

Kashmir Convener



Future Of 85 Lakh Children In 6 States At Risk: Rahul Slams BJP Over Exam Paper Leaks

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SC To Hear On Mar 18 Plea To Debar Poll Candidates Charged For Serious Offences

P/02



BJP has weakened India economically, socially: Akhilesh

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Tourism promotion of Srinagar city key focus of my Govt: CM Omar

KC News Network

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today stated that the government is prioritizing the promotion of religious and tourism places in Srinagar city to boost tourism and attract more visitors.

“Places like Dal, Nishat, Shalimar, Chashmashahi, Pari Mahal, shrines, temples, gurdwaras, and other landmarks define the uniqueness of Srinagar. We are committed to promoting these destinations,” the Chief Minister said while addressing the Legislative Assembly.

He was responding to a query raised by Member Ali Mohammad Sagar regarding the tourism sector's role in J&K's economy and the steps taken to enhance tourist inflow.



The Chief Minister emphasized that tourism is a key pillar of J&K's economy, significantly contributing to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment generation.

“The sector provides direct and indirect livelihood opportunities including hotel staff, tour operators, taxi drivers, souvenir vendors, and local youth,” he said.

He further informed the House that efforts are underway to diversify the tourism sector by promoting various forms of tourism, including Adventure tourism.

MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) tourism, Golf tourism, Eco-tourism, Pilgrimage tourism and Cultural and Heritage tourism

“This diversification is intended to attract a wider range of visitors to Jammu & Kashmir,” he added.

As Minister in charge of the Tourism Department, the Chief Minister highlighted that the government is actively promoting J&K's top tourist destinations through advertising campaigns on national and international platforms.

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We Need Scientists, Artists And Spiritualists: LG Sinha

KC News Network

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today addressed the Spiritual and Value Education Summit at New Delhi.

In his inaugural address, the Lieutenant Governor exhorted the distinguished scholars and educators for transforming the education system into a holistic framework to nurture intellectual growth and moral integrity among students.

“Seamless integration of ethics and value in education is crucial to create an enlightened society and a powerful nation. Without the fine balance of our ancient value system and modern skills it is impossible to sustain and further long-run economic growth.

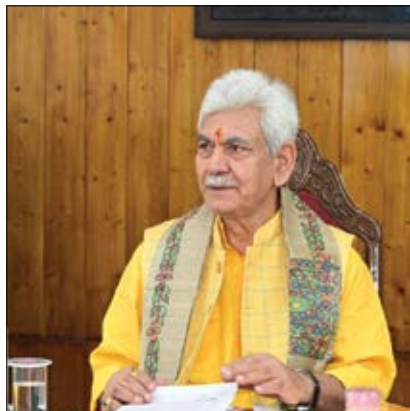
Value based education will enable students to explore their true strength. It will help in character building and inspire them for righteous living. This holistic education system can take the nation on growth trajectory and bring about the changes necessary for a developed nation,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised on imparting ethical, moral, and social values alongside academic knowledge and skills.

The Lieutenant Governor said, “Our youth should have Science in one hand and Samskara in the other. Along with the advancement of science and technology, the teachings of traditional

values, our cultural heritage and vision of great personalities should also be included in the main curriculum of education.

We need scientists as well as artists and



spiritualists. Only the spirits of scientists, artists and spiritualists combined together can save education from being one-sided and succeed in making it a holistic education”.

Speaking on the need to develop future-ready education systems and skill-driven learning environment, the Lieutenant Governor highlighted that the rapid

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Finalization of JKAS departmental examination syllabus in final stages: CM Omar

KC News Network

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today informed the J&K Legislative Assembly that the finalization of the syllabus for the 2018-24 batches of J&K Administrative Services is in its final stages, and the examinations will



be conducted soon thereafter. Responding to a supplementary question from Member Ajiaz Ahmad Jan, the Chief Minister acknowledged the delays but assured that the process is now nearing completion.

“The government has gradually streamlined these processes, which had been delayed for some time. However, the complexity of the revision caused an unavoidable delay. This is the first syllabus revision since 2000—after nearly 25 years—which required significant changes,” he said.

He further explained that the administration conducted a comparative analysis of J&K's syllabus with those of other States and Union Territories to ensure alignment with national standards.

“Necessary modifications have been incorporated, and relevant departments, including

Revenue, Law and Information Technology, have contributed to the process,” he added.

The Chief Minister also mentioned that senior IAS officers were consulted in drafting the final syllabus.

“The final draft is now ready, and I assure this House that we will complete the process within a month,” he said.

Addressing the query regarding the 2018 and 2019 batches of Junior JKAS officers, the Chief Minister clarified that existing operative rules do not provide for the declaration of Junior Scale JKAS officers as quasi-permanent.

Instead, the confirmation of their probation is contingent upon passing the Departmental Examination, as mandated by the following service rules- Rule 22(1)(a) of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956, Rule 4 of the Jammu and Kashmir Combined Competitive Service (Probation & Examination) Rules, 2000, Rule 16(1) of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service Rules, 2008

As per Rule 16 of SRO 386, probationers must pass the Departmental Examination within two years of their appointment to be confirmed in service.

However, the Chief Minister highlighted that the examination could not be conducted due to major administrative changes brought about by the Jammu and Kashmir Re-organization Act, 2019, which restructured the erstwhile state into two Union Territories. This reorganization necessitated a comprehensive revision of laws, statutes, and regulations

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Over 15 lakh kanals of land retrieved from encroachers in J&K: Sakeena Ito



KC News Network

JAMMU: Minister for Health and Education, Sakeena Ito, today said that out of total 1727241 Kanal and 8 Marla illegally occupied land, 1539662 Kanal and 15.5 Marla land has been retrieved, so far, in J&K.

The Minister, who was replying on behalf of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, to a question raised by Rajiv Jasrotia in the Legislative Assembly.

She said that the eviction process has already been initiated as per the relevant rules for retrieval of remaining 313645 Kanal and 12 Marla land worth Rs. 18,049.6 crore from the encroachers.

Sharing details, the Minister informed in reference to a member's query regarding the following land parcels in Kathua district under illegal occupation is being retrieved in Ghatti Patwar, Patwar Halqa Nanan, Forelain, Bhagthali Patwar, Taraf Bhajwal and Taraf Manjli, however, no state land has been encroached in Korepunnu village of Samba.

Regarding conversion of Agriculture land for industrial and commercial purposes, the Minister said that a total of 6098.53 Kanal of land has been converted for industrial and commercial purposes in Kathua and Samba districts of Jammu. She informed the House that total conversion of Agriculture land for industrial purpose was 4729 Kanal and 19.33 Marla while 559.17 Kanal land has been converted for commercial purposes in Kathua and Jasrota areas.

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J&K witnesses 3.60% annual increase in electric power purchases since 2016-17

KC News Network

SRINAGAR: In past nine years, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed an average annual increase of 3.60 percent in electric power purchases while the growth stands at only 2.45 percent.



An official said, “Over the past years from 2016-17 to 2024-25, Jammu and Kashmir has experienced an average annual increase of 3.60 percent in electric power purchases, as per extrapolated data.”

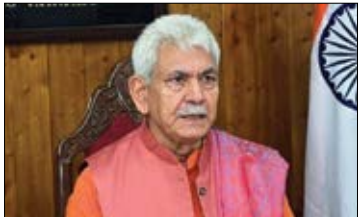
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LG Sinha, Dy CM greets on the occasion of Holi

KC NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his heartfelt greetings to the people on the occasion of Holi which will be celebrated on March 14.

In a message, the Lieutenant Governor said:



“On the auspicious occasion of Holi, I extend my hearty greetings and good wishes to all. Holi, the festival of colours, is the harbinger of joy, hope and fulfilment in our lives. The celebration on this joyful occasion with traditional gaiety and enthusiasm marks the arrival of spring and all the colours reflect our rich diversity and vibrant culture.

May this sacred festival of colours bring joy and happiness in the

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Budget Session 2025

House passes grants of Education, Social Welfare, Health & Medical Education Depts

KC News Network

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly today passed the grants amounting 1201489.52 lakh for School Education department, 881370.63 lakh for Health and Medical Education department, 450428.15 lakh for Social Welfare department and 219340.00 lakh for Higher Education department through voice vote.

The grants were passed after a two day detailed discussion in the house.

Winding up the discussion on Demands for Grants, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Ito, welcomed the suggestions given by the Legislators regarding functioning of the



departments under her charge.

She said that the Legislators have spoken about various aspects of School Education, Higher Education, Health and Medical Education and Social Welfare departments. Their suggestions about these sectors will definitely guide the government in

addressing the challenges and bringing improvements, wherever required.

Sakeena assured the Legislators that her team will examine the valuable suggestions put forth by them for implementation. She added

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Reservation System Disadvantageous To Kashmiri-Speaking Community: Lone

KC News Network

JAMMU: In his address to the Assembly on Thursday, Sajad Lone, the Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Conference (PC) President and MLA from Handwara, highlighted the growing marginalization of Kashmiri-speaking residents due to what he described as a deeply inequitable reservation system.

In a statement released by the party, Lone presented a data-driven argument showing the systematic decline in the representation of Kashmiri speakers in prestigious positions, asserting that the current reservation framework is creating a form of “social disempowerment” for the community.

“The overall mental makeup of schools and children has gone through a lot of turmoil. Kashmiri-speaking people form a distinct ethnic group, and we are seeing that with every passing day, in every exam, fewer of them are making it — not because they are incompetent, but because their entry space is being choked,” he emphasized in the Assembly.

Presenting statistics, Lone revealed a concerning trend in Kashmir Administrative Service (KAS) recruitment. According to his data, Kashmiri representation in KAS selections has declined sharply

over recent years — constituting only 19 per cent of successful candidates in 2023, down from 25 per cent in 2022 and 17 per cent in 2021. Moreover,



he explained how the current reservation system, which covers approximately 60 per cent of available positions, disproportionately affects Kashmir.

“Eight per cent is for Scheduled Castes, but in Kashmir, there are no SCs. So it is an additional burden on us,” he highlighted a key structural imbalance.

Similarly, regarding Scheduled Tribes, Lone pointed out that 40 per cent of ST reservation benefits go to Jammu and 60 per cent to Kashmir, creating what he described as a situation where “Jammu comes under reservation, and Kashmiri speakers come under open merit.”

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**SD/=ExecutiveEngineer,
(R&B) Electric Division Kashmir
Engineering Complex Srinagar Rajbag**

The protesters urged Bandipora administration to intervene immediately, ensuring that Nowgam Payeen is not left behind in the digital age. They called on telecom companies and concerned officials to address their grievances and provide reliable mobile and internet services without further delay.

Editorial

Ayush Labs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s call to encourage scientific curiosity among students has found enthusiastic support through the Ministry of Ayush’s ‘One Day as a Scientist’ initiative. Aligning with the vision of a scientifically driven India, various Ayush institutions have opened their laboratories to young students, offering them first hand exposure to research, modern technology, and the integration of traditional medicine with contemporary advancements. Students from institutions such as Amity University Jaipur, Dr. Gururaju Government Homoeopathic Medical College, and Captain Jailal Academic School had the unique opportunity to explore state-of-the-art laboratories and interact with leading researchers. Visits to the National Institute of Ayurveda, the Regional Research Institute (H) in Gudivada, and the Central Research Institute for Yoga & Naturopathy in Jhajjar provided hands-on learning experiences, particularly in areas such as respiratory studies, homeopathic research methodologies, and the scientific validation of yoga and naturopathy. The initiative, coinciding with National Science Day 2025, reinforces India’s commitment to empowering youth for global leadership in science and innovation. By bridging the gap between ancient wisdom and modern research, Ayush institutions are playing a crucial role in fostering scientific inquiry among the next generation. Encouraged by the overwhelming response, the Ministry of Ayush aims to expand such initiatives, ensuring that more young minds get a chance to witness the evolving landscape of scientific discovery in traditional medicine. By nurturing curiosity today, India is laying the foundation for a future where innovation and heritage walk hand in hand.

Balancing Faith and Education Throughout The Current Ramadan



ZUBAIR MOHAMMAD

Schools in Kashmir reopened on March 7, 2025, after nearly three months of winter vacations. As students and teachers returned to their classrooms, they were soon met with the arrival of the holy month of Ramadan. This sacred month is a time of fasting, prayer, and self-reflection for Muslims across the world. For students and teachers, it brings unique challenges and opportunities. Managing academic responsibilities while observing fasts requires careful planning, patience, and a supportive environment. A thoughtful approach can ensure that both learning and spiritual commitments are balanced effectively. With fasting hours stretching from Suhoor (pre-dawn meal) to Iftar (evening meal), students often experience fluctuations in energy levels throughout the day. Teachers, who are also fasting, may find it difficult to maintain their usual teaching pace. However, understanding these challenges and making adjustments can create a more productive and spiritually fulfilling school environment. Mornings are typically the best time for academic focus, as students are still energized from Suhoor. Teachers should schedule lessons that require higher concentration, such as mathematics, science, and analytical subjects, during the early hours. As the day progresses and fatigue sets in, lighter activities like discussions, storytelling, and revision can help maintain engagement without overburdening students. Creating a comfortable classroom environment is essential during Ramadan. Fasting students may struggle with thirst and fatigue, making it important for teachers to ensure that the atmosphere remains calm and stress-free. Reducing unnecessary physical movement and allowing short breaks can help students stay focused. Additionally, long lectures should be replaced with interactive and participatory learning methods to prevent students from feeling exhausted. Teachers should also be understanding about students’ concentration levels, avoiding unnecessary pressure while maintaining academic consistency.

Time management plays a crucial role for both students and teachers during Ramadan. Fasting requires discipline, and integrating this discipline into academic routines can be highly beneficial. Students should plan their study schedules efficiently, ensuring that they allocate time for early morning

tive activities such as light stretching, storytelling sessions, and cultural discussions that align with the spirit of Ramadan. Schools can also encourage students to participate in community service activities, such as helping with Iftar distribution or supporting charitable causes, to instill the values



revisions after Suhoor and make the most of their energy before midday fatigue sets in. Teachers, too, should manage their lesson plans carefully, ensuring that students are not overloaded with excessive homework or assignments that require prolonged mental effort late in the day.

Beyond academics, Ramadan is a time for character building and self-reflection. Schools can use this opportunity to reinforce values such as patience, kindness, honesty, and gratitude. Teachers can integrate moral lessons and ethical discussions into their daily teaching, helping students understand the deeper significance of the month. Encouraging acts of kindness within the school community, such as helping peers, sharing knowledge, and practicing patience, can make Ramadan a truly transformative experience for students. Discussions about compassion, charity, and discipline can inspire students to apply these values beyond the classroom, making them better individuals in the long run.

Physical activities in schools should also be adjusted during Ramadan. Since fasting students have lower energy levels, sports and strenuous exercises should be minimized, especially during the later hours of the day. Instead, schools can introduce alterna-

of empathy and social responsibility.

A supportive school environment can make a significant difference in helping students manage their academic and spiritual responsibilities. Teachers should foster a sense of understanding and flexibility, ensuring that students feel comfortable discussing their needs during Ramadan. Encouraging peer support and group study sessions can also help students collaborate and share the academic load, making learning more enjoyable and effective. By working together, students can revise, clarify doubts, and assist each other, reducing the burden of individual study while maintaining academic progress.

The scheduling of exams and assignments is another important consideration. Since fasting students spend additional time in prayers, recitation of the Quran, and spiritual reflection, their capacity to manage hectic academic deadlines may be limited. Schools should take this into account and avoid scheduling major exams during the later days of Ramadan, when fatigue and focus issues tend to peak. Instead, tests can be conducted earlier in the month or postponed until after Ramadan, allowing students to perform at their best without undue stress. Maintaining a healthy routine is equally impor-

tant for both students and teachers during Ramadan. Since sleep cycles are disrupted due to early Suhoor and late-night Taraweeh prayers, students should ensure that they get adequate rest whenever possible. Teachers should also be mindful of their own energy levels, balancing their responsibilities while taking care of their health. Schools can implement short relaxation breaks to help both students and staff recharge and sustain their focus throughout the day.

Ramadan is not just about fasting; it is a time of spiritual and personal growth. Schools can take this opportunity to enhance students’ moral and ethical development by integrating Islamic teachings on perseverance, gratitude, and humility into classroom discussions. Encouraging students to reflect on their own strengths, weaknesses, and aspirations can help them develop a stronger sense of self-discipline and purpose. Teachers, as role models, can inspire students through their own patience, kindness, and positive attitude during this month.

Involving parents and the broader school community in Ramadan activities can further enrich the experience for students. Schools can organize Ramadan-themed discussions, guest lectures, or charity drives, encouraging students to participate in meaningful initiatives that reinforce the values of the month. Regular communication between teachers and parents can ensure that students receive the necessary academic and emotional support at home as well.

As Ramadan progresses, it is essential to maintain a balanced approach that respects both academic commitments and religious obligations. With the right adjustments, students can continue their education without compromising their spiritual responsibilities. Teachers, by being “understanding, flexible, and encouraging, can create an environment where students thrive both academically and spiritually. Schools in Kashmir, having reopened recently after a long winter break, must ensure that students transition smoothly into their academic routine while embracing the blessings and lessons of Ramadan.

By fostering patience, empathy, and discipline, Ramadan becomes not just a month of fasting but a time of transformation and learning. A well-planned approach from both teachers and students can make this month a period of both academic excellence and spiritual enrichment, ensuring that education and faith go hand in hand.

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The Sound of Worship: How Loud is Too Loud?



By: Mir Muzamil
(myemailid1126@gmail.com)

The Kashmir Valley, a land blessed with the presence and teachings of Sufi saints, has long been a beacon of spiritual enlightenment, love, and peace. Mosques have stood as sanctuaries of faith, inviting believers to prayer and remembrance of the Almighty. However, in recent times, the overuse of loudspeakers, particularly during festive seasons, has raised serious concerns about its social and spiritual impact.

● The Issue of Excessive Loudspeaker Use

One of the most pressing concerns is the sheer density of mosques in villages, towns & cities across Kashmir. Most of the localities have multiple mosques within a one-kilometer radius, each using high-decibel loudspeakers simultaneously. The resulting overlap of amplified sounds creates an overwhelming auditory experience rather than a spiritually uplifting one. What is meant to be a call to devotion sometimes turns into a competition of volume, diverting from the true essence of worship.

● The Adverse Impact on Society

Islam, as emphasized in the Quran and Hadith, is a religion of balance and ease. The excessive use of loudspeakers negatively impacts various groups in society:

- The Sick and Elderly – Those suffering from illnesses require peace and rest, and continuous loud sounds can worsen their condition.
- Students and Scholars – Many young minds preparing for exams or engaging in academic pursuits struggle to concentrate due to persistent noise.
- Sound-Sensitive Individuals – People with hearing sensitivities or neurological conditions experience distress and discomfort from excessive sound pollution.

The Holy Quran reminds us:
"And do not raise your voice too loud in prayer,

nor be silent in it, but seek a way between." (Surah Al-Isra 17:110)
Prophet Muhammad

also advised moderation in matters of worship. When the Companions raised their voices in prayer, he said: "O people! Be merciful to yourselves. You are not calling upon one who is deaf or absent. Rather, you are calling upon the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing." (Sahih al-Bukhari, 2992; Sahih Muslim, 2704)

● Faith is Not Measured by Volume



A common misconception is that the strength of one’s faith (Aiteqaad) is reflected in how loud prayers or sermons are broadcasted. However, faith is deeply personal and is measured by sincerity, humility, and devotion—not by decibels. The Awliya e Kashmir, the revered saints of this valley, spread their message of love and spirituality through wisdom and understanding, not through force or imposition.

Hazrat Sheikh Noor-ud-din Noorani (RA), a great Sufi saint of Kashmir, advocated for simplicity in worship and service to humanity. His teachings emphasize love, patience, and respect for others.

It is crucial to reflect on whether the excessive use of loudspeakers aligns with these values.

● A Call for Thoughtful Reflection

It is essential for mosque committees, patrons, scholars, muezzins, and Sana Khawans to reassess the impact of their practices. Are the loudspeakers truly serving the purpose of earning spiritual merit, or are they inadvertently causing hardship? Islam teaches that causing inconvenience to others is a serious matter:

"And do not make your hand [as] chained to your neck or extend it completely and [thereby]

become blameworthy and insolvent." (Surah Al-Isra 17:29)

Moderation is the key to a fulfilling religious practice. The teachings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and Awliya e Kashmir emphasize that everything should be done with love and consideration, not through coercion or undue influence.

● A Balanced Approach

Religious authorities and community leaders must work together to find a middle ground.

Possible steps include:

- Reducing Volume Levels – Keeping the volume at a level that fulfills the purpose without becoming a disturbance.
- Limiting Usage – Using loudspeakers only for essential announcements and prayers like the Adhan.
- Coordinated Efforts – Encouraging local mosques within close proximity to coordinate their loudspeaker use to avoid unnecessary overlapping.
- Raising Awareness – Educating the community about the spiritual and ethical importance of maintaining peace and considering the well-being of others.

Conclusion

The sound of worship should be a source of tranquility and connection with the Divine, not a cause of discomfort or contention. The teachings of the Quran, Hadith, and Awliya e Kashmir guide us towards a path of moderation, compassion, and wisdom. As a community, we must embrace these principles and ensure that our religious practices uplift rather than disturb.

Let the call to prayer be a moment of peace, a reminder of faith, and an invitation to devotion—without compromising the harmony of those around us.

One of the most pressing concerns is the sheer density of mosques in villages, towns & cities across Kashmir. Most of the localities have multiple mosques within a one-kilometer radius, each using high-decibel loudspeakers simultaneously. The resulting overlap of amplified sounds creates an overwhelming auditory experience rather than a spiritually uplifting one. What is meant to be a call to devotion sometimes turns into a competition of volume, diverting from the true essence of worship.

Secretary RDD& PR asks for speedy completion of SBM-G projects in J&K

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Rural Development Deaprtment and Panchayati Raj (RDD&PR), Mohammad Aijaz Asad, on Wednesday chaired a review meeting to assess utilisation of funds and physical progress under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Director General (DG) Rural Sanitation, Anoo Malhotra, Deputy Director Rural Sanitation Kashmir, Mantasha Binti Rashid, Superintending Engineer REW Kashmir, Aamir Ali, Superintending Engineer REW Jammu, Rajesh Kumar Agastam, Assistant Commissioner Panchayats (ACPs) and Block Development Officers (BDOs).

The meeting, focused on the physical completion and corresponding expenditure for the financial year 2024-25.

The officials presented a detailed report on the total funds released to Assistant Commissioner Panchayats (ACPs) and Block Development Officers (BDOs) and their respective expenditure.

The Secretary reiterated the importance of proper documentation, transparency and daily monitoring of progress at the district level. He stressed that timely execution of sanitation projects is crucial



for achieving the goals of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) and improving rural sanitation across J&K.

The Secretary directed the officials to expedite pending works and ensure judicious utilisation of funds to improve rural sanitation across the UT.

The Secretary directed the officials to expedite completion of the ongoing projects and ensure efficient utilisation of funds. He emphasised the need for regular monitoring to achieve sanitation and waste management goals effectively.

The Secretary emphasized the urgency of utilizing pending funds effectively.

He directed the ACPs to submit detailed reports within two days outlining the pending bills and anticipated expenditure by March 31. He also instructed the child agencies and BDOs to monitor daily expenditures to ensure effective fund utilisation.

Aijaz Asad reiterated government's unwavering commitment towards providing safe, hygienic and dignified living conditions for rural communities.

He urged all the stakeholders for collaborative efforts to ensure timely completion of the ongoing projects and optimal functionality of SBM-G assets.

District level Committee approves 1653 cases under HADP at Ganderbal



GANDERBAL: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore Thursday chaired a meeting of District Level Committee (DLC) at DC office here to discuss and approve cases received under Holistic Agriculture Development Plan (HADP) in the district.

The committee approved 1653 cases pertaining to various sectors, including agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and allied fields. Among these, 80 cases have been linked with credit, amounting to financial assistance of Rs1.97 crore.

The DC emphasized that the HADP was a major step towards creating a sustainable and profitable agricultural ecosystem.

He also stressed the importance of meeting the targets within the timeframe set for the concerned departments.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, Assistant Commissioner Development, Chief Agriculture Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Assistant Director Fisheries and other committee members.

Deputy Commissioner Shopian meets Hols of private educational institutions

Directs to strictly adhere to NEP, improve facilities for desired educational outcomes

SHOPIAN: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta chaired a meeting of officers of the education department and heads of institutions of private educational institutions of the district in order to discuss the issues requiring attention.

Various issues covering New Education Policy (NEP) including maintaining the healthy teacher - student ratio, admission for weaker sections as per Right to Education Act, accommodation matters, admission process and fees, academic and various other non academic matters were discussed with the head of institutions.

The DC called upon all participants to provide their noble services with best possible efficiency and in a professional way.

He sought strict adherence to the New Education Policy especially maintaining teacher- student ratio, admission of students from marginalized and poor sections, etc.

He also sought cooperation from them on issues of drug menace and the enforcement of tobacco control within the campuses and surroundings of educational institutions.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Shopian, Dr.Nasir Ahmad Lone; ADC, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz; ACR, CEO, DIO, ZEOs and Head of institutions.

Capacity building programme under BBBP concludes at Budgam

Initiative aimed to equip grassroots-level workers about objectives of the scheme

BUDGAM: A capacity-building programme to sensitize and empower grassroots-level workers about the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative concluded today at the Conference Hall of the District Social Welfare Office, Budgam.

The event, organized by SANKALP Hub for Empowerment of Women, Mission Shakti Budgam, aimed to raise awareness among female police officials, PLVs (Para Legal Volunteers), supervisors, teachers, anganwadi workers (AWWs), ASHA workers, and community mobilizers from NRLM (National Rural Livelihood Mission), about the objectives of the scheme.

The participants were also made aware of various women-centric welfare schemes designed to promote and support women's empowerment at the community level.

Expert resource persons from Kashmir University and other line departments shared their insights to enhance the knowledge and capabilities of the attendees, equipping them with practical approaches to drive change and uplift women in their respective areas.

The programme concluded with a call to action for the participants to become catalysts of change by spreading awareness and ensuring the effective implementation of women empowerment initiatives in their communities.

NABARD signs MoU with J&K Grameen Bank to finance JLGs

JAMMU: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the promotion and financing of 2000 Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) was today signed and exchanged between NABARD, J&K Regional Office, Jammu, and J&K Grameen Bank.

Deputy General Manager, NABARD Des Raj and Chairman, J&K Grameen Bank Sanjay Gupta signed the MoU on behalf of NABARD and J&K Grameen Bank, respectively.

The MoU signing ceremony was presided over by Chief General Manager NABARD Bhallamudi Sridhar who emphasized that the primary objective of the MoU is to enhance the flow of credit to tenant farmers, orallessees, sharecroppers, landless farmers, and others who may not have formal title to their land holdings. The initiative also aims to meet the credit requirements of the economically weaker sections of society by forming and credit-linking JLGs.

Bhallamudi Sridhar applauded J&K Grameen Bank for successfully financing more than 2500 JLGs under previous MoUs and encouraged the Bank to continue its efforts in financial inclusion. He further stressed the need to focus on financing individual JLG members to strengthen their economic activities. Additionally, he emphasized that the renewal of JLG loans should be completed in a timely manner to ensure the smooth flow of credit operations.

Sanjay Gupta, Chairman, J&K Grameen Bank, appreciated NABARD's initiatives for promoting financial inclusion in the Union Territory and expressed gratitude for its continuous support to the Bank. He reaffirmed the Bank's commitment to playing a significant role in socio-economic development and ensuring that initiatives like social security schemes, SHG and JLG credit linkages reach even the remotest areas.

Dr. Parvinder Singh takes over as Director Animal Husbandry Jammu

JAMMU: Dr. Parvinder Singh today assumed office as Director Animal Husbandry Jammu here at Directorate of Animal Husbandry Talab Tillo, amid a warm welcome from officers and staff of the Directorate. Dr. Parvinder has vast experience in the animal husbandry sector as he has held several prominent positions in the department including Joint Director and Deputy Director among others. Currently he is also serving as Director Animal Husbandry Kashmir and CEO, Livestock Development Board Kashmir.

Later, Dr. Parvinder interacted with senior officials of the Department and asked them to work with utmost dedication and ensure that benefits of various government schemes reach intended beneficiaries in a time bound manner.

The staff present assured their whole-hearted support and cooperation.

DC Srinagar reviews progress of PM Surya Ghar-Muft Bijli Yojna, works under RDSS

Emphasizes regular progress reporting, inter-departmental coordination to achieve targets in set timelines

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat chaired a meeting of Engineers of KPDC at the DC Office Complex, here to review the progress on installation of Solar Rooftops under PM Surya Ghar-Muft Bijli Yojna (PMSGMBY) and works under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).

At the outset, the DC took a firsthand appraisal of the progress made in installation of Solar Rooftops under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in all Electric Divisions of the district.

The DC was informed that against the target of 6779 households set for Srinagar District under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli scheme, over 1961 applications of consumers of the Power Development Department have been received of which 600 solar plants stands commissioned.

On the occasion, the DC emphasized the benefits of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli scheme and urged KPDCL functionaries to generate awareness among the people about the benefits of installing Rooftop Solar plants under PM Surya Ghar-Muft Bijli Yojna.

He also instructed Officers from the PDD and J&K Bank to work in tandem to raise awareness about the scheme and simplify access to easy loans for the subscriber's contribution.

The DC asked for making concerted efforts to increase the number of applicants and timely installations in favour of each of them. During the meeting, Superintending Engineer KPDCL gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation highlighting different aspects of the scheme and progress made in its implementation.

While reviewing the progress of ongoing works under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), the DC emphasized on expediting progress across all Electric Divisions of the District to ensure the successful and timely completion of the project.

He instructed for regular progress reporting and inter-departmental coordination to achieve targets within set timelines.

Besides Chief Planning Officer Srinagar, the meeting was attended by Superintending Engineers, Executive Engineers, other Officers of Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCCL) and Turnkey Contractor.

Commissioner SMC reviews progress of National Clean Air Program

SRINAGAR: In a significant move to bolster air quality in Srinagar, Commissioner, that require further attention and development. Emphasizing the critical importance of tackling air pollution, Dr. Owais stated that clean air is not just an environmental issue; it is a public health imperative. "We must work diligently to implement our plans effectively and ensure that our community can breathe cleaner air. It is essential that we remain committed, proactive and innovative in our approach to tackling air pollution." The Commissioner called for an accelerated pace of work and enhanced collaboration among all departments involved.

He issued directives aimed at streamlining processes and fostering accountability, ensuring that all stakeholders are engaged and focused on achieving the goals of the NCAP.

The meeting concluded with a unanimous commitment from all participants to prioritize the National Clean Air Program, reinforcing their dedication to safeguarding the environment for future generations.

The SMC is resolute in its mission to create a cleaner, healthier Srinagar and will continue to monitor the progress of NCAP projects closely.

The meeting was attended by the Joint Commissioner (Adm) SMC, Joint Commissioner Works, Superintending Engineer (Drainage), the Divisional Forest Officer (SMC), and Executive Engineers from the Roads & Buildings (R&B) Department, among others.



Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Dr. Owais Ahmed chaired a comprehensive review meeting, here focused on the National Clean Air Program (NCAP).

The meeting provided an in-depth review of the progress made on NCAP projects during the financial year 2024-2025.

Dr. Owais commended the significant advancements achieved in improving air quality through various initiatives, while also pinpointing areas

Awareness rogramme on Drug Abuse held at GDC Sumbal

BANDIPORA: with an aim to educate students about the perils of drug abuse and promote a drug-free society, an awareness programme on Drug Abuse was today organized at Government Degree College (GDC) Sumbal. The programme held under the patronage of principal GDC Sumbal, Prof. Dr. Shabeena Iqbal Shawl, aligned with the broader objectives of the 'Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan'.

The event was led by Manzoor Ahmad Parey Convener Nasha Mukht Bharat committee. In his address Manzoor Ahmad highlighted the devastating effects of drug addiction on individuals, families, and society at large.

He deliberated on the critical role of education and community involvement in preventing drug abuse, urging students to act as ambassadors of change by adopting and promoting healthy, drug-free lifestyles.

The event concluded with a strong call to action, encouraging participants to spread awareness and contribute to building a resilient, drug-free society.



DC Kupwara reviews implementation of Mission YUVA programme

KUPWARA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the implementation of Mission YUVA programme in the district.

Addressing the meeting, the DC impressed upon all the officers to work with added zeal and dedication to ensure smooth and successful implementation of the ambitious Mission YUVA programme in the district.

She emphasized the need for developing an ecosystem for unemployed education youth to boost entrepreneurship and employment in the district. She also highlighted the role of the Mission YUVA app, which is integral to the mission's outreach and support services.

The AD Employment briefed the meeting through a detailed PowerPoint presentation about the objectives and modalities involved in implementing the Mission YUVA in the district.

Mission YUVA, a youth-centric initiative launched by entrepreneurial ventures. It was informed that the objective of the Mission YUVA is to generate new employment opportunities through enterprise creation especially for high-skilled unemployed youth so that they can earn their livelihood with dignity.

Regarding the institutional mechanism for implementing the Mission, it was informed that 20 Small Business Development Units (SBDU) have to be established in the district under the supervision of DC.

The role of the SBDU is to identify relevant business activities for the district and create model Detailed Project Reports. Besides, 80 Business Help Desks have to be established at sub divisional level under the supervision of concerned SDMs.

The meeting held a threadbare discussion on various other issues for proper and successful implementation of the Mission YUVA programme in the district.

GMDIC Kupwara, CPO, SDM Lolab, AD Employment and other concerned officers were present in the meeting.



the J&K Government, aims to empower young individuals by providing them with various opportunities for skill development, employment and

Div Com, IGP review arrangements for Holi, Eid and Navratra festivals in Jammu Division

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar, alongside Inspector General of Police (IGP) Bhim Sen Tuti, today chaired a high level meeting to review the arrangements of district administration for upcoming festival season, including Holi, Eid and Navratras.

The meeting, attended by DIGs, Deputy Commissioners and SSPs, held detailed discussion on district wise preparations for smooth celebrations of the festivals.

The Div Com sought the details from the District Administrations regarding arrangements related to supply of and stock position of essential commodities, besides status of power, water supply and sanitation around religious places and major junctions in the districts.

Directions were issued to designate nodal officers and magistrates to facilitate the smooth celebrations by ensuring clear roads for processions and religious gathering while devising meticulous timing and proper planning.

IGP Jammu directed the SSP to keep a strict check on traffic violation and ensure adherence to road safety rules, especially by youngsters riding two wheelers. The stakeholder departments were asked to make available all necessary arrangements and take precautions to make the celebrations convenient and smooth. Earlier, the Deputy Commissioners and SSPs apprised the meeting on the advance arrangements made regarding route finalisations, market regulations including check on overpricing, profiteering and black-marketing, besides awareness drives for obeying traffic rules in their respective districts.

IGP Jammu directed the police officials to remain present on ground during the festivals. Directions were also issued for adequate deployment of security forces to maintain law and order across the division.



Friday Thoughts



DR MAROOF SHAH

Most of the problems in interpersonal relationships and conflicting claims about rights and court cases can be traced to problematic understanding of the self and its relationship to the Ground of being or God. God designated as Reality in Sufi parlance in light of the Quranic characterization of Him as Al-Haqq is the Centre and End of all creation and it is in being true to God that one can be true to oneself. For those who identify with Islam at cultural level only and eschew any faith in personal God we can propose a trans-theistic ethic and spirituality that doesn't need explicit theological commitment but is committed to justice – the ethic of duties and rights – that committed Muslim women uphold. It is evolving consensus on this ethic that both religious and secular factions and those classified as Islamists and feminists could agree upon. The duties or obligations towards God can be best formulated in terms of service to God's creation though personal relationship to God can't and needn't be debated. However, one of the most certain indicators of one's piety is one's humility and effacing the self in relation to the other. The greatest joy is losing oneself in the other. Service for the other is the royal way of karma yoga or path of service for attaining realization or proximity to God. Saadi has well formulated the definition of tariqat as service of people. Sufis have been running free food and accommodation service for all in shrines. Given the self owes very identity to the other and one achieves subsistence or baqa in the Real through dying to the self (fana). Saints – the friends of God – display exemplary character and become source of great good for the world. Women saints of Islam have created lasting legacy in social service sector. We need to elaborate the basic premise about the self and other to put women's obligations and rights in perspective.

Given most problems of women do have a connection with managing finances, financial security to vulnerable women would help solve most problems. However, before we discuss finances, we need to remark that proper relationship to God means no attachment to the world or its wealth and comforts. It gives greater joy to serve than to be served. And regarding the point who is responsible it is fitting to recall the point made in Dostoevsky's great work The Brothers Karamazov that “we are all responsible and I am most responsible” and the moment one understands this, the world turns into paradise. Women who are prone to complaining against husbands have deep down a problem in understanding who they are and who the other is and how it is God who is looking at oneself from the face of the Other or one who needs us. A sacred tradition often quoted by the Sufis implies God is addressing us or beseeching our attention through every needy person. We are here, according to religious traditions, not on holiday but winning souls. An odyssey of soul making is what this life is, as said by Keats. We owe to everyone who is somehow connected to us something that we need to graciously return. Gratitude and love for all is what Jesus taught and saints keep reminding us about. The Quran defines faith in terms of gratitude. Moral and spiritual life is one of being open or available to the other. Simone Weil defines God, echoing Sufis, in terms of “attention without distraction.” We may even recall that major secular thinkers and non-theistic philosophers such as Heidegger have advocated meditative modes or sharpening of awareness for fulfilling human vocation. Atheistic mystics such as Bugbie and even New Age atheists such as Harris have propounded these modes of awareness for what may be called secular mode of salvation. These become possible when one can achieve certain degree of detachment from worldly desires and the calculus of gain and loss or pleasure and pain. Major reasons for marital or family conflicts include, ultimately, an attitude of having in place of being, laziness, addiction to comforts and loveless lustful attitude. Failure to respect and nurture a relationship is primarily a problem in education and character building. Those who are truly conscious of human dignity and understand how God's best manifestation is in women's face, as Ibn Arabi has argued, can't imagine to inflict violence on women. It is the science of conflict resolution and anatomy of human aggression that need to be taught to couples. Once divorce was rare as lesser expectations from each other, better work ethic or sense of duty that cemented relationships. The idea that there must be a romance and compatibility of minds for successful marriage is very recent and contributes to both pre-marital and post-marital problems.

One can only help oneself by helping others. There is no other. It is all Self, God's disguise according to profound meaning of Tawhid.

Do you consider yourself to be not better than anyone you meet during the day? If yes then you may be truly humble as a Sufi has observed Recall what is the meaning or profound implication of God as only Reality, as One and unity of humankind. Belief in an autonomous self results from pride. One's quest for better car, more grandiose party or house are all variations or disguises of this self love that has been cursed.

Shaykh Nizam-u'd-din Auliya used to recite the following

verse of Shaykh Abu Sa'id Abul Khair as his motto in life: “Whoever causes grief to us, May his life get more and more happiness.” (Riazul Islam, 2002). As Ibn Arabi noted the saints have dropped the possessive adjective (ya) three times, so they do not say 'for me', 'I have' or 'my possessions' (fi, 'indi, matâ'). Sufi ethic maybe summed up in form of the following dicta of mystically oriented Dostoevsky and Levinas respectively: “We are all responsible for everyone else – but I am more responsible than all the others.” “I owe the Other everything, the Other owes me nothing.” And this “But cannot we live as though we always loved? It was this that the saints and heroes did; this and nothing more.”

Jesus rejected attachment to private property as did his Russian disciple Tolstoy. The Prophet's companions shared almost

how infaq (in the specific sense of spending what is in excess fir community and volunteering for community) of women of at least one day of work or equivalent cash for community initiatives such as tuition, healthcare, housing and food services could resolve key issues marring family life. Women would join credit and other cooperatives for mutual support. Spare or excess personal resources would be spared for community, especially women. Charity, investments and voluntary efforts would be better pooled for community work and professionally managed. Law suits would be avoided as far as possible by recourse to local community resources for conflict resolution. Avoiding extravagance and consumption of resources in unproductive ventures would save what is truly needed for all in these groups.



everything with their brothers. Augustine identified charity as the essence of scripture. Buddhism prefers begging to hoarding.

In one sentence Sufi view of self and self-other relationship can be stated as: There is no autonomous individual self but only the Other and our salvation lies in surrendering delusory will to the Cosmic will, the will of the Other. Who is the Other in Sufi view? As there is none but God in reality our identification with what is ordinarily called the self is mistaken. Our greatest joy in fact lies in dancing by dissolving in the Other, by transcending the narrow circuit of personality. What is the Sufi's beloved for whom he is prepared to die or renounce everything? The Other, the non-self.

The following is a brief formulation of important propositions, following elaborate discussion with various stakeholders and consideration of works written about these issues, that one may propose for anyone committed to justice and dignity of women.

- After sorting the wrong view of the self that puts it at the centre and resists vulnerability or openness to the other or submission to the Other/Real and thus transcending the slavery of the empire of self, other things can proceed.
- All women feel answerable for their moral commitments in the court of conscience and community (and in hereafter for believing women) and will try to lead a life of responsibility and care for the most disadvantaged and realize their highest potential as humans – eudamonia. The best of humans are those who serve best. They would take the side of the weak and oppressed and uphold justice. They would prefer to work for greater collective good in a spirit of cooperation with all those who have similar objectives. Faith is best demonstrated in wholesome actions for the good of humanity. Virtue is its own reward. One is here to win one's salvation or falah (flourishing) with diligence and not score a point against other/spouse. We enter into any relationship with the other to fulfill our larger destiny that involves relinquishing wrong views and wrong conduct.
- Women would live lives informed by the principle of infaq or care for the other from their resources. Seeking to build personal empire, refusal to remember death or trying to flee death, competing for fatter salary or more perks or bank balance, bigger house, costlier clothes or cars is what needs to be addressed by a healthy community. Conflicts over these things in family life or between spouses need to be resolved at more fundamental psycho-spiritual level. Ninety percent of court cases would be withdrawn the moment these things are given due recognition. Spouses would compete for sacrificing for each other and not claiming their pie as the very principle of self that is attached to its pie is transcended. Against this ego pathology, we can see

- The most controversial cases such as that of Shah Bano and such hotly contested issues as triple talaq, share in property, dower amount, marriage expenses, expenses on separate house for newly wed etc. could be best managed through efficient management of finances. There would be enough resources generated within a month only through such small interventions as daily collection, from every eligible family, of sadaqah (Rs 1 to 10), sadaqah al fitr, zakat/ushr, will for one percent and investment of 1 percent property in women cooperatives and businesses. Investing some percentage of gold in lucrative businesses or creation of sustainable services or cooperative farms would create enough resources for maintenance and help further cement relationships between spouses. We can create a special scheme for every woman who joins special women self help group of fifty that would consist of women with different professions to support one another through community services. This group of what may be called super-fifty women would give market to businesswomen and women associated with farming enterprises – vegetables, meat, milk, milk products, some grocery items, tuition services, health care services etc. within the group. The group would manage charities also within or with the consultation of group management which would be elected periodically and democratically with due consideration to inclusion of technocrats for professional management of group affairs. This group of fifty would have pooled on monthly basis five k from daily sadaqah, fifty k from zakat, Fifty k from one day infaq of time/skill besides 100k from soft loan and saved five k on account of routine expenses on food, education, healthcare services etc. that are made available through cooperative farms in which one has a share. Long term resource base of millions of rupees would be generated from will and investments in which group as a whole would be beneficiary. Around five jobs would be created within the group for management of community services. All members shall receive basic requirements of food (rice, oil, soap, tea, spices, salt, sugar etc.) and vegetables, meat, milk and milk products shall be available at 10 to 15 percent of prevailing market rate for five members from community resources if all members contribute ten k soft loan for a year and monthly 3k only.

- A woman can volunteer for any work but isn't obligated for doing any work including home making work. Women in fact get a pension of a sort after marriage, at husband's and her own family's expense from dower and other gifts that can be invested for silent income, as finances is responsibility of men. Pocket money can be secured through mutual negotiations and

stipulated in nikah nama. Women can ask for payment for any work including domestic chores and rearing children in husband's family. The only obligation on her is not to refuse intimacy and companionship of husband. One can well say that a woman is given a new home, an access to/share in husband's resources for love. What is however often missed in this legalistic calculus of work and whose responsibility is the deeper ontology of work and its association with meaning of life and healthy relationships. Work is worship if it isn't alienated. One needs to find one's path to God through action or work that is also aspiration of karma yoga. With detachment and focus on duty and ability to pour love, work becomes joy and constitutes part of human dignity.

All women would be encouraged to write a will in favour of community of women for at least one percent of property and invest one percent in women managed businesses and contribute their charities to professional trusts that have women presence in administration.

Hannah Arendt's The Human Condition puts the case for work so succinctly. Islam requires us to rise to the level of Ihsan that dissolves the controversy on whose job it is to do domestic chores. Preparing food can be such a joy and partaking of food a sacrament. Women don't and shouldn't ask for payment for their work as they understand the joy of working and serving one's kids or even extended family. Love and its fulfillment are great wages for the work we all do including women. However, men should do domestic chores or better we evolve community kitchens where work is rotated and not felt a burden and shared space adds to the experience of preparing and eating. Instead of focusing on my rights or his duties why can't we share and create many jobs in the process. Shift to community kitchen – one for extended family or 5 to 10 or ideally seven neighbour's – would not only create millions of jobs and reduce cost of food but also cement relationships.

A few more concrete proposals for settling key issues in marriage and finances are in order.

- Nikah nama would be finalized in presence of informed professional committee (which would also recommend a standard nikah nama for the best interests of couple) representing women's point of view. Women would be advised to consult such professional team before marriage.
- Dower would be invested to create silent income for women (these points are elaborated in later chapter).
- Maintenance of divorcees would be managed by takaful investments complemented by daily sadaqah from women pooled in favor of the poor and needy or those who suffer any exigency of debt and resource crunch.
- All women would be encouraged to write a will in favour of community of women for at least one percent of property and invest one percent in women managed businesses and contribute their charities to professional trusts that have women presence in administration.
- Women would be linked to interest free credit cooperatives to help small entrepreneurs with seed capital and access to interest free loan for members. Saving hefty amount paid by way of interest would generate enough resources to support many community initiatives.

Continued From P1...

Tourism promotion

Additionally, the Tourism Department is focusing on the development of off-beat destinations to expand tourism beyond traditional spots.

“We are working on developing lesser-explored destinations like Gurez, Keran, Bungus, Tosamaidan, Aharbal, Doodhpathri, Machail, Bhaderwah, Sukrala Mata, and Pancheri to attract more tourists,” he said.

The Chief Minister stated that tourist arrivals in J&K have seen a significant increase in the last two years. In 2023, J&K recorded 2,11,80,011 tourist visits and in 2024, the number increased to 2,35,90,081, he informed.

The Chief Minister also provided an update on infrastructure-related projects undertaken by the Tourism Department over the last three years: In 2022-23, 984 projects were initiated, with 549 completed; In 2023-24, 1,191 projects were taken up, and 516 were completed and in 2024-25 (till date), 1,914 projects have been started, out of which 1,057 have been completed.

We Need Scientists,

pace at which change is taking place today, which will require constant skilling and reskilling as per the needs of the industry.

He urged all teachers to go beyond the subjects and curriculum and provide the students with skills to become successful future professionals.

“The real power of education is its ability to transform. We can fulfil the demands of a modern society and build Viksit Bharat, if we can fully utilize the power of education and skilled human resources of the nation” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor asked the students to embrace lifelong learning and realize their inner ability through self-exploration and self-awareness.

“True Education shows the path to liberation. Liberation enables you to know yourself better so that you can achieve all the goals of your life.

Education is not just about rote learning and exchange of information. Rather, education is a method, a medium. Through education you can achieve your individuality, awaken your consciousness, your passion, learn the modern skills to make your place in the world and achieve new heights in your chosen fields.

Nowadays the real aim of education is misunderstood. It is not about youth achieving the number one position or marks. Instead of numbers, students should focus on lifelong learning skills. Students should follow their passion and aim to reach the pinnacle of their creativity so that they can learn new skills according to the changing demand of the industry and achieve success,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

He further called upon the educational institutions to aim for Zero Stress Campus and kindle the unique strength and talent of the students.

“I would also like to request all the parents to help their children develop a strong personality according to their passion. I am sure that if youth are given the opportunity to choose subjects as per their passion, they will be able to achieve new heights,” the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor also congratulated and extended his felicitations to Dr Priyaranjan Trivedi, all the members of Dr. Keshav Baliram Hedgewar

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that in my Bank account No: 0117010100001136, my name has been Mistakenly Mentioned as, Mushtaq Ahmad Khan, S/O Gh Mohd khan, while as my Actual and correct name as per my Aadhaar Card is Mushtaq Ahmad Turk, S/O Ghulam Mohammad Turk, 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 Main Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Mushtaq Ahmad Turk.
S/O Ghulam Mohammad Turk.
R/O Chonti Mula, Bandipora.

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No: 0216020006228, which is Registered in the name of Ab Ahad Dar, S/O Lassi Dar. Now i want to apply for Change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Abdul Rasheed Dar, S/O Abdul Ahad Dar, 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.

Abdul Rasheed Dar.
S/O Abdul Ahad Dar.
R/O Lobber Mohalla kema, District Bandipora

Vishwa Hindu Vidyapeeth, Indian Institute of Ecology and Environment (IEE), and everyone associated with the summit.

Finalization of JKAS

, including those governing the Departmental Examination.

“As a result, the syllabus had to be thoroughly revised to align with the new administrative framework and updated legal provisions introduced by the Re-organization Act,” he said. He further informed the House that Government Order No. 1514-JK(GAD) of 2023, dated 30.11.2023, had constituted a committee to finalize the syllabus for the JKAS Probationers’ Departmental Examination.

“We are making every effort to expedite the finalization process. Once the syllabus is approved, steps will be taken immediately to conduct the examination. The confirmation of probation for these officers, which depends on successfully passing the examination, will be processed without delay in accordance with the relevant service rules,” the Chief Minister assured.

Over 15 lakh

Similarly, 156 Kanal and 07 Marla of Agriculture land has been converted and utilized for industrial purposes while 654 Kanal and 10 Marla for commercial purposes in Samba, she informed the House.

She informed that the Revenue Department has not transferred state land to any private individual for setting up of Industrial Estates, however, on the basis of intends placed by the Industries & Commerce Department, land measuring 12260 Kanal and 03 Marla has been transferred to Industries & Commerce Department in various districts during the past two years.

J&K witnesses

“When considered on a per capita basis, the growth rate stands at 2.45 percent per year, reflecting the region’s increasing energy demand. This growth is also in line with the region’s population increase, which has been growing at an annual rate of 2.14 percent during the same period,” the official said as per KNO.

It also said that as of November 2024, the number of electricity connections and consumers in various categories in Jammu and Kashmir has risen to 23.65 lakh, compared to 23.45 lakh in March 2024 that indicates a steady increase in the number of people and businesses receiving power supply.

“As power demand increases, it triggers economic growth, drives industrialization, and boosts the development of basic amenities such as healthcare, water supply etc,” the official said

Over Rs 2,500

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, provides for the reorganisation of the state of J-K into two Union Territories – Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh – effective October 31, 2019.

It followed the revocation of Articles 370 and 35-A.

LG Sinha, Dy

society and usher in new hope for a brighter future of all”.

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, has extended warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Holi.

While emphasizing that the festival of colours symbolizes love, joy and harmony, he expressed optimism that Holi would bring happiness and prosperity into the lives of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

House passes grants

that efforts would be stepped up to address

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No: 0216020065094, which is Registered in the name of Ab Gaffar Chaket, Now we want to apply for Change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Masjid Hanfia Kaloosa, 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.

Masjid Hanfia.
Kaloosa Ward NO: 11, Bandipora.

NOTICE

My name wrongly mentioned in Aadhaar card bearing No 4450 1098 2907 as Nadiya jan instead of Nadiya Hassan , 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.

Nadiya Hassan
D/O Ghulam Hassan Dar
R/O khaigam Pulwama
Tehsil Rajpora
District Pulwama

the issues they have raised during the discussion of Demand for Grants.

While speaking regarding the School Education sector, the Minister said that education is one of the most important sectors upon which the foundation of a nation depends. “Under the visionary leadership of late Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, education sector was given prime importance”, she stated.

She also expressed gratitude to Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, that despite all financial limitations as Finance Minister, he kept extraordinary budget provisions for education sector. She added that this budgetary support will help in improving the quality of education across Jammu and Kashmir.

Reflecting on achievements of school Education sector, Sakeena said that J&K has a distinction of having free education upto university level. She informed the house that J&K has a vast network of 18,724 government schools and 5517 private schools which helped J&K to achieve literacy rate of 77.3%, very close to the National level literacy rate of 77.70%. “Under UT Capex, Samagra, Rs. 739 crore have been approved for infrastructure development which included new school buildings and additional class rooms”, she said.

She also informed the house that after the present government took over, in its first Cabinet meeting, the November session was restored on public demand for the larger benefit of students and parents.

“In order to equip the students with latest methods of education, ICT Labs, Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) and Smart Classrooms have been introduced, which is helping our students to compete at National and International level.

During the current budget, a provision of 600 ICT labs, 2000 smart classrooms and 500 ATLs has been kept to encourage innovation and scientific temperament among the students”, she informed.

The Minister also informed the house that for the benefit of students in remote areas and students belonging to migratory population, 1859 seasonal centres are being run across J&K. She further said that due to various initiatives of the department, students in government schools have been doing very well as is reflected in the board exams. “During last year exams, most of the top positions in all the streams have been achieved by the students of government schools. Even in professional competitive exams, the pass outs of government schools have done tremendously well”, she informed.

“For encouraging female literacy among the SC/ST population, 89 KGBV’s have been made operational, besides 85 girls hostels have been sanctioned in educationally backward blocks”, informed the Minister.

The Minister also said that under Beti Anmol Scheme, more than 12000 BPL girl students have been covered for which an amount of Rs. 7 crore has been spent.

While giving details about health and medical education department, the Minister said that health sector is an important sector which forms the core of a developed society. She informed the house that GMC Anantnag became the first among newly established medical colleges to have a dedicated Cath Lab for South Kashmir region. Besides, a Cath lab is being made operational at GMC Jammu in a week’s time, she added.

She said that Colonel Chopra Nursing Home at GMC Jammu has started services with state-of-the-art machinery to provide affordable and quality healthcare services to the people of Jammu. She also informed that Government Homeopathic Medical College, Kathua, has started its first batch of BHMS students (63 students) from make shift arrangements at GMC Kathua.

The Minister further informed the house that process has been initiated for establishing 250 Bedded Maternal & Child Care hospital at a cost of Rs. 86 crore at Janglat Mandi, Anantnag.

In order to strengthen the health infrastructure

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement Bearing Consumer ID No: 0216020006388, Which is Registered in the name of Mohd Lateef Santary, Now i want to apply for Change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Abdul Lateef Seer Gojar, S/O Mohd Yaqoob, 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.

Abdul Lateef Seer Gojar.
S/O Mohd Yaqoob.
R/O Koyal mukam, Tahsil Alooosa
District Bandipora.

NOTICE

My name wrongly mentioned in Aadhaar card bearing No 9229 2618 1651 as Samira instead of Sumeera jan, 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.

Sumeera jan
D/O Ghulam Qadir Gojer Bajad
R/O Nagbal
Tehsil Charar I Shareif
District Budgam

across Jammu and Kashmir, the Minister informed the house that some important projects are in pipeline adding that work on AIIMS Kashmir is going at a fast pace and is targeted to be completed by November 2025. She added that additional block at Bone and Joint Hospital, Srinagar, 243 bedded Labour Block at SMGS hospital, Jammu, 125 bedded District Hospital at Reshipora Budgam, construction of 100 Bedded MCH at Lamberi, Rajouri, 16 Critical Care Blocks (50 bedded – 14, 100 bedded -02) at GMCs of Baramulla, Anantnag, Rajouri, Kathua, Doda, District hospital Budgam, Kulgam, Shopian, Pulwama, Ganderbal, Poonch, Reasi, Udhampur, SKIMS- Bemina, CHC Kupwara and Chest Disease Hospital of GMC Jammu will be completed in due course of time. The completion of these vital projects will give a major boost to health sector, improving the patient care drastically, she added.

While talking about social welfare department, the Minister highlighted that during the Budget speech 2025-26, Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, announced revision in pension amounts across all beneficiary categories. “To promote equity and sustainability, a graded structure has been introduced to enhance pension amounts in alignment with beneficiaries’ age groups”, she said. She added that as per the new pension structure, the beneficiaries below 60 years will get Rs. 1,250/month; beneficiaries aged 60-79 years will receive Rs. 1,500/month and beneficiaries aged 80+ years will be given Rs. 2,000/month.

The Minister further informed the house that scholarships were provided to 9,668 SC students and we are expanding coverage to 13,000 students. She added that these scholarships, cover tuition fees, maintenance allowances and hostel support for these beneficiaries to help bridge educational disparities and promote inclusive development.

Rouble Nagi Art Foundation Donates Computers, Benches to Guru Nanak Dev Model High School in Baramulla

BARAMULLA: The Rouble Nagi Art Foundation, a Mumbai-based NGO, has bolstered educational infrastructure at Guru Nanak Dev Model High School in Baramulla by donating computers and benches to enhance learning opportunities for students.

Rouble Nagi, founder of the foundation, underscored the critical role of computer literacy in modern education. “Basic knowledge begins with computers, and digital skills are essential for careers in every field,” she said. Reflecting on her prior visit to the school, Nagi noted, “After identifying the institution’s needs, I am delighted to provide these resources today to empower students.”

Highlighting the foundation’s mission, she added, “Our goal is to ensure children have access to all necessary facilities, eliminating barriers to their education. Quality learning is non-negotiable.” Nagi emphasized the indispensability of technology in education, stating, “In today’s world, computers are pivotal in shaping students’ futures. We want every child here to thrive without limitations.”

Addressing the bench donation, she shared, “It pained me to see students sitting on the floor during my visit. Providing proper seating is a basic yet vital step

In order to ensure transparency, the Minister said that 28,175 Anganwadi Centers (AWCs) have fully adopted the Poshan Tracker, which authenticated 8,99,000 Aadhaar based beneficiaries receiving supplementary nutrition.

She also informed that 2,120 Sanginis and 2,852 Sahayikas have been engaged, strengthening grassroots service delivery. She further said that 15,929 Anemia Camps have been conducted, benefiting 16,350 anemic individuals.

The Minister further said that 136 AWCs in aspirational districts have been converted into Saksham AWCs and 202 more are being upgraded with infrastructure improvements. She also informed that 208 AWCs have been upgraded into Bal-Vidyalayas for holistic early childhood education and 445 are targeted for transformation this year with 69 already completed.

Reservation System

Lone painted a stark picture of Kashmir’s future if the current system persists. “I must ask you to put a hand on your heart and tell us – if you return here in 20 years, how many KAS officers will be Kashmiri-speaking in this secretariat?” he questioned.

He extended this concern to medical education, asking whether Kashmir’s current top doctors would have even secured admission to Government Medical Colleges under the present system.

Lone proposed a comprehensive strategy to address what he termed a systematic injustice, calling for region-wise rationalization of reservation quotas. Looking toward the newly elected government, he expressed hope that they would address the concerns of the Kashmiri-speaking ethnic group based on merit, calling the issue “generational” in its importance. (Agencies)

toward creating a conducive learning environment.”

Nagi reaffirmed the foundation’s long-term commitment to the school’s development, praising



the students’ dedication. “The enthusiasm here is inspiring. We will continue supporting this institution and its learners to ensure their progress,” she said, adding that she frequently visits Kashmir due to the region’s “remarkable academic outcomes and motivated students.”

The event was attended by Sikh youth leader Amarjeet Singh, retired CEO Balbir Singh, and school staff, who expressed gratitude for the contributions aimed at fostering educational excellence.

علوم اسلامیہ اور دین اسلام کے حنام 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)

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بینک مین بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر
0061010100001532
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

۲۔ زکوٰۃ، نیاز وغیرہ

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بینک مین بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر
0061010100000321
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

۳۔ عام امداد، عمومی خیرات، اللہ عظیمیہ

بیونگ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بینک نٹھال پارک بانڈی پورہ
0727040100000386
IFSC Code: JAKA0NIPARK

۴۔ تعمیر مسجد شریف

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بینک مین بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر
0061010100001226
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

۵۔ مددست البنات

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ جموں و کشمیر بینک
0727010100000200
IFSC Code: JAKA0NIPARK

۶۔ ریلیف کے لئے (ہنگامی اخفات، مریضوں کے ڈاکٹریل ریمتاج)

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ ریلیف سِل ہے کے بینک مین بازار بانڈی پورہ
0061010100001098
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

۷۔ محمود قلاتی ادارہ پار میوہرہ یتیم خانہ امداد بیوگان مساکین

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ نام محمود چانڈران ہوم چام پورہ نیو فوٹ منڈی سرنگر
0181010100002615
IFSC Code: JAKA0FRUITS

نوٹ۔ آپ جس اکاؤنٹ میں رقم داخل کریں اس کی اطلاع دفتر کو فون 01957-225271 پر ضرور کریں یا موبائل

9419089250 پر SMS کریں تاکہ مدد رس کے حسابات اور بینک کے اندراجات میں موافقت رہے اور فرق نہ آئے۔

الداعی الی الخیر

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

جاری کردہ: رمضان المبارک ۱۴۴۶ھ مطابق مارچ ۲۰۲۵ء

