Sajanpreet Singh and Romandeep Singh have been sentenced to 10 years

rigorous imprisonment (RI) for their roles in the case," an agency found that the



NIA spokesperson said in a statement. The court has also imposed fine on all convicts, the statement said.

The spokesperson said the court found the accused guilty under various sections of Indian Penal Code, anti-terror Act UAPA, Arms Act and Explosives Substances Act in the case, linked with the proscribed terrorist organisation KZF.

The NIA had taken over the investigation from Amritsar police in October 2019.

The anti-terror probe

convicts were involved in collecting, transporting and smuggling huge caches of arms, ammunition, explosives, communication devices and fake Indian

currencies into India via drones by Germany-based terrorist Bagga and Pakistan-based terrorist Neeta.

"The explosives, arms, etc were drone-dropped at specified locations in Punjab's Tarn Taran district at various intervals during the months of August and September, 2019," the statement said.

Siddaramaiah requests PM to implement price deficiency payment scheme for red chillies in Karnataka

BENGALURU: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan requesting for implementation of price deficiency payment scheme under Market Intervention Scheme for red chillies in Karnataka. In the letter, he expressed deep concern for the lakhs of red chilli farmers in Karnataka, particularly in the Kalyana Karnataka region, who are facing an "unprecedented crisis" due to the drastic fall in market prices. The Chief Minister noted that the Government of India has



approved the Price Deficiency Payment (PDP) scheme under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for Red Chillies (Guntur

Variety) in Andhra Pradesh, fixing the Minimum Intervention Price (MIP) at Rs 11,781 per quintal with coverage for up to 25 per

cent of production. "While this is a welcome step, the distress faced by Karnataka's red chilli farmers remains unaddressed," he stated in the letter dated March 10.

Siddaramaiah highlighted that in Karnataka, the cost of production for Guntur variety of red chillies (Rain fed) has been assessed at Rs 12,675 per quintal by the Karnataka Agricultural Price Commission. "However, farmers are forced to sell their produce at distress prices as low as Rs 8,300 per quintal in markets like Sindhhanur.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION ANANTNAG
NIT NO 118 OF R&B/Anantnag/2024-25/E-TENDERING/12848-57 DATED 10-03-2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	E/ Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of/ Doc. (In Rs)	E/Money (In Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	Construction of drain from H/o Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat to H/o Ghulam Rasool Lone via H/o Dr Mukhter Ahmad Hakeem at Friends Colony Iqbalabad (Phase-1st).	1.00 Lacs Contract Price exclusive of GST: 0.85 + (18% GST Amount 0.15)	200	2000/-	20 Days	14th FC	DEE Class & MSME'S Only

Project Authority: Municipal Council Anantnag.
Position of AAA: Accorded Vide Order No.MC/ANG/286 of 2023, Dated 26.08.2023.
Position of TS: Accorded.

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms-and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S.No.	Particulars	Dated	
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	10-03-2025	
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 10-03-2025 To 17-03-2025	(12:00PM) (04:30PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 10-03-2025 To 17-03-2025	(12:00PM) (04:30PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 17-03-2025	(04:30PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid(online)	18-03-2025	(11:00AM)

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Anantnag.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / receipt (Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Anantnag(Tender Inviting Authority) (NIT No. Name of Work/Item No. to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt)(Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Anantnag(Tender receiving Authority).(The Date of EMD(CDR/FDR/BG) should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date and validity of EMD at the time of opening of Bids shall be a period of 45 Days beyond Bid Validity of 120 Days). The same EMD should not be used in more than one Tender/Bid.
- All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as No-responsive.
- Note:a. MSME's are required to pay only 50% of Tender Document Cost or Rs500/- which ever is lower.
b. MSME's are required to pay only 50% of the amount of EMD/ Bid Security or Rs 5000/- whichever is lower
- The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/ FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Anantnag (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released 60 days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The date of Performance Security (CDR/FDR/BG) should be after the date of issuance of letter/LOI to deposit the performance security. Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor be forwarded to Higher Authorities for a period of 01 Year.
- The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @5% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG and same shall be released 60 Days after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Anantnag
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, R&B Division Anantnag

DIPK-12875/24

Govt ready to include farmers in PM Kisan Samman Nidhi who are not part of it yet: Agri minister

NEW DELHI: The government is ready to provide Rs 6,000 annual cash benefit under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi to all eligible farmers who are not part of it yet, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

He asked all state governments to cooperate with the Centre in identifying such farmers and ensuring their inclusion in the scheme.

"If anyone is left behind, please help us include all of them under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi. We will ensure that such farmers also get the past instalments," Chouhan said during the Question Hour.

All eligible beneficiaries must possess at least one piece of land, get eKYC done and register themselves at the PMKISAN portal, the minister said. He added that the fund is directly transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries in three equal instalments of Rs 2,000.

"We will ensure that all of these farmers get their dues without even a single day of delay," he said while asserting that the Narendra Modi government is committed to the welfare of the farmers.

Replying to a question related to Tamil Nadu, he said the central government does not discriminate against any state.

"(As a union minister) I have so far visited Tamil Nadu twice. Once for the work related to the agriculture ministry and the other for the works of the rural development ministry. In both occasions, neither the state agriculture minister nor the rural development minister came for the meeting," he said.

Chouhan said he was ready to visit Tamil Nadu

again to discuss farmers' issues. "We are committed to serving the people of Tamil Nadu. We have deep respect for the people of Tamil Nadu," he said.

PM Kisan is a central sector scheme with 100 per cent funding from the Government of India.



Operational since December 1, 2018, an annual income support of Rs 6,000 in three equal instalments is provided to all land-holding farmer families under the scheme.

State governments and Union Territory administrations identify the farmer families that are eligible for the support as per scheme guidelines.

The last instalment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi was disbursed on February 24 when a total of Rs 22,000 crore was given through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system to the bank accounts of 9.8 crore farmers, including 2.41 crore women farmers, across the country. (PTI)

Tremors hit Gujarat's Kutch district, no damage reported

AHMEDABAD: Two tremors of 3.0 and 2.8 magnitude hit Gujarat's Kutch district on Tuesday, the Institute of Seismological Research (ISR) stated.

According to the district authorities, there was no report of

any casualty or property damage.

A tremor of 3.0 magnitude was recorded at 11.12 am, with its epicentre 16 km west-south-west (WSW) from Rapar in the district, the Gandhinagar-based institute said.

According to the district authorities, there was no report of

any casualty or property damage.

A tremor of 3.0 magnitude was recorded at 11.12 am, with its epicentre 16 km west-south-west (WSW) from Rapar in the district, the Gandhinagar-based institute said.

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Wular Lake Still Major Fish Producer, Says J&K Govt

Says production crosses 4500 MT in 2023-24; 5200 Fishermen rely on Wular for livelihood

WARIS FAYAZ

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday refuted the claims that the deterioration of Wular Lake has adversely impacted the fishermen community, stating that the lake continues



to contribute nearly 60% of Kashmir's total fish production.

The Minister In-Charge, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department in reply to a query raised by MLA Nizam-Ud-Din Bhat, as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) informed that the fish catch from Wular Lake has shown a consistent increase over the past three years.

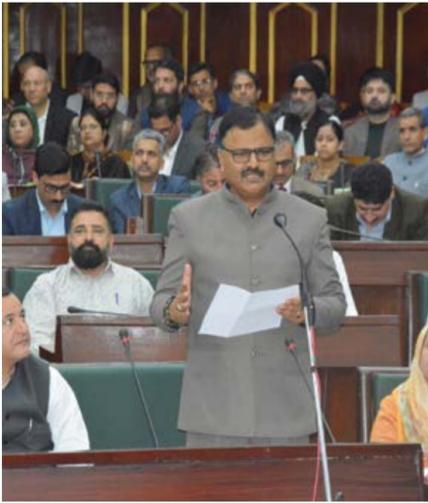
The minister, while dismissing the claim of adverse impact, said the fresh water lake supports the livelihood of around 5200 registered fishermen.

As per the data accessed, in 2021-22, the total fish catch stood at 2941.68 metric tonnes (MT), comprising 779.76 MT of local fish and 2161.92 MT of carp. The following year, 2022-23, the fish catch increased significantly to 3826.39 MT, with 818.25 MT of local fish and 3008.14 MT of carp.

The highest production was recorded in 2023-24, reaching 4593.861 MT, with 1215.25 MT of local fish and 3378.611 MT of carp, the data suggests, indicating a positive trend in fish production—(KNO).

Rs 16.89 cr flood protection works for Ningli Nallah under execution: Jal Shakti Minister

JAMMU: Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmad Rana, today informed the House that flood protection works worth Rs. 16.89 crore, approved under NABARD for Ningli Nallah, are currently under execution.



The Minister was replying to a question raised by Irshad Rasool Kar in the Legislative Assembly.

The Minister informed that a DPR for an amount of Rs. 44.85 crore has been prepared and shall be part of the shelf of projects to be taken up under NABARD funding for modernization of Zaingeer Canal. Besides, one work has been completed under FMP Phase II and one work is under execution under UT Capex.

He said that the survey for framing of DPR for the Khursi Nallah D/s National Highway (Sopore constituency) has been completed and DPR will be framed accordingly.

He informed that WSS Zaingeer, WSS Shiva (proposed) and WSS Saidpora (proposed) are partly dependent on Zanageer canal as the source, WSSs Mazbugh, Checkpora Nowpora, Nowpora Kalan, Bohripora Sheeraz Colony, Bohripora Hamdanabad and Sidiq Colony and Model Town, Wadoora and Nathipora are dependent on Pohru Nallah as the source while WSSs Takiybal Wagub (under execution) and Sharkwara Rural are dependent on Ningli Nallah as the source.

He said that the DPRs are based on a detailed survey that included assessment of quantum and quality of the source. He said that in these schemes, provision of rapid sand filtration plants has been kept to meet the BIS 10500 quality parameters. Besides, surface water has been taken as a source that has sufficient discharge capacity thus ensuring sustainability.

While sharing details of expenditure, the Minister said that an amount of Rs. 3.80 crore has been expended for maintenance and upkeep of various Nallahs of Sopore Constituency under various schemes like FMP Phase II UT Capex, M&R and PRI grants besides NABARD.

Govt orders mocked: Teacher refuses to teach, CEO office offers cover in Bandipora

CONVENER NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: Despite clear government orders directing all attached teachers to return to their schools, a teacher from High School Chanpal Chittbandi, a tribal area in Bandipora district, continues to skip classes and report to the Chief Education Officer (CEO) office instead.

The teacher, assigned to teach Class 10 English, was earlier on an unauthorised deputation at the CEO office for a long time. Last month, the Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) ordered his return to the school.

However, sources say the CEO office overruled the Director's order, allowing the teacher to return to office duties rather than fulfilling his teaching responsibilities.

Students at the school have raised concerns, alleging that the teacher only marks attendance in the morning and then leaves. "We see him in the morning for attendance, but after that, he disappears," said a Class 10 student.

Another student asked, "Why does our teacher stay in the CEO's office while we sit here without an English class? Do students

in tribal schools not deserve proper education?" A third student added, "We have no choice but to study on our own. Every day, he comes, signs in, and leaves. This is not



fair."

This situation comes despite DSEK's February 22, 2025 order mandating that all attached teaching staff return to their parent institutions.

To ensure compliance, the government

has now tasked District Vigilance Officers (DVOs) with personally monitoring the implementation of these directives and submitting a report by March 15.

While the order applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff, concerns have been raised about selective enforcement.

In Bandipora district, multiple Cultural Coordinators are reportedly still working in offices instead of schools, allegedly with approval from Zonal Education Officers (ZEOs). The District Cultural Coordinator remains stationed at the CEO office, despite the detachment order.

Local residents and education activists have criticized these irregularities, questioning why a teacher from a tribal school was selected for an office role while teachers from town schools with surplus staff could have been assigned instead.

Stranded and Forgotten: How ATD 2023 is Failing Hardzone Teachers

KC NEWS DESK

Bandipora: The Annual Transfer Drive (ATD) Policy 2023, introduced to ensure fair and structured teacher transfers, has turned into a nightmare for hundreds of teachers who were assured relocation from hard zones to soft zones after one year of service.

However, despite fulfilling their mandated tenure, these teachers remain stuck in some of the harshest terrains of Jammu and Kashmir, with no clarity on their return.

The policy, initially welcomed for balancing teacher deployment, is now being criticized as a failed promise that has left many teachers feeling betrayed by the education department's inaction. Teachers serving in areas like Gurez and other hard zones have raised serious concerns about delays in their transfers, questioning whether the system is truly committed to fairness.

Speaking anonymously to Kashmir Convener, a teacher, currently stationed in Hardzone Gurez near Line of Control (LoC), voiced his deep anguish. "The officials at the helm have displayed incompetence and a breach of trust. If the ATD policy states 'one year in a hard zone,' then one year must mean exactly that. They can't play foul with teachers who upheld the policy in good faith."

Another teacher, also from Zone V Gurez, echoed similar sentiments, emphasizing the unfair advantage enjoyed by those with bureaucratic and clerical backing. "Unlike others, we didn't ma-



nipulate the system with fake medical certificates or political connections. We followed the rules. And yet, we are still here, as if we are mere numbers on a list, as if our families and personal lives do not matter."

The teachers said, after completing their tenure they approached and knocked at every possible door – Ministers, Principal Secretaries (Education), Directors (Education), and Chief Education Officers – in hopes of a timely transfer.

Reassurances were given—words that have now begun to resemble mere folklore. "Before winter vacations," they were told, "your transfers will be processed

and by last week of February, 2025, it'll be completed." But winter has come and gone, and the promised transfers are nowhere in sight.

For these stranded teachers, the situ-

ation has taken an absurdist turn, much like Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot, where the promised change remains a distant, elusive dream. As days stretch into months, they are left wondering: Are their transfers even possible? Or is this yet another chapter of systemic neglect and broken promises?

What remains undeniable is that the ATD Policy, once envisioned as a fair and transparent mechanism, has now become a source of endless suffering. The question now looms large—will the authorities finally act, or will these teachers continue to be lost in the bureaucratic maze, waiting for justice that never arrives?

Aadil Manzoor Wani Assumes Charge as Assistant Director Handicrafts/ Handloom Bandipora



BANDIPORA: Aadil Manzoor Wani (KAS) currently serving as the District Information Officer Bandipora, today assumed the additional charge of Assistant Director Handicrafts/Handloom, Bandipora.

On the occasion officials of Handicrafts/Handloom, including HTOs, AHTOs, and

other staff members, welcomed Aadil Manzoor for his new role.

Following his assumption of charge, wani convened an introductory meeting with department officials to review the department's functioning and ongoing projects.

During the meeting, the HTOs pro-

vided a comprehensive briefing on the various responsibilities, functions, and activities undertaken by the Handicrafts/Handloom Department.

Interacting with the officials, Aadil Manzoor emphasized the importance of teamwork, efficiency, and innovation in ensuring the growth and success of the Handicrafts and Handloom sector.

He asked the officials to prioritize the welfare of local artisans, improve the delivery of services, and work towards enhancing the department's overall impact on the public.

He also urged the officials to maintain transparency in their work and adopt measures that will streamline operations and benefit the local artisans and economy.

He expressed his commitment to ensuring the continued growth and development of the handicrafts and handloom sector in the district, which plays a vital role in preserving the rich cultural heritage while also supporting local artisans and craftsmen.

DSEK Cancels Teacher Attachments, Vigilance Officers to Monitor Compliance

SRINAGAR: Following the orders of repatriation of all teaching staff deployed or attached for administrative works, the government has directed the District Vigilance Officers to personally monitor the implementation of the government orders for strict compliance.

DSEK had earlier issued orders on 22nd February last month directing all teaching staff deployed or attached for administrative works in different offices or departments to return to schools with immediate effect. However reports suggest that such orders issued from time to time are not implemented on ground following which a fresh directive was issued.

"In continuation to this office order dated 22/02/2025, it is hereby ordered that District Vigilance Officers/Additional District Vigilance Officers shall personally monitor the implementation of instructions regarding repatriation of all teaching staff deployed or attached for administrative works in different offices or departments and non-teaching staff working outside parent departments," reads the order by DSEK.

The DVOs have been asked to submit compliance reports in respect of officials belonging to their respective districts on the devised format to DSEK not later than 15th of March.

The order mandates that all attached teachers return to their original places of posting, reinforcing the need for educators to focus on classroom teaching rather than administrative tasks.

In Bandipora district, multiple Cultural Coordinators are reportedly working in offices instead of schools, allegedly with the approval of Zonal Education Officers (ZEOs). The District Cultural Coordinator remains stationed at the CEO's office, despite the detachment order.

Official sources said while the directive applies to all teaching and non-teaching staff, it does not explicitly mention Cultural Coordinators, raising concerns over loopholes in enforcement.

With Vigilance Officers actively monitoring the situation, Locals are hopeful that the Education Department will take swift action to ensure full compliance and prevent further misuse of teacher attachments.

Nizam-ud-din Bhat Raises Concern Over Wular Lake's Deterioration, Calls for Immediate Action

BANDIPORA: MLA Bandipora Nizam-ud-din Bhat has expressed dissatisfaction over the government's replies to his questions in the Legislative Assembly regarding the conservation of Wular Lake.

The government established the Wular Conservation and Management Authority (WUCMA) to oversee the lake's protection but effective measures were not implemented in previous years, leading to the current crisis. Bhat stressed the urgent need for concrete steps to preserve Wular's ecological balance and support those dependent on it.

In response to Bhat's question, the government acknowledged that Wular contributes nearly 60% of Kashmir's fish production. However, the fishermen population lacks proper infrastructure and basic amenities. The deterioration of Wular has directly impacted fishermen, affecting their livelihoods.

Bhat stressed the need for focused development efforts in both urban and Wular-adjacent areas. He urged the government to expedite Wular's restoration and ensure fishermen receive necessary support. He expressed hope that strong policy decisions and timely action will help revive the lake and safeguard livelihoods.

With Wular's critical role in Kashmir's ecosystem and economy, Bhat's appeal has brought renewed attention to the urgency of preservation efforts.

Block Public Health Unit being developed at CHC Sumbal: Sakeena Itoo

JAMMU: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, while replying to a question raised by Hilal Akbar Lone on criteria for upgradation of Community Health Centre (CHC) Sumbal to Sub-District



Hospital level, today informed the House that CHC Sumbal is not feasible for its upgradation to Sub District Hospital as per IPHS 2022 norms.

She apprised that as per IPHS 2022 guidelines, the districts with a population of less than 5 lakh and a functional District Hospital (DH) do not qualify for a Sub District Hospital (SDH). She also informed that SDH Davar, Gurez, has been sanctioned in the district for being a snowbound area.

The Minister also informed the House that around 14 healthcare facilities are catering to the primary healthcare services. He said that CHC Sumbal is well equipped in terms of manpower, machinery, equipment, infrastructure, dialysis unit, medical and emergency equipment serving as a critical healthcare hub in Bandipora district.

She further informed that the Block Public Health Unit (BPHU) is also being developed at CHC Sumbal under PM-ABHIM which will be an important linkage for the latest healthcare facilities.

The Minister also informed that the department is focusing on consolidation of existing health institutions by way of strengthening the manpower, infrastructure and services in the existing healthcare institutions, rather than upgradation.

A Time to Accelerate Women's Progress and Potential



Lalit Garg

International Women's Day is celebrated every year to promote women's participation in every field and to make women aware of their rights. This year's theme is "Accelerate Action" i.e. a strong and effective push to achieve their goals. This theme tells us that women need to work very hard and fast on themselves. Women have as much contribution in the development of family, society, country and world as men. However, women do not get as much respect, opportunity and freedom as men. But in the process of building a new empowered India, women are making an unprecedented contribution to nation building by crossing the four walls of home and family. Whether it is a woman President of India, Chief Minister in Delhi and West Bengal or Finance Minister at the Center, women are playing a big role from sports to entertainment world and from politics to military and defense.

It is not about Indian or non-Indian women, but about the attitude towards her. There is a need to change this viewpoint; there is a need to end the neglect and harassment of women in the entire world. This day will be meaningful only when women are not only made a part of development but also an environment is created that puts an end to the atrocities and tragedies of tearing apart their existence and identity.

On Women's Day, women related issues like the status of women, increasing incidents of female foeticide, increasing number of boys compared to girls, illiteracy and exploitation of women in villages, safety of women, incidents of rape with women, obscene acts and especially the crimes against them should be brought into discussion once again and a meaningful environment should be created. With events like Women's Day, all the government efforts and a pang of social public awareness, a thought arises in the mind that how long will a woman remain an object of enjoyment? How long will her life remain surrounded by dangers? How long will she keep burning in the blazing fire of rape, molestation, foeticide and dowry? How long will her existence and identity keep being torn apart?

The irony is that events like Women's Day are becoming a means of misusing women instead of giving them due respect and honour. It is not my job to give an emotional expression to the infinite compassion and heart-rending pain reflected in women's lives. But even today, their condition in some societies is pitiable and worrisome. I don't know whether all women experience this situation themselves or not. But no enlightened woman can be happy with the slavery and inferiority complex of her caste. It

is absolutely necessary to develop a resistance consciousness to end the meaningless traditions and feelings of inferiority that

disrespected?

Women have the most honorable and respectable place in



have been going on for centuries.

Until a woman's rebellious consciousness against injustice is awakened, she cannot understand her existence in the right way. As long as the body has the capacity to resist the germs of diseases, it does not get infected. But as soon as the resistance power weakens, diseases attack from all sides which not only weaken the body but also make it hollow. Therefore, the women's society has to practice living an awakened life by developing its resistance power. It has to understand its traditional importance and power. In the Vedic tradition, women have been worshipped in the form of Durga, Saraswati, Lakshmi, Buddhist followers in the form of eternal power wisdom and in Jainism in the form of Shruidevi and Shasan Devi.

According to popular belief, by worshipping the mother, a person gets long life, fame, heaven, glory, virtue, strength, prosperity, livestock, happiness, wealth etc., then why is woman

the world. Woman is the axis of the earth. She is the source of affection. She is the great temple of auspiciousness. She is the pillar of the family. She is the message of purity. The security, coolness and peace that is felt in her loving shade is not even found on the snow-clad mountains of the Himalayas.

The adornments of womankind are simplicity and purity. Ornaments made of gold, silver, diamonds; pearls etc. can only cover her natural beauty, but cannot enhance it. The combination of Satyam, Shivam Sundaram can be achieved not by artificial resources but by enhancing the infinite stage. The famous poetess Mahadevi Verma had rightly said- "Woman is the symbol of Satyam, Shivam and Sundaram. In her, the form of woman is truth, affection is Shiva and motherly love is beautiful. Then why is the woman who possesses these unique and ideal qualities deceived and looted again and again? What kind of society is being formed in independent India, in which the attempts to

snatch the freedom of women and the violent and tragic incidents related to it have shamed us all again and again.

World Women's Day is an occasion to introspect on the situations of injustice against women, to purify the ego in which the superiorities into oblivion. Women's eras have been changing. Sometimes they have got opportunities to move ahead in the open directions of development with full speed, and sometimes they every step has been stopped by the snakes of doubt. Sometimes they have got full social respect, and sometimes they have been standing on the margins of society and suffering the helplessness of being a woman. Sometimes they remain at the center of the family and run the entire family, and sometimes they become inactive after being neglected and harassed in their own family. To bring harmony in these inconsistencies, women will have to move towards a definite goal. In the changing environment, modern women should always remember this sentence of Maithili Sharan Gupt - "Aanchal mein hai doodh". Save her honor and do not tarnish motherhood by committing a heinous act like foeticide. Rather, become a bridge that can join the broken, turn the halting and lift the falling. Water the tiny sprouts and plants with an ideal lifestyle so that they can prove their usefulness by becoming a tree with a hundred branches.

"Yatra poojyante naryastu tatara namante devata"- Where women are worshipped, gods reside there. But today we see that women are being insulted everywhere.

Considering them as an object of pleasure, men are using them in their own way, which is a matter of great concern. There is a saying that women are not born, they are made and many people with orthodox beliefs consider women to be a man's crop. Due to lack of protection of law, women have been losing the battle at the end of the struggle. That is why today's women do not need a margin, but a full page. The entire page, as many men get. In ancient times, Indian women were given special respect. Countless Indian women like Sita, Sati-Savitri have proved their special place. Apart from this, during British rule, there were women like Rani Lakshmbai, Chand Bibi, etc. who rose above all their traditions and left an indelible mark on the pages of history. But with the change of time, it was seen that after many attacks on the country, the condition of Indian women also started changing. With the coming of the British and Muslim rule, the condition of Indian women became very worrying. Day by day she had to face neglect and contempt. Along with this, social evils in Indian society like Sati Pratha, child marriage, pardah system and our traditional conservatism also played an important role in making Indian women poor and weak. But now we have celebrated the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence, in the AmritKaal, the life of women should also become Amrit, only this can give real meaning to celebrating International Women's Day.

Author is a Writer, Journalist and Columnist. He can be reached at lalitgarg11@gmail.com

Budget 2025: A Ray of Hope or Another Year of Despair for J&K's Youth?



By Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun

"A land flourishes when its youth thrive, but when dreams turn into disillusionment, the future stands on shaky ground."

As the echoes of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's maiden budget for Jammu and Kashmir resonate across the region, the people find themselves at a familiar crossroads—one filled with hope yet shadowed by skepticism. The 1.12 lakh crore budget for 2025-26 has been presented as a vision for progress, offering free electricity to Antyodaya families, free transport for women, increased pensions, and incentives for tourism and industries. These measures, though commendable, barely scratch the surface of the deeper crisis plaguing the region—the desperation of its educated youth.

Jammu and Kashmir is home to thousands of highly qualified yet jobless youth, many of whom have dedicated years to education with the hope of securing dignified employment. The harsh reality, however, remains unchanged. Unemployment is not just a statistic; it is a psychological crisis. It breeds frustration, depression, substance abuse, and, in some cases, rebellion against the very system that was supposed to uplift them. While the budget promises economic development, it largely remains silent on the most pressing demand of the youth—employment.

One of the most glaring contradictions in this scenario is the existence of thousands of vacant posts in government departments while the number of unemployed graduates continues to rise. From education to healthcare, administrative services to public infrastructure, critical departments are suffering from severe staff shortages, yet young aspirants wait endlessly for recruitment processes that either remain stalled or move at a snail's pace. Many schools and colleges across J&K function without adequate teaching staff, forcing students to suffer due to a lack of qualified educators. At the same time, thousands of qualified candidates who have cleared eligibility tests such as NET, SET,

and Ph.D. remain unemployed. What is stopping the government from filling these vacancies?

A glaring example of this crisis is the plight of Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) graduates. Since 2008, not a single government job has been announced for BDS doctors. While the government proudly established dental colleges, the graduates of these institutions have been left to struggle in a system that has offered them no space. Many have now crossed the age limit for government jobs, yet there has been no initiative to address their concerns. This is not just limited to dentistry—many other fields face the same neglect. In several departments, while a few posts are advertised, they resemble the classic case of "ek anaar, soh bimaar"—one opportunity for hundreds of desperate candidates.

Similarly, healthcare institutions lack doctors, paramedical staff, and support personnel, despite an army of medical graduates waiting for placements. The same is true for engineering, agriculture, and administrative services. The government's reluctance to expedite job recruitment is widening the trust deficit between the youth and the administration. What is the purpose of a budget if it does not acknowledge and address the grievances of the very generation that will shape the future?

While Mission YUVA claims to generate 4.25 lakh jobs through entrepreneurship over five years, the youth of J&K need more than just ambitious figures on paper. They require immediate employment opportunities, transparent recruitment processes, and an end to delays and bureaucratic red tape. There is a growing sentiment among young people that they are being pushed towards private sector alternatives without being given a fair shot at government jobs, which remain one of the few stable employment avenues in the region.

The frustration of unemployed youth is no longer just a personal struggle; it is a ticking time bomb for society. Depression, anxiety, and suicidal tendencies are on the rise among educated youth who see no future despite their qualifications. The psychological burden of repeated failures in securing jobs is pushing many to the brink. J&K is already grappling with a severe drug addiction problem. Many young people, unable to cope with the pressure and disillusionment, turn to substance abuse as an escape from reality. When a society continuously fails its youth, frustration often takes the form of rebellion. The lack of opportunities



has driven many young minds toward antisocial activities, further destabilizing the region. Many young professionals, despite their deep-rooted love for their homeland, are forced to seek opportunities outside J&K. This leads to an exodus of talent, weakening the state's intellectual and economic future.

A state cannot thrive on freebies and subsidies alone; it must empower its citizens through employment, economic security, and self-reliance. The youth do not seek charity—they seek opportunity, dignity, and recognition of their hard work. Without substantial government job recruitment, the very foundation of this budget remains weak. The government must take immediate steps to expedite recruitment processes, ensure transparency in hiring, and strengthen mental health support for students and job seekers.

CM Omar Abdullah's budget, though presented with optimism, must translate into tangible results. The educated youth of J&K cannot be kept waiting any longer. Their aspirations must not be sacrificed at the altar of political rhetoric. A budget is not just about numbers; it is about restoring faith, delivering justice, and ensuring that no young mind feels abandoned. If this administration truly seeks to bring change, let it begin with jobs, dignity, and hope—not just promises.

History will not remember the allocations of this budget, but it will remember whether it truly uplifted the youth or let them drown in despair. The choice is in the hands of the policymakers, but the consequences will be borne by the people. May wisdom prevail.

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun is a distinguished Educational Columnist, Motivational Speaker, and Associate Editor of the weekly educational publication Education Quill. He can be reached at akhoun.aubaid@gmail.com

...KIWG Day 03

Army, Himachal display marvelous performance, dominate opponents

GULMARG: With couple of inches of snow during the night, technical actions over the peaks of Kangdooori to prevent avalanches and dense fog tested the patience of athletes on Tuesday who were eager to display action while sports lovers & spectators were ready to witness thrill of KIWGs.

The 3rd Day of Winter Games cleared the smoke for medal tally to decide which states or organization will gather maximum medals.

Top contenders from previous day were Army, Ladakh & Maharashtra but the five events scheduled for the day had left competition open to all in national games event at Gulmarg.

With gradual opening of games, the needle of medal tally began to incline towards Army as their team dominated Men's Ski Relay Event and raced to Gold while Uttarakhand team scaled Silver, Himachal Pradesh team walked for Bronze medal in the competition.

The Slalom Snowboard event for Women held at Kangdooori saw thrilling contest among the participants. Himachal Pradesh was crowned with Gold & Silver but missed hat-trick of medals as bronze went to Maharashtra.

The podium crowned Preeti Thakur as Golden Girl, Prakarti Thakur as Silver Girl both Himachal girls, while Urmila Pable of

Maharashtra took pride in bronze. Excited with the Gold, Preeti Thakur said that she enjoyed the



competition & KIWG 2025. She appreciated the facilities and the support extended by the officials & staff.

The Nordic Ski Sprint Women was again dominated by Kusum Rana of ITBP who won second Gold today while three-time Gold Medalist of KWIG Bhavanj Thekkada from Karnataka did a late come

back in this competition to obtain Silver. The Bronze was claimed by non other than Selma Soreng from ITBP, who slid a step down comparing to her yesterday's performance.

For the Men's event of 15km Nordic Sprint there were no surprises when Army is in competition.

Army proved iron will & grit bundling all three coveted medals as Sunny, Stanzin & Thupstan won Gold, Silver & Bronze respectively. What is actually surprising take of event was that Army decimated all competitors and got top twelve positions in the event and the streak was only broken by ITBP.

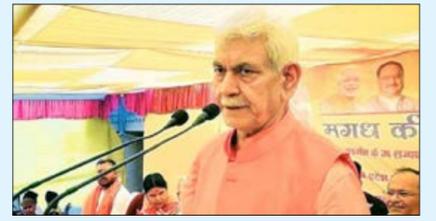
In Alpine Slalom women, Himachal Pradesh players swept medals with Anchal Thakur, Tanuja Thakur & Promila Thakur winning Gold, Silver & Bronze medals.

Deputy Director General, Sports Authority of India, Vineet Kumar while speaking regarding KIWG said the games had been tremendous success as Sports Authority of India and J&K Sports Council have done marvelous job to conduct games efficiently & smoothly despite the weather conditions like fog which reduces visibility.

He lauded the coordination of officials, technical staff, participants and other stakeholders for befitting facilities.

We Need To Work Together To Revive The Glory Of Ancient Magadha: LG Sinha

Lieutenant Governor attends 'Holi Milan Samaroh' at Sendhwa, Jehanabad



JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha attended the 'Holi Milan Samaroh' at Sendhwa, Jehanabad in Bihar today.

Holi in Jehanabad is celebrated with gaiety and enthusiasm. The Lieutenant Governor extended his greetings and best wishes for a brighter future of all.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor spoke on the rich spiritual, educational and cultural heritage of Magadha.

"Magadha region is the life element of our ancient India. It has a prominent place in the history of modern India due to its ancient tradition and cultural values and the invincible strength of this land adorned with the richness of philosophy, language and literature is guiding us.

From this holy land, the principles of industry, trade, commerce and urban development emerged and reached beyond the shores of India through scholars who came to Bodhi Gaya from all over Asia," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the people from all sections of the society to work together to revive the glory of ancient Magadha region.

"According to Vedic literature, there was 'Magadha' in the south-west, 'Anga' in the east and 'Videha' in the north. The first description is found in the 14th verse, 53rd Sutra of the third Ashtak of the Rigveda and it has been called by the name Keekat.

Many historians have also tried to highlight the fact that the integration of Vedic culture and Vratya culture first took place in Magadha. Along with this, the tradition of Rajrishi started from Magadha and the first was Rajrishi Vishwamitra," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted the dedicated efforts made under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for the inclusive development of Magadha region and the state of Bihar.

Seminar on procurement & marketing support scheme for artisans held in Udhampur

UDHAMPUR: To raise awareness among artisans about government schemes aimed at supporting micro-enterprises, the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Development and Facilitation Office, Jammu, in collaboration with the District Administration Udhampur and Directorate of Handicraft & Handloom Jammu organised a One-day seminar-cum-awareness programme on procurement and marketing support scheme here in the Conference Hall, DC Office Complex.

Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai was the chief guest at the Seminar attended by GM DIC Kishore Singh Katoch; Assistant Director, Handloom & Handicrafts, Ujwal Singh; Assistant Director IEDS Rajesh Kumar; A.D IEDS Devender Kumar Tyagi and FM DIC Radhika. Addressing the gathering, Deputy Commissioner emphasized the government's commitment to uplifting the artisan and farming communities through various flagship schemes such as PM Vishwakarma, PMEGP, PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, JK Samadhan, and MSME initiatives. She encouraged artisans and farmers to actively participate in these schemes and avail themselves of their benefits for economic empowerment.

She also commended the Handloom & Handicrafts Department and MSME-DFO office for organizing the seminar and creating awareness about opportunities available to the artisan community. She assured full support from the District Administration in facilitating access to these schemes and urged artisans to register with the concerned department to maximize their benefits. At the onset, Assistant Director, Handloom & Handicrafts, Ujwal Singh welcomed the chief guest and Dignitaries. A detailed PowerPoint presentation highlighting various schemes available for artisans and micro-entrepreneurs by MSME-DFO team including ADS Rajesh Kumar and Devendra Tyagi. He expressed gratitude to the participants for their enthusiastic involvement and reiterated that the primary objective of the seminar was to inform and empower artisans through government welfare programs. Meanwhile experts from various departments MSME, DIC, Handicrafts, Gem, NSIC provided valuable insights into modern techniques, marketing strategies, and business growth opportunities.



Deputy Commissioner Srinagar reviews progress on Heritage Conservation projects

SRINAGAR: A meeting of the District Level Coordination-cum-Implementation Committee for the revival, restoration, preservation and maintenance of architectural and heritage sites was today held here under the chairpersonship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat in his Office Chamber.

At the outset, the DC was apprised about the progress of ongoing conservation projects undertaken for preservation, revival, restoration and maintenance of Ram Mandir, Mangleshwar Temple, Aali Masjid, Vicharnag Temple, Zeathyar temple, Ziyarat

Naqashband Sahib, Narayan Mutt temple and Baba Ghulam-U-Din Shrine.



On the occasion, the DC laid emphasis on collaborative efforts by all line departments in restoration practices to conserve architecture of the sites on heritage

pattern. He also directed them to expedite efforts closely to ensure the effective implementation of heritage preservation projects.

During the meeting, the DC also discussed the new conservation projects identified for current fiscal. He asked them to prepare DPRs at the earliest ensuring all revival, restoration works are carried out while preserving the rich art, culture and heritage of Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar; Superintending Engineer R&B, Narinder Kumar; Deputy Director Archives, Executive Engineers of I&F, R&B and other concerned.

DC Budgam conducts spot inspection of ongoing dev. projects



BUDGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo conducted a field review of various ongoing developmental projects at the District Headquarters.

DC reviewed the ongoing construction of the Court Room, Public Waiting Room and Electric Control Room along with other allied works at the District Headquarters.

The works on all the projects are going on at an accelerated pace and have reached their final stages.

The DC instructed the executing agencies to maintain the momentum and

ensure completion with full compliance to safety standards and quality.

He also inspected the Sheikh-ul-Alam Skill Centre and said that since the construction work is completed the centre will be made functional soon. The upgraded hall will serve as a hub for skill development and capacity-building programs for the youth of Budgam. During his visit to the Old DC Office Complex, the DC expressed satisfaction with the progress of renovation work, which is also nearing completion. He reiterated the importance of preserving the

structure while ensuring its functionality to cater to the needs of public in the district.

The DC further inspected the Public Toilet Complex, where the construction work is almost completed. He stressed the need for ensuring accessibility, cleanliness, and proper maintenance once the facility becomes operational for the benefit of visiting public and to provide improved sanitation facilities.

These projects will improve infrastructure and public services, making daily life easier for residents. They will enhance facilities, ensure better accessibility, and address community needs, he said. By upgrading essential services, they will contribute to the district's overall development.

The goal is to create a more efficient and well-equipped environment for the public, added DC.

Besides, ADDC, ADC, ACR, CPO, Dy.DEO, JE R&B and other concerned officials were also present on the occasion.

DC progress of District Capex Budget works in Kathua

KATHUA: District Development Commissioner Dr Rakesh Minhas today chaired a meeting of district officers to assess the physical and financial progress achieved under the District Capex Budget 2024-25. The meeting was held in the conference hall of the DC office.

Chief Planning Officer Ranjit Thakur; Chief Education Officer, Chief Medical Officer, Executive Engineer RDD, Executive Engineer Irrigation and other district officers attended the meeting. At the outset, CPO Ranjit Thakur briefed the DC about the status of the projects initiated under the District Capex Budget across different sectors.

The DC conducted a detailed review of the ongoing projects and instructed the executing agencies to expedite the progress of work to ensure timely completion. He emphasized that all works allotted under the Capex Budget must be finished within the stipulated timeline.

Highlighting the crucial role of each department, the DC stressed the need for dedicated efforts at the ground level to ensure effective execution of development projects. He directed officers to focus on quality asset creation and urged executing agencies to conduct regular site visits to ensure work standards are maintained. The DC further instructed all district officers to strictly adhere to deadlines to prevent liabilities from being carried forward to the next financial year.

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Work on Satwari to Last Morh Gandhi Nagar Flyover takes off

Traffic Police issue diversion plan to facilitate hassle free construction

JAMMU: The Traffic police have issued an advisory for commuters mentioning diversion of traffic movement in view of construction of flyover from Satwari Chowk to last Morh Gandhi Nagar, which started from (March 11, 2025)

"As intimated by Project Director NHAI, PIU- Jammu, the construction work of flyover from Satwari Chowk to last Morh Gandhi Nagar will be undertaken by the concerned executing agency from March 11, 2025. In this regard, the tube coming from Satwari Chowk towards Last Morh Gandhi Nagar shall remain restricted for the movement of General Traffic during the said construction work. Hence for ensuring hassle free movement of traffic, the traffic diversions have been placed on ground," an official handout stated.

As per diversion plan, all interstate vehicles coming from Samba/ Kathua via Kunjwani, Gangyal bound for Jammu City shall be diverted from Satwari Chowk towards MH Hospital Road - Beli Charana - 4th Tawi Bridge - Asia Crossing / Canal Head and further towards their destination.

Similarly, all kinds of vehicles coming from R.S Pura, Miran Sahib and adjoining areas bound for Jammu City shall be diverted from Satwari Chowk towards MH Hospital Road - Beli Charana - 4th Tawi Bridge - Asia Crossing/ Canal Head and further towards their destination.

The traffic plying on the road stretch from Bikram Chowk upto Satwari Chowk shall remain through for one way traffic movement however the traffic plying will be diverted from last Morh Gandhi Nagar in the Right Tube towards Satwari Chowk.

The traffic coming from 4th Tawi Bridge bound for Satwari side shall not ply via Beli Charana rather shall be diverted to Ware House - Asia Crossing - Last Morh Gandhi Nagar and towards Satwari Chowk. The General Public has been requested to cooperate with District Administration and Police to maintain better traffic management.

DC Kulgam reviews progress of works under Jal Jeevan Mission

Emphasizes on functional audit of all completed schemes; directs service facilitation among different departments

KULGAM: In order to take stock of progress achieved under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the district, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan chaired a meeting of concerned officers of the Jal Shakti Department at mini-secretariat, here.

During the meeting, DC reviewed both the physical and financial progress of the works being executed under the Jal Jeevan Mission in the district.

The S.E Hydraulic Circle Anantnag gave a detailed brief of all the works under execution under Jal Jeevan Mission in the district.

It was informed that under the JJM, the district has a total of 143 schemes encompassing 219 works, with 149 works already completed till date.

Emphasizing the importance of JJM as a flagship program aimed



at covering all households, officers were instructed to work in coordination to ensure the smooth execution of JJM works in their respective areas

by the DC. The chair was apprised

supply schemes including Boh-Dradgan, Parigam, Ahmadabad and Shalipora Tarigam are to be made functional before the end of this financial year.

The DC instructed the concerned to ensure timely completion and target achievement under Jal Jeevan Mission.

He emphasized on the functional audit of all completed schemes, besides sought service facilitation among the different agencies completing the schemes.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, Altaf Ahmad; SE PHE Mechanical Anantnag, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti Kulgam, Qazigund, Ground Water Div, Mechanical, KPDC, Quality Control & Procurement, CEO, AEEs and other officers.

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Anti-encroachment drive on prime lands in Jammu city, 30 structures demolished

Jammu: The Jammu Development Authority (JDA) on Tuesday launched an anti-encroachment drive and reclaimed a significant portion of prime land worth crores of rupees in the outskirts of Jammu city by demolishing dozens of structures, an official said.

"A massive demolition drive was conducted by JDA officials in the Rangoor area of Sidhra following the directives of Vice Chairman Pankaj Kumar Sharma with active support from the administration and police," said a JDA spokesman. He said the drive aimed to remove illegal structures and encroachments from JDA properties. "This initiative is part of

JDA's ongoing efforts to reclaim unlawfully occupied land and ensure its proper utilisation for the city's planned development," he added.

The demolition drive, led by Garbi Rashid, director of land management at JDA, successfully demolished a total of 30 plinths and an under-construction residential building across various areas in Rangoor-Sidhra, he said. "Approximately 25 kanals of JDA land were recovered from encroachers", the spokesman said. Vice Chairman Pankaj Kumar Sharma directed the installation of JDA signboards and commencement of fencing on the reclaimed land. He warned against encroachment and

trespassing on JDA lands, saying that strict actions would be taken against violators.

"The demolition targeted several locations where encroachers had erected structures, hindering the utilisation of the land for public projects and development," Sharma said. The JDA has urged the public to cooperate and avoid illegal encroachments. "The drive received a strong support from residents concerned about illegal occupation of prime land in the area," the spokesman said. The JDA also assured ongoing monitoring and protection of the reclaimed land to prevent future encroachments, with stringent enforcement measures in place.

DC reviews progress under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in Kishtwar

KISHTWAR: A review meeting to assess the progress of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana was chaired today here by Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan.

At the outset, engineers from the Jammu Power Development Corporation Limited (JPDC) informed that over 8,000 consumers have registered for the scheme, with 2,550 applications already received.

Additionally, it was reported that 180 applicants have successfully availed bank

loans to install solar setup for electricity.

Expressing concern over the slow installation and insufficient manpower deployed by the Vendors, the Deputy Commissioner directed the JPDC authorities to organize seven-day training program at ITI to train the students for the task.

"The initiative aims to engage the youth, providing them with skills that will make them self-reliant and earn a livelihood,

while also contributing to the success of the scheme," he added.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer (CPO) Kishtwar, Shah Nawaz Bali, Assistant Executive Engineers (AEEs) of the Power Development Department (PDD), Electric Division JPDC, Kishtwar, along with registered empaneled vendors, including M/s Malik Solar, AD Agency, M/s Nehru Solar Solutions, M/s Sanjeet Sharma, M/s Adil Butt and M/s Aditya.

Top 5 diet secrets of people who live the longest

NEW DELHI: There comes a time when one realises that diet is linked to everything – be it physical or mental health. From medical practitioners to holistic healthcare experts, everyone stresses the importance of following a balanced diet as it is the first step towards the management of any disease. Similarly, some of the healthiest and longest-living people in the world follow some simple diet secrets that are to thank for their disease-free life.

When it comes to longevity, one of the most famous ways to achieve it is by following a Mediterranean diet. This routine is deemed effective for obese, diabetic, heart patients, or people with any other form of comorbidity. It stresses eating more plant-based foods and limiting reliance on meat. However, this isn't where it ends; the world's longest-living people do not just stick to the Mediterranean diet. Instead, they follow some more rules to live a disease-free and long life. Keep reading.

Rely on plants: The world's longest-living people have a great deal of reliance on plant-based foods. From fruits to vegetables, nuts, and seeds, they practice abstinence from intake of meat like beef and pork or eat them very rarely in small quantities. This is the complete opposite of a standard western diet.

Drink wine every day: Ironically, the world's longest-living people are known to drink red wine every day but in moderate quantities. People living in the Blue Zones drink less than five ounces of wine each day – one or two small glasses. Red wine is a rich source of antioxidants and has often been associated to a healthier heart. When one goes overboard with wine, then the risk of health problems like high blood pressure and cholesterol can also spike considerably.

The 80 per cent rule: The Japanese island of Okinawa falls in the Blue Zones that are believed to have some of the healthiest and longest-living people in the world. The 80 per cent rule was established in the same place where people believe in eating until they are 80 per cent full and leave space for 20 per cent. Similarly, they follow the rule of eating the smallest meals in the evening and not snacking much throughout

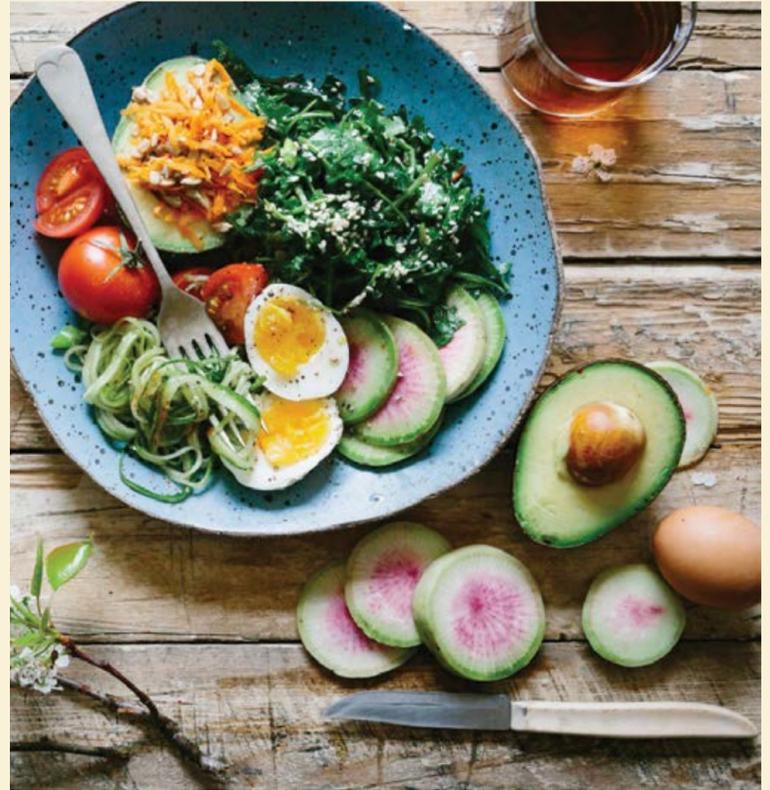
the day.

Striking a balance: The world's centenarians not only cook healthy food and stick to a balanced diet but also believe in focusing on the community and spirituality. Experts believe

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that people residing in these areas believe that giving to the community and spending time with loved ones can beat stress and these can collectively contribute to longevity.

Exercise is a must: People residing in the blue zones do not necessarily believe in spending time at gyms or investing in workout classes. Instead, they include other techniques of movement in their routine that include biking, gardening, and walking to stay fit.



Striking a balance: The world's centenarians not only cook healthy food and stick to a balanced diet but also believe in focusing on the community and spirituality. Experts believe that people residing in these areas believe that giving to the community and spending time with loved ones can beat stress and these can collectively contribute to longevity.



LONDON: A recent study suggested that while vitamin D2 has a questionable impact on human health, vitamin D3 could balance people's immune systems and help to fight against viral infections such as COVID-19. A collaborative study was done by the Universities of Surrey and Brighton in which researchers investigated the impact of vitamin D supplements D2 and D3. The study was published in the journal 'Frontiers in Immunology'.

The research has taken on the activity of genes in people's blood for over a 12 week period. Contrary to widely held views, the research team discovered that both types of vitamin D did not have the same effect. They found evidence that vitamin D3 had a modifying effect on the immune system that could fortify the body against viral and bacterial diseases.

Professor Colin Smith, lead author of the study from the University of Surrey, who began this work while at the University of Brighton said, "We have shown that vitamin D3 appears to stimulate the type 1 interferon signalling system in the body - a key part of the immune system that provides the first line of defence against bacteria and viruses. Thus, a healthy vitamin D3 status may help prevent viruses

and bacteria from gaining a foothold in the body."

"Our study suggests that it is important that people take a vitamin D3 supplement, or suitably fortified foods, especially in the winter months," he added.

Although some foods are fortified with vitamin D, like some breakfast cereals, yoghurts, and bread, few naturally contain the vitamin. Vitamin D3 is produced naturally in the skin from exposure to sunlight or artificial ultraviolet UVB light, while some plants and fungi produce vitamin D2.

Many people have insufficient levels of vitamin D3 because they live in locations where sunlight is limited in the winter, like the UK. The Covid-19 pandemic has also limited people's natural exposure to the sun due to people spending more time in their homes.

Professor Susan Lanham-New, co-author of the study and Head of the Department of Nutritional Sciences at the University of Surrey said, "While we found that vitamin D2 and vitamin D3 do not have the same effect on gene activity within humans, the lack of impact we found when looking at vitamin D2 means that a larger study is urgently required to clarify the differences in the effects. However, these results show that vitamin D3 should be the favoured

Study finds adverse health effects of Vitamin D2



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Continued From P1...

CM Omar announces

and central authority. He accused them of prioritizing the 7th Pay Commission over the regularization of daily wagers, making the situation more complicated.

"Then came the J&K Reorganization Act, which effectively shut the door on their regularization. Now, we must reopen this issue. But in these years, their numbers have changed, making it difficult to determine an accurate count," he said. The government must start from the scratch to resolve their concerns, he said.

Budget 2025: A realistic approach, not pessimistic. Addressing criticism that his budget speech was pessimistic, the Chief Minister clarified that it was, in fact, realistic. "Some members termed the beginning of my budget speech as pessimistic. I believe it was not pessimistic; this is our reality."

I told the truth—I said my whole body has wounds. Pessimism would have been if I had said, "The body has so many wounds, death would be inevitable." Instead, he explained, "I said, 'The body has so many wounds, and I don't even have enough balm for them.' This is not pessimism; this is our reality."

He stressed the financial constraints facing the Union Territory, adding, "Do I have enough money to take all the power projects into my hands and start working on them? No. Can I provide free electricity to all the people? No. In today's age, we don't even have the budget to ensure 24-hour electricity for Jammu and Kashmir. We are forced to buy electricity. We have worked on increasing social benefits for the poor. But is this truly enough to meet their needs? No."

Fiscal responsibility and future growth. Quoting an English saying, "Cut your coat according to your cloth," the C

Chief Minister explained the necessity of managing within available resources. "My words were not pessimistic; they were realistic. I presented the truth. We don't have enough money, but we have prioritized welfare measures that will have a meaningful impact on the people."

People should

"Shri Babu was a true statesman who worked hard to eliminate discrimination in the society and looked at Bihar in its entirety and created its new existence through good governance. He was the harbinger of good governance. He worked hard for social equality and social unity and made it the most powerful state of the country.

Be it the abolition of the Zamindari system, making the poor and marginalised farmers self-reliant or the overall welfare of workers, Shri Babu was dedicated to the welfare of the people and liberated a large population from exploitation after independence," the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the enlightened citizens and every section of the society, especially the youth to unite for the cause of public good and give new direction to India's development journey.

Each MLA to

to 3 crore (300lakh) annually to the District Development Commissioner (DDC) for execution in their constituency.

Additionally, nominated MLAs have the flexibility to recommend projects in any part of the Union Territory.

The allocated funds are specifically designed for capital expenditure and cannot be used for revenue-related expenses, creation of posts, or payment of salaries. This ensures that the funds are spent on tangible developmental works.

Projects under the CDF must be completed within one year. In areas with limited working seasons, such as high-altitude regions, the DDC, with the MLA's approval, may extend the timeline, allowing work to be completed within two working seasons, but not exceeding two years.

The scheme encourages MLAs to recommend projects with costs not exceeding 10 lakh per work, although higher-value projects may be considered for certain infrastructure investments, provided they are completed within the specified time.

A wide range of development activities will be supported, including the construction and upgradation of government buildings such as schools, hostels, libraries, and sanitation facilities, as well as the provision of computers for educational institutions. The fund will also support the construction of roads, irrigation facilities, power infrastructure, and housing upgrades for the underprivileged.

The government aims to make a significant impact on the local infrastructure by allowing projects such as: Construction and upgradation of roads, including approach roads and link roads, with funding up to Rs 15 lakh. Projects for water table recharging, irrigation, and drainage, with support up to Rs 20 lakh.

Strengthening power infrastructure with a budget of up to Rs 50 lakh.

Assistance for housing upgrades for tribal and BPL populations, with funding of up to Rs 20 lakh for each project.

This initiative also focuses on improving rural areas by allowing the creation of kachha roads where local needs dictate.

To ensure proper utilization of funds, the scheme, as per KNO, includes provisions for strict oversight. Payments for completed works will be made only after the necessary verification and the successful completion of a Defect Liability Period (DLP), if applicable.

The scheme, according to KNO, also emphasizes the importance of efficiency, requiring that at least 80% of the allocated funds be utilized within the financial year.

In cases where the prescribed threshold is not met, funds will be withheld until the target is achieved, and future allocations will be contingent upon meeting these goals.

Certain projects will not be eligible for funding under the CDF, including office or residential buildings for government departments, memorials, creation of posts, or any kind of revenue expenditure. The

funds will not be used for works related to places of worship either.

By giving MLAs the autonomy to choose projects and ensuring proper monitoring, the CDF scheme aims to foster a more localized and responsive approach to development. This initiative represents a significant step forward in empowering elected representatives to directly contribute to the growth and well-being of their constituencies

Gol reiterates

Quoting the popular song 'Sare Jahan Se Achcha, Hindustan Hamara' (Our Hindustan is better than the whole world), the Chief Minister said, "We say this too, it is a different name. You can call the country by whichever name you prefer."

On another question regarding a statement from the Muslim Personal Law Board, he said, "I cannot comment on it because I have not gone through it."

On the disruptions in the Assembly, Abdullah said, "A committee has been formed under the chief secretary for regularisation of daily wagers' job. I have given them six months deadline to complete the exercise. Whatever our policy or plan, it will be presented in the next budget."

On opposition's swipes at his comment that the budget was a "love letter" to the people, he said, "They have to oppose everything, that is why their name is opposition. We have done the same when we were in the opposition. This Assembly, and Parliament, will continue like this."

Centre bans Awami

It has also banned the Jammu and Kashmir Ittihadul Muslimeen (JKIM), headed by Masroor Abbas Ansari for five years.

In two separate notifications, the Home Ministry, cited the organisations' involvement in activities that threaten the sovereignty, integrity, and security of India.

According to the notification, AAC members have been supporting terrorist activities, propagating anti-India narratives, and mobilizing funds for secessionist movements in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Bound To Face

crushing blow" of the central government.

"Jammu and Kashmir Ittihadul Muslimeen" and 'Awami Action Committee' have been declared unlawful associations under UAPA. These organizations were found inciting people to cause law and order situations, posing a threat to the unity and integrity of Bharat. Anyone found involved in activities against the nation's peace, order, and sovereignty is bound to face the crushing blow of the Modi government," Shah posted on X.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) announced on Tuesday that it has designated the Jammu and Kashmir Ittihadul Muslimeen (JKIM) and Jammu and Kashmir-based Awami Action Committee (AAC) as an unlawful organization and imposed an immediate five-year ban on it accusing the organization of engaging in activities that threaten the country's sovereignty, integrity, and security. (Agencies)

Gol reiterates

technological upgrades, including drone surveillance, advanced monitoring systems, and fencing along vulnerable border areas to curb infiltration. These measures, as part of a multi-pronged national security strategy, aim to enhance law enforcement capabilities and ensure long-term stability in J&K," the reply said

LG orders

"That they will maintain peace, good character and behavior in the society at all time; that they will not indulge into any unlawful activity which is prejudicial to the maintenance of the public order or security of state; hat they will not intimidate any member/relative of victims' family in any manner, whatsoever; that they will ensure their presence before concerned police station once in six months; that they will furnish, both surety bond and personal bond, to the satisfaction of concerned Superintendent Jails before their release; the police stations concerned will keep watch on the activities of the released prisoners. In case of violation of any of the conditions, their premature release shall be liable for cancellation," the notification reads.

The convicts include Anil Singh, son of Sandal Singh, resident of Shastri Nagar, Jammu; Dev Raj, son of Sakhoo Ram @ Sukh Ram, resident of Chak Jaffray Kana Chak, Jammu; and Giridhari Lal, son of Jia Lal, resident of Mangnar, Poonch. The trio had been awarded life imprisonment of over 14 years, over 16 years and over 14 years respectively.

J&K per capita

"In the most recent years (2023-24 to 2024-25), J&K has shown robust growth in PCI, outpacing the national growth rate," the report notes.

"J&K's per capita income has also seen a steady increase, indicative of improving economic conditions and rising living standards. In 2024-25, the per capita income of J&K is estimated to be 1,54,703 compared to the national average of 2,00,162. The

growth in per capita income reflects the positive impact of economic diversification and the region's focus on enhancing productivity across all sectors," reads the Economic Survey.

The per capita income of Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed significant growth, increasing by approximately 148% between 2014-15 and 2024-25, according to data from the UT government's Planning Department.

Even though the J&K's PCI remains below the national average, as per the 2024-25 Economic Survey the gap has been narrowing, as the ratio of J&K's PCI to India's PCI has risen from 71.9% in 2014-15 to nearly 77.3% in 2024-25.

Furthermore, the PCI figures show that J&K's per capita income offers a better view in comparison to the northern states from 2019-20 to 2023-24 period with

UT's per capita income registering a compound annual growth rate of 8.3 percent which is higher than that of Punjab (6.22 percent), Delhi (6.74 percent), and Himachal Pradesh (6 percent).

'Monitor anti-national. The IGP also highlighted the importance of building better public relations and prioritizing people-sensitive policing.

Addressing public grievances was identified as a top priority, alongside operational duties and crime-related responsibilities.

In conclusion, IGP Kashmir commended the officers for their dedication and reiterated the collective responsibility to safeguard the region. He directed all attendees to submit follow-up action reports within a specified timeframe to ensure the effective implementation of the strategies discussed.

In Memoriam:

Passing of a Renowned Religious/Islamic Figure being associated with Dawat Tableegh for more than 4-decades...

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Mir Rafiq Ahmad Sb, of Nawa Kadal presently residing at Harwan, a revered religious figure of the valley. He was a guiding light to countless individuals, offering spiritual guidance, comfort & wisdom.

Rafiq Sb was a distinguished Tableeghi figure of the valley, served tirelessly with dedication & compassion. His selfless service, unwavering commitment & inspiring teachings have left an indelible mark on our community.

May His memory be a blessing to us all, and may his legacy continue to inspire us to live with kindness, compassion & faith. Rest in peace, Mir Rafiq Ahmad...



Mourning Details:

- Mourning will be observed for 3 days only.
- Concluding condolence day at his residence, Friends Colony, Harwan, Srinagar will be held on 12th-March-2025, Wednesday.

Condolence messages can be sent to:

+919906775996
+919419979225

May Allah (SWT) grant him Magfirah, elevate his status to Jannat-ul-Firdous & bless the bereaved family & loved ones with Sabr to bear this irreparable loss. We request all to pray for the departed soul & to remember him in their prayers.

Ameen.

Grief Stricken:

Brother: Mir Mohammad Yaqoob (Jan Sb)
Sons: Mir Ilyas, Mir Umer, Mir Amir, Mir Imran
Nephews: Mir Mudasar, Shah Abdul Manaana, Shah Abdul Hanaan

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No: 0216010001176, which is Registered in the name of Mohd Afzal Beigh, S/O Ab Ahad Beigh. Now I want to apply for Change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Anayatullah Baig, S/O Mohammad Afzal Baig, in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Bandipora within a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Anayatullah Baig,
S/O Mohammad Afzal Baig,
R/O Ayathmulla Bandipora.

NOTICE

My name wrongly mentioned in Aadhaar card bearing No 3062 8748 6674 as Ruqaya Jan instead of Ruqaya khurseed, it needs correction if any body having any objection in this regard may contact concerned department within one week no objection shall be entertained after expiry.

Ruqaya khurseed
D/O khurseed Ahmad Hurrah R/O
Tilsara
Tehsil Charar I Shareif

NOTICE

My name wrongly mentioned in Aadhaar card bearing No 5743 2821 5351 as Azad Ahmad wani instead of Azad mohi ud din, it needs correction if any body having any objection in this regard may contact concerned department within one week no objection shall be entertained after expiry.

Azad Mohi ud din
S/O Ghalum Mohi ud Din wani R/O
Sani Darwan
Tehsil Charar I Shareif
District Budgam

NOTICE

It is notified for the information of general public that my son namely Mohammad Mutahir is reading in class 3rd in Mehboob ul Aalam Model School Bandipora. His date of birth has been mistakenly written as 10/07/2018 instead of 12/09/2015 in school records. Now I want to make correction in the date of birth of my son. Any body having any objection may file in the office of Principal Mehboob Ul Aalam Model School Bandipora within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained after the stipulated time.

Zahoor Ahmad Lone
F/O Mohammad Mutahir
R/O Nowpora Bandipora

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that in my Bank account No: 0061040800024285, my name and parantege has been Mistakenly Mentioned as Babar Bani Gojar, S/O Noor Ahmad Bani Gojar, while as my Actual and correct name and parantege as per my Aadhaar Card is, Babar Ahmad Baniya Gojar, S/O Noor Ahmad Baniya Gojar. Now I want to apply for its correction in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Manager jammu and kashmir Bank branch office Garoora Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Babar Ahmad Baniya Gojar.
S/O Noor Ahmad Baniya Gojar.
R/O Chithi Bandi, P/O Chettibandi,
District Bandipora.

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No: 0216010003310, which is Registered in the name of Gh Rasool Bhat, S/O Ab Ahad Bhat, Now I want to apply for Change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Sajad Ahmad Bhat, S/O Gh Rasool Bhat, in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Sajad Ahmad Bhat.
S/O Gh Rasool Bhat.
R/O Peer Masjid, Ajar Bandipora .

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No:0216020004535, which is Registered in the name of Ab Aziz Bhat, S/O Wali Mohd Bhat. Now I want to apply for change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Aijaz Ahmad Bhat, S/O Ab Aziz Bhat, in this regard any person having any objection he./she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Sub Division Kaloosa Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Aijaz Ahmad Bhat.
S/O Ab Aziz Bhat.
R/O Kaloosa ward NO: 11,

علوم اسلامیہ اور دین اسلام کے حنادم آپ کے محبوب ادارہ

دارالعلوم رحیمیہ بانڈی پورہ کشمیر

کی آپ مندرجہ ذیل طریقوں سے رحمتوں کے اس مہینہ میں مدد کر سکتے ہیں

۱۔ صدقہ جاریہ (خریدی زمین اور تعمیرات وغیرہ)

0061010100001532
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بنک میں بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر

۲۔ زکوٰۃ، نیا زکوٰۃ وغیرہ

11662154537
IFSC Code: SBIN001362

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بنک میں بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر

006101010000321
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

۳۔ عام امداد، عمومی خیرات، اللہ عظیم

0727040100000386
IFSC Code: JAKA0NIPARK

بیوگ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بنک میں بازار بانڈی پورہ

۴۔ تعمیر مسجد شریف

0727010100000084
IFSC Code: JAKA0NIPARK

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بنک میں بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر

0061010100001226
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

۵۔ مدرسۃ البنات

0727010100000200
IFSC Code: JAKA0NIPARK

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ جموں و کشمیر بینک

۶۔ ریلیف کے لئے (ہنگامی آفات، مہربانوں کے ڈانپلس، رجحان)

0061010100001098
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ ریلیف سب کے بنک میں بازار بانڈی پورہ

۷۔ محمود فلاحی ادارہ پارمپورہ یتیم خانہ، امداد بیوگان مساکین

0181010100002615
IFSC Code: JAKA0FRUITS

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ بنام محمود چائلڈرن ہوم پارمپورہ نیفروٹ سنڈی سرننگر

نوٹ: آپ جس اکاؤنٹ میں رقم داخل کریں اس کی اطلاع دفتر فون 01957-225271 پر ضرور کریں یا موبائل SMS پر 9419089250 کریں تاکہ مدرسہ کے حسابات اور بنک کے اندراجات میں موافقت رہے اور فرق نہ آئے۔

الداعی الی الخیر

محمد مدرسۃ اللہ ناظم دارالعلوم رحیمیہ بانڈی پورہ کشمیر پین: 193502 فون دفتر: 01957-225271

جاری کردہ: رمضان المبارک ۱۴۴۶ھ مطابق مارچ ۲۰۲۵ء

Sodhi, Sears, Seifert return in Bracewell-led NZ squad for home T20Is against Pakistan

Allrounder Michael Bracewell will captain a different looking New Zealand T20I squad for the five-game series against Pakistan at home that starts on March 16. Seven members of New Zealand's silver-medal winning Champions Trophy squad have been selected for the series while those with IPL commitments were not considered.

The series will mark Bracewell's second series as New Zealand captain, having led the side during the tour of Pakistan in April 2024.

"Mitch Santner's done a great job since taking over as white-ball captain and I'll really just be trying to build on his good work and create an enjoyable environment for the guys to perform in," Bracewell said in an NZC statement. "Pakistan are always a dangerous short-form side with lots of power and pace and we know they'll be hurting after an early exit in the Champions Trophy."

Among the players selected for the series are Ben Sears, the fast bowler who has recovered from his hamstring injury, and Ish Sodhi, who missed the recent home series against Sri Lanka. Kyle Jamieson and Will O'Rourke have been included for the first three games only, with the selectors managing the workloads of the pacers from the Champions Trophy.

Matt Henry, who injured his shoulder in the Champions Trophy semi-final, has been selected for the last two T20Is - subject to fitness - while Finn Allen, James Neesham and Tim Seifert have also been included after confirming their availability, if selected, for the build-up series to the 2026 T20 World Cup.

Daryl Mitchell and Mark Chapman will have a bigger responsibility with the bat as Devon Conway, Rachin Ravindra and Glenn

"We're certainly starting to narrow our sights on the ICC T20 World Cup in India next February and March," selector Sam Wells

Women facing Sri Lanka and Australia on the same day at the same venue.



Phillips are all unavailable due to the IPL. Lockie Ferguson and Santner will also miss the series with the IPL starting March 22. Kane Williamson opted out of selection; he has PSL commitments, starting from April 11, with Karachi Kings.

From the recent series against Sri Lanka, top-order batter Tim Robinson, fast bowler Zakary Foulkes (only last two games) and wicketkeeper Mitchell Hay are in the squad.

said. "Half of this squad is only returning from the Champions Trophy on Wednesday and so we're going to need to manage those players really carefully."

"The Pakistan series will provide an opportunity for all players to put their best foot forward and push their case for selection in the 15-player squad for next year's major global tournament."

Each game of the five-match series will be played as a double-header with New Zealand

New Zealand squad T20Is against Pakistan

Michael Bracewell (capt), Finn Allen, Mark Chapman, Jacob Duffy, Zakary Foulkes (games 4 & 5), Mitchell Hay, Matt Henry (games 4 & 5), Kyle Jamieson (games 1, 2 & 3), Daryl Mitchell, James Neesham, Will O'Rourke (games 1, 2 & 3), Tim Robinson, Ben Sears, Tim Seifert, Ish Sodhi

New Zealand fast bowler Ben Sears signs for Yorkshire

Ben Sears, the New Zealand fast bowler, has signed for Yorkshire for the 2025 season, and will arrive in time for their second County Championship game of the season, against Worcestershire at Headingley.

Sears, 27, has impressed with his raw pace for New Zealand, including in his only Test to date, against Australia in 2024, when he claimed five wickets at Christchurch, including 4 for 90 in the second innings. He had previously made his T20I debut against Bangladesh in 2021.

He will be joined at Headingley by his fellow New Zealand quick Will O'Rourke, who has signed for the T20 Blast, while the club has also drawn comparisons with his compatriot, and former Yorkshire overseas player, Lockie Ferguson.

"I can't wait to get over to Headingley and start playing with the guys," Sears said. "Some of the signings made already are exciting and I hope I can add to that."

"It's important to set the tone early in any season. We have some big games in that first block, and I'll be ready to get the team off to the best start possible."

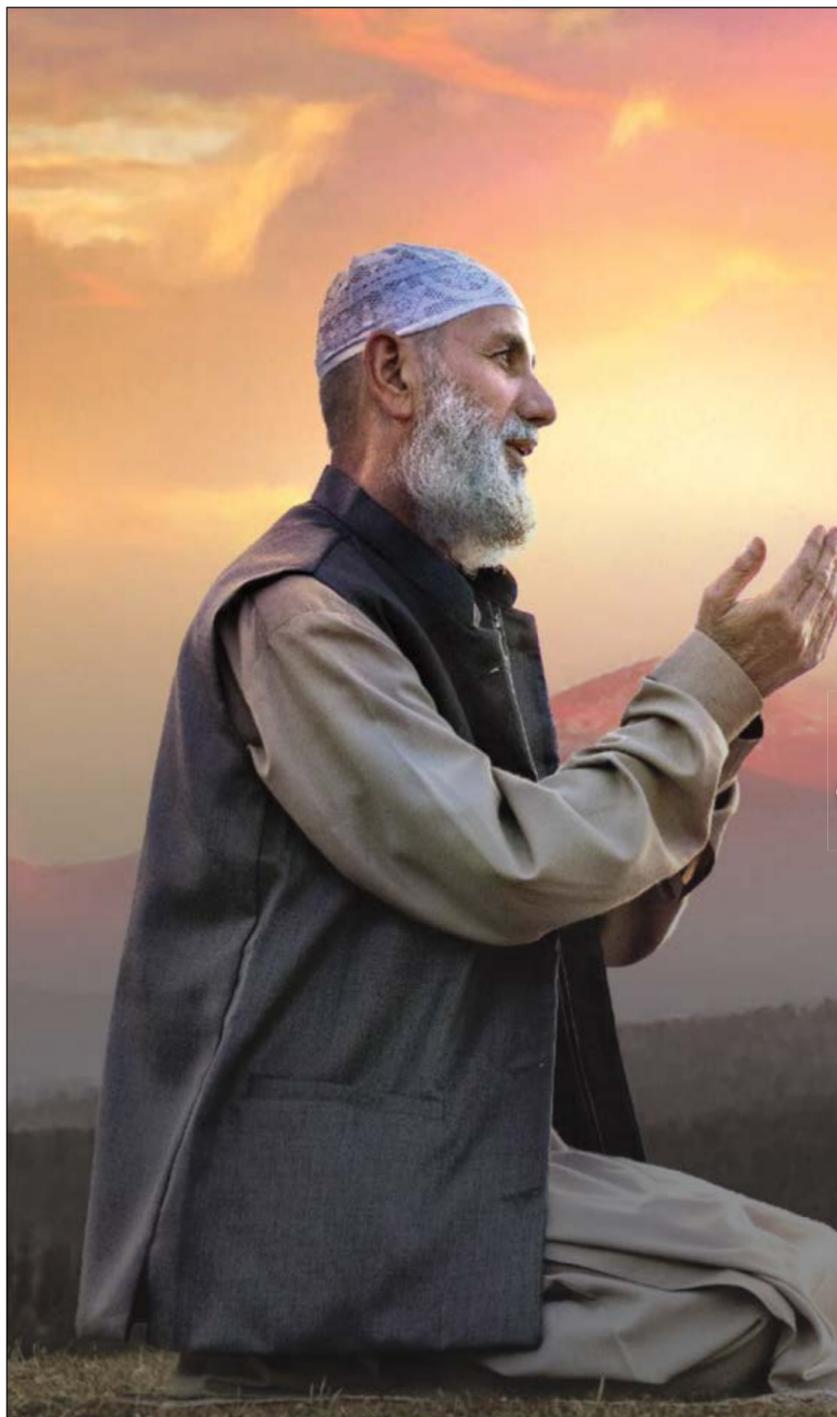
Head Coach Anthony McGrath said: "Ben is a real talent who can get some extra bounce when he bowls. In that early section of the year when pitches can be greener or slower, he'll be a real handful and I'm excited to get him over and start working with him."

Gavin Hamilton, General Manager of Cricket added: "To attract such talented bowlers like Ben to the club is testament to the lure of Yorkshire across the globe. Ben is an exciting talent and will provide the squad with an extra element that will be crucial this season."

"We're thrilled he has signed and look forward to welcoming him to Headingley in April."



"The Pakistan series will provide an opportunity for all players to put their best foot forward and push their case for selection in the 15-player squad for next year's major global tournament."





KHYBER CEMENT

Dil se banao

عبادت وہی جو دل سے ہو
دعا وہی جو دل سے نکل آئے

رمضان مبارک