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Kashmir Convener**



Piyush Goyal Concludes Switzerland Tour; Kicks Off Sweden Leg to Deepen Indo-Nordic P/02 **Economic Cooperation**



Sri Lanka Army Chief Begins India Visit to Boost **Defence Ties**

P/02



Cabinet-Sub-Committee

place in the next few days

and the recommendations

by the CSC will be tabled and

will be looked into," he said.

Pakistan for making attempts

to destabilize the region and

underscored the need for

accelerated development

of Jammu and Kashmir.

>>SEEONP-7

Owais Gul

SRINAGAR: As the intense heatwave

continued across Jammu and Kashmir,

the region's winter capital, Jammu, has

figured among the top hottest spots

Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng, Jammu

ranked the 68th hottest spot in the

world at 44.4°C, which was the season's

Jammu and Kashmir simmered

amidst the intense heatwave conditions

As per an Independent Weather

across the globe.

Omar took a dig at

"India Achieves Historic Surge in Social Protection Coverage Under Modi Govt"

P/02

Amarnath Yatra will be memorable this year: LG Sinha

KC News Network

GANDERBAL: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today performed the Pratham Puja at the Holy Cave, marking the ceremonial beginning of the annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. The Lieutenant Governor urged all the devotees of Baba Barfani to visit in large numbers for the Holy Yatra and pray to Mahadev for progress of I&K and the nation. He said, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board and Administration have improved the pilgrims facilities and Jammu Kashmir Police, Army, CRPF, CAPFs have made foolproof security arrangements

"J&KAdministration, Shri Amarnath

Manoj Sinha visited Baltal today and **Reviews Medical** reviewed the arrangements in place & Healthcare facilities for medical and healthcare at the

at Base Camp

KC NEWS NETWORK

GANDERBAL: Lieutenant Governor



Ji Shrine Board, Army, BRO, CAPFs, J&K Police and all stakeholders are working with complete devotion, dedication, collaboration and clear objectives

Baltal Base Camp Hospital.

for hassle-free and safe pilgrimage starting from 3rd July," the Lieutenant Governor said. >>SEEOND-7

medical equipment, medicines, oxygen cylinders and round the clock healthcare service for the well-being of the pilarims.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted The Lieutenant Governor was acwith the officials and directed them companied by Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, to ensure the availability of adequate **Divisional Commissioner Kashmir:** numbers of doctors, paramedical Jatin Kishore staff and healthcare professionals.

>>SEEONP-7



KC NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoi Sinha became the first Chairman of Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board to reach the Holy cave in recent times through Baltal track.

The Lieutenant Governor inspected the maintenance, upgradation and widening of Yatra

track enroute and took first-hand appraisal of the measures taken by the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board and Border

Road Organisation (BRO) to ensure the safe and hassle-free pilgrimage of the devotees. He lauded the unprecedented works done by the BRO and SASB.

The Lieutenant Governor said after the culmination of the Yatra in 2024, special focus has been laid on developing safe Yatra tracks on both the routes.

>>SEEONP-7



KC News Network

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said that the report compiled by the Cabinet-Sub-Committee (CSC) on reservation policy will be tabled in the cabinet soon. Omar while talking

"No matter how much to reporters at Aligarh, development takes place, according to the news it is never enough. Given agency-Kashmir News the persistent attempts by Observer (KNO), said, "The our neighbouring country cabinet meeting is held to destabilize the region, it twice in a month. So far, becomes all the more i the meeting has not taken place. The meeting will take

Cabinet holds sav in making CSC report on reservation public

KC NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR : Amid demand from certain guarters to make the cabinet sub-committee's report on reservation public, J&K's former bureaucrats on Wednesday said that it is ultimately up to the cabinet to decide whether to disclose the panel's recommendations or keep them confidential. Talking to news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), former IAS and ex- chairman of Public Service Commission (PSC) Lateef-ul-Zaman Deva said the cabinet holds the authority to either disclose the report or keep it confidential. "The authority of making the report public lies with the cabinet," Deva said. Former IAS officer Khursheed Ahmad Shah. who has also served as administrative secretary of General Administration Department (GAD), said that cabinet proposals are confidential documents and cannot be made public unless the cabinet approves or rejects them.

>>SEEONP-7

Under PM Modi's leadership, millions were empowered in India: I&B Minister



leadership of Prime Minister Modi. India has not only seen an economic transformation but also witnessed the empowerment of millions.

The Minister, according to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), listed the achievements of the PM Modi led regime since 2014 in an event held in the national capital. "India had never witnessed such progress before the Modi Government took over in 2014," he said, adding, "The focus has always been on creating long-term, sustainable progress across all sectors, from infrastructure to welfare programs."

Terrorism will eventually come back to haunt you: Jaishankar



KC News Network

Brussels this week, met European Commission

President Ursula von der Leyen and the EU's

foreign affairs chief Kaja Kallas, where he

highlighted India's strategic importance, its

global positioning, and expressed reservations

made a strong case for India as a reliable economic partner. "India – a nation of 1.4 billion - offers skilled labour and a more trustworthy economic partnership than China," he said, as reported by Euractiv in an edited transcript.

Turning to recent global coverage of the Pahalgam terror attack in Kashmir, in which 26 lives were lost, Jaishankar pushed back against the narrative that equates India's response with regional tensions. "Let me remind you of something - there was a man named Osama bin Laden. Why did he, of all people, feel safe living for years in a Pakistani military town, right next to their equivalent





KC News Network

NEW DELHI: Showcasing an array of developmental milestones achieved in the past eleven years of BJP led NDA government, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwani Vaishnaw on Wednesday said that under the visionary

The event was attended by various senior ministers including Amit Shah, JP Nadda, Rajnath Singh, Nirmala Sitharaman and Nitin Gadkari, besides party functionaries.

Vaishnaw asserted that over the last 11 years, the government has worked not only towards economic transformation but also for empowerment of millions to enhance the living standards of citizens, and improving security, expanding road and railway networks, as well as full electrification, reaching even the most remote areas.



on key EU policies, according to Euractiv. Speaking amid ongoing EU-India free >>SEEONP-7 trade agreement negotiations, Jaishankar

of West Point?" he said.

"I want the world to understand - this isn't merely an India-Pakistan issue. It's about BRUSSELS [BELGIUM]: Indian External terrorism. And that very same terrorism will Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, during his visit to eventually come back to haunt you."

On India's position regarding the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Jaishankar reaffirmed India's non-prescriptive stance. "We don't believe that differences can be resolved through war - we don't believe a solution will come from the battlefield. It's not for us to prescribe what that solution

>>SEEONP-7

that continued for the third straight day on Wednesday, with Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, surpassing the previous records and witnessing a maximum

temperature of 34.6°C. According to the details obtained by the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Jammu, the winter capital of the region, has once again recorded the hottest

hottest day in the region.

Doctors urge caution

Jahangeer Ganaie

SRINAGAR : As Jammu and Kashmir grapples with an intense and prolonged heatwave, medical professionals are issuing strong advisories urging the public to take immediate and sustained precautions to avoid heat-related health complications.

With temperatures reaching unusually high levels in many parts of the region, health experts are particularly concerned about rising cases of dehydration, heat exhaustion, and even heatstroke, especially

>>SEEONP-7

Amid heat wave, Govt likely to announce early summer vacations

Riyaz Bhat

SRINAGAR: Health and education minister.

Sakina Itoo Wednesday said that the government was monitoring prevailing weather conditions and will take the call of early summer break for schools in accordance with the situation. Speaking to reporters here, Itoo as per news

BANDIPORA: A local court in

Bandipora on Tuesday dropped

contempt proceedings against the

Assistant Commissioner Revenue

(ACR) who is also the Collector

Land Acquisition after the officer

complied with previous court

directives regarding a long-pending

2019, pertained to a decree passed by

the court for payment of 8.4 lakh

in favour of a landowner whose land

was acquired and is presently under

the occupation of the Chief Medical

against the decree, the compensation

Despite no appeal being filed

The case, pending since December

land compensation case.

Officer (CMO) Bandipora.

agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "The School Education Department is monitoring the weather situation. If we

found that there is a need for an early summer

break, we will take the call accordingly." "It has only been two days of the heat wave. If the heat wave continues, then we will take a call accordingly," she said.

About tourism, Itoo said, "Tourism in Kashmir is very famous and we want more and more tourists to come here and enjoy nature."

In the meantime, the minister said that the committee has completed the reservation report

that will be submitted in cabinet wherein it will be discussed.

Earlier, the School Education Department (SED) had issued Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for

government and private schools to be followed during summer hours amidst prevailing heat wave and afternoon stormy winds.

>>SEEONP-7

J&K leads forest fire alerts in 2 weeks in country

Riyaz Bhat

SRINAGAR: With over 1,700 square kilometres already designated as a 'High Risk' zone for forest fires, Jammu and Kashmir over the past two weeks has recorded 172 forest fire alerts – the highest in the country during this period. This figure, as per the officials, surpasses all previous



ACR Bandipora Gets Relief After Complying With Court Orders

Execution petition disposed of: petitioner confirms receipt of dues Suhail Rather



amount had remained unpaid, compelling the petitioner to move an execution petition. The court had earlier directed the CMO to deposit the amount with the Collector Bandipora, who was then required to release it in favour of the petitioner upon

transfer of land title.

However, when the Collector failed to release the payment, the court, in a stern order dated May 13, 2025, directed that the salary of the ACR/Collector

Electoral Rolls Prep In India One Of World's Most Transparent Exercises: CEC

>>SEEONP-7

KC News Network

NEW DELHI: Preparation of electoral rolls in India is one of the world's most rigorous and transparent exercises, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar has said before an international audience amid allegations of fudging in voter data

Electoral rolls are shared with recognised national and state parties in accordance with law every year during revision as well as before the elections, Kumar said in his keynote address at the Stockholm International Conference on Electoral Integrity on Tuesday. The CEC said the rolls have



been shared with recognised political parties since 1960 with provision of claims, objections and appeals. The remarks come close on the heels of opposition parties, including Congress, alleging fudging of voter data to rig elections.

The poll authority has dubbed these charges as absurd.

Addressing the event, Kumar said preparation of voters list is one of the world's most rigorous and transparent exercises, reinforcing





India Showcases Electoral Excellence on Global Stage: CEC Gyanesh Kumar Addresses Stockholm Conference

PIB NEWS

NEW DELHI/STOCKHOLM: India's Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gvanesh Kumar reaffirmed the country's unwavering commitment to electoral integrity and democratic values at the Stockholm International Conference on Electoral Integrity in Sweden, organised by the International IDEA.

Speaking before over 100 delegates from around 50 countries, the CEC outlined the unparalleled scale and transparency of India's election process, which remains rooted in constitutional ethics while continuing to adapt to global democratic challenges.

Highlighting India's electoral integrity, scale and diversity, Gyanesh Kumar, while delivering his keynote address reaffirmed the role of the Election Commission of India (ECI) in capacity building programmes for Election Management Bodies (EMB) of countries around the globe. Conducting elections with utmost integrity is a testament to our national resolve, he emphasized. Over 100 participants representing Election Management Bodies (EMBs) of around 50 countries are taking part in the Conference, which is being organised by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).

According to a statement issued by Press Information Bureau (PIB), Gyanesh Kumar also informed the participants about the massive scale of the election exercise



that is undertaken by the ECI, especially during the parliamentary elections, which is done under the close watch of the political parties; candidates; general, police and expenditure observers and the media who, he stated, act akin to concurrent auditors at various stages.

The CEC also highlighted the scale of coordination that underpins the conduct of elections in India. With over 20 million personnel, including polling staff, police forces, observers, and agents of political parties at the time of conduct of elections, ECI becomes the world's largest organisation, surpassing the combined workforce of several national governments and major global corporations and ensures that India's nearly one billion electors are freely able to exercise their franchise.

Further, speaking at this global platform, CEC traced the evolution of Indian elections over the decades, noting how the system has adapted to increasing complexity while staying rooted in constitutional values. From 173 million electors in 1951–52 to 979 million in 2024, and from just 0.2 million polling stations in the early years to over 1.05 million today, India's electoral journey has demonstrated both institutional foresight and unmatched scale. He noted that the 2024 General Elections saw the participation of 743 political parties, which comprised six national parties, 67 state parties and the other registered political parties. A total of 20,271 candidates contested elections conducted across the length and breadth of the country using 6.2 million Electronic Voting Machines

(EVMs), reaffirming the Commission's capability to conduct elections that are inclusive, efficient, and secure.

Kumar underscored the statutory sharing of India's Electoral Roll with all recognized political parties every year during revision as well as before the elections since 1960 till today, with provision of claims, objections and appeals, as one of the world's most rigorous and transparent exercises, reinforcing the accuracy and integrity of the electoral process. He noted that this robust mechanism plays a vital role in upholding electoral credibility across the country, year after year.

Reflecting on the inclusive design of Indian elections, he stated that the electoral process serves first-time voters, senior citizens aged 85+, persons with special abilities, third-gender electors, and voters in the most inaccessible regions with equal care and commitment. From polling booths with a single elector to highest altitude stations like Tashigang in Himachal Pradesh, India's commitment to leaving no voter behind was reiterated as a constitutional principle rather than a logistical challenge.

On the sidelines of the conference, CEC Gyanesh Kumar held bilateral meetings with his counterparts from Mexico, Indonesia, Mongolia, South Africa, Switzerland, Moldova, Lithuania, Mauritius, Germany, Croatia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. These engagements focused on voter participation, electoral technology, diaspora voting, and institutional capacitybuilding. (PIB)

Piyush Goyal Concludes Switzerland Tour; Kicks Off Sweden Leg to Deepen Indo-Nordic Economic Cooperation

PIB NEWS

NEW DELHI (PIB): Union Commerce and Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal concluded a two-day official visit to Switzerland from June 9-10, 2025, and commenced his official engagements in Sweden on Wednesday.

According to an official spokesperson in New Delhi, the Switzerland leg of the visit focused on advancing India-Switzerland economic cooperation and operationalising the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) signed earlier this year between India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

During the visit, Goyal held meetings with top leadership from the Swiss government and industry, aimed at reinforcing strategic synergies and unlocking new avenues for trade, investment, and innovation-led growth. He met with Federal Councillor Guy Parmelin, Head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER), and State Secretary Helene Budliger Artieda to chart a forward-looking roadmap for TEPA implementation.

The Minister engaged extensively with Swiss industry leaders across sectors including biotech and pharma, healthcare, precision engineering, defence, and emerging technologies. In his sectoral roundtables and bilateral meetings, Goyal highlighted India's growing economic strength, policy stability, and the government's commitment to creating a conducive and facilitative ecosystem for global investors.

A major highlight of the visit was Minister's participation in the 18th Swissmem Industry Day held in Zurich on June 10. He was warmly

received by delegates and senior members of Swissmem, the apex association representing Switzerland's Mechanical, Electrical, and Metal (MEM) industries.

NEWS|02

In his keynote address, Goyal invited Swiss companies, including SMEs and deeptech innovators, to scale up investments in India by leveraging the new trade architecture offered by TEPA.



He spoke about India's demographic dividend, globally recognised engineering talent, and robust supply chains, encouraging Swiss industry to anchor R&D, establish local manufacturing bases, and co-create technologies for the Global South.

Referring to TEPA as a "Trust and Efficiency Partnership Agreement," he emphasized the spirit of complementarity between India and Switzerland and the unique value they can jointly offer to global markets."Many companies conveyed their intent to use India not only as a domestic market but also as a global manufacturing and export base.

Sri Lanka Army Chief Begins India Visit to Boost Defence Ties

PIB NEWS

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant General BKGM Lasantha Rodrigo, Commander of the Sri Lanka Army, has arrived on an official visit to India from 11th to 14th June 2025.

According to an official Defence spokesperson in New Delhi, this visit is set to enhance bilateral military cooperation and explore new avenues for collaboration, particularly in the areas of training and capability enhancement. It underscores the continued efforts of both nations to further strengthen and deepen their longstanding defence partnership.

The first day of the visit began with a solemn wreathlaying ceremony at the National



War Memorial in New Delhi. laying, Lieutenant General BKGM Lasantha Rodrigo was Lieutenant General BKGM given a formal Guard of Honour Lasantha Rodrigo paid tribute to the brave soldiers who made in the South Block Lawns. The ceremonial event, attended by the ultimate sacrifice in service to the nation. senior officials of the Indian Army. Following the wreathmarked a significant gesture of respect and a symbol of the enduring friendship between the two nations. The Guard of Honour was followed with a series of high-level meetings beginning with an indepth interaction with Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani, Vice

Chief of the Army Staff of the

Indian Army. Spokesperson said Both the military leaders discussed wide ranging issues including aspects of bilateral defence cooperation and regional security concerns. Later, Lieutenant General BKGM Lasantha Rodrigo was briefed on Op Sindoor and India's security perspective. He was also briefed by other senior officers of the Indian Army on matters of mutual

"India Achieves Historic Surge in Social Protection Coverage Under Modi Govt"

PIB NEWS

NEW DELHI: India has recorded a landmark achievement in social protection coverage, with the International Labour Organization(ILO)acknowledging a dramatic rise from 19% in 2015 to 64.3% in 2025, marking the fastest expansion in the world

This data, officially published on the ILOSTAT global dashboard, reflects the impact of sustained pro-poor policies under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



over the past decade.

An official spokesperson said

during bilateral discussions on the sidelines of the 113th International Labour Conference (ILC) in Geneva. Union Minister for Labour &



Employment and Youth Affairs the ILO. & Sports, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, informed ILO Director General Gilbert F. Houngbo about the national-level Social Protection Data Pooling Exercise, undertaken by India in collaboration with

spokesperson said in a statement issued to Kashmir Convener.

0"This remarkable achievement is a testament to PM Modi's vision of Antvodava - uplifting the last person in the queue. It reflects India's inclusive, rights-based welfare ecosystem,' said Dr. Mandaviya, speaking from Geneva.

According to the ILO, over 94 crore Indians are now covered under at least one legislativelybacked, active, and verified social protection benefit.

This catapults India to second "This exercise, which position globally in terms of total population coverage, with focuses on verified beneficiary data from central and womenexpectations that the figure will centric schemes across eight surpass the 100-crore mark once states, forms the basis of Phase Phase II data consolidation is I of India's reporting," an official completed.

interest

Indian Army Contingent Reaches Mongolia for Multinational Military Exercise **PIB News**

NEW DELHI (PIB): The Indian Army contingent reached Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia today for the Multinational Military Exercise KHAAN OUEST which is scheduled to be conducted from 14th to 28th June 2025. The exercise will bring together military forces from around the world to collaborate and enhance their peacekeeping capabilities. Last edition of Exercise KHAAN QUEST was conducted in Mongolia from 27th July to 9th August 2024. In a statement issued by Press Information Bureau, an official spokesperson said the exercise first started as a bilateral event between USA and Mongolian Armed Forces in the year 2003. Subsequently, from the year 2006 onwards the exercise graduated to a Multinational

22nd iteration. He said the Indian Army contingent comprising 40 personnel is being represented mainly by troops from a Battalion of the KUMAON REGI-MENT along with personnel from other Arms and Services. One Woman Officer and two Women Soldiers will also form part of the contingent.Defence Spokesperson further stated that the Aim of Exercise KHAAN QUEST is to prepare Indian Armed Forces for peacekeeping missions while operating in a multinational environment, thereby increasing interoperability and military readiness in peace support operations under Chapter VII of United Nations Charter. The exercise will focus on high degree of physical fitness, joint planning and joint tactical drills. Tactical drills to be practiced during the exercise will include establishment of Static and Mobile Check Points, Cordon and Search Operations, Patrolling, Evacuation of Civilians from Hostile Area. Counter Improvised Explosive Device drills. Combat First Aid and Casualty Evacuation, among others.

Government Of Ut Jammu And Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER** PCD(PHQ) J&K JAMMU/ SRINAGAR

INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE

Executive Engineer PCD PHQJ&K JAMMU/SRINAGARon behalf of The President of India invites tenders by etendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways

	and other State / Central Gov		ne tonowing wo	NJ.				
S.	Name of Work	Name of	Estimated	Cost of	Earnest	Time	Date of	Class of
No		Division	Cost	document	Money	Allowed for	opening of	Contractor
			(Rs. In lacs)	(In Rs.)	(In Rs.)	completion	tender	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Restoration of Damages of Police Station building at Dhamhal Hanjipora Kulgam (Balance work).	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jmu/ Sgr	37.62 lacs	2000/-	75240/-	60 working days	19-06-2025	"A", "B" ,

1. Date of Publishing 11-06-2025 at 1600 hours.

2. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://iktenders.gov.infrom 1630 hours

on 11-06-2025

i. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website http://iktenders.gov.infrom

12-06-2025 to 18-06-2025 upto1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 19-06-

2025 online

DIPK-2409/25

ii. The complete bidding process will be online

iii. Technical bids of bidders shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K

mmu/ Srinagar on 19-06-2025 at 1100 Hrs.

No:- e-NIT/EE-PCD/PHQ/2025-26/5470-77 Dated: 11-06-2025

> Sd/-EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PCD(PHQ) J&K JAMMU/SRINAGAR

Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICEOFTHEEXECUTIVEENGINEER(R&B)SOPORE** NOTICEINVITINGE-TENDER

NITNo 17 /R&B /Sopore of 2025-26 Dated: 10-06-2025

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are being invited onpercentage basis(asapplicable)from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&KGovernment, CPWD, Railways, and otherState/CentralGovernmentsforthefollowingworks:

S.No	NameofWork		Position of Funds available for current year 2025-26 (Rs in Lacs) incl Contingencies	(InRupees)	E/money (InRupees	Timeof completion	M.Hof Account	Classof Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Macadamization of Inner links Seelu by way of Providing and laying 75 mm thick Wet Mix macadam, 50 mm thick Bitiminous macdam, 25 mm thick semidense,6 mm thick seal coat incld Berm filling by way of khakbajree and laying of RCC Spun Pipes.		40.80	1600/-	157180/-	180 days	C&T	AAY
2	Macadamization of Rampora ziyarat road (Hamid Bab Sab) by way of Providing and laying WBM garde-2nd ,75 mm thick Wet Mix macadam, 50 mm tthick Bitiminous macadam, 25 mm thick semidense,6 mm thick seal coat incld Berm filling by way of khakbajree		25.00	1100/-	98020/-	180 days	C&T	AAY / BEE
3	Macadamization of Wadoora Bala and Wadoora Payeen road by way of Providing and laying WBM Grade-2nd, 75 mm thick Wet Mix macadam, 50 mm tthick Bitiminous macdam, 25 mm thick semidense,6 mm thick seal coat incld Berm filling by way of khakbajree and laying of RCC Spun Pipes.	68.72	35.70	1600/-	137440/-	180 days	C&T	AAY
4	Macadamization of Logripora, Sultan Aarifeen Tujjar, Asan Maidan by way of Providing and laying 75 mm thick Wet Mix macadam, 50 mm tthick Bitiminous macadam, 25 mm thick semidense,6 mm thick seal coat incld Berm filling by way of khakbajree.		40.80	1600/-	157100/-	180 days	C&T	AAY

Project Authority:-Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B) North Kashmir.

PositionofAAA:Accorded

PositionofTS:-Accorded

Positionoffunds:Partially available.

Thebiddingdocuments, which would include gualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of guantities (B.O.O), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental websitewww.iktenders.gov.inon the dateslisted below:

1	DateoflssueofTenderNotice	10-06-2025
2	Periodofdownloadingofbiddingdocuments	10-06-2025
3	BidsubmissionStartDate	10-06-2025
4	BidSubmissionEndDate	27-06-20254:00PM
5	Date&timeofopeningofBids(Online)	28-06-2025 11:00AM

Bids must beaccompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between thebid submission startdateand the Bid Submission End date) with NIT No. Name of work and Serial No. deposited in M.H.0059in the nameofExecutiveEngineerR&BDivision Sopore(tenderinvitingauthority)as thecostof thetenderdocument.

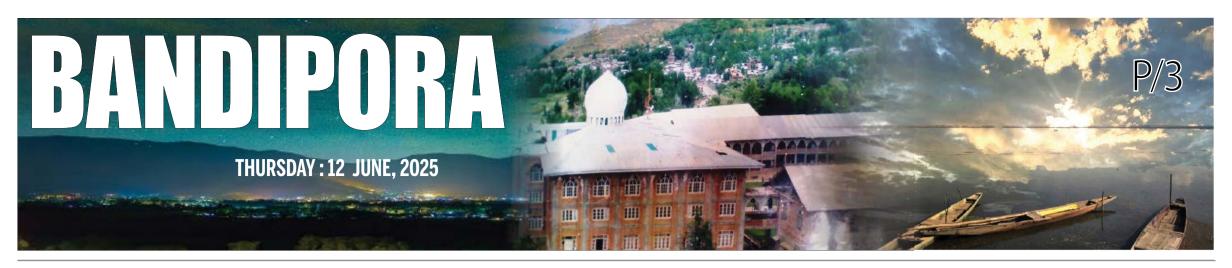
Geotech Photographs Minimum 03 sets (01 set Comprising of Photographs before, during and after execution of work) of size 26 cm x21 cm to be provided.

At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of theAdvertisedCostintheform ofCDR/FDR/BG pledgedtothe tenderreceivingauthority.i.e.Exec utiveEngineerR&BDivision Sopore(datedbetweenthebidsubmissionstartdate and the Bid Submission End date) otherwise thetender willbe rejected. Thesuccessful bidderwillhave toprovidePerform anceSecurity@5%atthe timeofcontractaward, strictlyinaccordancewiththeGovernment'scircularinstructionsfromtimetotime. Theearnestmoney/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of aPerformance Securityof5% of the contract cost, in single CDR/FDR/BG which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period. No: 1439-48

11-06-2025

DIPK-2371/25

Sd/-Executive Engineer **R&B** Division Sopore



MLA Nizamuddin Bhat Reviews Development Work at Govt Polytechnic College Bandipora

Calls for Timely Recruitment, Infrastructure Upgrades, and Better Coordination

WAHID RAFIQI

BANDIPORA: Member of Legislative Assembly Nizamuddin Bhat conducted a comprehensive review of academic and infrastructural progress during his visit to the Government Polytechnic College Bandipora on Monday.

The visit focused on assessing the status of key projects, including the construction of a 100-bedded hostel at an estimated cost of 3.45 crore, which is currently under progress and expected to be completed on time.

Officials also briefed the MLA about the pro-



posed macadamization of the road stretch from Watpora to the Polytechnic College, aimed at improving accessibility for students and staff.

Bhat inspected the college's AutoCAD laboratory, which has been equipped with modern facilities to enhance technical training and skill development. Several concerns were raised during the interaction, particularly regarding transportation issues for students and operational challenges faced by faculty and staff. Bhat assured that these matters would be promptly taken up with the concerned departments for redressal. The visit was attended by Vice Chairman

District Development Council Bandipora Kounswar Shafeeq, along with officials from relevant development departments.

Highlighting the importance of a skilled youth force, Bhat emphasized the need for timely faculty recruitment, infrastructure upgrades, and better coordination between the institution. government agencies, and the local community to ensure sustained academic growth.

The visit concluded with a review meeting, where Bhat reiterated his commitment to addressing institutional needs and supporting the college's development initiatives.

Shortage of Doctors, Staff Hits Healthcare Services at CHC Hajin

BHAT ZAHOOR

BANDIPORA: The Community Health Centre (CHC) Hajin is grappling with a severe shortage of doctors and paramedical staff, significantly affecting patient care and emergency response.

Local residents have raised serious concerns over delays in treatment, long queues, and the growing pressure on the limited medical personnel. "We are forced to travel to far-off hospitals for even basic care. The existing staff is overwhelmed," said a local resident. The shortage is particularly alarming in emergency cases, where

timely medical intervention is



critical. Locals have appealed to health authorities to urgently post additional doctors, nurses, and support staff at the facility to prevent further deterioration of healthcare services.

People in the area say the current situation is jeopardizing the well-being of the entire community, and immediate intervention is essential.

All KGBV Schools in Kashmir to Be Made Fully Functional: Dr GN Itoo Push to Improve Female Literacy in **Educationally Backward Areas**

WAHID RAFIO

BANDIPORA: In a significant step towards enhancing female literacy in Jammu and Kashmir, the Jammu and Kashmir government is working to make all Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) in the Kashmir Valley fully functional, announced Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N. Itoo.

KGBVs are residential schools exclusively for girls, set up to provide quality education to students from Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC), and other disadvantaged groups. The initiative falls under the broader framework of the New Education Policy (NEP) and aims to bridge regional and gender disparities in education.

Dr. Itoo stated that the department is committed to ensuring that all KGBVs across Kashmir offer continuous residential and academic facilities for girls, particularly in rural and educationally backward areas.

In Bandipora district, four KGBV schools have been sanctioned. Of these, two are currently operational, while efforts are underway to make the remaining two functional in the near future.

KGBVs offer free education, boarding, lodging, and access to essential amenities such as classrooms, dormitories, and libraries. The initiative is designed to reduce dropout rates, improve learning outcomes, and empower girls through sustained educational support.

Officials believe the full operationalization of these schools will play a critical role in addressing the literacy gap and promoting equitable access to education for girls in the region

DC Bandipora Reviews Arrangements for SAJY 2025; inspects **Transit Camp Shadipora**

BANDIPORA: In preparation for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri

said during the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of the facilities including transportation, health care services, sanitation.

The meeting was aimed at finalizing necessary arrangements and ensuring inter-departmental coordination for the smooth conduct of the

Yatra. The Deputy Commissioner reaffirmed the district administration's commitment to ensuring a safe, well-managed, and spiritually fulfilling pilgrimage experience for all devotees.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner conducted on-site inspection of Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board's Shadipora Transit Camp to review the ongoing works at the site and directed concerned officers to ensure timely completion of all infrastructure projects aimed at improvng facilities for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra pilgrims.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Zaffar Husson Shawl, Commandant 45 BN CRPF, SDM Sumbal, Project Director NH-1 Srinagar, Chief Medical Officer Bandipora, Executive Engineers from PDD PHE and

Bandipora Contractors Halt JJM Works Amid Fund Crunch

SUHAIL RATHER

BANDIPORA: The Contractors Association Bandipora has announced the complete suspension of all works under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) due to non-payment of longpending dues.

In a statement issued to Kashmir COnvemer, President of the Association Naseer Mir

said the decision comes after repeated appeals to the Public Health Engineering(PHE)Division for release of funds went unanswered.

In a formal communication addressed to the Executive Engineer, PHE(Hydraulic) Division Bandipora, the association stated that several JJM projects—either completed or near completion-have been stalled, citing a financial impasse.

"Despite timely execution of projects intended to ensure safe drinking water access to remote households, payments have not been released, pushing contractors and hundreds of labourers into severe financial distress," Mir said.

"This prolonged delay has caused immense hardship not only to us and our families, but also to the large number of workers associated with our projects," reads the letter signed by Mir, President of the Contractors Association.

The association has unanimously decided to suspend all ongoing works and withhold the commissioning of completed water supply schemes until dues are cleared. While contractors suffer financially, it is ultimately the local population that is paying the price. Many of the affected water supply schemes were meant for remote and underserved villages, where drinking water access is already limited. Locals said the indefinite delay in com-

missioning these schemes will further lead to a growing water crisis, particularly alarming amid the rising summer heat.

"This is not just about contractors anymore - this is a public issue now. People in many areas are still waiting for tap water connec-



tions. Without our cooperation, JJM simply cannot progress," said one affected contractor.

The Jal Jeevan Mission, a flagship initiative of the Government of India, aims to provide Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) to every rural household. However, the fund freeze and subsequent work halt threaten to derail this vital mission in Bandipora district.

The Contractors Association has appealed

portance of proactive planning timely execution, and collaborative efforts by all departments to provide seamless services and ensure the safety and comfort of the pilgrims. An official spokesperson

convened a comprehensive re-

view meeting on Wednesday at

neer, Mechanical Irrigation Di-

On the occasion, the Deputy

Commissioner stressed the im-

the office of Executive Engi-

vision Shadipora.

power, logistics, equipment, and contingency plans are put in place well in advance to avoid any challenges and to ensure the smooth conduct of the Yatra.

drinking water supply, traffic

ployment along the Yatra route.

directed concerned officers to

remain in a state of readiness

and ensure that all necessary

arrangements including man

During the meeting, the DC

regulation, and security de-

R&B, Tehsildar Sumbal, SDPO Sumbal, BDO Sumbal. AD F&ES, EO MC Sumbal, While Deputy CEO Shrine Board (SANJY) attended the meeting virtually.

to the Jal Shakti Department, UT Administration, and district authorities to urgently intervene and ensure release of pending payments. The contractors have expressed readiness to resume work immediately upon fund disbursal.

Addressing a press confer-

Fayaz Sajad Sufi: The Quiet Lifesaver of Bandipora Hospital

Turns tech into a lifeline for pregnant women needing blood

Convener News Desk

SRINAGAR: In the quiet corridors of the District Hospital Bandipora, a humble figure moves swiftly but without noise - checking charts, asking quietly, making phone calls. His name is Fayaz Sajad Sufi, a tuberculosis health



visitor by designation, but for many families, he is remembered as a lifesaver.

Over the past few years, Fayaz has made it his personal mission to arrange blood donations for pregnant women, especially those arriving from remote villages, often overwhelmed and unaware of how to navigate the system. Without fuss or fanfare, he steps in.

"My job is with TB patients," Fayaz says, standing near the hospital's maternity ward. "But when I saw families struggling to find blood donors for expectant mothers, I couldn't just look away."

Every week, Fayaz checks in with the maternity unit, asking if any women might need blood before delivery. If they do, he activates his personal network: friends,

former donors, and even strangers. The goal is always he same – no delay, no loss.

"We didn't know anyone here," said Ghulam Nabi, whose daughter-in-law underwent a cesarean section last month. "Fayaz sahib arranged blood within hours and asked for nothing in return."

Another family member, Shahzada Bano from Hajin, recalled, "My daughter needed two units urgently. Fayaz helped like it was his own daughter. We will never forget his kindness."

Fayaz has never missed a workday. He answers calls even late in the evening, driven by one simple belief: "No one should lose a loved one just because a do-

nor couldn't be found in time. If I can help, I will."

To streamline his efforts, Fayaz uses technology smartly. He manages dedicated WhatsApp groups with hundreds of active local donors and runs a Facebook bage with thousands of followers, where urgent calls for blood are posted in real-time.

"The WhatsApp group is our lifeline," he says. "We often get responses within minutes. Facebook helps us reach an even wider network."

While Fayaz insists he doesn't seek attention, his quiet service has earned deep respect in Bandipora. For many, he represents the kind of grassroots heroism that often goes unrecognized – but never unnoticed.

India Marching Towards Viksit Bharat Under PM Modi's Leadership: Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia

BHAT ZAHOOR

BANDIPORA: BJP spokesperson Dr. Abhijeet Jasrotia on Tuesday said that India is fast emerging as a global power and progressing steadily towards becoming a Viksit Bharat (developed nation) under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



ernance, and people-centric initiatives.

Referring to the recent Operation Sindoor, Dr. Jasrotia said that India has demonstrated its technological prowess and strategic resolve in responding effectively to external threats, particularly from Pakistan. "India is no longer a soft state. We are now a strong and self-reliant nation, respected globally," he said.

Speaking on the completion of 11 years of the Modi government, he said the ongoing period—Amrit Kaal—is dedicated to Viksit Bharat, Seva (service), Sushasan (good governance), and Garib Kalyan (welfare of the poor). He added that the government's achievements across sectors have empowered millions and laid the foundation for India's future.

Dr. Jasrotia also held an organisational review with local BJP leaders and party functionaries, urging them to strengthen the party at the grassroots level and ensure effective public outreach. He emphasised the need for greater connect with the common people and dissemination of the government's achievements.

Later, he visited an exhibition showcasing major milestones of the Modi government over the past 11 years. Accompanied by senior party leaders and workers, he appreciated the efforts being made to inform the public about development initiatives under the BJP-led government.

Immovable properties of two notorious drug peddlers attached in Handwara: Police

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday attached properties of two notorious drug peddlers under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act in Handwara.

A police spokesperson said that acting in compliance with the stipulated legal provisions, Police Station Qalamabad, under the supervision of senior police officials, attached an immovable property which includes a plot of land with raised plinth owned by Fayaz Ahmad Bhat, son of Late Ab. Ahad Bhat, resident of Jandipora Maratgam. The action was taken under Section 68-F of the NDPS Act in connection with case FIR No. 47/2024 U/S 8/21 NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Qalamabad.

He said that preliminary investigation revealed that the said property was acquired through illicit proceeds generated from drug trafficking activities. The accused, Fayaz Ahmad Bhat, is currently lodged in District Jail Kupwara in the same case.

In a separate action, a Police Station Handwara acting under Section 68-F of the NDPS Act attached two commercial shops along with the land situated at Main Market Handwara, belonging to Javaid Ahmad Sofi, son of Abdul Razaq Sofi, resident of Khunbal Handwara. The attachment was executed in the presence of Executive Magistrate 1st Class Handwara in connection with Case FIR No. 193/2024 U/S 8/21 NDPS Act of Police Station Handwara

The spokesperson said that preliminary investigation has revealed that the said property was acquired through proceeds generated from illegal narcotics trade. The accused is also involved in Case FIR No. 266/2022 U/S 8/21 NDPS Act registered at Police Station Handwara

The police spokesperson highlighted that such actions underscores police's unwavering resolve to curb the drug menace by striking at the financial roots of drug networks. He also said the department remains committed to taking stringent legal measures, including property attachment, to dismantle the infrastructure enabling drug trafficking.(KINS)



THURSDAY | 12 JUNE 2025

DANISH ASHRAF KHAN

When merit, hard work, and honesty are ignored-

replaced by favoritism, bribery, and nepotism-the

damage inflicted goes far beyond individual careers.

It silently kills dreams and slowly erodes hope in the

hearts of a nation's youth. When a dedicated student,

who has invested years of discipline and sacrifice,

is denied opportunity, while someone less capable

with the right connections rises swiftly, it doesn't just

shatter confidence-it crushes belief in justice itself.

to the life of one person. It infects institutions. And

when institutions are built on corruption rather than

competence, they begin to crack. Over time, these

cracks widen. The entire structure becomes weak, and eventually, societies collapse-not with a bang,

but with the quiet resignation of those who stop

ing students denied scholarships. Brilliant candidates

overlooked in job interviews. Honest officers side-

lined. Not because they lacked ability-but because

they lacked influence. Meanwhile, the unqualified

ascend, and the capable sink into silence, despair,

either gives up or gives in. Some leave the country in

search of fairness elsewhere. Others stay back, bitter

and disillusioned. Many more adapt by embracing the

very system that once oppressed them–becoming

part of the same machinery of favoritism and fraud.

trust is lost and responsibilities are given to those

who are not worthy, await the Hour." This is not just

eschatological prophecy. It is a reminder of the destruc-

tive consequences when integrity is compromised.

When leadership is assigned not by ability but by

allegiance, corruption becomes the norm and justice

the exception. A system where injustice prevails will

inevitably lose the trust of its people. And when that

trust is gone, people stop striving. They stop dreaming.

rulers, once said that if even his enemy was more

capable than his friend, he would appoint the enemy

to lead. That is true meritocracy. That is justice. It is not

idealism—it is a requirement for survival. Any society

that places relationships above qualifications, and

loyalty above ability, is on a path of self-destruction.

fairness, truth, and merit. It teaches us not to tolerate

Islam as a faith is built on the foundations of

Hazrat Umar (RA), one of history's most just

The Prophet Muhammad warned us: "When

The consequence? A growing generation that

We see it happening around us every day. Deserv-

believing that honesty will ever win.

and finally indifference.

Thus, the cycle continues.

They stop caring.

This silent betrayal does not remain confined



A Timely Cut in Duty

The Union Government's decision to reduce Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on crude edible oils—namely crude sunflower, soybean, and palm oils-from 20% to 10%-is both a welcome and necessary policy correction aimed at cooling food inflation and restoring balance in India's edible oil ecosystem

For months, Indian households have borne the brunt of soaring edible oil prices, a phenomenon driven by the September 2024 duty hike compounded by volatile international commodity markets. With retail inflation creeping upward and edible oil being a staple in Indian kitchens, this move signals that the Centre is listeningand responding-to consumer distress.

The revised import duty structure widens the differential between crude and refined oils and hence discourages direct import of refined products like palmolein, nudging demand towards domestically refined crude oils. In doing so, it attempts a delicate balancing act—protecting consumer interests while encouraging domestic value addition and ensuring fair returns to farmers.

However, the policy's success hinges not just on duty reduction—but on whether its benefits are passed down to consumers in a timely and transparent manner. The government's directive to edible oil associations to adjust MRPs and share weekly data is a strong step toward accountability. But past experiences remind us that price corrections in the supply chain are rarely immediate or uniform. Manufacturers and retailers often delay price cuts, citing inventory costs or logistic lags.

The larger question also remains: How do we insulate essential commodities like edible oil from recurrent global shocks and domestic supply constraints? India imports 60% of its edible oil requirements, leaving it exposed to international price swings. While adjusting import duties is an important short-term lever, long-term food security must include boosting domestic oilseed production, building storage capacity, and stabilizing farmgate prices. The government's move is a smart tactical intervention It protects the consumer in the short term, revives industry interests in the medium term, and provides a fiscal cushion against imported inflation. But its full impact will depend on vigilant implementation and a broader strategy that shifts India from being the world's largest edible oil importer to becoming more self-reliant in oilseed production. For now, consumers can expect some relief—provided the industry does its part

From Merit to Manipulation: The Rot Within

injustice-even when it implicates ourselves. To remain silent in the face of corruption is to become complicit in it. When injustice becomes a habit, and favoritism a culture, the very fabric of a society begins to unravel.

you, know that you are not alone. But do not allow

If you feel disillusioned by the decay around

protect whistleblowers while punishing the guilty without delay. Our education system must promote not just

literacy but critical thinking, ethical courage, and moral leadership. Media must highlight the stories of the deserving and expose the abuse of power without



your disillusionment to turn into silence. Raise your voice. Speak for those who are unheard. Challenge injustice-not with anger, but with courage, wisdom, and principle. For even the smallest act of truth can shake the tallest edifice of falsehood.

Restoring merit requires collective courage. It begins with the willingness to say no to corruption, to demand transparency, and to value ability over affiliation. This change must start at home, in classrooms, in workplaces, in places of worship-and, above all, within our own hearts.

We must redefine success not by wealth or status, but by character and contribution. Parents must teach children that shortcuts lead to shallow victories. Teachers must lead by example, recognizing and encouraging genuine effort. Religious and community leaders must speak against unethical practices, even when they are deeply embedded in cultural norms.

Institutions must be rebuilt with strict accountability, fair recruitment, and independent oversight that is immune to political interference. Leadership must be assigned based on capability, not as a reward for loyalty. Laws must be enforced without fear or favour, and systems must be established to hesitation. As citizens, our vote must be cast not on the basis of caste, clan, or charisma-but on character and competence.

It's also time we stop glorifying unearned success. Let us celebrate honest beginnings. Let us honour the young woman who builds her future on merit, the government officer who refuses to bend rules, the entrepreneur who refuses to bribe. These are the heroes who must become role models for our children.

Change will not come overnight. But if we all take responsibility—if we all stand up, speak out, and lift those who deserve to rise-we can start to heal. The death of merit is not just the loss of opportunity. It is the death of a nation's soul.

To revive our nation, we must restore justice. To restore justice, we must revive merit. Because where merit dies, hope dies. And where hope dies, nations fall.

Author is a Teacher, Writer and Public Servant . He can be reached at khandanishashraf506@gmail.com. Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Kashmir Convener.



This silent betrayal does not remain confined to the life of one person. It infects institutions. And when institutions are built on corruption rather than competence, they begin to crack. Over time, these cracks widen. The entire structure becomes weak, and eventually, societies collapse—not with a bang, but with the quiet resignation of those who stop believing that honesty will ever win.



Embracing the Other: A Civilizational Path to Self-Discovery

"Hatred ceases not by hatred, but by love alone." From the do not dissolve our distinctiveness-we deepen it, rendering

Taoist sage who "has no fixed mind" (Tao Te Ching, Ch. 49) to the self porous to grace, responsive to truth, and capacious

dication of selfhood but its most elevated expression-where we transcend the illusion of separateness and affirm a shared



SHABEER AHMAD LONE

From a sociological standpoint, diasporic communities worldwide offer compelling evidence. Whether it is the South Asian diaspora in East Africa, the Jewish communities in Europe, or the Chinese communities across Southeast Asia, identity has shown resilience through adaptation. The hybrid cultural formations they embody-neither wholly assimilated nor entirely separate-showcase the vitality of living identities that negotiate and integrate difference while retaining core continuities. Such communities are living laboratories of cultural pluralism, where embracing the Other does not mean mimicry but mutual transformation.

Moreover, the rise of digital globalization has created new spaces for trans-cultural exchanges where individuals express lavered identities: one might be a devout Muslim who listens to Korean pop, or a Dalit activist who translates Nietzsche. The web of identities we now see emerging belies the binary thinking that equates Otherness with loss. Instead, identity becomes tapestry-textured, multi-sourced, and evolving. The more we engage with others, the more stories we hear, the more we reflect on ourselves-not less.

Critically, this does not entail romanticizing every encounter with the Other. Power asymmetries, colonial legacies, and cultural imperialism are real, and they must be interrogated. However, resistance to domination is not the same as rejection of difference. The postcolonial thinker Gayatri Spivak speaks of "strategic essentialism"-a temporary adoption of a unified identity for political mobilization. Even within that, the deeper project is to ensure that identities are not ossified but continually reinterpreted in light of shared humanity and justice.

In an age marked by fractured identities, rising polarizations, and reactive boundaries, the most urgent, compelling perennial imperative-echoed across sacred scriptures and timeless wisdom-is to embrace the Other not as threat but as mirror, test, and fellow bearer of divine breath. The Qur'an (49:13) proclaims that diversity exists "so that you may know one another", " to eah of you We have precribed a law and method" Race to all that is good(Quran 5:48), not divide; the Bible (Mark 12:31) commands, "Love your neighbor as yourself", and the Torah (Deut. 10:19) insists, "Love the stranger, for you were strangers." The Bhagavad Gita (6:30) teaches the seer sees God in all, while the Dhammapada (1:5) declares,



ritically, this does not entail romanticizing every encounter with the Other. Power asymmetries, colonial legacies, and cultural imperialism are real, and they must be interrogated. However, resistance to domination is not the same as rejection of difference. The postcolonial thinker Gayatri Spivak speaks of "strategic essentialism"-a temporary adoption of a unified identity for political mobilization. Even within that, the deeper project is to ensure that identities are not ossified but continually reinterpreted in light of shared humanity and justice.

Guru Nanak who saw "no enemy, no stranger" (Guru Granth Sahib), and from Ibn Arabi's heart "capable of every form" to Levinas' ethical awakening in the face of the Other, the message converges: true identity expands through compassionate relation, not exclusion. In reclaiming this vision, we

enough to hold the dignity of all.

To embrace the Other is, ultimately, to reaffirm the sacred plurality of the human condition and to acknowledge that truth, identity, and meaning are not exhausted within the confines of a single tradition, narrative, or worldview. It is not an ab-

ontological dignity. The deepest traditions across cultures-from the Qur'anic exhortation to "know one another" (49:13), but not to overcome or suppress etc, to the Buddhist ideal of karu (compassion), to the African principle of Ubuntu ("I am because we are")-testify to the timeless wisdom that identity is not opposed to relationship but constituted through it. Indeed, it is not isolation but insularity, not contact but coercion, that threatens the integrity of the self. True identity is not forged in the absence of the Other but in the crucible of shared struggle, mutual recognition, and co-creative meaning-making. In a world fractured by ideologies of fear and exclusion, the most radical act is not to retreat into the self but to walk toward the Other-not to dissolve difference but to dignify it. This is not a mere ethical stance, but a metaphysical vision: that the self and the Other are two reflections of one deeper reality, and the path to peace, understanding, and fulfillment lies not in conquest or conformity, but in communion. In this light, embracing the Other is not an exception-it is the very essence of becoming human.

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PART-II

The Blackshirts And The Fall Of Italian Democracy



BY YAMIN MOHAMMAD MUNSH

Benito Mussolini's ascent to power in Italy was not merely the result of political strategy or populist appeal—it was driven, in large part, by brute force. At the heart of this force were the Blackshirts, Mussolini's infamous paramilitary loyalists, widely

known as "Mussolini's thugs." Through intimidation, violence, and terror, they cleared the path for fascism in Italy, suppressing political opposition and reshaping Italian society under the shadow of authoritarianism.

Formed in 1919 as the Fasci Italiani di Combattimento, the Blackshirts officially became the paramilitary wing of Mussolini's National Fascist Party by 1923. Composed of disillusioned World War I veterans, unemployed youth, and discontented citizens alienated by the political turmoil of post-war Italy, the Blackshirts found purpose in Mussolini's call for national revival and strong leadership. Their violent loyalty would become a defining feature of Mussolini's rise.

The Blackshirts quickly earned notoriety for their brutal tactics: beatings, kidnappings, assassinations, and widespread intimidation of Mussolini's opponents—including socialists,

accepted—if not applauded—the actions of these paramilitaries. Many viewed them as patriotic saviors restoring order and pride to a fractured nation. This normalization of violence and authoritarian control enabled Mussolini to transform Italy into a one-party, totalitarian state with alarming ease.

The celebration of the Blackshirts by parts of Italian society also highlights how propaganda and nationalistic fervor can obscure the realities of repression. Their unchecked power and Mussolini's embrace of political violence created a culture where fear silenced reason, and conformity was rewarded over critical thought. Schools, media, and civic institutions were systematically molded to glorify the fascist state and its violent enforcers.

The legacy of Mussolini's thugs is a dark and sobering chapter in modern history. Their actions not only eroded Italy's democratic foundations but also set a global precedent for how



communists, trade unionists, and liberal intellectuals. Political dissent became a dangerous endeavor, as Mussolini's thugs targeted anyone who dared challenge fascist ideology.

One of the most infamous episodes in this campaign of coercion was the March on Rome in October 1922. Thousands of Blackshirts marched toward the capital, demanding Mussolini's appointment as Prime Minister. Faced with the threat of civil war, King Victor Emmanuel III capitulated, inviting Mussolini to form a government. This bloodless yet coercive takeover marked the beginning of fascist rule in Italy, achieved not through democratic mandate but through militarized pressure and fear. Once in power, Mussolini institutionalized this violence. The Blackshirts were absorbed into state structures, and their extrajudicial actions gained an air of official legitimacy. They were no longer just street thugs; they became instruments of state control. Through them, Mussolini eliminated rivals, silenced critics, and manufactured consent. Italy's democratic institutions were dismantled step by step-not only by laws, but by clubs, boots, and fists.

fascism could thrive in the vacuum left by political instability and societal disillusionment. The violent path they carved serves as a powerful warning against the perils of authoritarianism, the weaponization of populist anger, and the abandonment of democratic safeguards.

Mussolini's rise would not have been possible without the calculated use of street violence, enforced by the Blackshirts. They



NEWS | 05

Formed in 1919 as the Fasci Italiani di Combattimento, the Blackshirts officially became the paramilitary wing of Mussolini's National Fascist Party by 1923. Composed of disillusioned World War I veterans, unemployed youth, and discontented citizens alienated by the political turmoil of post-war Italy, the Blackshirts found purpose in Mussolini's call for national revival and strong leadership. Their violent loyalty would become a defining feature of Mussolini's rise.

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were not merely political foot soldiers—they were the architects of fear, enforcing silence, conformity, and submission. Their story is not just about Italy's descent into fascism but about the broader human cost of letting thuggery and extremism replace dialogue and democracy.

In today's world, where authoritarian tendencies are again on the rise in various forms, the history of Mussolini's thugs reminds us of the fragile nature of liberty. It underscores the urgent need to defend democratic values, promote civic courage, and remain vigilant against the normalization of violence in political life.

Democracy does not die with a bang-it withers in silence when fear replaces freedom, when might overshadows right,



The Blackshirts were instrumental in suppressing labor strikes, crushing press freedom, and enforcing fascist doctrine across towns and cities. They stormed union halls, burned opposition newspapers, and publicly humiliated dissenters. By fostering a climate of fear, Mussolini ensured that obedience was not only expected but enforced.

Perhaps most disturbingly, large segments of the Italian public

and when people forget the cost of past mistakes. Mussolini's Blackshirts remind us what is lost when we stop resisting tyranny: not just rights or laws, but the very soul of a nation.

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Sakeena Itoo flags off 6th Aryans Shikara Race at Srinagar RINAGAR: Minister for helps create new narratives seen the positive role of Aryans Chairman, Aryans Group,

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today flagged off the 6th Aryans Shikara Race, organised by JK students of Aryans Group of Colleges Chandigarh, at Dal Lake here. The race was organised with an aim to promote tourism of

Jammu and Kashmir and bring tourists back to valley after Pahalgam incident.

Speaking on the occasion, Sakeena Itoo said that this unique initiative will contribute towards the promotion of J&K's tourism potential on National and International arenas.

"This race is not just a event, it is celebration of peace, unity and unmatched beauty of our J&K. Promoting such activities helps create new narratives around J&K, drawing positive attention and boosting tourism", seen the positive role of Aryans Group after the Pahalgam incident as they played active



Minister Sakeena stated. The Minister also appreciated the students and management of Aryans Group of Colleges. She added that we have hs Chairman, Aryans Group, Dr. Anshu Kataria, extended his gratitude to the Minister for gracing the event.

He appreciated Kashmir's beauty, stating that it is and will always be a heaven on earth, unaffected by negative incidents. He also commended the Aryans JK students, who, despite studying outside the state, consistently think about the Valley's well-being.

Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N Itoo; Director Colleges, Sheikh Aijaz Bashir; Director General, Aryans Group, Dr. Parveen Kataria; Deputy Director, Dr. Garima Thakur, senior management of Aryans Group and large number of students were present on the

Dy CM Surinder Choudhary Calls for comprehensive action plan to promote Kashmir Handicrafts, Handloom products

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today inaugurated the Hathkargha mela at Kashmir Haat.

The event is being organized by the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir and sponsored by the Development Commissioner Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.

The Dy CM, while addressing on the occasion, called upon launching a major marketing and branding campaign for promotion of the Handicrafts & Handloom products of Kashmir, having readymade niche market available at global level.

He also emphasized on the need for making an action plan for promotion of these world famous products.

The Dy CM, during his inspection of the stalls, interacted with the weavers and artisans and was mesmerized by the Kani shawls and Sozni work done on the pashmina shawls. He stated that artisans and weavers are the vital pillars of the society and present government will take every necessary step to make their future secure.



The Deputy CM directed the Handicrafts and Handloom Department to contemplate the possibility of procurement of some notified crafts such as crewel by the government. Heemphasized the importance of creating sustainable market linkages for handloom Weavers and commended the Directorate for its ongoing efforts in promoting the sector at both national and international platforms.

NEWS | 06

Choudhary appealed the citizens, tourists, art connoisseurs and media members to visit the expo and experience firsthand the vibrancy and artistry of Kashmir handlooms which will remain open to the public till June 18, 2025.

The expo featured over 60 master weavers and skilled artisans, who are showcasing an exquisite collection of handloom products, each telling a unique story of tradition, skill, and identity.

The special handloom fair is a significant initiative aimed at celebrating, preserving and promoting India's unparalleled handloom legacy, while offering an empowering platform for the artisan and weaver communities of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh

Block Diwas held at Ramnagri Shopian

SHOPIAN: With an aim to strengthen grassroots governance and responsive administration, Block Diwas programme was today organized at Ramnagri block of the district.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta presided over the programme in presence of ADDC, Dr. Nasir Ahmad Lone and ADC, Dr.Zakir Hussain Faaz.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents and officers from various government departments. Block Diwas provided a platform for the local inhabitants to

interact with the top district administration officers to project their developmental demands and grievances on spot at their doorstep. A number of delegations from different panchayats and villages of Reshnagri, Amshipora, Check-i-Saidapora, Sedow, Saidapora Payan and Bala participated in the programme and put forth their demands, which primarily included improvement in water and power supply, macadamization of roads, establishment of healthcare facilities, sanctioning of additional ration depots and enhancement in infrastructure for schools and public institutions besides construction of lanes and drains etc.

DC gave a patient hearing to the issues and grievances raised and assured the public of time-bound redressal. He directed the concerned officers to resolve genuine issues on priority and furnish action-taken reports to the district administration immediately. Gupta emphasized for completing all ongoing developmental works within the stipulated time frame while also stressing for better and more improved public service delivery and ensuring effective implementation of welfare programmes at the grassroots.

He urged the officers to remain accessible to the people for grievance redressal and further assured that all issues of public importance would be taken up with the concerned quarters for early resolution.

CS Atal Dulloo Reviews J&K RERA Functioning, Stresses Public Safeguards SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal UTof Jammu and Kashmirvide notification Besides, the promoters and real estate

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today reviewed the functioning of the Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority (JKRERA) during a datailad presentation models with Chainman

occasion.

detailed presentation made by its Chairman, Satish Chandra. The meeting focused on regulatory achievements, enforcement actions, public grievance mechanisms and existing

role for facilitation of Kashmiri

students studying outside

and also took a unique step

to conduct special semester

exams for JK students.

challenges being faced in streamlining the real estate sector in the Union Territory. The Chief Secretary emphasized the critical role of JKRERA in promoting transparency, accountability and consumer

protection in the real estate sector. He called for enhanced inter-departmental coordination and timely interventions to ensure full compliance with the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act. Dulloo directed the Housing & Urban

Development Department (H&UDD) and allied departments to extend support to JKRERA in fulfilling its mandate.

He stressed on resolving the coordination issues, accelerating infrastructure setup and ensuring that no real estate project operates outside the regulatory ambit.

It was informed by the Chairman, RERA, that the Real Estate (Regulation and Development)Act, 2016 was extended to the



on 22nd July 2020 under Section 20 of the Act and framed the J&K Real Estate Development Rules, 2020. The Jammu & Kashmir Special Tribunal had been designated as the Appellate Tribunal.

The JK RERA exercises full jurisdiction over all the commercial and residential real estate projects within Jammu and Kashmir, except the projects under 500 square meters, projects with fewer than 8 apartments, projects completed before the Act's commencement and renovation projects not involving new sale or marketing Regarding the registration and

compliance, it was revealed that JKRERA has made the project and agent registration mandatory, both online and offline. document verification and status tracking. The Authority has already registered multiple projects and agents, increasing the consumer confidence and market regulation.

agents are being charged registration

fees, ensuring due diligence through

With respect to the complaint redressal mechanism for the Consumers, promoters and agents, it was apprised that these can file complaints through a defined digital process after depositing a fee of Rs. 1,000. Besides, JKRERA has taken strict enforcement action to ensure compliance while penalties have been imposed on violators across the districts.

Notably, a penalty of 10 lakh was levied on a promoter for non-registration of the property as per the law.

Javed Rana meets delegations; assesses public welfare issues



SRINAGAR: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today met with delegations led by Legislator Javaid Beigh and representatives from Tral and Shopian to assess and address various public welfare issues.

The delegation led by Javaid Beigh raised concerns regarding the functioning of Sheeri Narawah Irrigation Scheme and Nowpora Water Supply Scheme in Baramulla town under the AMRUT project.

The Minister assured the delegation that their issues would be addressed at the earliest. He directed the concerned field functionaries of the Jal Shakti Department to take immediate action on all the issues concerning them.

Rana also interacted with the delegations from Tral and Shopian, who highlighted several public welfare issues affecting their areas. He assured them that their concerns would be tak

Yasha Mudgal reviews works under CAPEX 2024-26 of Tourism Department

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Tourism, Yasha Mudgal, today chaired a meeting of senior officers at Civil Secretariat Jammu to review functioning of the Tourism Department.

Threadbare discussions were held on various issues regarding proposed new works submitted by the line agencies under Capex budget 2025-26. Director, Planning Tourism, briefed the meeting about the ongoing work wise activities being conducted under Capex budget 2025-26. He also gave details about the physical and financial activities of the development projects of the department.

Directors, Tourism, Jammu/ Kashmir and CEOs of all Tourist Development Authorities also apprised the meeting of the new proposed works and their implementation under Capex Budget 2025-26. The Commissioner Secretary directed the senior officers to prioritise give the projects having significant impact in boosting the tourism sector.

Dy CM Surinder Choudhary Reviews R&B Department, Launches Annual Macadamisation Drive

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief, Surinder Choudhary, today convened an extensive review meeting with the Roads & Buildings (R&B) Department to evaluate departmental functioning and launch the macadamisation

have been approved for Central Kashmir and 134 for South Kashmir under the C&T sector.

The meeting was apprised that the tendering need process for these works has commenced with to tin

need for high-quality execution and adherence to timelines, directing the officials to ensure effective coordination. He directed the officers to expedite the progress on all works ensuring their timely completion and maintaining the

programme for the current year.

Secretary, Public Works Department (PWD), Bhupinder Kumar, provided a comprehensive briefing on the department's activities.

The Chief Engineers of R&B for Central and South Kashmir outlined the macadamisation programme, stating that approximately 312.87 km of roads in Central Kashmir and 234.88 km in South Kashmir have been proposed for macadamisation this year under various sectors including C&T, NABARD, UT sector and CRIF. It was informed that a total of 157 projects



Additionally, 17 new schemes in Central Kashmir and 16 in South Kashmir have been approved under NABARD, further bolstering the region's infrastructure development. construction scheduled to begin by June 15, 2025 and the macadamisation projects are expected to be completed within three months. The Deputy Chief Minister stressed the quality standards.

The Dy CM asked the engineers to follow the deadlines and show remarkable results so that the vital road projects would be completed in a time bound manner. He further directed the concerned engineers to review progress on these projects regularly and blacklist those contractors who are not showing up satisfactory performance.

The Dy CM directed all the divisions to work in close coordination to resolve the issues hindering the pace of progress on projects. She asked for proper monitoring of progress on all the ongoing projects of tourism department. She also stressed upon them to create a roadmap for implementing and completing the works of these projects in a time bound manner.

She directed the CEOs of Tourist Development Authorities to keep close coordination with the Directors Tourism Department and fix target to complete maximum projects during 2025-26 under Capex budget. She also directed them to take all necessary steps to repair and upgrade all non-functional toilets at all Tourism Dev Authorities for convenience of the tourists.

DLSA Srinagar holds training session for SAATHI Unit Committee members

SRINAGAR: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar organized a meeting-cumorientation and training session for the SAATHI Unit Committee members of District Srinagar at



the ADR Centre, District Court Complex Srinagar.

The session was held with the objective of preparing stakeholders for the effective implementation of the SAATHI campaign across the district. Sajad Ur Rehman, Secretary, DLSA Srinagar (Chairperson of the SAATHI Unit Committee) chaired the meeting, which was attended by officers and officials from the District Administration, District Child Protection office, members of the SAATHI Unit Committee, and other key stakeholders. Some stakeholders and panel lawyers also joined the session virtually, ensuring broader outreach and participation.

The session served as a platform to deliberate on the campaign's goals, streamline coordination mechanisms, and finalize the strategy for its implementation.

SAATHI campaign is a focused initiative aimed at identifying, supporting, and rehabilitating destitute and vulnerable children within the district. The campaign underscores the commitment of DLSA Srinagar to ensure such children gain access to education, healthcare, legal aid, and various social welfare schemes, thereby fostering a protective and nurturing environment for them.

During the session, participants were oriented about their roles and responsibilities under the SAATHI framework. Detailed training was provided on conducting field surveys, identifying destitute children, maintaining proper documentation, and linking identified cases with the appropriate welfare mechanisms. Emphasis was placed on interdepartmental coordination and active community involvement as essential components for the success of the campaign.

Sakeena Itoo conducts surprise inspection of GGHS Drugjan Dalgate

SRINAGAR: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today conducted the surprise inspection of Government Girls High School (GGHS) Drugjan Dalgate and took on-spot assessment of functioning of the school. Director School Education Kashmir, Dr. G.N Itoo; CEO Srinagar,

ZEO Nishat and other officers also accompanied the Minister.

During the visit, Minister Sakeena took detailed round of the school premises, inspected classrooms, computer lab and other infrastructure. She also interacted with the students and took feedback from them about the quality of education being imparted at the institute. She also encouraged students to remain focused on their studies and urged the school authorities to identify and address any gaps in academic performance and infrastructure.

Later, the Minister held a brief interaction with the staff of the school and assessed the overall functioning of the institution, including teaching methodologies, infrastructure, attendance records and availability of essential resources.

Expressing concern over certain shortcomings, Minister Sakeena emphasized on the need for more robust monitoring mechanism to ensure timely academic delivery and conducive learning environment in the institute. "Education is the cornerstone of a progressive society. We must ensure our girls receive quality education, adequate support and modern facilities to thrive in every sphere and field of life", Minister Sakeena stated. She lauded the dedication of the teaching staff and called for renewed efforts to uplift educational outcomes, particularly in government-run educational institutions.

LSUC Ganderbal conducts legal awareness program for children

GANDERBAL: Legal Services Unit for Children (LSUC) Ganderbal today organized a legal awareness program for children at Govt. Middle School Gangerhama Ganderbal.

The program aimed to educate participants about the legal provisions for vulnerable children, including those with disabilities, transgender children, and children at risk of trafficking or abuse. It also elucidated on legal provisions, children's rights, and accessible remedies through legal services for vulnerable children.

The initiative was effectively overseen by Abdul Nasir, Chairman, DLSA, Ganderbal, along with the guidance of Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary DLSA Ganderbal. During the event, Syed Romani, Assistant LADC Ganderbal, outlined the strong legal framework in India to protect and empower vulnerable children,

including the Rights of Persons
with Disabilities Act, 2016, the
Transgender Persons Protection
of Rights Act, 2019, the POCSO
Act, 2012, and the Juvenile Justice
Act, 2015.

Romani emphasized that children have inherent rights, including the right to life and dignity, education, protection from harm, expression, legal aid and rehabilitation.She also highlighted available remedies for children in need, including the Child Welfare Committee, District Child Protection Unit, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), State Commission, and Childline

Helpline (1098). Romani stressed that laws are just the beginning, and effective implementation, awareness, and compassion are crucial to protect children. She urged teachers, doctors, lawyers, and judges to play their part in ensuring

child-friendly procedures and providing safety and support to vulnerable children. Aqib Ul Ahad. Assistant

LADC, Ganderbal, enlightened the participants about vulnerable groups of children and their rights, emphasizing the importance of protection and support for these groups.

He also educated them about constitutional provisions related to children, child rights enshrined in the Constitution, legislative frameworks governing child rights, and the rights and remedies available to children in need through legal services. The program provided a

platform for children to learn about their rights and the legal recourse available to them.

The event was attended by students, teachers and other stakeholders, who actively participated in the discussions and deliberations.

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THURSDAY | JUNE -12 - 2025

NEWS|07

Continued From P1...

Amarnath Yatra

The Lieutenant Governor lauded the invaluable contributions of people of J&K, Civil Society groups and all service providers.

"I have full faith that significant improvements to essential facilities and services will ensure this year's pilgrimage is memorable and spiritually fulfilling for all devotees. May Baba Amarnathii keep showering his divine blessings on all of us," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board has been organising Pratham Puja at the Holy Cave on the auspicious occasion of Jyeshtha Purnima every year.

This year, Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra will commence on 3rd July, simultaneously from both the routes the Pahalgam track in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district and it will culminate on 9th August, 2025 on Raksha Bandhan.

GoC 15 Corps, Lt Gen Prashant Srivastava; Nalin Prabhat, DGP J&K; Amarnath Ji Shrine Board Member, KN Rai; Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board CEO and Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri; IGP Kashmir, VK Birdi and other senior officials were also present at the holy cave.

LG Sinha

"The alternate route from Chandanwari to Pissutop will be made available with safety hand railing and surfacing for Yatra 2025 for facilitating the on-foot vatris and better managing the Yatra along the Chandanwari axis," the Lieutenant Governor further added.

The safety hand railing in vulnerable stretches has been developed on Pahalgam route.

The unstable formations along both the routes are addressed with gabion/ breast walls, ILC fence and installation of wire mesh to overcome the danger possessed by the shooting stones on Railpathri-Brarimarg, Kalimata-Lower Cave, Panjtarni - Sangam-Holy Cave, Chandanwari – Pissutop - Zozibal stretch.

Further, Granular sub base material applied on all slippery stretches along both routes.

ILCB tiles have been laid on slippery stretches of both routes i.e. Domail - Railpathri - Brari stretch on Baltal route and Chandanwari - Pissutop - Zozibal-MG Top stretch on Pahalgam route.

Reviews Medical

Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal and other senior officials.

Cabinet-Sub

mportant to ensure that Jammu and Kashmir witnesses maximum progress," he said.

Pertinently, Social Welfare Minister Sakina Masood Itoo who is also head of the CSC, in a post on X had said, "The Cabinet Sub-Committee constituted to examine the issue of reservations has drafted its report within the stipulated timeframe of six months. The report will be placed before the Cabinet when it meets,'

The panel was formally constituted on December 10, 2024, almost 18 days after the cabinet approved its constitution.

The existing reservation policy, introduced during central rule in Jammu and Kashmir, has become a focal point of political discourse, with candidates from the general category alleging that it disproportionately benefits reserved categories beyond their population share

The issue also prominently featured in the 2024 Assembly election manifestos of all major political parties. The ruling National Conference (NC), in its

electoral agenda, pledged to rationalize the reservation policy to address concerns raised by various sections of society.

On November 22, the Cabinet decided to establish a sub-committee to review grievances, particularly those raised by students regarding the policy.

A month later. NC's MP from Srinagar. Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, staged a protest outside the Chief Minister's residence, demanding a fair review of the reservation policy.

During a meeting with protesting students on the same day, CM Omar Abdullah assured that the cabinet sub-committee would finalize its report within six months.

The issue was widely discussed during the last Assembly session in Jammu, with PC president Sajad Gani strongly advocating for rationalization of existing reservation policy. (KNO)

Cabinet holds

On December 10, 2024, the NC-led government constituted a ministerial panel headed by Minister for Social Welfare, Sakina Ittoo to examine the need for rationalization of existing reservation policy. The Minister on Tuesday claimed that the report has been drafted and would be placed before the cabinet.

The Minister's assertion that the cabinet subcommittee's report on reservation has been drafted has intensified calls for its public disclosure, with various stakeholders demanding wider scrutiny.

I&K Government's handbook on the preparation of cabinet notes and memoranda for submission to the cabinet and administrative council does not explicitly address whether reports of cabinet sub-committees (CSCs) can be made public. However, it strongly advocates for extensive media coverage of cabinet decisions.

"It is important that the decisions of the administrative council/cabinet are given wide and effective publicity by leveraging the range and reach of mass media, social media and personal media having focused attention on target groups, beneficiaries, regions, etc. A well formulated communication plan for decisions, which need to be highlighted, is necessary to reach out to the people by utilizing various channels for dissemination of information," the handbook states.

In 2022, the Kerala High Court held that potential cabinet papers not brought before the Council of Ministers need not be provided under Right to Information Act(RTI).

The Court held that the exemption provided under the RTI Act, under section 8(1)(i), for cabinet papers until the Council takes a decision also applies to potential cabinet papers (KNO)

MeT predicts

ay of the season at 44.4°C. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has recorded a day temperature of 33.9°C.

However, Keng said the mercury in Qazigund settled at 34.6°C, which was the third highest maximum temperature in the month of June since 1962.

Wednesday's temperature also clashes with 34.6°C recorded on 23 June 2023. The 2nd highest temperature in Qazigund is 35.3°C recorded on 27 June 1988, while the all-time highest temperature is 35.7°C recorded on 26 June 1988, Keng said.

Moreover, Pahalgam recorded a day temperature of 28.8°C while Kokernag and Kupwara recorded 32.8°C each. Gulmarg, a famous ski resort, recorded a maximum temperature of 24.0°C.

Jammu division also recorded above normal temperatures. Katra station recorded a day temperature of 40.6°C while Banihal recorded 34.1°C.

In Batote, the mercury settled at 33.3°C while Bhaderwah recorded 34.4°C.Moreover, Director Meteorological department, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, predicted generally hot & dry weather conditions till June 13.He said that a brief spell of light rain and thundershower is expected at isolated to scattered places, accompanied by thunder and gusty winds from June 14 to 17. Ahmad said that generally hot & dry weather is expected from June 18 to 20.In its advisory, the MeT has predicted a severe heatwave at scattered places of J&K during the next three days. "Take sufficient fluid, water & avoid outdoor activities during peak intensity (12 noon to 4 PM)," the advisory reads, adding that the farmers are advised to continue farm operations. (KNO)

Doctors urge

among children, the elderly, and outdoor workers. Speaking to the news agency–Kashmir News Observer(KNO), Dr Mohammad Salim Khan, Head of the Department of Community Medicine at Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar, said maintaining proper hydration levels is critical during this period of extreme weather.

"People must prioritise the intake of natural fluidswater, oral rehydration solutions (ORS), lassi, lemon water, and fresh homemade juices," he said, adding that such drinks not only quench thirst but also help replenish essential salts and minerals lost through sweating.

He warned against relying on aerated soft drinks, packaged juices, and caffeinated beverages such as tea and coffee, which can contribute to dehydration due to their diuretic effects. "Sugary or fizzy drinks might seem refreshing, but they add to dehydration and unnecessary calorie intake," Dr Khan cautioned.

Advising against venturing outdoors during peak heat hours—generally between 11 am and 4 pm—Dr Khan suggested increasing fluid consumption by 1 to 3 litres daily, depending on the level of physical activity. He encouraged the use of traditional cooling beverages like buttermilk (chaach) and light soups to restore lost nutrients.

Clothing also plays a vital role. "Wear light-coloured, breathable, and loose-fitting garments. When stepping out, use umbrellas, caps, or scarves to shield yourself from direct sunlight and consider applying sunscreen to protect against UV rays," he said.

The doctor further warned that those sleeping under fans might experience excessive evaporation from their bodies, increasing fluid loss. "In such cases, water and ORS should be consumed frequently," he added.He stressed avoiding consumption of stale food, especially from roadside vendors, and emphasised the importance of thoroughly washing raw fruits and vegetables to prevent diarrheal diseases that spike during the summer season.

Electoral Rolls

the accuracy and integrity of the electoral process. According to the Election Commission, the CEC noted that this robust mechanism has played a vital role in upholding electoral credibility across the country for years.

Highlighting India's electoral integrity, scale and diversity, Kumar reaffirmed the role of the Election Commission in capacity building programmes for election management bodies (EMB) of countries around the globe. Over 100 participants representing EMBs of around 50 countries are taking part in the conference.

ACR Bandipora

be withheld and asked the officer to appear in person and explain why proceedings under Sections 51 and 58 and Order 21 Rules 30 and 40 of the Civil Procedure Code should not be initiated against him.

On Tuesday, the petitioner appeared in court of Civil

Judge alongside the CMO and the ACR Bandipora. He confirmed that he had now received the full amount and expressed no further grievance, pleading for closure of the execution proceedings.

J&K leads forest

records, making the region the most affected by forest fire alert incidents across the country.

The official figures accessed by the news agency–Kashmir News Observer (KNO) reveal that the total fire alert incidents include 159 SNPP and 13 MODIS incidents.

Soumi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (SNPP) forest fire refers to the use of the SNPP-VIIRS (Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite) satellite data to detect and monitor forest fires and Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) is a satellite instrument used by NASA for detecting forest fires.

Amid heat

Director of School Education Kashmir(DSEK)in a circular had said, "In light of the prevailing heat wave conditions and the increasing frequency of afternoon stormy winds across Kashmir division, it has become imperative to implement effective safety protocols to safeguard the health and well-being of students and staff.'

DSEK said that the well-being of students is paramount, and proactive measures are essential to mitigate the risks associated with extreme weather conditions. Pertinently, the Meteorological department had forecasted severe heat wave conditions for next three days across Jammu and Kashmir (KNO)

Under PM

Citing employment data from EPFO, he said these reflect greater job creation and heightened awareness of employee benefits. He added that at the same time, the PM Modi led government has spearheaded a series of infrastructure projects, including the Chenab Bridge, Atal Tunnel, and the Statue of Unity - all exemplifying India's engineering excellence.A core focus of the government has been the empowerment of marginalised communities, including persons with disabilities, transgender individuals, and those from SC/ST/OBC groups. Access to essential amenities, such as clean water, electricity, healthcare, and digital services, has been expanded to millions of households.

India's leadership in green energy was also showcased at the event with the Ministry stating that India continues to set new global benchmarks in sustainability, drawing admiration



This is an information for general This is an information for general public public that in my Driving licence bearing that the Name and parantege of my Registration No: JK05 20070006978, Son has been Mistakenly Mentioned in my name and DOB has been Mistakenly his school records as Mohammad Irfan Mentioned as Reyazul Rehman Baba, Gojar, S/O Ditu khan Gojar, while as his and DOB as 04-05-1980. While as my Actual and correct name and parantege Actual and correct name and DOB as per is Mohammad Irfan Gojar Awan, S/O my Aadhaar Card is Peerzada Revaz UL Ditu Gojar Awan. Now i want to apply for Rahman, and DOB is 04-02-1977. Now its correction in this regard any person i want to apply for its correction in this having any objection he/she may file the regard any person having any objection Objections in office of the Headmaster he/she may file the Objections in office of GOVT Primary school Zaban Chuntimulla the Assistant Regional Transport Office Bandipora with in a period of seven days Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be notice, after that no objection shall be accepted. accepted. Ditu Gojar Awan. Peerzada Reyaz UL Rahman. F/O Mohammad Irfan Gojar Awan. S/O Ab Khaliq Baba. R/O Chuntimulla Bandipora. R/O Peerzada Mohalla Bonakoot Bandipora. NOTICE NOTICE This is an information for general public that in my Electricity Agreement bearing Inadvertently my name has been Consumer ID No: 0226010006504, my mentioned as Jamid Tarig in my passport name has been Mistakenly Mentioned as Mohda Rashee, while as my Actual bearing no K6936459 while my actual name is Umer Tariq Bazaz. Now I want and correct name as per my Aadhaar to rectify the same. Anybody having Card is Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Reshi, objection in this regard may file the same S/O Abdul khalig Reshi. Now i want to before the office of Regional Passport apply for its correction in this regard Officer Srinagar within seven days from any person having any objection he/she the date of publication of this notice. No may file the Objections in office of the objection will be entertained thereafter. Assistant Executive Engineer Electricity Umer Tariq Bazaz Sub Division Kaloosa Bandipora with in S/O Tariq Ahmad Bazaz a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice. R/O Saderbal Hazratbal Srinagar Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Reshi. S/O Abdul Khaliq Reshi. R/O Ward NO: 08, Bandipora. This is an information for general NOTICE public that i have lost my RC Baring No MA1ZU2TNKM1H6334 some where, l Have Changed My Name Syed Faiq Rufaie (Old Now i want to apply for its duplicate , in this regard any person having any Name) To Sayed Faig Rufaie (New Name). In objection he/she may file the Objections Future I Will Be Known As Sayed Faiq Rufaie in office of the Concern Authorities with New Name). in a period of seven days from the date of If Anybody Is Having Any Objection He/She the publication of this notice, after that May Contact Passport Office, Srinagar Within no objection shall be accepted. (Seven) Days . After 7 Days No Objection Will Mr. Riyaz Raqeeb S/o Mr. Rageeb Khan Be Accepted. R/O khonmoh Srinagar Lasjan

from international leaders, he added. As India prepares for its first independent human spaceflight and looks towards the Moon and beyond, the government's investment in space technology underscores the nation's growing prominence on the global stage, said the Minister.Guided by the principle of Antyodaya, the government has strived for 100% saturation across all welfare schemes. From housing to healthcare and clean cooking fuel, millions of previously underserved families now have access to basic services, he said. (KNO)

Terrorism will

should be. My point is, we're not being prescriptive or judgemental - but we are also not uninvolved."

Responding to criticism over India's refusal to join sanctions against Russia, he said, "We have a strong relationship with Ukraine as well - it's not only about Russia. But every country, naturally, considers its own experience, history and interests."

He further offered a historical perspective on India's foreign policy outlook. "India has the longeststanding grievance - our borders were violated just months after independence, when Pakistan sent in invaders to Kashmir. And the countries that were most supportive of that? Western countries."

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that Electricity Agreement bearing Consumer ID No: 0216020009910, which is Registered in the name of Siraug-Uddin palaal, S/O Baitulah palaal, Now i want to apply for change this Electricity Agreement in the name of Ab Hameed palal, S/O Siraj Uddin palal, 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 from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Ab Hameed palal. S/O Siraj Uddin palal. R/O Tanghat, Bonakoot Bandipora.

UNIONTERRITORYOFJAMMU&KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) PROJECTS DIVISION III, SRINAGAR.

e-NITNo. 08-LAof 06/2025Dated: -10-06-2025

Forand on behalf of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders (In Single Cover System) are invited on Percentage basis for the below mentioned works from approved and eligible Contractors Registered with UT of J&K Govt. CPWD, JKPWD, MES. Railways, and other State/Central Governments as per pre-qualification criteria in this bid document for each of the following works.

	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Incl; GST &	Cost of T/Doc.	Earnest Money @ 2% of	Time of	Class of	Major Head
		Carriage) (Rs. In lacs)	(In Rupees)	Adv. Cost(In Rupees)	Completion	Contractor	of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Repair/Renovation of fire damaged four rooms (Civil Works) at MLA Hostel, Srinagar.	16.63	800/-	33260/-	40Days	BEE/CEE	2011-Assembly
Position Position Project 1.	n of TS : AccordedbySuperinte n of Funds : Assured by Secretary Authority :Secretary J&K Legisla SCHEDULE OF TENDER: - The Bidding documents consisting of pre-qualify etails can be seen/downloaded from the departmenta	ving information, eligibility (riteria, specificati	ions, Drawings, bill of quantit heduled date given below in	es (B.O.Q), Set of Table	terms and cond	itions of contract and
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	10.06.2025					
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	11.06.2025 From 10	.00 AM				
3 Bid submission Start Date 11.06.2025 From10.00 AM							
4	Bid Submission End Date	18.06.2025 up to 4:3	0 PM				
5	Date and Time of Opening of Bids (Online)	19.04.2025 up to 11:	30 AM in the offic	e of the Executive Engineer P	W (R&B) Project D	ivision-III, Polo	View, Srinagar.
3. •	INTEGRITY OF THE BID PROCESS: - Information leading to clarification, examination All bidders are advised not to make any attemp	t to influence any officer or	official of the de	partment or any person relat			
•	ification of the bidder at any stage of the bid process Misconduct / Misbehavior observed during the te epartment and shall be subject to cancellation of reg BID WITHDRAWAL/SUBSTITUTION/MODIFICATIO The electronic bidding system would not allow a Bidders may modify their bids by uploading thei For this, the bidder need not make any additiona For bid modification and consequential re-subm The last modified bid submitted by the bidder w For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by ot In the online system of bid submission, the mod The bidders may withdraw their bid by uploading No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the	nder opening process with a istration card issued by this N/VALIDITY: - ny late submission of bids a r request for modification b al payment towards the cosi ission, the bidder is not req ithin the bid submission tim her means will not be accep fication and consequential- their request before the de deadline of submission of b	ny officer/official department or an fter the due date efore the deadline of the tender doo uired to withdraw e shall be conside ted. - submission of bi adline for submissi ids.	shall be dealt under rules and y other department. and time as per server time. e for submission of bids. cument. his bid submitted earlier. red as the bid. ds is allowed any number of t sion of bids; however, if the bid	in terms of the en imes. I is withdrawn, re	-submission of t	stration of contractor
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Afridi, Shadab In First List Of Bbl Draft; Rodrigues, Pandey In The Mix For Wbbl



he Pakistan quartet of Shaheen Shah Afridi, Shadab Khan, Haris Rauf and Mohammad Rizwan are part of the first overseas draft list of BBL 15, which was released on Tuesday. The draft will be held on June 19 with Brisbane Heat holding the No. 1 pick and having the first chance to pick a player. Sam Curran and Alex Hales from England, Lockie

Ferguson and Tim Southee from New Zealand, Sri Lanka's Kusal Perera and West Indies' Shamar Joseph are the other

ngland's Lauren Bell, Sophie Ecclestone, Heather Knight and Danni Wyatt-Hodge are part of the list too, as are the South African pair of Shabnim Ismail and Chloe Tryon.

six players in the first draft list of ten players. In the WBBL, the Indian pair of Shikha Pandey and

Jemimah Rodrigues are in the first nomination list, alongside Deandra Dottin of West Indies and Fatima Sana of Pakistan.

England's Lauren Bell, Sophie Ecclestone, Heather Knight and Danni Wyatt-Hodge are part of the list too, as are the South African pair of Shabnim Ismail and Chloe Tryon.

The draft for the upcoming BBL and WBBL seasons have been brought forward to June to provide clubs more certainty about player selection. According to a CA statement, over 600 overseas players have registered interest for the BBL and WBBL.

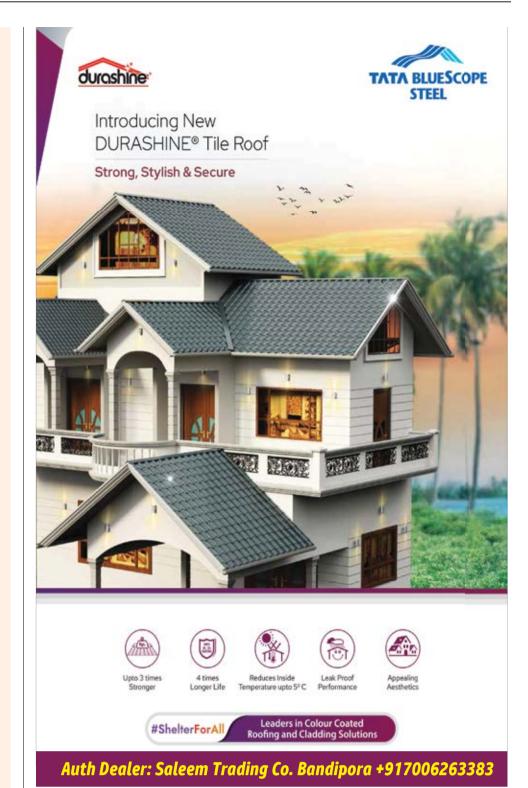
The teams have already started building their squads. Jamie Overton and Laura Wolvaardt (Adelaide Strikers), Colin Munro and Nadine de Klerk (Heat), Chris Jordan (Hobart Hurricanes), Tim Seifert and Hayley Matthews (Melbourne Renegades), Tom Curran and Marizanne Kapp (Melbourne Stars), Finn Allen and Sophie Devine (Perth Scorchers), Amelia Kerr (Sydney Sixers), Sam Billings and Chamari Athapaththu (Sydney Thunder) are the overseas players to have been pre-signed. Hurricanes have not named a pre-signed player for the WBBL yet and the same is the case for Sixers in the BBL.

This season, Heat and Sixers will have first picks for the BBL and WBBL drafts respectively. Both drafts consist of four rounds, with all teams receiving one pick in each round. Teams can select a player who has made themselves available to be drafted in one of four overseas player salary

bands: Platinum (round 1 or 2), Gold (round 2 or 3), Silver (round 3 or 4) or Bronze (round 4 only). Teams must use at least three picks including presigned players and can pass once.

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