

Kashmir Convener



BE A PART OF THE GLOBAL WAVE
OF WELLNESS AND UNITY

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA

YOGA FOR ONE EARTH, ONE HEALTH

— 21ST JUNE 2025 —

Common Yoga Protocol Demonstrations at
SKICC Srinagar | Gulshan Ground Gandhi Nagar, Jammu
6:00 am onwards

Benefits of Yoga

- Improves flexibility and strength
- Reduces stress and anxiety
- Boosts energy and sleep quality
- Enhances focus and emotional balance
- Supports overall health and immunity

Department of Information & Public Relations
Government of Jammu & Kashmir



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Information & PR, J&K



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DIPK-2759/25
Dt: 20-06-2025

PM Modi Launches Development Projects Worth ₹5,200 Crore in Siwan, Bihar

Flags Off Export Locomotive and New Vande Bharat Train

SIWAN, BIHAR | PIB: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over 5,200 crore in Siwan, Bihar.

Addressing a large public gathering, the Prime Minister reiterated his government's commitment to Bihar's development and highlighted the state's growing role in India's progress. He invoked the legacy of Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan, recalling Siwan's historic contribution to India's democracy and freedom struggle.

Calling Bihar the land of resilience and potential, the Prime Minister asserted that the state would soon emerge as a key pillar of the country's prosperity. "Bihar will prosper and will also play a big role in the prosperity of the country," he said, underlining that a record 25 crore Indians have been lifted out of poverty over the last decade, with Bihar accounting for



nearly four crore among them. During the event, Prime Minister Modi flagged off the first export-bound locomotive manufactured at the Marhowra

Locomotive Factory, marking a significant milestone under the 'Make in India - Make for the World' initiative. He stated with pride that the engine built in Bihar's Saran district would now run trains in Africa, symbolizing the state's entry into the global industrial landscape.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated the new Vaishali-Deoria railway line and flagged off a new train service on the route. He launched the Patliputra-Gorakhpur Vande Bharat Express, which connects key regions including Muzaffarpur and Bettiah, and improves connectivity to the sacred sites of Baba Hariharnath and Baba Gorakhnath, as well as Kushinagar, associated with Lord Buddha's Mahaparinirvana.

Speaking about infrastructure development, Modi said that unprecedented investment is being made in Bihar's roads, railways, air connectivity, and urban infrastructure.

Amit Shah Inaugurates Bengaluru Campus of Adichunchanagiri University

BENGALURU (PIB): Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah, Friday inaugurated the new Bengaluru campus of Adichunchanagiri University (ACU) in Karnataka, praising the institution's remarkable work in healthcare, education, and spiritual service.

Addressing the gathering, Shah said the Modi government's holistic approach to public health has transformed lives, especially for the poor.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi had once said that illness and medical expenses are the biggest causes of poverty, and committed to making treatment accessible for all. Today, the Government of India provides free healthcare of up to 5 lakh to 60 crore citizens," he said.

In a statement issued to Press Information Bureau, an official spokesperson said the newly inaugurated campus has been developed over 16 acres, with 20 lakh sq ft of built-up space, and houses a 1,000-bed modern hospital. Designed to accommodate 4,000 students, the facility will offer both affordable and free treatment for the underprivileged, alongside high-quality education.

Shah commended Sri Adichunchanagiri Mutt for its grassroots efforts in rural healthcare and schooling. He especially lauded the Mutt's ability to blend spiritual tradition with social service,



calling it a beacon of Sarva Jan Hitaya, Sarva Jan Sukhaya – the well-being and happiness of all. He credited Jagadguru Shri Dr. Balagangadharanatha Swamiji for linking the Mutt's 1,800-year-old spiritual legacy with service, and acknowledged Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Mahaswamiji for carrying that mission forward. "The Mutt has connected poor and middle-class families with spirituality and Karma Yoga through sustained social service," he said.

Minister Bhupender Yadav Chairs Workshop on Human-Wildlife Conflict at Dudhwa

LAKHIMPUR (PIB): Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, on Thursday chaired an Interactive Workshop on Management of Human-Wildlife Conflict at the Dudhwa

Tiger Reserve in Uttar Pradesh. The minister also releases Gharials into Girwa river on the occasion. In a statement issued by Press Information Bureau, an official spokesperson said the workshop was attended by Members of Parliament, Ministers from Government of Uttar Pradesh, Members of Legislative Assembly, officials from Government of India and the State Government. Spokesperson said the topics deliberated during the workshop included the issues being faced due to human wildlife conflict in the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh, along with the steps taken by the Government of

India and the State Government for mitigating the conflict situations. According to the statement, the gathering was also apprised of the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for finding amicable solutions through advanced technologies, including AI for management of human wildlife conflict management and for establishment of a Centre of Excellence at WII-SACON. "In pursuance of this, the Ministry has initiated action for establishment of the Centre of Excellence for human wildlife conflict management," he further stated in the statement issued to Press Information Bureau.

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE NURSERY REGISTRATION OFFICER, KASHMIR DIVISION

LALMANDI SRINAGAR KASHMIR

Tele-01943101200. Email: nro.kashmirdivision@gmail.com
ATTENTION FRUIT PLANTS NURSERY GROWERS

The window for online registration of fruit plant nurseries of Kashmir Division for the year 2025-26 is now open from 25-06-2025 and will be open up to 20-07-2025. The prescribed application forms and necessary instructions shall be available on the official Web site of the Department www.kashmirhorticulture.com. Details of the mandatory documents to be submitted with the application form will also be available on the website. The applications form complete in all respects shall be submitted online within the stipulated time and hard copies, downloaded after completion of online application, shall be received by the concerned Nursery Registration Inspector's of their respective Districts. For convenience of public, contact Numbers of Nursery Registration Inspectors are given here under:

S.No	For District	Contact Number of NRI
1.	Srinagar/Ganderbal	7889901038
2.	Budgam/Pulwama	9596382527
3.	Anantnag/Shopian	7006751709
4.	Kulgam	9682599055
5.	Baramulla	9797237177
6.	Kupwara/Bandipora	8899923178

It is also impressed upon all the concerned that it is unlawful to carry out the business of nursery stock of fruit plants/graft wood or any propagating material of fruit plants, without acquiring the proper license for this purpose from the prescribed authority. Any further query can be had from the office of undersigned as well as the Nursery Registration Inspector's during office hours only.

DIPK-2770/25 Date: 20.06.2025 **Sd/- (R. P. Singh)**
Nursery Registration officer Kashmir Division, Lalmandi Srinagar.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

R&B DIVISION BUDGAM

FRESH NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Single Cover
E-NIT No:-12/DB/2025-26/1708-22 DATED:-20/06/2025.
For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders are invited on an percentage basis (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money CDR/FDR/BG (Rs)	Time of Completion (days)	Class of Contractor	Major Head of account
1.	Madamization of link road at Dharmuna from Masjid Sharief to Lone Mohalla Adil colony	24.50	800.00	49000/-	20 working days	BEE/CEE	C&T

Project Authority: Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B) Central Kashmir
Position of AAA: Accorded
Position of TS: Accorded

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	20/06/2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	20/06/2025
3	Bid submission Start Date	20/06/2025
4	Bid Submission End Date	27/06/2025 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) (Tech. Bids)	28/06/2025 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Budgam

No: 1708-22 Date: 20.06.2025 **Sd/- Executive Engineer**
R&B Division Budgam.
DIPK-2749/25

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir,

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

R&B DIVISION LOLAB

Fresh NIT No.13-Lolab/EEL/941-49 of 2025-26e-tendering DATED:-19-06-2025

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of J&K Union Territory, e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of Completion in days	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
02	DISMANTLING/SHIFTING OF DAMAGED BRIDGE AT KHUMRIYAL (BALANCE PORTION)	6.20	600/-	12,500/-	15 Days	26-06-2025	"C & D & SSI UNIT HOLDERS"	3054 M&R

Position of funds: Demanded
The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

01.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	19-06-2025
02.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 19-06-2025 to 25-06-2025
03.	Bid submission start date	19-06-2025 from (6.00P.M)
04.	Bid submission end date	25-06-2025 upto (6.00P.M)
05.	Date & time of opening Bids (online)	26-06-2025 (10.00A.M) in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Lolab

Terms and Conditions:-

The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopy anywhere found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.

a. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape Treasury Challan (Under Account Head 0059) (Treasury Challan) must be written the Name of Work or NIT No. with Sr. No. of NIT, Name of Contractor in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Lolab (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Lolab (CDR/FDR shall be valid from date between the bid submission start date and the Bid Submission End date) Including date of fresh nit 51.

b. **In case bid of the bidder is unbalanced, the bidder has to upload additional performance security in shape of CDR/FDR as per the breakdown given below as per the table mentioned in bullet point "d" failing which the tender shall be rejected. (The date of CDR/FDR should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date).**

c. The Successful Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% performance security deposit of the total cost. The same shall be released after successful completion of the work. The EMD of 2% successful bidder shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security.

d. **Note:- Contractors who have applied for NIT No. 51-Lolab/EEL/3486-94 of 2024-25e-tendering DATED:-16-01-2025 of the work & submitted CDR/FDR as EMD can use the same for the Fresh NIT No. 55 requested/applied its release. Those who have submitted BQ as EMD must extend it 45 days beyond the Bid validity from the Fresh NIT submission date, failure to do so may result in rejection of the Bid.**

72. All other terms and conditions shall be the same as per detailed and stock issue rates of 2023-24 higher authorities from time to time. circular instructions issued by the

73. **The key construction materials shall have to be arranged by the contractor or his own as per the quality specifications.**

1. Cement = JKOPC Brand
2. Steel of all sorts = SAIL, certified (The seal certificate shall have been produced / deposited in the division by the AEE concerned at the time submission of the work done bills). No extension in quantities/Cost is allowed in any case.
No. EEL/941-49

DIPK-2766/25 Date: 20.06.2025 **Sd/- Executive Engineer**
R&B Division Lolab.

Office of the Chief Engineer

(Distribution) Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Ltd.

Exhibition Ground Jehangir Chowk Opp: J&K High Court, Srinagar-190001

Phone No. 0194-2452001 Fax No. 0194-2484667 E-mail: ce.mre.kash@gmail.com
Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)
NATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT
(Single Stage Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement)
e-NIT No.: CE/D/KPDCL/RDSS/02 of 2025-26 Date: 19.06.2025
Contract Title: "Electrification of Un-Electrified (UE) Households of Budgam District under Dharti Aaba- Janjatiya Gram Utarkash Abhiyan (DA-JGUA)".
For and on behalf of UT of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K); Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPCL) hereby invites online e-bid for the project of "Electrification of Un-Electrified (UE) Households of Budgam District under Dharti Aaba- Janjatiya Gram Utarkash Abhiyan (DA-JGUA)". The details are as under:

Contract Title	Un-Electrified Households (HHs)	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Cr)	Cost of Document (In Rs.)	EMD/ Bid Security (Rs in Cr)	Last date for submission of e-Bid
Electrification of Un-Electrified (UE) Households of Budgam District under Dharti Aaba- Janjatiya Gram Utarkash Abhiyan (DA-JGUA)- On DSITC Basis	200	3.43	4,000.00	0.0686	19.07.2025 upto 1630 Hours

1. The detailed tender document is available on e-procurement portal at <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download & participate in the tender through online bidding process.

Dates & Time
1. All Bids must be accompanied by a Non-Refundable Cost of Documents/Tender Fee of Rs. 4,000.00/- pledged to Chief Accounts Officer (CAO), Distribution, KPCL Payable at Srinagar in the form of Demand Draft (DD) or may be deposited in MH-0801 Power payable through Treasury Receipt (TR)/Challan at treasury office, Srinagar.

A Date & Time of Downloading of Standard Bidding Document (SBD) From 20.06.2025 at 1500 Hours
B Clarifications Start Date From 20.06.2025 at 1505 Hours
C Clarifications End Date 27.06.2025 upto 1600 Hours
D Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting 28.06.2025 at 1100 Hours
E Venue of Pre-Bid Meeting O/o Chief Engineer (Distribution), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPCL), Exhibition Grounds, Jehangir Chowk Opposite High Court, Srinagar (J&K)-190001
F Start Date & Time of Online submission of Bid Documents along with the Scan copy of Cost of Documents/Tender Fee & EMD/ Bid Security 30.06.2025 at 1000 Hours
G End Date & Time of Submission of Bid 19.07.2025 upto 1630 Hours
H Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid 22.07.2025 at 1100 Hours
I Date & Time of Opening of Financial Bid (Only of the Technically Qualified Bidders) Will be communicated After Technical Evaluation (Only to the Technically Qualified Bidders)
J Venue of opening of Technical & Financial Bids O/o Chief Engineer (Distribution), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPCL), Exhibition Grounds, Jehangir Chowk Opposite High Court, Srinagar (J&K)-190001

1. All Bids must be accompanied by an Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)/Bid Security in the form of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee or, pledged to the Chief Accounts Officer (CAO), Distribution, KPCL payable at Srinagar. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money Deposit/Bid Security.

2. The scanned copies of the Demand Draft/TR as Cost of Document/Tender Fee, CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)/Bid Security and Integrity Pact must be enclosed along with the e-Bids.

3. One set of original hard copy of complete technical bid including original copy of cost of document/Tender Fee and EMD/ Bid Security shall be submitted to the O/o Chief Engineer (Distribution), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPCL), Exhibition Grounds, Jehangir Chowk Opposite High Court, Srinagar (J&K)-190001 upto 19.07.2025 1630 Hours.

4. The date and time of opening of financial-bids shall be notified on e-procurement portal i.e. <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>. This will be conveyed to the technically qualified bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The financial-bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same portal at O/o Chief Engineer (Distribution), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPCL), Exhibition Grounds, Jehangir Chowk Opposite High Court, Srinagar (J&K)-190001.

5. The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the above mentioned venue, date and time or any subsequent day to the convenience of the tender opening committee. An authorization letter of bidder's/OEM representative will be required to be produced at the time of Bid Opening.

6. KPCL reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof. The decision of KPCL will be final and binding.

7. In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.

8. All the required documents should be uploaded by the bidder electronically in the PDF format. Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD. However; Price Schedule shall not be submitted in hard copy along with the technical bid. Hard copy of technical bids along with cost of document/Tender Fee and EMD/Bid Security is required to be submitted in original hard copy also.

9. To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' class III (b) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.

No: CE/D/KPDCL/26107-12 Date: 20.06.2025 **Sd/- Chief Engineer**
(Distribution) (KPCL)
DIPK-NB-835/25

Kashmir Convener



Minister Bhupender Yadav
Chairs Workshop on Human-
Wildlife Conflict at Dudhwa

P/02



PM Modi Launches
Development Projects Worth
5,200 Crore in Siwan, Bihar

P/02



Amit Shah Inaugurates
Bengaluru Campus of Adichun-
chanagiri University

P/02

PM Modi To Participate In International Yoga Day In Vizag

KC News Network

AMARAVATI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in a massive International Yoga Day organised by Andhra Pradesh, on Saturday, in a 26-km-long corridor from RK Beach in the port city of Visakhapatnam that stretches up to Bhogapuram, where over 3 lakh people can perform Yoga simultaneously.

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has said the event, scheduled from 6:30 am to 8:00 am, will be organised in such a way to get recognition and set records, including a Guinness World Record.

The Andhra Pradesh government is aiming to set a string of records in Yoga by mobilising several lakh people, not just in Visakhapatnam but by organising simultaneous activities across the state on June 21.

The 11th International Yoga Day, celebrated by several countries across the world, has been themed as 'Yoga for One Earth, One Health'.

"As many as 25,000 tribal students will perform Surya Namaskars for 108



minutes. The objective is to set records for the largest group and the most people performing Surya Namaskars simultaneously," said Naidu.

The government is aiming to organise yoga sessions in one lakh centres across the state and attract five lakh people to participate in yoga activities in Visakhapatnam.

Observing that elaborate arrangements have been made across a 26-km stretch from RK Beach in Vizag to Bhogapuram, the CM said 3.19 lakh people can perform yoga

simultaneously from RK Beach.

Participants from eight lakh locations across the state, country, and the world are expected to join, he said, adding that the estimated two-crore registrations for yoga day activities participation overshoot to 2.39 crores.

In the run-up to the yoga day, the southern state embarked on 'Yogandhra', a month-long campaign to create awareness about yoga with several activities

Practice Yoga for a
healthier lifestyle and
healthier J&K : LG

KC NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his greetings to the people on the occasion of 11th International Yoga Day. In his message, the Lieutenant Governor has said, "Greetings to the people on 11th

>>>SEONP-7

BSF Troops Perform
Yoga On Pontoon
Bridge In Kathua

KC NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: In a unique initiative, the Border Security Force (BSF) troops on Friday performed yoga on a pontoon bridge built over the Ravi river in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, officials said.

>>>SEONP-7

CM Omar inaugurates Public Outreach 'Raabita' Office in Jammu

Vows to address public grievances and strengthen citizen connect



KC News Network

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today inaugurated the Chief Minister's Public Services & Outreach Office, Raabita, at Canal Road, Jammu, aimed at strengthening the government's outreach to citizens and addressing public grievances more efficiently.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Advisor to the CM Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Gulabgarh Er. Khurshid Ahmad, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, and other senior officers during the inauguration ceremony.

Underscoring his government's commitment to inclusive governance, the Chief Minister stated, "It is the endeavour of my government to address

and reach out to the maximum number of people and address their grievances irrespective of whether these are big or small."

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister emphasized the importance of accessible governance. "After the success of Raabita at Srinagar, it was obvious that we shall have a similar facility at Jammu for the public," he remarked.

Emphasizing the need for a citizen-centric administration, Omar Abdullah observed, "It may not always be convenient for a common man to visit the Civil Secretariat and so in that sense this office will serve as an accessible platform."

He assured that "public grievances at Raabita shall be attended to and appropriately addressed in a time-bound manner."

>>>SEONP-7

Rajnath to attend International Yoga Day events in J&K "Operation Sindoor Proof New India is assertive"

KC News Network

UDHAMPUR: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said that Operation Sindoor is proof that New India is assertive, resolute and will no longer be a victim of terrorism.

Singh, who arrived here on a two-day visit on Friday, will attend International Yoga Day events on Saturday, and interact with the armed forces personnel at the Udhampur Cantonment.

"Operation Sindoor is proof that New India is



assertive, resolute and will no longer be a victim of

terrorism. It will respond with strength and strategy," Singh said while interacting with soldiers at the Northern Command headquarters here.

"India will no longer tolerate terrorism and give a befitting reply if its unity and integrity is harmed. Operation Sindoor is not over yet. This is just a pause. I want to tell this to my neighbouring country," he added. India's change in policy towards terrorism is a result of unmatched valour and dedication of the country's soldiers,

>>>SEONP-7

Cabinet would discuss reservation report after legal vetting: CM Omar

"Will not allow use of J&K water for Punjab"

KC News Network

SRINAGAR, : Slamming former Chief Mehbooba Mufti and Peoples Conference president Sajad Gani Lone over their earlier "stances" on the issue of reservation, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said the cabinet would discuss the cabinet sub-committee (CSC) report on rationalization of quota after

it is vetted by the Law Department.

Addressing a news conference in Jammu, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the CM said that the report would be discussed by the cabinet after its examination by the Law department. "Law department has to examine it. You cannot hijack it. It is a legal document.

>>>SEONP-7

LG Himself Admitted His Role Is Limited to L&O: CM Omar



KC News Network

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday reiterated that the constitutional framework leaves no room for ambiguity regarding the powers of the Lieutenant Governor, adding that the LG himself has publicly acknowledged that his responsibilities are confined to law and order.

"I've never claimed the LG has all powers," CM Omar Abdullah told reporters, as per Kashmir News Service (KNS). "The Jammu & Kashmir Reorganization Act is clear — and even the LG has said his role is limited to security and law & order. That's why we're asking that the cabinet-approved business rules be signed and returned by him, so there's no confusion or overlap."

Abdullah stressed that beyond security matters, governance should lie with the elected leadership. "Let the representatives of the people do their job. The cabinet has cleared the business rules, and it's time for them to be formally notified."

Commenting on the newly launched train service that has seen overwhelming public demand, CM Abdullah said, "When I boarded it, I thought if the service wasn't up to the mark, I'd just come back. But now, there's a rush for tickets, and waiting lists have already started. That shows the service is a success."

He urged authorities to take immediate steps to scale the operation.

>>>SEONP-7

Srinagar sizzles, breaks 20 years record again at 35.5 degrees



Owais Gul

SRINAGAR: Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has been witnessing an upward trend in the maximum temperature, breaking the two years old record for the second consecutive day on Friday.

According to the news agency—Kashmir

News Observer (KNO), the station has recorded the hottest day of the season again with the mercury settling at 35.5 degree Celsius.

"Today's temperature has been the highest in the last 20 years. It was the hottest June day today since 25 June 2005 as the mercury settled at 35.5 degrees,

>>>SEONP-7

House Committee on JJM holds review meeting

KC News Network

SRINAGAR: The House Committee, constituted to look into the alleged irregularities in implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), today convened a review meeting at the Legislative Assembly Complex, Srinagar.

Committee Chairman, Hasnain Masoodi, presided over the meeting which was attended by members Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami, Ali Mohammad Dar, Altaf Ahmad Wani, Rajiv Jasrotia, Ranbir Singh Pathania, Tanveer Sadiq, Javid Riyaz (Bedar), Muzaffar Iqbal Khan, Rafiq Ahmad Naik, Arjun Singh Raju and Ifthikar Ahmad.

During the meeting, the Committee held a detailed discussion on various aspects related to implementation of JJM works across the Union Territory. The members reviewed the status of ongoing projects and assessed the overall progress under the scheme. The Chairman stressed the need for close coordination between the Committee members and the concerned officers to ensure that the objectives

>>>SEONP-7

KTMF welcomes Amarnath Yatra pilgrims

Rehan Qayoom Mir

SRINAGAR: The Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation (KTMF) on Friday extended a warm welcome to the pilgrims of the annual Amarnath Yatra, reaffirming Kashmir's age-old tradition of hospitality, communal harmony, and support for spiritual tourism.

Addressing a press conference in Srinagar, KTMF President Mohammad Yaseen Khan according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said the annual pilgrimage holds deep spiritual and cultural significance and is a powerful symbol of the Valley's long-standing

>>>SEONP-7

Politics' Quality Has Degraded: MP Ruhullah

KC News Network

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) Lok Sabha MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi Friday called for radical reforms in politics in Jammu and Kashmir, saying the quality of polity has degraded, and he was not happy with the change.

"I was talking about changing the quality entirely. I am not talking about organisations; It is not about organisations. It is about the quality of the politics, it is about the polity of the state," Mehdi told reporters after an event in Sopore in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

The Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar said the quality of politics has "degraded" and changing political



parties would not make a difference.

"The quality of politics that we have has degraded. It will not make a difference if you change the parties; we have seen people changing parties.

>>>SEONP-7

Hints at new political
front for 'accountable
governance'

'I don't want power, but
politics of conscience'

Waris Fayaz

SOPORE, : Senior National Conference (NC) leader and Member Parliament (MP), Srinagar, Aga Syed Aga Ruhullah on Friday hinted at the formation of a new political front focused on "credibility, accountability and structural reform".

Speaking at a public gathering at Dak Bungalow in Sopore, the

>>>SEONP-7

Army Commander reviews Air Defence Brigade's operational readiness in J&K

KC News Network

SRINAGAR: White Knight Corps Commander, Lieutenant General P K Mishra today conducted a comprehensive review of operational preparedness during his visit to White Knight Air Defence Brigade.

This assessment came in the wake of the brigade's significant involvement in Operation Sindoor, a targeted strike against terrorist camps carried out by the Indian Armed Forces in May 2025, army spokesperson said.

During the visit, the GOC




praised the brigade for its accurate execution and professionalism throughout the operation. He underscored the strategic

importance of the brigade's work in safeguarding India's northern frontiers

>>>SEONP-7

Editorial



Yoga for One Earth

Today, as the sun rises over the serene Dal Lake, Srinagar will resonate with the rhythm of deep breaths and mindful stretches. On the banks of the lake, hundreds will gather at dawn to join the nation and the world in celebrating the 11th International Day of Yoga (IDY).

This year's theme, "Yoga for One Earth, One Health," echoes PM Narendra Modi's vision of global wellness rooted in India's ancient wisdom. Leading the national celebrations from Visakhapatnam, the Prime Minister will perform the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) with over 3 lakh participants, in an unprecedented synchronised event spanning 1 lakh locations and engaging more than 2 crore people. The sheer scale of this mobilisation testifies not only to yoga's universal appeal but also to India's rising leadership in cultural diplomacy and preventive healthcare.

In Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has beautifully captured the essence of the day in his message, calling yoga "a gift of India to the world" and urging all citizens to adopt this practice for a healthier lifestyle and harmonious society. He rightly points out that the decadal celebration of IDY offers a unique moment to reflect on yoga's role in uniting mind and body, community and nature.

In Kashmir, where the spiritual echoes of Shaivism and Sufism once shaped a culture of introspection and mindfulness, yoga finds a natural home. In a place that has faced years of unrest, the quiet discipline of yoga can serve as a gentle but powerful catalyst for healing—within individuals and across communities.

Beyond numbers and ceremonies, the real success of Yoga Day lies in what happens the day after. The challenge is to carry the spirit of yoga into our everyday lives. To remind ourselves that it is not just about asanas or breathing techniques, but about cultivating balance, discipline, empathy, and awareness.

As Kashmir prepares to join the rest of the world in celebration today morning, let us take this moment to commit not just to a healthier body, but also to a kinder mind and a more compassionate world. Let the whisper of the morning breeze in Kashmir be the beginning of a collective inward journey—for one earth, for one health, for all of humanity.

The Solution through Dialogue : A Non-Violent Revolution



Swami Devendra Brahmachari

In a world increasingly torn apart by violence, war, and terrorism—from the devastating conflict between Russia and Ukraine to the escalating tensions in the Middle East between Israel and Iran—humanity finds itself at a critical juncture. The ever-looming threat of nuclear war, coupled with a rising tide of hatred, destruction, and ethical decay, has cast long, dark shadows over the foundational values of life, peace,



“The world stands at a crossroads—torn by war, terrorism, and hatred. In this darkness, Lord Mahavira’s teachings shine as a timeless guide rooted in ahimsa, truth, and compassion. His message is not a relic of the past, but a blueprint for survival.”

and non-violence. The global atmosphere is thick with despair and division, where distrust is becoming the new normal and compassion is in retreat. Amidst this chaos, an urgent question emerges: Who will be the savior of humanity in such troubled times?

It is in these testing moments that the eternal, serene light of Lord Mahavira becomes not only relevant but vital. His life and teachings offer humanity a luminous path forward—one rooted in ahimsa, truth, restraint, and universal harmony. Lord Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara of the Jain tradition, is not merely a revered spiritual figure. He is a timeless guide, a beacon of non-violence and wisdom whose teachings transcend the boundaries of religion, geography, and era. His profound message—“Live and let live”—is not

a passive ideal but a powerful, active philosophy that challenges individuals to recognize the sanctity of all life, to reduce harm, and to cultivate compassion in every thought, word, and deed.

In response to the world’s escalating crises, the Mahavirayatan Foundation has launched a powerful and transformative initiative—‘Samvad se Samadhan’, which means Solutions through Dialogue. This movement is not just an event or a slogan; it is a moral

to confront the most pressing issues of our time—war, terrorism, religious intolerance, moral decline, poverty, and inequality. It demands that we not turn away from these crises, but rather confront them with clarity, courage, and compassion.

At the core of this movement is ahimsa, the principle of non-violence. In Jainism, ahimsa is not limited to refraining from physical violence; it is an all-encompassing way of life that requires mindful

ness in every action, every word, and even every intention. It urges us to see the pain of others as our own, to embrace self-restraint over aggression, and to respond to conflict not with retaliation, but with understanding. Ahimsa, in its truest form, is the ultimate expression of love—a love so expansive that it extends to all living beings, regardless of species, class, or belief.

The philosophy of Jainism teaches that real strength lies not in dominating others, but in mastering the self. It is a path of aparigraha (non-possession), anekantavada (respect for multiple perspectives), and satya (truth). In today’s world—where freedom often substitutes discipline, where instant gratification replaces sacrifice, and where violence is mistakenly glorified as power—these ancient yet urgent values offer a new blueprint for humanity. Jainism does

not propose escapism but calls for responsible living rooted in introspection, compassion, and restraint.

‘Samvad se Samadhan’ is a platform that awakens the dormant moral power within every individual. It calls upon people not just to be spectators of change, but active participants in a transformation that begins within and radiates outward. It teaches that peace is not the absence of war, but the presence of justice, harmony, and understanding. It fosters a sense of interconnectedness where the problems of one are shared by all, and the solutions we create must uplift everyone.

This movement encourages us to build not just informed minds but integrated personalities—human beings who are intelligent yet humble, spiritually anchored yet socially engaged. The world today suffers from fragmented identities and isolated egos, from intellectual arrogance and emotional emptiness. What we need are not just experts, but wise individuals—those who can blend intellect with empathy, strength with gentleness, and progress with morality.

In this time of global crisis, ‘Samvad se Samadhan’ is emerging as a Kalpavriksha, a wish-fulfilling tree that offers shelter to the weary, hope to the hopeless, and strength to the weak. It seeks to unify scattered energies into a force of non-violent resistance against hatred and injustice. This is not just about changing policies or systems—it is about transforming the human heart, one dialogue at a time.

The Jain community, bound by unwavering faith in ahimsa and truth, holds the potential to lead this moral renaissance. But this is not a sectarian endeavor—it is a universal mission. When one voice of truth becomes the voice of millions, it becomes a revolution. Not a revolution of blood, but a revolution of values. A revolution that does not burn cities but ignites hearts. A revolution that does not divide nations but unites humanity.

‘Samvad se Samadhan’ is more than a movement—it is a prayer in action, torchlight in darkness, and a profound affirmation of the human spirit. It is a resurrection of dignity, an embrace of dialogue over destruction, and a commitment to build a future where peace is not a distant dream but a living reality.

As we walk forward on these uncertain roads, let us carry the eternal flame of Mahavira’s teachings in our hearts. With this light, no path will ever be too dark, and no challenge insurmountable. This is our moment to choose—not between war and peace, but between ignorance and awareness, between fear and courage, between death and life. The solution is dialogue. The call is for a non-violent revolution. Let us answer it, together.

PART II

Tradition Isn’t the Opposite of Progress—It’s Its Foundation



SHABEER AHMAD LONE

The philosophical implications of this interplay are profound. It challenges the linear narratives of progress that have dominated modern thought, suggesting instead that the past and present are in constant dialogue. Tradition, far from being a relic of the past, is an active participant in shaping the future. Similarly, modernity is not an endpoint but a process that must continually engage with its roots to remain meaningful.

The interplay of modernity and tradition is a testament to the complexity and resilience of human cultures. It defies simplistic categorizations, offering a rich tapestry of tensions, negotiations, and syntheses. By embracing this complexity, societies can move toward a more inclusive and balanced future, one that honors the wisdom of the past while embracing the possibilities of the present and the future. This ongoing dialogue is not merely a challenge but an opportunity to redefine what it means to be human in a world that is simultaneously ancient and modern.

The interplay of modernity and tradition is a profound, ongoing dynamic that shapes societies, cultures, and individual identities. Nowhere is this interaction more evident and nuanced than in the Indian subcontinent, a region where ancient traditions meet rapid modernization in a vibrant tapestry of continuity and change. Here, millennia-old cultural, religious, and social practices coexist with modern technological advancements, democratic institutions, and global influences, offering a living laboratory for understanding the complex negotiation between the old and the new.

In the subcontinent, tradition serves as the anchor for collective identity, drawing from the deep wells of history, philosophy, and spirituality. Modernity, with its emphasis on reason, individualism, and progress, has disrupted traditional norms but has also opened up new pathways for growth and self-expression. The interaction between these forces has produced a unique synthesis, demonstrating the resilience and adaptability of human societies.

One of the most striking examples of this interplay in the subcontinent is seen in the persistence of joint family systems, even in rapidly urbanizing cities. While modernity encourages nuclear families and individual autonomy, traditional joint families often continue to thrive, adapting to urban lifestyles. In many Indian metropolitan areas, extended families share living

spaces, blending modern work-life schedules with traditional communal values. This balance allows for the preservation of familial bonds and support structures, even as modern professional demands reshape individual roles within the family.

Another significant example is the Indian caste system, agrarian practices in India. While it significantly increased food production, it also disrupted age-old farming methods and ecological balances. Indigenous knowledge of sustainable farming, such as crop rotation and organic composting, is now being revisited and integrated with modern agricultural

traditional religious frameworks can adapt and move beyond to the challenges of modernity while preserving the integrity of essential/fundamentals/principles of Islamic teachings.

The subcontinent’s political landscape further illustrates this interplay. The Indian independence movement was deeply rooted in traditional values of nonviolence and satyagraha, championed by Mahatma Gandhi. However, it also drew on modern ideas of nationalism, democracy, and human rights. Gandhi’s use of khadi (homespun cloth) symbolized a return to traditional self-reliance while rejecting the industrial exploitation of colonial rule. This blend of tradition and modernity became a powerful tool for social and political transformation.

In contemporary times, the adoption of digital technology in rural areas of the subcontinent provides a striking example of how modernity can coexist with tradition. Initiatives like India’s Digital India campaign aim to bring internet connectivity and digital services to remote villages. While these technologies enable modern conveniences, they are also being used to preserve and promote traditional crafts, languages, and knowledge systems. For instance, online platforms have empowered artisans from regions like Kutch in Gujarat and Channapattana in Karnataka to market their traditional handicrafts to global audiences, ensuring economic sustainability and cultural preservation.

Festivals in the subcontinent, such as Diwali, Eid, and Baisakhi, demonstrate a remarkable blending of tradition and modernity. While these celebrations retain their religious and cultural significance, they have also embraced modern elements like electronic decorations, online gifting, and digital invitations. The way these festivals are celebrated today reflects the dynamic adaptation of ancient rituals to contemporary lifestyles, preserving their essence while accommodating the realities of modern living.

At the individual level, this interplay shapes personal identities in profound ways. Urban youth in the subcontinent often navigate a dual identity, participating in global consumer culture while adhering to traditional family expectations. For example, arranged marriages, a hallmark of tradition, have evolved with the advent of matrimonial websites that cater to modern sensibilities while respecting traditional preferences for caste, community, and religion. This hybrid approach exemplifies how tradition can adapt to meet the demands of a changing world.

TO BE CONTINUED...

606 Applications Received Under PM Surya Ghar Scheme in Bandipora

■ DC Qadri Calls for Intensive Outreach, Vendor Coordination to Boost Installations

CONVENER NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA: In order to review the progress under the Prime Minister's flagship Surya Ghar – Muft Bijli Yojana in the district, the Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, today chaired a review meeting at the Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat, Bandipora.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed appraisal of the applications received, installation status, and preparedness for achieving household targets under the scheme. It was informed that 606 applications have been received so far from across the district.



On the occasion, the DC emphasized the need for aggressive awareness generation and directed officers to rope in vendors for conducting door-to-door IEC campaigns in Panchayats and urban wards.

He highlighted the scheme's attractive 60% subsidy, which significantly reduces the upfront cost of solar installations for consumers, especially those with power consumption up to 3 KW.

During the review meeting, the Deputy Commissioner urged coordination between department and bank representatives to facilitate hassle-free loans

for beneficiary contributions, thereby encouraging faster adoption of the scheme.

During the meeting, the DC emphasized the importance of regular and effective monitoring of the scheme's implementation. He directed PDD officials to work in coordination with the district administration to develop robust strategies for smooth execution.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer Bandipora, Mohammed Maqbool Lone; ExEn PDD, Executive Engineers and other Officers of Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL), empanelled vendors, and other concerned stakeholders.

Tulail's HSS Baduaab Hosts First-Ever Science Exposure Programme for Cluster Schools

CONVENER NEWS DESK

TULAIL: Government Higher Secondary School (HSS) Baduaab Tulail Saturday hosted the first-ever Science Exposure programme for cluster schools attached to it.

Principal of the institution Nayeem Ahmad Parray told Kashmir Convener they organised the programme for middle standard students of its cluster schools with an aim to enhance the academic exposure of students from remote areas. He said programme, a first of its kind in this far-flung region, was conducted to uplift the learning standards of students by offering them hands-on exposure to science and technology.



Students from Government Middle Schools (GMS) Husangam and GMS Baduaab 1st were warmly welcomed at HSS Baduaab with garlands by the school's Principal Nayeem Ahmad Parray, and the staff.

During the day-long academic tour, the visiting students explored various state-of-the-art laboratories in the host school, including the Science Lab, Astrophysics Lab, Healthcare Lab, and ICT Lab.

Each laboratory session featured practical demonstrations led by the school's faculty. In the Astrophysics Lab, Principal Nayeem Ahmad Parray engaged students with models of celestial bodies, explaining basic astronomical concepts in an interactive manner.

Senior Lecturer in Botany Javid Iqbal Lone provided a detailed demonstration on the use of compound microscopes. He guided the students in identifying plant cells, offering them their first glimpse into microscopic biology.

In the Mathematics session, Muzaffer Ahmad Pintoo, Senior Lecturer, conducted a practical activity using a model to explain the algebraic identity $(a + b)^2$, making abstract mathematical concepts more tangible and relatable.

The Healthcare Lab witnessed a comprehensive session by Aijaz Ahmad Parray, Vocational Trainer (Healthcare), who educated students on emergency first-aid protocols.

He provided a live demonstration of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and taught students how to measure vital signs such as blood pressure, heart rate, and respiration.

In the ICT Lab, Mir Aadil Hussain, Vocational Trainer (IT), discussed the increasing relevance of information technology in daily life. He introduced students to basic computer operations and screened educational documentaries to further their understanding.

A highlight of the event was an interactive brainstorming session in which Raziya Mushtaq, a 7th-grade student from GMS Husangam, was assigned the role of acting Principal.

She enthusiastically led a question-and-answer round, quizzing her peers on the day's learnings, which added a spirit of fun and engagement to the programme.

Earlier, Mr. G.M. Khan, Senior Master, delivered the welcome address, praising the efforts of teachers from the cluster schools and encouraging collaboration for academic growth.

In his concluding remarks, Principal Parray underlined the vital role of science education in modern life and committed to conducting more such initiatives in the future. He also extended his gratitude to the Director of School Education, Dr. G.N. Itoo, for equipping the institution with ICT and Astrophysics labs.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Javid Iqbal, Vice Principal of the school.

Army Goodwill School Bandipora Shines at Inter-School Martial Arts Competition

CONVENER NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA: Students of Army Goodwill School, Ayatmulla, Bandipora, delivered an outstanding performance at the Inter-School Martial Arts Competition organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Jammu & Kashmir (UT), in collaboration with the District Administration Bandipora.

An official spokesperson said the competition, held at Higher Secondary School Nadihal, featured events in Taekwondo, Wushu, Sqay, and Judo under the Girls Category across the U/14, U/17, and U/19 age groups.

With over 100 participants representing various schools from Zone Bandipora, the event served as a platform for young athletes to demonstrate their skills and sportsmanship under the supervision of officials from the District Youth Services and Sports Office, Bandipora.

Spokesperson said Army Goodwill School Bandipora emerged as a standout performer at the event, securing a total of 10 medals. Seven students from the school have also been selected for the upcoming Zonal Level Competitions, marking a significant achievement for the institution.

Among the medalists, Shahina Hydri, Sumayah Binti Javid, and Mehreen Maharaj from Class 9 and Class 7 respectively, won



gold medals in Taekwondo. In the Wushu category, Mahida (Class 9), Aarizoo Hameed (Class 8), and Mehreen Mehranj (Class 7) also clinched gold, while Aabiroou Jan (Class 10) secured silver. Mehreen Maharaj added another medal to her tally with a silver in Judo. In Sqay, Shahreen Wani (Class 9) and Numair Un Nisa (Class 4) both won gold medals.

The Principal of Army Goodwill School, Gopi Singh Rathor, expressed pride in the achievements of the students, praising their determination and the tireless efforts of the faculty and mentors. "This accomplishment not only reflects the talent of our students but also the consistent encouragement and training provided by our dedicated staff," he said. The school extended congratulations to all participants and wished the selected students continued success at the Zonal Level Competitions.

KVK Bandipora Demonstrates Mechanized Paddy Transplanting to Promote Modern Farming Practices

CONVENER NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Bandipora-1, Friday organized a live demonstration of a mechanized paddy transplanter, drawing participation from scientists,



progressive farmers, and other key stakeholders.

An official spokesperson said the programme aimed to move towards promoting modern and efficient farming methods. The event was held under the JKDST&IC-sponsored project titled "Standardization and Popularization of Mechanized Rice Transplanting in Kashmir Valley".

It was led by Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth,

Director Extension SKUAST-Kashmir and Principal Investigator of the project, who emphasized the transformative potential of mechanized transplanting in enhancing efficiency, reducing labor dependency, and improving yields.

She explained that machine transplanting can help overcome nursery failures and ensure timely transplantation, thereby safeguarding the cropping season.

The demonstration was also attended by Dr. Lal Singh, Professor, Division of Agronomy, SKUAST-K and Co-PI of the project, Dr. Tariq Sultan, Programme Coordinator KVK Bandipora-1, and other scientists. Dr. Sultan highlighted the role of KVK in connecting research with field-level implementation and offered skill development support to local youth in preparing mat nurseries for use with transplanters.

Farmers were given hands-on exposure to the technology, witnessing firsthand the efficiency and precision of the equipment. Many expressed strong interest in adopting mechanized transplanting to modernize their agricultural practices. The initiative marks a significant step toward sustainable and technology-driven farming in the district.

Sainik School Nagrota Cadets Shine at INTACH's "Celebrating India 2024-25"

CONVENER NEWS DESK

Nagrota: Cadets from Sainik School Nagrota have brought accolades to their institution by performing exceptionally well in the prestigious "Celebrating India 2024-25" Painting Competition, organized by the Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) wing of INTACH.

Defence Spokesperson said the event was held on April 9, 2025, at Jodhamal Public School in Jammu, and witnessed the participation of over 200 students from across the region.

Representing Sainik School Nagrota, ten cadets participated in the competition under the guidance of Mr. R.S. Dayal (Art Master) and Ms. Bhanu (TGT Hindi). Among them, Cadet Angel Chaudhary of Class IX and Cadet Vagisha of Class VIII stood out by securing the second position in the Jammu Chapter, winning praise for their creativity, expression, and cultural interpretation through art.

Principal Captain (IN) Shibu Devasia congratulated the winning cadets and commended the dedicated efforts of the accompanying staff members. He highlighted the value of such competitions in shaping young minds into culturally rooted, confident, and responsible citizens ready to serve the nation with distinction.

MLA Sonawari Inaugurates JJM Scheme in Hajin

BHAT ZAHoor

SONAWARI: Member of the Legislative Assembly from Sonawari, Advocate Hilal Akbar Lone, on Thursday flagged off a new water tanker in Sumbal and inaugurated a significant Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) water supply scheme in Chandrageer, Hajin.

The newly commissioned JJM scheme, designed to ensure access to clean drinking water, is set to benefit more than 960 households in the area. The project has been completed at an estimated cost of 750 lakh.

The water tanker, which was also launched during the event, has been funded under the MPLADS of former Member of Parliament Mohammad Akbar Lone. It is expected to ease water scarcity issues and improve supply access, particularly in the far-flung and underserved areas of Sonawari.

MLA Hilal Akbar Lone was accompanied by Chief Engineer PHE, Er. Mohd Tahir Chowdhury, along with the Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineer, and other senior officials from the Public Health Engineering Department.

Meanwhile the residents of Chandrageer and adjoining areas warmly welcomed the initiatives and expressed gratitude for the government's efforts to upgrade the local water infrastructure under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

JKASW Organises Campaign in Hajin to Empower Adolescent Girls

GOWHAR MAQBOOL

HAJIN: Jammu and Kashmir Association of Social Workers (JKASW) on Thursday conducted a one-day awareness programme titled "Every Girl is a Light" at Town Hall Municipal Committee Hajin.

An official spokesperson said the event was specifically designed for adolescent girls between the ages of 10 and 25, addressing critical issues such as harassment, consent, boundaries, and legal awareness. Sessions focused on important legal frameworks including the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) guidelines, and key aspects of cyber safety.

The day-long programme saw enthusiastic participation from community leaders, JKASW field staff, and dozens of young girls from the area. Through interactive sessions, including role-plays based on real-life scenarios, confidence-building exercises, and open discussions, the participants were guided on how to recognize and respond to harassment—be it in schools, public spaces, or digital platforms.

In her inaugural remarks, the Project Manager of JKASW underscored the importance of fostering inner strength and resilience in young girls. "Every girl carries a unique light—of courage, dreams, and potential. Our role is to ensure that nothing dims that light," she said.

The programme also featured creative engagements where the girls designed posters and composed powerful slogans such as "Safe Girls, Bright Future" and "Stop Harassment. Let Girls Shine," further reinforcing the day's themes through artistic expression.

SDM Sumbal Reviews Muharram Arrangements at Religious Sites

BANDIPORA: In view of the upcoming Muharram observances, and on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Sumbal, Murtaza Ahmad conducted an extensive visit to Imambaras and other religious sites across the Sumbal Sub Division. During the visit, the SDM assessed the preparedness regarding sanitation, water and power supply, medical aid, and security arrangements. He interacted with local religious leaders and community representatives to take stock of the arrangements and noted specific requirements for timely redressal. He was accompanied by Naib Tehsildar Sumbal, officials from the Sub Divisional Administration, Police, and other concerned officials.

The SDM assured that all necessary measures will be taken to ensure the smooth and peaceful conduct of Muharram and emphasized the need for interdepartmental coordination to provide seamless support to the devotees.

On the occasion, he reiterated the administration's commitment to creating a safe and respectful environment for religious gatherings and urged the public to uphold communal harmony during the holy days.

NC Holds Massive Workers' Convention at Shahgund Naidkhai

BHAT ZAHoor

BANDIPORA: The National Conference (NC) on Thursday organised a massive workers' convention at Shahgund Naidkhai in Bandipora district, attracting thousands of supporters from



across the area.

The convention was presided over by senior NC leader Jalal Akbar Lone, brother of Sonawari MLA Advocate Hilal Akbar Lone, and witnessed overwhelming participation, underscoring the

party's continued influence at the grassroots level.

In his address to the gathering, Jalal Akbar Lone launched a sharp attack on the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and other rival political groups, accusing them of spreading misinformation about the National Conference's performance in governance. He asserted that contrary to the propaganda, the NC has a proven track record of delivering development and public welfare in Jammu and Kashmir.

"They say the NC has done nothing, but the truth is that the foundations of development across the state were laid by our party," Lone said, adding that the turnout at the convention—even in the absence of elections—was a testament to the people's enduring trust in the NC.

The event was marked by vibrant slogans and speeches, reaffirming the party's strong organisational base in the Sonawari belt and its resolve to counter political narratives that aim to undermine its legacy.

No room for compromise on quality of development works: Dy CM to officers

Convener News Desk

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary today chaired a comprehensive review meeting of the Public Works Department, focusing on the progress on development projects in Jammu Division under NABARD PMGSY, CRIF, Bridges and C&T (Macadamization) schemes.

An official spokesperson said the meeting was apprised of various projects which are at different stages of execution. The concerned officials provided updates on status of projects while highlighting the challenges being faced during implementation of these vital works.

Following a detailed review, the Dy CM directed the officers to expedite the progress on all works ensuring their timely completion, maintaining all prescribed quality standards.

The Dy CM asked the engineers to follow the work completion deadlines so that the vital projects are dedicated to the public in time.

“Instructions have been already given to the executing agencies for strict adherence to the approved plans, ensuring there should be no compromise with the quality of works. Strict action would be initiated in case of any deviation and low quality works”, maintained the Deputy Chief Minister.



While inspecting the ongoing works, the Deputy Chief Minister directed for strict quality monitoring and fast paced execution of the projects. He further directed the concerned engineers to review progress on these projects regularly and blacklist those contractors who are not showing satisfactory performance.

While asking for undertaking developmental works in consonance with the local needs and aspirations, the Deputy Chief Minister said that developmental plans should be formulated in consonance with the demands and convenience of people of the area.

Taking serious notice about substandard work on some of the projects, the Dy CM emphasised that there is no room for compromise with the quality of works.

Regarding delay in work execution caused due to forest clearance issues, the Secretary PWD (R&B) Bhupinder Kumar along with Chief Engineers, Superintendent Engineers, Executive Engineers and senior officials from concerned agencies were present during the meeting.

Later, the Deputy Chief Minister visited Samba to inspect the damaged road on National Highway near Chichi Mata.

Pulwama admin organises awareness & benefit saturation camp at Machama Tral

Convener News Desk

PULWAMA: As part of the ongoing nationwide campaign Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram

with the tribal community, listened to their concerns, and acknowledged the importance of direct engagement in bridging service gaps.

dedicated stalls at the venue to provide on-the-spot services. These stalls offered real-time enrolments, consultations, and awareness regarding various beneficiary-centric schemes, ensuring immediate access to services.

Special health camps were organised by the Health department to offer basic diagnostic services and free medical consultations. Health teams also conducted awareness sessions on water-borne diseases, early detection protocols, and safe drinking practices as part of the preventive healthcare initiative.

Participating departments facilitated enrolments under several flagship schemes including Jal Jeevan Mission (Functional Household Tap Connection), MGNREGA Job Cards, PMAY-G, and PM Ujjwala Yojana among others. Eligible citizens were guided and assisted on-spot to ensure that all entitled beneficiaries receive timely coverage under these government schemes.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Tral highlighted the need to prioritise saturation of all government schemes and welfare initiatives in tribal villages. He directed officials to ensure timely and efficient delivery of entitlements.

A wide range of government departments including Health, Education, Social Welfare, Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Forest, and others had set up

Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), district administration Pulwama today organised a mega awareness and benefit saturation camp at Machama Tral.

The initiative aims to ensure last-mile delivery of essential government services and the saturation of welfare schemes across tribal areas through focused and coordinated outreach. Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Tral, Rafiq Ahmad Naik, and DDC Member Tral, Dr. Harbaksh Singh attended the event. Representatives interacted



Commissioner SMC reviews progress of PMAY-U 2.0

Convener News Desk

SRINAGAR: Commissioner SMC, Faz Lul Haseeb, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting on the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0).

He was joined by Shahbaz Mirza, MD Housing Board/ Mission Director PMAY (Kashmir), and Nuzhat Khurshid, Joint Commissioner (Administration).

The session focused on evaluating current progress and strategizing enhanced delivery of housing benefits to the urban poor and homeless in Srinagar.

Senior officials from SMC and the Revenue department also participated.

Commissioner directed to expedite the beneficiary identification process across all wards, ensuring transparent and inclusive verification supported by accurate documentation.

Emphasizing inter-departmental coordination, Haseeb called for greater community engagement and awareness campaigns to boost scheme outreach.

Departments were instructed to fast-track pending approvals, finalize Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) promptly, and strengthen on-ground monitoring mechanisms.

Special focus was laid on the inclusion of vulnerable groups, including women-headed households.

The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment to accelerate PMAY-U 2.0 implementation, aiming to make Srinagar a model for inclusive and sustainable urban housing development.

CS mandates IT depts for swift revival of unaudited websites

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting to review the safety and restoration of government websites and digital assets.

Addressing senior officials from the IT Department and the National Informatics Centre (NIC), the Chief Secretary underlined the critical urgency of reviving government websites and applications that had been rendered offline due to pending audits and non-compliance with security protocols.

DIPR reported that the Chief Secretary directed the IT Department to expedite the restoration process and submit compliance reports from all departments twice a week – every Monday and Thursday – without fail.

Expressing concern over the extended shutdown of key online platforms, Dulloo made it clear that even security-related suspensions cannot justify the prolonged inaccessibility of public services.

He called for immediate remedial measures and directed the NIC and IT Department to coordinate closely for the revival of all such services.

In a stern directive aimed at strengthening data protection, the Chief Secretary instructed all government officials to use only official email addresses for communication, explicitly banning the use of private email IDs for official work.

He emphasized that the protection of government data and cyber infrastructure is of paramount importance and must remain non-negotiable.

Further, Dulloo called for the swift migration of mini data centers – currently being used around 250 government officers. Singla revealed that around 110 government websites are currently undergoing different stages of security audits, out of which 45 are in the final stage and expected to go live shortly.

On the technical front, it was reported that Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) solutions have been deployed on 4,011 devices, while Unified Endpoint Management (UEM) tools have been installed on 1,617 devices across various departments. These tools are instrumental in ensuring user-level data safety and securing endpoints against cyber threats.

The meeting also reviewed other critical cyber safeguards, including the implementation of Virtual Private Network (VPN) security, geo-fencing protocols, port security configurations, as well as advanced firewall and router security policies aimed at creating a robust defense against potential breaches.

The discussions concluded with a renewed commitment to maintain high standards of cyber security and ensure uninterrupted delivery of government services through secure digital channels.



DC Budgam convenes introductory sectoral meeting with officers of distt admin

Convener News Desk

BUDGAM: After assuming charge as the Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat today chaired an introductory sectoral meeting with all district and sectoral officers to take stock of ongoing developmental works and governance mechanisms across the district.

Besides, ADDC Budgam, ADC Budgam, ACR Budgam, CPO, CEO, CMO, SDMs, Tehsildars, BDOs, Executive Officers of Municipal Committees, and sectoral heads from departments including Rural Development, Health, Education, PDD, PHE, R&B, PMGSY, Irrigation & Flood Control, Social Welfare, Cooperatives, and NRLM were present in the meeting.

In a comprehensive sector-wise review, DC held threadbare discussions on departmental performance, project progress, and implementation status of key government schemes.

He directed all executing agencies to strictly adhere to the set timelines for completion of projects and ensure quality standards are met.

Underscoring the significance of community involvement, DC said that public participation and Jan Bhagidari in both planning and implementation of developmental initiatives is vital for achieving inclusive progress.

He directed that all eligible beneficiaries must receive benefits under government schemes within the stipulated timelines.

Dr Bilal stressed the need for real-time monitoring and regular structural reviews of major infrastructure projects to eliminate delays and bottlenecks.

Emphasizing e-governance, DC directed concerned officers to ensure delivery of all online services within the timeframe specified under the Public Services Guarantee Act.

He further instructed departments to organize special outreach camps to provide doorstep services and raise awareness about various welfare schemes.

DC called upon officers to uphold transparency, accountability, and integrity in their official conduct, emphasizing that public trust is the cornerstone of good governance.

He concluded with a strong message to all officials saying, “My slogan is: Work for the people, in whatever capacity you serve.

Keep your office doors open, be accessible, and spread awareness of government schemes so that prosperity reaches even the last individual in the remotest village of Budgam.”



Commissioner SMC holds review meeting on Capex Budget Estimation for 2025–26

Convener News Desk

SRINAGAR: Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to discuss the Capital Expenditure (Capex) budget estimation for the financial year 2025–26.

During the meeting, the Commissioner emphasized that transparent and well-structured budgeting is essential for driving sustainable urban development and improving public service delivery.

He underscored the importance of cost accuracy, timely approvals, and seamless project execution, aligning infrastructure goals with the broader vision for a resilient and inclusive Srinagar.

Haseeb directed all departments/Wings of SMC to submit detailed and realistic cost estimates in the coming days to facilitate timely execution of projects. He also encouraged teams to explore innovative financing mechanisms and stressed the need for strong monitoring systems to ensure accountability and optimal use of public funds.

Reaffirming the administration's commitment to citizen-centric governance, the Commissioner noted that this review marks an important step toward building a smarter, more efficient, and sustainable Srinagar in the upcoming financial year.



Deputy Commissioner Kulgam Reviews Muharram-ul-Haram arrangements

Convener News Desk

KULGAM: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Friday visited Imam Bara Shahoo where he chaired a joint meeting of officers and representatives of the Imambara to review and finalize the arrangements for the observance of Muharram.

During the meeting, DC issued a series of directions to ensure smooth conduct of religious gatherings during the holy days.

He directed the officers from KPDC and Jal Shakti to ensure uninterrupted power and water supply, particularly in Shia-populated areas of the district.

According to DIPR, Jal Shakti department was asked to keep tanker services available at key Imambaras, while KPDC authorities were instructed to install gensets at designated locations to ensure power backup.

FCS&CA department was directed to ensure adequate availability of essential commodities in Shia-dominated areas, while the Health department was directed to establish first aid camps near major Imam Baras and keep ambulance services on standby to meet any emergency.

R&B department was instructed to undertake necessary repairs of roads and link roads, especially those leading to the Imam Baras, to facilitate smooth movement of mourners.

Further, Municipal Committees were directed to ensure proper sanitation and cleanliness in and around the Imam Baras.

To ensure smooth and hassle-free movement of processions and devotees, ARTO and Traffic authorities were also directed to put in place effective traffic regulations.

Directions were also given for repair and functioning of high-mast and street lights near religious sites to ensure proper illumination and safety.

DC also inspected the facilities available at Imam Bara Shahoo and interacted with members of the community to assess the requirements on the ground.



DC Baramulla stresses inter-departmental coordination for safer roads

Convener News Desk

BARAMULLA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, today chaired a meeting of the District Road Safety Committee to review the implementation of road safety measures and traffic regulations in the district.

During the meeting, DC reviewed various aspects of road safety, including accident response protocols, black spot identification and rectification besides traffic management across the district.

DC directed the concerned departments to ensure immediate repair of the Sopore Bridge, and called for strict monitoring to prevent underage and school children from using two-wheelers.

The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) was instructed to ensure that in case of any road accident, the nearest ambulance should respond without delay to minimize fatalities.

SSP emphasized the need to equip police vehicles with trauma kits to serve as first responders, particularly along the National Highway. DC assured that the administration will facilitate the provision of trauma kits at the earliest.

To ensure road safety awareness, ARTO informed the meeting that regular awareness drives are being conducted and that activities under Road Safety Month will continue to educate the public. Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) and Traffic Police were directed to intensify the publicity of revised traffic penalties and rules to ensure compliance among commuters.

To enhance night-time visibility and reduce accident risk, DC instructed the R&B and BRO departments to install proper traffic signage and reflectors on road dividers. Additionally, Minga Sherpa directed the concerned departments to expedite the installation of street lights along the National Highway and other major roads.

Instructions were also passed for the removal of electric and telecommunication poles posing safety hazards along roadsides.

DC stressed the need for inter-departmental coordination and timely execution of safety measures to safeguard the lives of citizens and improve road conditions across the district.



Muharram preparations inspected at Khomeini Chowk Bemina Srinagar

Convener News Desk

SRINAGAR: In line with the directives of the Commissioner SMC, Faz Lul Haseeb, Joint Commissioner SMC (Adm), Nuzhat Khurshid, today conducted a comprehensive inspection of Muharram arrangements in Khomeini Chowk Bemina.

During the visit, Nuzhat engaged with senior citizens and local representatives to evaluate the preparedness for the upcoming Muharram Ul Haram 2025 observances.

The discussions focused on key civic issues such as repairing damaged manholes around the Imam Bargah, macadamization of lanes, installation of street lights, development of Imam Bargah Park, and ensuring the availability of 24/7 drinking water.

According to DIPR, Immediate directions were issued to enhance sanitation, cleanliness, street lighting, and water supply during Muharram gatherings.

Particular emphasis was placed on the installation, repair, and maintenance of street lights to ensure the safety and well-being of mourners, especially during evening processions.

Srinagar Municipal Corporation reaffirmed its commitment to facilitating a smooth and respectful Muharram observance by working in close coordination with all stakeholders.

SMC remains prepared to provide full support and essential civic services to ensure a peaceful and dignified commemoration of this significant religious occasion.

Continued From P1...

PM Modi

linked to the ancient practice originating from India. As part of 'Yogandhra', 15,000 yoga competitions were held from the village level to state level, 5,451 master trainers have contributed to this effort, and over one crore participants of various yoga programmes were certified, a government release said.

For the smooth conduct of this mega event, 326 compartments with a capacity of 1,000 people each have been readied, along with 3.32 lakh t-shirts and five lakh yoga mats.

Officials have identified and registered over 1.3 lakh places across the state for yoga activities on June 21, while alternative arrangements have also been made for 30,000 people in Vizag.

Even though there is no rain forecast, CM instructed officials to be prepared with alternative arrangements. Recently, the CM personally visited Visakhapatnam to take stock of the preparations. He called on everybody in the state to make Yoga Day a grand success.

Naidu called for proclaiming a declaration on Yoga Day to make yoga a part of everyday life.

Over 3,000 buses are expected to ferry yoga enthusiasts to the venue in Vizag, while the CM said all the participants should reach their respective places between 6 am and 6:30 am on yoga day.

Meanwhile, elaborate security arrangements are being made for the Visakhapatnam event.

"Over 1,200 CCTV cameras and drones will monitor the 26-kilometre stretch where thousands of people will perform yoga, with around 10,000 police personnel deployed for security duties," DGP Harish Kumar Gupta said earlier.

A high-tech police control room has been set up to oversee coordination and ensure foolproof security during the event, which will witness massive public participation.

With Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other key ministers attending, standardised security protocols are being followed at every level, Gupta noted. (ANI)

Practice Yoga

International Day of Yoga Celebrations. This year's International Yoga Day theme, 'Yoga for One Earth, One Health,' underscores Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji's vision of global wellness. Our ancient values always emphasised the well-being of all individuals and encourage holistic approach to health and happiness through Yoga.

The decadal celebration this year is an opportunity for all to celebrate unity of mind, body and promote harmony in the society. Yoga is a gift of India to the world. Let us all practice Yoga for a healthier lifestyle and healthier Jammu Kashmir".

BSF Troops

Scores of BSF troops from Madhopur practiced yoga on the pontoon bridge as a precursor to the International Yoga Day 2025, they said.

The officials said that the session focused on enhancing physical and mental well-being through yoga postures and breathing techniques, promoting a healthy and balanced lifestyle, spokesperson said.

The troops also practiced yoga near the serene Basantar river in Ramgarh sector of Samba to celebrate the International Yoga Day.

The officials said the BSF jawans in Jammu through regular yoga practice are not only enhancing their physical strength and endurance but also becoming mentally robust, balanced and stress-free, thereby further improving their efficiency in serving the nation.

The BSF will hold a mega yoga program at the Octroi Border Out Post (BoP) in R.S. Pura sector of Jammu district on Saturday.

CM Omar

Highlighting the successful implementation of the Public Service Guarantee Act in Jammu and Kashmir and its gradual extension with the inclusion of more services and departments as a major achievement, the Chief Minister expressed his confidence that this new office would further bolster public trust.

The Chief Minister informed that officers and ministerial staff would be posted in the Raabita office to register public grievances both in offline and online mode, ensuring quick disposal and accessibility to this office for all citizens.

After the formal inauguration, the Chief Minister interacted with several delegations as part of the outreach programme.

Notable among them were Arun Gupta, President of the Chamber of Commerce & Industry Jammu; Nirmal Kotwal of the J&K High Court Bar Association; Navy veteran S. Lakhbir Singh; members of the Jewellers Association led by Aditya Manyak Kapoor; Lt. Gen. Rakesh Kumar Sharma (Retd.), President of the J&K Ex-Servicemen League; and the Managing Director of IDPS School, Sunjwan.

Discussions covered a wide range of topics, including issues concerning the Pandit Prem Nath Bhat Memorial Trust, challenges faced by local industries, the jewellers' community, and the welfare of ex-servicemen.

Saurav Pargal, chairman of the J&K Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, also shared his views on the role of chartered accountants in Jammu & Kashmir's development.

Several other individuals and deputations also met the Chief Minister to present their issues and demands.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to each one and assured them that all genuine concerns would be resolved on a priority basis.

The visiting public appreciated the Chief Minister for launching this public outreach programme, stating that the initiative would make it easier for them to flag their issues, grievances and demands. (DIPR)

Rajnath to attend

said the defence minister, who was accompanied by Chief of Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi, GOC-in-Chief, Northern Command, Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, and senior Army officers.

Singh also commended the precision, coordination and courage of the armed forces and intelligence agencies in destroying terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and

Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), asserting that India's change in policy towards terrorism is a result of their unmatched valour and dedication.

Singh described Operation Sindoor as not just a military action but a warning to the terrorists across the border and those who support them.

He defined the life of a soldier as one filled with courage and sacrifice, saying the nation will forever remain indebted to the services rendered by the armed forces in their duty for the motherland.

At a 'Barakhana' – a collective feast organised by the armed forces – held on the eve of International Yoga Day, the defence minister urged the force personnel to keep focusing on physical and mental well-being, underlining the importance of strength and wellness in a soldier's life.

"If you are strong, our borders will be strong. When the borders are strong, India will be strong," Singh said.

A cultural programme was also organised as part of the event. (PTI)

Cabinet would

It needs examination of the Law department," Omar said.

"If my intention was to buy time, I would have granted a six-month extension to the sub-committee. Do you possess any mechanism to compel me to finalize the report within six months? How many committees have finalized their report within six months?" Omar asked.

Omar lashed out at Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti over her stance on the issue of reservation, saying that she made a compromise over it in lieu of votes.

"With what face does the PDP speak about the issue of reservation? When Mehbooba Mufti needed votes, she imposed a ban on her party leaders from speaking on it. Should I show you records of her tweets from her official X handle, where she stated that 'nobody is authorized to speak on the issue of reservation'?" Omar asked.

Omar said that Mehbooba Mufti made a compromise on the issue of reservation in lieu of votes. "Mehbooba Mufti was then fighting elections from Anantnag-Rajouri seat and in pursuit of getting votes from Rajouri and Poonch, she preferred silence over the matter. She not only remained silent but also made a compromise over the issue in lieu of votes," he said.

The CM also came down heavily on Peoples Conference president Sajad Gani Lone over his latest utterances on the issue of reservation, saying that he preferred silence when reservation rules were changed.

"What can I say about Sajad Lone? He was closely aligned to the government when all this happened. Our security was withdrawn and we were evicted from government houses. He was living in a government house. Why did he remain silent on the issue?" Omar asked.

Omar said that he would not permit the use of water from the three western rivers of the Indus system in Jammu & Kashmir for Punjab.

"I will never permit this. Let us use our water for ourselves first. There is a drought-like situation in Jammu—why should I send water to Punjab? Punjab already has water under the Indus Water Treaty. Did they provide us with water when we needed it?" the CM said, when asked about the proposed 113 km-long canal aimed at redirecting surplus water from the three western rivers of the Indus system in J&K to Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan.

The CM said that he is hopeful that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will stand by his commitments on the restoration of J&K's statehood (KNO)

House Committee

of the Mission are met effectively for larger public good.

The members also shared their inputs and called for timely submission of detailed, division-wise reports regarding the schemes under implementation.

The Committee resolved to hold regular review meetings to monitor the pace of work and take timely decisions in line with the Committee's mandate.

Srinagar sizzles,

"Independent Weather Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng said.

Earlier on Thursday, Srinagar recorded 35.2 degree Celsius, surpassing the previous records of two decades.

Moreover, Qazigund, a gateway of Kashmir, recorded a maximum temperature of 34.5 degrees, Pahalgam recorded 30.0 degrees while Kupwara, Kokernag and Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, recorded a day temperature of 34.1 degrees, 33.6 degrees and 25.2 degrees respectively.

Jammu stations, however, continued to record below normal temperature today, the data reveals.

In Jammu, the mercury settled at 36.1 degrees, Banihal recorded 30.6 degrees while Batote, Katra and Baderwah recorded a maximum temperature of 27.8 degrees, 32.0 degrees and 32.6 degrees respectively.

Meanwhile, the weatherman here has predicted intermittent spells of rains, thundershower at many places with intense showers at few places for the next three days.

"There is a possibility of brief spells of rain, thundershower at scattered places in between June 23 and June 24," Director MeT, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said, adding that intermittent spells of light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places between June 25 to June 27.

He added that there is a possibility of intermittent rain and thundershower at scattered places from June 28 to June 30th.

Meanwhile, the MeT in its advisory has stated that there is a possibility of moderate to heavy rain with intense showers at few places mainly in Jammu division during June 21st, June 22nd and June 25th to 27th.

It further reads that flash floods at few places with landslides, mudslides and shooting stones are also expected. (KNO)

LG Himself

"We want more coaches and increased frequency so more citizens can benefit from this positive step."

On the escalating situation between Iran and Israel, CM Omar Abdullah said the administration is closely monitoring the developments and making arrangements

for stranded Indian nationals.

"Some routes are blocked, and ports are shut, but we're moving our citizens to safer cities before bringing them home. We hope to get everyone back safely soon," he said.

Abdullah also noted, "This bombardment should not have started. When the U.S. intelligence chief was asked about Iran's nuclear capacity, he said clearly that Iran is still far from building a bomb."

When asked about the U.S. President hosting the Pakistan Army Chief amidst ongoing regional tensions, CM Abdullah responded:

"The U.S. President can host whomever he wants — we don't dictate their guest list. But it's no secret that America always acts in its own interest and rarely prioritizes the concerns of other nations."

"Of course, we have historic ties with the U.S., and we hope they keep that friendship in mind. But we also understand realpolitik — they do what suits them first," he concluded. (KNS)

Army Commander

while enhancing air defence capabilities in a region known for its sensitivity and complexity.

The White Knight Corps, also referred to as XVI Corps, has its headquarters in Nagrota and has played a pivotal role in India's counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations in Jammu and Kashmir since its establishment in 1972.

The GOC's visit also included an interaction session with ex-servicemen, where he expressed gratitude for their ongoing contributions to the military community. This engagement aligns with the objectives of the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare under the Ministry of Defence, which supports over 2.8 million veterans across India through various schemes touching on healthcare, pensions, and rehabilitation.

Politics' Quality

Until you change the politics, we will continue to see this 'tamasha'. I request the society to stand for the reform and change the entire politics," he said.

"No one is satisfied with the quality of the polity in this state. I am totally not satisfied," he added.

On the absence of NC leaders at the event, he said it was their choice not to.

"I was invited by the organisers, who are part of civil society. Whether any political party comes or not, it was not for a political reason, even if it is my political party.

"If they felt it was not right to attend, they have their own choice, but if someone invites me, I will not ask them whether you have voted or not (for him)," he said.

Mehdi also called for making public the report on the reservation sent by the cabinet sub-committee to the law department.

"It should be made public, discussion should be held on that with the people. If it has been sent to the law department, it should be concluded within a week," he said.

The Shia leader said the Iran-Israel conflict has impacted the free world.

"Not only the Muslim world, but the entire free world, the world which believes in freedom and independence, has been impacted by this war, and they are very concerned. This is a colonial project of the West, at the forefront of which is Israel, the consequences of which Gaza has to bear every day, and sometimes Yemen and Lebanon, and now Iran.

"This colonial project is a danger to peace. The people of Kashmir are also concerned and are watching the response of Iran to the Zionist/terrorist regime, and we hope that this colonial project, an occupational project, ends with Iran's response and peace is established in the whole region," Mehdi said. (KNS)

Hints at new

MP, as reported by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said he doesn't want power, but a "politics of conscience". "I am looking for those people who will walk with me to bring accountability to the system and those who will stand for credibility," he said

Rejecting the idea that his politics is about seeking power or position, Ruhullah said, "If it was about power, the people in Sopore would have known me years ago. Neither do I want a chair nor a position. All I want is change — a change that matters".

"I'm in Parliament by force, from the party side as well. I don't need positions, I don't need chairs. No, not at all", he said, adding, "What Jammu and Kashmir truly needs is not political cosmetics but a comprehensive structural change, one where God, truth, and accountability take precedence over party structures and personal gain."

In a blistering critique of current political culture, the Parliamentarian said, "Party discipline is not important, but being independent and free is more important."

He questioned the blind loyalty many leaders show to political parties, "even at the cost of ethics and truth". "People here fear violating party lines more than they fear God. They are more concerned with safeguarding their own privileges than with doing what is right", he said.

Citing a reference to the Quran, he said, "Where is it written that you can hurt God but not the party? There's a need for deep introspection. Why are we one before elections and completely different after them?"

Ruhullah, during his 50-minute speech, called for a transformation that goes beyond political faces or party labels. "Even if you change parties and leaders, nothing will improve unless the structure itself is changed. What we need is a society where the product is justice, equality, prosperity, divinity and freedom," he said.

He asserted that true reform would require "God-conscious and morally upright" individuals who are unafraid to challenge not just local institutions but also power structures at the Centre, Pakistan or anywhere else.

"Only those with self-consciousness and freedom can truly stand for the people. Otherwise, anyone can bow before any power to serve their own interests," he said.

Wrapping up his speech, the MP made it clear that his mission is not electoral, but transformational. "I envision a political framework where values outweigh vote banks, and where accountability and conscience form the bedrock of public leadership," he said. "For that purpose, if we can make anything, I am always there."

It is noteworthy that the complete absence of the National Conference's Sopore unit has fueled

strong speculation of a possible realignment or breakaway political movement. This has deepened speculation about his growing disconnect from the party establishment.

Responding to this issue, Ruhullah clarified that his presence was purely based on an invitation extended by civil society members, not linked to any political agenda. "If someone invites me, should I ask them whether they've voted or if they are with the party?" he said.

When specifically asked about the absence of NC members, the MP bluntly said, "I don't care". He added, "Even if it were my own party, I wouldn't have forced them to come. It's their own choice." —(KNO)

KTMF welcomes

values of interfaith brotherhood.

"From guiding pilgrims through the mountains to offering food and shelter, Kashmiris have always served as protectors of this sacred journey," Khan said, adding that the Yatra is not just a religious event; it reflects the centuries-old legacy of inclusiveness and hospitality.

"KTMF and the entire Kashmiri business community welcome the Yatra with open arms," Khan said.

Khan also urged the administration to ensure that pilgrims are able to interact freely with the local population. "Security is essential, but it should not isolate the Yatra from its social and cultural surroundings. Pilgrims should be encouraged to walk through our markets, talk to locals and experience the warmth Kashmiris are known for," he added.

He also called for improved facilities, especially for elderly and differently-abled pilgrims, including affordable and frequent helicopter services, medical aid centers, and eco-friendly lodging to safeguard the fragile Himalayan environment.

Highlighting the role of the business community, Khan said KTMF has always played a key role in ensuring the smooth and peaceful conduct of the Yatra. "Our members stand ready to assist in every possible way. Even in difficult times, we have supported pilgrims, and we will continue to do so," he said.

"We appeal to all pilgrims to come without fear or hesitation and experience the real Kashmir, a

land of warmth, culture, and brotherhood," Yaseen Khan, President said—(KNO)

500 Kashmiri students to arrive in Special Flights: JKSA

SRINAGAR, : In view of the escalating war between Iran and Israel, at least one thousand Indian students including 500 learners from Kashmir are likely to board 'three special Mahan' air flights from Mashhad, Iran, to New Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir Students Association (JKSA) in a statement said, "Three special Mahan Air flights are scheduled to bring back around 1,000 Indian students, including 500 Kashmiri students from Mashhad, Iran, to New Delhi tonight and tomorrow." Nasir Khuehami, National Convenor JKSA said, "Three Mahan Air flights will bring Indian students back to New Delhi from Mashhad. A total of 1,000 students will be returning on these special flights." He said, "Despite the closure of airspace, a special exception has been granted for the evacuation of Indian students. Around 500 Kashmiri students are among those returning."

NOTICE

I, Mushtaq Ahmad Mir, S/O Mohammad Saidullah Mir, R/O Konan, Bandipora, hereby inform the general public that I am applying for the transfer of consumer registration of the electricity connection (under the jurisdiction of KPDCI) from the name of my father, Mohammad Saidullah Mir, to my own name, Mushtaq Ahmad Mir, for the said premises at Konan, Bandipora. If anyone has any objection, they may report the same to the office of the KPDCI Division Bandipora within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Office of the Chief Engineer (Distribution) Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Ltd

Exhibition Ground Jehangir Chowk Opp: J&K High Court, Srinagar-190001

Phone No. 0194-2452001 Fax No. 0194-2484667 E-mail: ce.mre.kash@gmail.com

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)

NATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT

(Single Stage Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement)

E-NIT No.: CE/D/KPDCL/RDSS/04 of 2025-26 Date: 19.06.2025

Contract Title: "Electrification of Un-Electrified (UE) Households of Ganderbal, Bandipora & Kupwara District under Dharti Aaba- Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA)".

For and on behalf of UT of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K); Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCI) hereby invites online e-bid for the project of "Electrification of Un-Electrified (UE) Households of Ganderbal, Bandipora & Kupwara District under Dharti Aaba- Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA)". The details are as under:

Contract Title	Un-Electrified Households (HHs)	E/ Cost (Rs. in Cr)	Cost of Doc (In Rs.)	EMD/ Bid Security (Rs in Cr)	Last date for submission of e-Bid Hours
Electrification of Un-Electrified (UE) Households of Ganderbal, Bandipora & Kupwara District under Dharti Aaba- Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA)-On DSITC Basis	63 Nos.	1.04	3,000.00	0.0208	19.07.2025 upto 1630 Hours

1. The detailed tender document is available on e-procurement portal at <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download & participate in the tender through online bidding process. Dates & Time

A	Date & Time of Downloading of Standard Bidding Document (SBD)	From 20.06.2025 at 1500 Hours
B	Clarifications Start Date	From 20.06.2025 at 1505 Hours
C	Clarifications End Date	27.06.2025 upto 1600 Hours
D	Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting	28.06.2025 at 1100 Hours
E	Venue of Pre-Bid Meeting	O/o Chief Engineer (Distribution), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCI), Exhibition Grounds, Jehangir Chowk Opposite High Court, Srinagar (J&K)-190001
F	Start Date & Time of Online submission of Bid Documents along with the Scan copy of Cost of Documents/Tender Fee & EMD/ Bid Security	30.06.2025 at 1000 Hours
G	End Date & Time of Submission of Bid	19.07.2025 upto 1630 Hours
H	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid	22.07.2025 at 1100 Hours
I	Date & Time of Opening of Financial Bid (Only of the Technically Qualified Bidders)	Will be communicated After Technical Evaluation (Only to the Technically Qualified Bidders)
J	Venue of opening of Technical & Financial Bids	O/o Chief Engineer (Distribution), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCI), Exhibition Grounds, Jehangir Chowk Opposite High Court, Srinagar (J&K)-190001

2. All Bids must be accompanied by a Non-Refundable Cost of Documents/Tender Fee of Rs. 3,000.00/- pledged to Chief Accounts Officer (CAO), Distribution, KPDCI Payable at Srinagar in the form of Demand Draft (DD) or may be deposited in MH-0801 Power payable through Treasury Receipt (TR)/Challan at treasury office, Srinagar.

3. All Bids must be accompanied by an Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)/Bid Security in the form of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee only, pledged to the Chief Accounts Officer (CAO), Distribution, KPDCI payable at Srinagar. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money Deposit/Bid Security.

4. The scanned copies of the Demand Draft/TR as Cost of Document/Tender Fee, CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)/Bid Security and Integrity Pact must be enclosed along with the e-Bids.

5. One set of original hard copy of complete technical bid including original copy of cost of document/Tender Fee and EMD/Bid Security shall be submitted to the O/o Chief Engineer (Distribution), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCI), Exhibition Grounds, Jehangir Chowk Opposite High Court, Srinagar (J&K)-190001 upto 19.07.2025 1630 Hours.

6. The date and time of opening of financial-bids shall be notified on e-procurement portal i.e <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>. This will be conveyed to the technically qualified bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The financial-bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same portal at O/o Chief Engineer (Distribution), Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCI), Exhibition Grounds, Jehangir Chowk Opposite High Court, Srinagar (J&K)-190001.

7. The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the above mentioned venue, date and time or any subsequent day to the convenience of the tender opening committee. An authorization letter of bidder's/OEM representative will be required to be produced at the time of Bid Opening.

8. KPDCI reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof. The decision of KPDCI will be final and binding.

9. In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.

10. All the required documents should be uploaded by the bidder electronically in the PDF format. Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD. However, Price Schedule shall not be submitted in hard copy along with the technical bid. Hard copy of technical bids along with cost of document/Tender Fee and EMD/Bid Security is required to be submitted in original hard copy also.

11. To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' class III (b) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.

No: CE/D/KPDCL/26122-31

Date:20.06.2025

DIPK-NB-845/25

Sd/-Chief Engineer (Distribution)(KPDCI)

Marnus Labuschagne Dropped, Steven Smith Ruled Out Of First West Indies Test



Marnus Labuschagne has been dropped for the first Test against West Indies and Steven Smith ruled out through injury with Sam Konstas and Josh Inglis named as their replacements. The two changes were confirmed five days before the opening Test in Barbados on June 25, meaning Australia will have a significantly different batting line-up to the World Test Championship final against South Africa. Konstas will earn his third cap having not featured since the two outings against India which began with his 60 off 65 balls on debut at the MCG. Inglis scored a century on his Test debut against Sri Lanka in Galle earlier this year.



Steve needs more time for the wound to heal so we'll give him another week's rest and assess his functionality after that," Bailey said. "We have made the decision to give Josh and Sam the opportunity to replace Steve and Marnus. We are excited to see them get the chance to further their fledgling Test careers."

Labuschagne had been moved to up to open in the WTC final, with the selectors opting for a last show of faith, but came away with scores of 17 and 22 to continue

a two-year lean run in Test cricket. "Marnus at his best can be a really important member of this team," chair of selectors George Bailey said. "He understands his output hasn't been at the level we, or he, expects. We will continue working with him on the areas of his game we feel he needs to rediscover. We continue to value his skill and expect him to work through the challenge positively." Smith, meanwhile, suffered a compound dislocation to the little finger on his right hand when dropping a chance offered by Temba Bavuma on the third day at Lord's. He avoided surgery but has to wear a splint for eight weeks. However, there is hope he will be able to play later in the West Indies series. "Steve needs more time for the wound to heal so we'll give him another week's rest and assess his functionality after that," Bailey said. "We have made the decision to give Josh and Sam the opportunity to replace Steve and Marnus. We are excited to see them get the chance to further their fledgling Test careers." "In his only opportunity in Test cricket to date, Josh was outstanding in Sri Lanka, showing great intent and ability to put pressure on the opposition." The final XI and the batting order will be confirmed closer to the Test, although Konstas will likely open with Usman Khawaja. Depending on conditions there is a chance Australia could go opt for two frontline spinners with Matt Kuhnemann partnering Nathan Lyon.


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