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**ISTH** PUBLICATION HEADLINES

# **We Stand Committed for Timely Resolution** of Public Grievances : CM Omar Abdullah

Holds public darbar at Gbl, Inaugurates Akhal Bridge at Kangan

## HT News Network

GANDERBAL, FEBRUARY 22: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today convened a public darbar at Dak Bungalow, Ganderbal, where he directly interacted with numerous delegations and individuals from across the district to address their day to day issues and other concerns relating to development of the area.

During the public meeing, the Chief Minister patiently listened to the issues and demands raised by the public, issuing on-the-spot directions to concerned authorities for prompt resolution.

He urged the district administration to prioritize the redressal of public grievances, ensuring that people are not deprived of basic necessities. Reaffirming his commitment to the welfare and socioeconomic development of Ganderbal, the Chief Minister pledged continuous support and timely action to address the concerns



raised by the residents. Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore, along with other senior officials of the district administration, were present to take note of the issues highlighted by the delegations.

Public delegations and hundreds of individuals from various areas like Beehama, Duderhama, Fatehpora, Shalabugh, Sehpora, Bamloora, Tulmulla, Barosa, Theeru, Gangerhama, Sherpathri, Lar, Safapora, TURN ON.....PAGE 02

# **Budget session of J&K Legislative Assembly**

**KVIB Srinagar organizes** awareness camp at ITI

Srinagar

Speaker calls all-party meeting on Feb 27; Leaders of NC, BJP, Cong, PDP, PC invited

## HT News Network

www.dailyheadlinestoday.com

Srinagar, Ahead of the budget session, the Speaker of Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly has called an allparty meeting on February 27 to ensure smooth functioning of the 43-day long session beginning on March 03.

Sources told news agency that Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather has invited two leaders each from the ruling National Conference and main opposition party Bharatiya Janta Party and one leader each from Congress, Peoples Democratic Party, Peoples Conference and CPI (M) to attend the meeting to be chaired by him on Thursday at 1 1.00 AM in his office chamber at Jammu.

They disclosed that independent MLA Muzaffar Iqbal Khan



has also been invited.

"We have ensured representation to all recognized and registered parties having members in the House," an official said.

According to sources, Ali Mohammad Sagar (NC), Mubarik Gul (NC), Sunil Kumar Sharma (BJP), Surjeet Singh Slathia (BJP), Ghulam Ahmed Mir (Congress), Sajad Gani Lone (Peoples Conference), Muhammad Yousouf Tarigami (CPI-M), Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra

(PDP) and Muzaffar Iqbal Khan (independent) have been invited. The 43- day-long session

**DC Kupwara Flags off** 

mass awareness

'Poshan on Wheels' rally for

beginning from March 3 is expected to be stormy with opposition parties set to corner the government on a host of issues

While BJP will corner the government on issues of governance and commitments made by the ruling NC in its manifesto, Kashmir-based opposition parties like PDP and PC are likely to raise issues of Article 370, alcohol ban and other issues.

It is pertinent to mention that Peoples Conference president Sajad Gani Lone has submitted a resolution seeking condemnation of the August 5, 2019 decisions in the strongest

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

## **NEWS BRIEF**

Army jawan injured in landmine explosion on LoC in Poonch

## HT News Network/UNI

Jammu, Feb 22 (UNI) An army jawan sustained injuries in a landmine explosion on Saturday along the Line of Control in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.Official sources said that army soldiers during routine patrolling along the Line of Control (LoC) inadvertently stepped over a landmine that triggered the explosion."One soldier suffered injuries and was immediately evacuated. He was airlifted to

the Command **TURN ON.....PAGE 02** 

## **Noted Kashmiri Journalist** Naseer Ahmad Dies, Ex-CM, **Director DIPR, Others Condole Demise**

## HT News Network

Jammu, Feb 22,: Senior Kashmiri journalist and former Bureau Chief of Zee News in Srinagar, Naseer Ahmad, passed away earlier today, leaving the media fraternity in mourning. According to the Associ

ated News Bureau, a resident of Bemina, Srinagar, Naseer, was around 60 years old and had been battling liver

## TURN ON.....PAGE 02

## 'Amid power paucity

# Seizure of signboard asking tourists to avoid alcohol draws criticism

## HT News Network/UNI

Srinagar, Feb 22 (UNI) The alleged seizure of a signboard installed by the Traders Association in Srinagar's Lal Chowk, urging tourists to refrain from alcohol, has sparked strong criticism from political leaders on Saturday.Srinagar Lok Sabha MP and National Conference leader Ruhullah Mehdi questioned Jammu and Kashmir Police, asking TURN ON.....PAGE 02

## **Tral's Aripal Spring runs dry** despite recent rains



Strange and unfortunate that signboard asking tourists to avoid alcohol seized: Mirwaiz

## HT News Network/UNI

Srinagar, Feb 21 (UNI) Kashmir's chief cleric and Hurriyat Chief Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Saturday TURN ON.....PAGE 02

'Purple Revolution' integrated J&K into India's growing startup ecosystem: Dr Jitendra Singh

P|03

## Free books, hijab distribution campaign applauded at Rajbagh

## HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 22: A free books and hijab distribution campaign at Zero Bridge in Rajbagh area on Saturday garnered widespread appreciation from locals and pediatricians alike.

The initiative aimed to spread awareness about religion and promote peace in society, while books included 'Islamic and other books."

Speaking to the news agency—, one of the organizers, who named himself as Wasif present at the stall said the campaign was set up to educate people about social awareness, bring them closer to their religion and TURN ON.....PAGE 02

**Police register first**ever e-FIR in Handwara

### HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 22: In a groundbreaking move towards digital policing, Police Station Vilgam in Handwara has registered its first electronic First Information Report (e-FIR) following a complaint lodged via WhatsApp.

The complaint was filed by Intiyaz Ahmad Dar, son of Mohd Assadullah Dar, a resident of Hanjipora, Kupwara, the driver of SRTC bus No. JK01Y-1121, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency–According to the complaint, the incident occurred earlier today while Imtiyaz was traveling from Tarathpora to Srinagar. He alleged that upon reaching Vilgam, he was wrongfully restrained and physically assaulted by two individuals namely Ashiq Hussain Bhat and Gowher Ahmad Bhat, sons of Samad Bhat residents of Shehnipora, Vilgam.

The accused reportedly caused him physical TURN ON ..... PAGE 02

apprehensions, Govt keeps backup plan to tackle situation'

## HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 22): Amid apprehension of power shortfall in the months to come in view of less snowfall and water level, Power Development Department (PDD) Saturday said that it has TURN ON ..... PAGE 02

Officials warn of worsening crisis if spring fails to rejuvenate soon

## HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 22: Despite recent rainfall, the water level in Aripal Spring-on which nearly six water supply schemes depend-continues to remain dry, worsening the water crisis in the TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Srinagar Feb 22:-Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and MoS PMO, Dr. Jitendra Singh, on Saturday, said that the 'Purple Revolution' integrated Jammu and Kashmir into India's growing startup ecosystem.Speaking on the sidelines of the National Startup Festival here Dr. Singh, accord-ing to the news agency—said, "The cultivation of lavender in **TURN ON.....PAGE 02** 



## J&K experiences significant rise in day and night temps over past 24 hrs

## HT News Network/UNI

Srinagar, Feb 22 (UNI) Jammu and Kashmir experienced a significant rise in day and night temperatures over the past 24 hours, with dry weather conditions prevailing across the Union Territory. According to the



## SC allows Yasin Malik to appear virtually in IAF personnel killing case

## HT News Network/UNI

New Delhi, Feb 22 (UNI) The Supreme Court has permitted separatist leader Yasin Malik to appear virtually in a case concerning the 1990 killing of four Indian Air Force (IAF) personnel, overturning a lower court's directive for his physical production.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had challenged the Jammu court's order requiring Malik to be physically present for witness examination. Malik, currently serving a sentence in Tihar Jail following his conviction in a terror funding case, had resisted appearing via video conferencing (VC).



A Bench of Justice Abhay S. Oka and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan heard the matter, with Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta representing the CBI. Mehta informed the Court that the third Additional TURN ON ..... PAGE 02

## GONGUL; Mega AgriTech 2025 Inaugurated by Javaid Ahmad Dar at SKUAST-K

### **HT News Network**

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 22: Minister for Agriculture Production and Rural Development Department, Javed Ahmed Dar, today inaugurated GONGUL 2025, the 10th SKUAST-K AgriTech mela, a three-day mega event showcasing cutting-edge agricultural innovations, sustainable farming practices and entrepreneurial opportunities in the agriculture sector at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Shalimar campus.

This year's mela is special as it emphasises secondary and sustainable agriculture, reflecting the objectives of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). With a greater focus on value addition, climate resilience and agri-entrepreneurship, the event brings together policymakers, industry leaders and farmers to shape the future of agriculture in J&K.

The mela has more valley. He emphasised the



than 400 stalls exhibiting the latest farm machinery, precision agriculture, sale of seeds and planting material besides farm animals and birds. The mela for the first time organised a pet animal show in which pet dogs and cats displayed their training skills. Besides, the event is also featuring

the majestic horses. The Minister lauded SKUAST-K for choosing 'Gongul' as the name for AgriTech mela, which connects the next generation with rich Kashmiri culture. He narrated the childhood activities linked with Gongul (onset of sowing) in Kashmir and evolution of tech-driven farming in the

need for preserving the Kashmiri culture, known globally for its cuisine, literature, architecture and rich traditions. While hailing the HADP,

he said the initiative is going to change the fortunes of the people of J&K.

The Minister assured full support of the J&K Government to SKUAST-K in leading the transformation of agriculture landscape of the region. He also ensured strict law enforcement for checking the trade of spurious agrochemicals.

Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, said the Gongul-2025 reflects the achievements and aspirations

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Gutlibagh, and other parts of the district submitted their demands before the Chief Minister.

Key demands raised included the establishment of fire service stations at prominent locations, development of playgrounds, augmentation of irrigation facilities, construction of an attendant sarai at the district hospital, road widening, promotion of horticulture and agriculture activities, beautification along River Sindh, reinforcement of the nallah bank from the Jhelum side, and dredging and desilting of Duderhama Nallah.

Additionally, the public sought the creation of employment opportunities within the district. Responding to these issues, the Chief Minister, who represents the Ganderbal constituency in the J&K Legislative Assembly gave instructions to the Deputy Commissioner and senior officials to ensure that all genuine concerns are addressed without delay.

He assured the public that the highlighted issues would be thoroughly examined and resolved within a stipulated timeframe. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday inaugurated the 82-meter-long Akhal Bridge over River Sind in the Kangan area of Ganderbal district.

The bridge, constructed at a cost of 8 crore by the Public Works (Roads and Buildings) Department, connects several villages in Kunmul-Akhal and adjoining areas.

Addressing the public on the occasion, the Chief Minister stated that the Akhal Bridge is expected to significantly improve transportation, stimulate economic activity in the area and enhance the quality of life for thousands of residents in the district.

He expressed confidence that the bridge would serve as a vital link, promoting development and bringing much-needed relief to the local population.

The Chief Minister emphasized that the bridge marks the resolution of long-standing connectivity issues in the area. Local public representatives and residents expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister for addressing their long-standing demand, which will now provide greater convenience and accessibility. MLA Kangan Mian Mehar Ali, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, DDC member Kangan, ChiefEngineer R&B, and other senior civil and police officers were present on the occasion.

## **SPEAKER**

terms and restoration of Article 370. PDP MLA Mir Muhammad Fayaz has submitted a bill seeking ban on sale and consumption of liquor in J&K–(KNO)

## AGA

"Will the police clarify which law was violated by the signboard.'

their society and saving the environment.

#### MIRWAIZ

said it is strange and unfortunate that signboard put up by the Traders Association in Srinagar's Lal Chowk, which asked tourists to avoid alcohol, has been seized by authorities

Mirwaiz guestioned the removal of the signboard which was promoting moral values.

"Why was this signboard seized? What exactly is wrong with urging tourists to respect local culture, avoid alcohol and use of drugs, and keep the city clean? Shopkeepers of Lal Chowk informed me about this. Is promoting moral values and decency now a crime in Kashmir ?," the chief cleric said in a post on X.

On Friday, Traders' Association in Srinagar's Lal Chowk put up signboards asking tourists to avoid drinking liquor.

"Respect our culture and traditions. Stay blessed and enjoy time in our enchanting city. Avoid liquor, drugs, spitting on roads and smoking," the signboards read.

Earlier, Mirwaiz had commended the initiative of traders in putting up the signboard.

"Such civic initiatives are the need of the hour and should be emulated by others, especially those associated with the Hotel and tourism industry as these are the places that provide an excuse for the promulgation of these vices," the Hurriyat Chief said, adding that people have to actively participate in preserving the moral and cultural ethos of their society and saving the environment.

## TRAL

region.According to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Aripal Spring has remained dry for nearly three months, causing severe difficulties for the local population

Officials from PHE Tral told KNO that the depletion of the spring began in December last year, and despite recent rainfall, the water level has not improved even by 5 per cent.

The drying up of this key water source has led to a severe water shortage in many areas of Tral.

An official from the Jal Shakti Department said the situation remains critical. He said the residents have been facing water scarcity for the past three months.

Tanker services have been deployed, but they can only meet about 10 per cent of the demand," the official said. "The situation is extremely concerning as the recent rains have failed to restore the water source for six water supply schemes."

He added that every effort is being made to supply water through tankers, but the demand far exceeds availability.

"We were hopeful that the water flow in the spring would be restored by February 18, but that hasn't happened for unknown reasons," he said. "If the situation persists for a few more days, we could be facing an even tougher crisis."-(KNO)

contingency plan to tackle the situation. Besides, the officials of PDD said that more Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) need to enter in the years to come.

A top official of PDD informed the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), "More PPA needs to enter in the years to come to meet the growing demand.'

"We are making a prospective plan before entering a new PPA in accordance with the estimated power demands," the official said.

The official further said, "PPAs are to be taken a year or two before so that the plan is prepared in advance.'

On asking about the apprehensions of power generation shortfall in view of less snowfall and low water level, the official said, "The government always takes backup measures to meet the power demand."

"In case if there is a shortfall of power generation in peak time in view of low water level, the government always plans some sort of measures to tackle it," the official said.

Pertinently, KNO earlier this week reported that in the past one month, the hydel power generation from the power plants across Jammu and Kashmir has further reduced by five percent owing to the less snowfall and low water levels.

Overall, the hydro power generation from the local plants in Jammu and Kashmir has reduced by 84.17 percent.

In the month of January, the Power Development Department (PDD) was generating nearly 250 Megawatts of power from the local hydel projects that amounts to 20 percent of the total generation capacity. However, in the ongoing month, the power generation has further reduced by five percent.

"However, the power generation has further decreased with the officials saying that the department was able to generate only 190 MWs of power in the ongoing month," the official said.

Besides, the authorities have said that Jammu and Kashmir may face 29 percent of 'forced load shedding' of annual power in the year 2034-35.

Besides, it has further projected that in the coming ten years, the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of power demand is likely to increase by more than four percent in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh–(KNO)

### **DR SINGH**

Bhaderwah, Doda district was instrumental in transforming the region's economic landscape."

Citing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's endorsement of the initiative (Purple Revolution) in his 'Mann Ki Baat' address, Dr Singh stated that it has set a benchmark for agristartups. "The revolution that began in Bhaderwah has enabled Jammu and Kashmir to enter India's startup movement, paving the way for states like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Arunachal Pradesh to follow the suit." he said.

He said that the Republic Day tableau of 2024 showcased the 'Purple Revolution' at Kartavya Path in New Delhi, reflecting its national significance. "As of today, nearly 3,000 youth are earning their livelihood through lavender farming, with many leaving corporate jobs to join the startup movement in India," he added. Dr. Singh credited Prime Minister Modi's 'Startup India, Stand up India' initiative, launched from the Red Fort, for propelling India into the league of global startup hubs. "In the past decade, India has grown from having only a handful of startups to approximately 1.75 lakh today, making it the thirdlargest startup ecosystem in the world," he said.

predicted mainly dry conditions for the next 24 hours, with no major changes expected in the coming two days.

However, from February 25, isolated spells of heavy rain and snow for the next three days could disrupt surface traffic in parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Three days ago, the Kashmir Valley experienced much-needed rainfall in the plains, while the higher reaches recorded fresh snowfall after an extended dry spell.

However, despite this brief spell of precipitation, experts warn that Jammu and Kashmir is on the brink of a severe water crisis due to a persistent and alarming precipitation deficit. The region has recorded an over 80% shortfall in precipitation, raising serious concerns about water availability in the coming months.

Taking a note of the looming water scarcity, J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah recently called for a more proactive approach and collective efforts towards water management and conservation.

## SC

Sessions Judge in Jammu has an operational VC setup, making a virtual hearing feasible

The Court inquired whether Malik had legal representation, to which Mehta responded that Malik had refused legal aid and chosen to represent himself.

Justice Oka observed, "Now that this facility is in place, we can order cross-examination through VC.'

Directing Malik to be informed of the order, the Supreme Court instructed the Tihar Jail Superintendent to ensure his virtual appearance on March 7. It emphasized that Tihar Jail has comprehensive facilities for VC proceedings. Mehta assured the Court that all necessary arrangements had been made, stating, "We have a separate courtroom where judges and lawyers can sit."

During an earlier hearing on January 20, the Supreme Court stressed the need for an effective VC system for cross-examination. It directed the Registrar General of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court to assess and upgrade the system.

"We have perused the judge's observations. At two places, he recorded that the video conferencing system in his court is not functioning properly. We direct the Registrar General of the J&K High Court to take immediate steps to install a proper system for video hearings and cross-examination," the Court had ordered.

The Registrar General was instructed to submit a report on the system's improvements by February 17, with the matter scheduled for hearing on February 21.

On November 28, 2024, the Solicitor General informed the Court that a well-equipped VC-enabled courtroom already exists within Tihar Jail, where previous judicial proceedings have been conducted.

The CBI has filed two additional applications

empowerment of farmers.

Chairman, Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru, Ashok Dalwai, said [&K has a crucial role to play in accomplishing the country's targets set under Vision 2047. He said it is important to educate rest of the country about J&K's agri-transformation journey under HADP.

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This year's edition is structured around several key subthemes, each offering unique insights into different aspects of modern and sustainable agriculture. The Brand Bizz Fest facilitated networking between MNCs, FPOs, SHGs and industry leaders, while the Food Fest celebrated diverse cuisines crafted by student startups and local food entrepreneurs. The Startup and Tech Show highlighted groundbreaking agricultural innovations and the Industry Exhibition showcases cuttingedge machinery and advanced farming technologies.

## LOC

Hospital Udhampur," they said.

### FREE

encourage harmony.

He said they have set up two stalls for males and females alike, and their aim is to make people aware of the importance of reconnecting with their religion and refraining from spreading nudity and vulgarity, either on social media or elsewhere.

A female representative at the stall said the importance of this campaign lies in guiding the younger generation. "We have kept religious books in multiple translations, including Hindi, English, and Arabic, so that people can understand Islam better," she said, adding that the initiative also seeks to discourage vulgarity and inappropriate behavior in public spaces and on social media. "We have also kept other books for those who understand languages like English, Hindi, and oth-

Additionally, locals and pediatricians praised the campaign, calling it a step toward instilling moral values and raising awareness about religious teachings. "Such initiatives help shape a better society and guide the youth in the right direction," a pediatrician said.

Muneer, a student who was walking on the bridge, reacted by saying, "This initiative is really inspiring, especially for young people like us. It not only helps us understand the teachings of Islam but also encourages us to stay connected with our faith in a meaningful way. The availability of books in different languages makes it accessible to everyone," he said.

Tahoor, a local resident from Rajbagh, said, "It is refreshing to see such events being organized in the heart of Srinagar. In today's fast-paced world, people often forget the essence of their faith. Initiatives like this serve as a reminder of our roots and promote a message of peace and understanding within the community," he said-(KNO)

"Even appealing to tourists to respect local sensitivities is now illegal in Kashmir. Will@ ImuKmrPolice clarify which law was violated by the signboard? Or is the only law in place the one that silences Kashmiris?" MP Mehdi said in a post on X."The colonial LG administration in cahoots with the security forces, has turned Kashmir into a Orwellian nightmare-where people can't protest, safeguard their identity, or even speak for their culture," he added.

"Suppression breeds resentment. The more you push Kashmiris to the wall, the stronger their will to break it down," he said, emphasizing that Kashmiris have the right to protect their culture and faith like any other society.

'@ImuKmrPolice is advised to not work like a colonial power but work and behave as local police guided by law and respectful to the community and its sensitivities," Mehdi said.

Kashmir's Chief Cleric and Hurriyat Chief Mirwaiz Umar Farooq said it is strange and unfortunate that a signboard put up by the Traders Association has been seized by authorities.

He questioned the removal of the signboard which was promoting moral values.

"Why was this signboard seized? What exactly is wrong with urging tourists to respect local culture, avoid alcohol and use of drugs, and keep the city clean? Shopkeepers of Lal Chowk informed me about this. Is promoting moral values and decency now a crime in Kashmir ?," the Chief Cleric said in a post on X.

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## NASEER AHMAD

cancer for the past several years.

Despite his declining health, he remained connected to journalism, contributing to news platforms even after stepping away from full-time reporting.

Naseer Ahmad was a well-respected journalist who covered key developments in Kashmir.

Naseer Ahmad is survived by his wife and two daughters.

The former chief minister of Jammu Kashmir, Mehbooba Mufti condoled the demise. She took to her X handle stating, "Deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Naseer Ahmad, the senior journalist and former Bureau Chief of Zee News. His invaluable contributions to journalism will always be remembered."

May Allah grant him the highest place in Jannah and provide strength to his family and loved ones during this difficult time, she wrote.

Director Information, Nitish Rajora, has expressed profound grief and shock over the demise of Bureau Chief of Kolkata TV, Naseer Ahmad, who passed away today morning after a brief illness.

In his condolence message, the Director said that Naseer was a journalist of unique caliber and acumen whose contribution to journalism will be remembered for times immemorial.

The Director also prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and expressed sympathies with the bereaved family during this difficult time.

Meanwhile, the employees of Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) also condoled the sad demise of veteran journalist, Naseer Ahmad, who has also served as Bureau Chief, Zee News for a considerable time. The employees remembered the contribution of Naseer Ahmad to the Journalistic field and his association with DIPR.

The employees prayed for forbearance for the family to bear this irreparable loss. (ANB)



The National Startup Festival in Jammu, he said, "Aims to extend this movement to previously untapped regions, ensuring youth understand their inherent aptitude and leverage innovation to drive economic growth."

Dr. Singh also highlighted the contributions of CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine(IIIM), one of the oldest research institutions in the world, established in 1942-43. The institute has been actively engaged in harnessing the potential of medicinal plants, including lavender, to develop pharmaceutical and wellness products like mint-based tablets.

On a separate note, when asked about the controversy surrounding alleged US aid to influence voter turnout in India's 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Dr. Singh refrained from commenting, stating, "Let's talk about how to make Bharat Viksit," he added-(KNO)

## TEMP

Meteorological Department, daytime temperatures surged by 5-9°C in many parts of Jammu, with Jammu 24.0 °C recording the highest closely followed by Kathua recording 23.8° and Katra 20 °C.In Kashmir, temperatures also saw a rise of 3-8°C, with Kupwara at 13.5°C, and Pahalgam at 7.4°C recording the highest figures.

Night temperatures saw a marginal increase of 1-4°C across scattered parts of the Union Territory.

However, the ski resort of Gulmarg remained the coldest with a minimum of -5.5°C, followed by Pahalgam at -2.3°C. The weather department on Saturday

before the Court-one seeking the transfer of the trial to Tihar Jail in Delhi, and the other requesting an amendment to the memo of parties and the cause title.

The Supreme Court had issued notice to Malik in response to these pleas.

Malik is facing trial in two major cases. The 1990 killing of four IAF personnel in a case, related to an attack in Rawalpora, Srinagar, is being heard by a Special Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (TADA) Court in lammu.

In September 2021, the court issued a production warrant for Malik's physical appearance, which the CBI challenged before the Supreme Court.

Malik is also an accused in the kidnapping of Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of then Union Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed.

Previously, the Special TADA Court in Jammu had offered legal aid to Malik, but he refused and insisted on being physically present in court. In the last hearing on November 21, the Solicitor General argued that Malik had shared stage with Hafiz Saeed, highlighting national security concerns.

Mehta further contended that Malik's insistence on cross-examining witnesses in person was a "card up his sleeve" and that the State was willing to provide an advocate for him, which he refused.

The case will now proceed with Malik's cross-examination through video conferencing on March 7. UNI

## DAR

of J&K's Holistic Agriculture Development Program. He said SKUAST-K has envisioned J&K as a model bioeconomy for Viksit Bharat through futuristic innovation-led farming. He thanked the J&K Government for generous support to the university initiatives.

Member Legislative Assembly for Kreeri Constituency, Irfan Hafiz Lone, while appreciating SKUAST-K in empowering J&K farmers, policy formulation and law enforcement for preserving the fast-shrinking agriculture land and promoting export potential of local produce.

MLA Sonawari, Hilal Akbar Lone, stressed on implementation of the existing laws for saving the natural resources. He lauded the role of the scientists towards welfare and

## POLICE

injuries during the altercation, police said. In response to the complaint, Police Station Vilgam swiftly registered the e-FIR, marked as FIR number 09/2025 under sections 115(2) and 126(2) of the BNS of Police Station Vilgam Handwara, the statement said.

"This landmark step highlights the growing integration of technology within law enforcement systems, setting a precedent for faster and more accessible justice delivery mechanisms in the region," police added-(KNO)

## **DSEK** issues guidelines for reopening of schools after winter break

Srinagar, Feb 22: Ahead of reopening of schools, Education Department Saturday directed school heads to ensure premises of institutions are neat and clean and with a festive outlook.

According to the news agency–Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Directorate of School Education Kashmir in a circular said that the schools are going to reopen on March 1st after winter vacations which needs to be celebrated as a welcome event.

DSEK advised heads that the reopening of schools needs to be celebrated in a festive ambience to attract students in a conducive school environment."The Hols shall ensure mobilisation including preparation of Institutional Plan and time table, sanitation, etc. well in advance," it reads.DSEK further said that the heads shall be responsible for keeping all requisite arrangements ready before opening of schools and ensure minor repairs and retrofitting, if required, with regard to drinking water, electricity, toilets, window panes etc to be taken well in advance

"The heads shall ensure that the biometric, IK attendance portal is in a working condition and updated as per their current staff in position," DSEK said. It also said that school premises must be kept neat and clean and with a



# Kashmir Shawls, Carpet lead in exports Pashmina Lab augmented to enhance testing, QR coding Over 17,000 women trained, paid 36 Cr stipend in last 4 yrs

#### HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 22 – The worldfamous handicraft and handloom products worth 2,567 crore have been exported from Kashmir valley in the last two financial years and the first three quarters of the current fiscal.

However, the exports in the current financial year have been hit by global conflicts.

Giving details, a spokesperson of the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Kashmir, hoped that the exports are expected to touch cumulatively 3000 crore for 3 years, by the end of the last quarter of the CFY.

As per the figures available with the Department, while Kani and Sozni shawls lead exports worth 1105 crore, handknotted carpet exports stood at 728 crore in the last three years. The other products exported include crewel, papier mache, chain stitch and wood carving. The spokesman further stated that the Department shall facilitate export of hand-made Kashmir products for which



a subsidy scheme is available, giving incentive of 10% of the total volume of handloom/ handicraft export products to any country with maximum reimbursement up to 5 crore in favour of the eligible exporters registered with the Department," he added.

Highlighting the Government's strategy for welfare of artisan community, the spokesman said the Department has a well-established Design Studio in the Indian Institute of Carpet Technology and unique prototypes conceived by the School of Designs and Craft Development Institute. "The artisans can access these contemporary designs and packaging models to add value to their products in

niche high-end markets," he added. For welfare of artisans, the Department has several flagship schemes in operation including Credit Card Scheme, Mudra, Financial Assistance Scheme for Cooperatives, Karkhandar Scheme and Education Scholarship for the children of craftsmen.

Under the National Wool Policy, the department has selected 100 weaver beneficiaries for distribution of free modified modern steel carpet looms in Kashmir ata total cost of Rs.43.70 lakh and the department will pitch for another 250 improvised looms for distribution in the next financial year.

Emphasizing upon the department's focus on testing and QR coding of GI registered craft products to weed out sale of counterfeit products, the spokesperson stated that the department has augmented manpower and equipment at its premier Pashmina Testing and Quality Certification Centre (PTQCC) and IICT lab for carpets. "The waitlist of 6 craft products including Sozni, Kani, Walnut Wood Carving, Khatamband, Papier Mache and Kashmir Pashmina at PTQCC has come down from 1700 on February 5 to 671 as on February 21, after strengthening of manpower," he said, adding that the lab will be further strengthened after more staff shall undergo necessary training at the Wool Research Association, Thane. He further stated that the proposal for additional equipment including Scanning Electron Microscope and a Digital Microscope have been submitted in the Union Ministry of Textiles, which shall further enhance the speed of testing and certification in PTQCC.

# Court Complex Budgam HT News Network

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 22: District Legal Services Authority Budgam organized a Special Lok Adalat of traffic challans and electricity bills today in the District Court Complex Budgam and Taluka Courts of District BudgamThe said Special Lok Adalat was organized under the Chairmanship of O.P Bhagat Chairman, District Legal Services Authority ad Pr. District & Sessions Judge Budgam.Each Court had identified cases for the said Lok Adalat before hand and were placed before five different benches.A total number of 554 electricity bills were taken up for their amicable settlement. Out of which 308 cases were settled with a settlement amount of Rs 3.34.26.623. Besides, a total number of 750 traffic challans were taken for their amicable settlement out of which 654 cases were settled with a settlement amount of Rs 1.02.600.

## DLSA organises special Lok Adalat at District Court Complex

#### **HT News Network**

Shopian, February 22: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Shopian today organized Special Lok-Adalat on Traffic Challans & Electricity Bills in the ADR Centre District Court Complex Shopian. The Lok-Adalat was held under the directions of Chairman DLSA & Pr. District & Sessions Judge, Shopian Noor Mohd Mir and under the guidance of Mudasar Farooq Secretary DLSA Shopian.In the said Lok Adalat 01 Bench was constituted by the DLSA headed by Additional Special Mobile Magistrate Shopian Rameen Rashid Khan and Deputy LADC Shopian Adv. Rafie Ahmad as bench member. A total no of one hundred eighty one cases were taken up for amicable settlement, wherein (169) one hundred sixty nine cases were successfully resolved with a settlement amount Rs 42000.

Holding of Special Lok-Adalat for Electricity Bills and Traffic Challans cases

#### HT News Network

Pulwama, February 22: Special Lok-Adalat for the cases of electricity bills and traffic challans was organized today in District Court & other subordinate courts of District Pulwama under the Chairmanship of Naseer Ahmad Dar, Chairman District Legal Services Authority (Pr. District & Sessions Judge), Pulwama and under the supervision of Mudasar Farooq Secretary DLSA Pulwama.

With the concerted efforts of all presiding officers of all the courts, cooperation rendered by the learned advocates a total number of 302 cases were taken up by 03 benches in the district out of which 261 cases were amicably settled in the said Lok-Adalat. An amount fine of Rupees Two Lakh Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Fourteen was incurred.

## DLSA Budgam conducts review, monitoring meeting of panel lawyers

HT News Network



Srinagar, February 22: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Budgam, convened a review & monitoring and Mentoring meeting of panel lawyers. The meeting was chaired by O.P Bhagat, Chairman of DLSA Budgam/ Principal District and Sessions Judge, Budgam and was attended by Nusrat Ali Hakak, Sub-Judge/ Secretary DLSA Budgam and Mubashir Ahmad Wani Advocate besides panel lawyers of DLSA Budgam. The primary objective of the meeting was to assess the progress of legal aid cases assigned to panel lawyers over time. In-depth discussions were held regarding various cases, with a focus on identifying challenges, sharing best practices, and ensuring timely and effective legal assistance for beneficiaries.O.P Bhagat emphasized the imprtance of diligent case management, urging panel lawyers to remain committed to upholding the principles of justice and accessibility. During the meeting, the progress of several ongoing cases was thoroughly examined and reviewed. The participants engaged in a detailed dialogue on improving case outcomes and enhancing coordination.

## Historic Mega Employee conclave of JKECC Held at SP Higher Secondary School Srinagar with the theme Role, Responsibility and Rights of a Public servant

## HT News Network

Srinagar, Feb 22 (UNI) Srinagar, 22 February 2025In a grand display of unity, solidarity, and cultural fervor, a mega get-together of Jammu & Kashmir Employees Coordination Committee (JKECC) successfully held in the sprawling open lawn of SP Higher Secondary School, Srinagar. Employees are main stake holders in Govt. & Society, can work like game changers. Shah FayazThe memorable event, which was attended by a vast gathering of esteemed guests, members, and well-wishers of JKECC, aimed to promote unity, solidarity, and cultural exchange among the community, while celebrating the council's achievements and outlining its plans. future Shah Fayaz, President of



importance of JKECC for larger interest of Society as well as Employees of this particular region and social well-being in the region. The get-together provided a unique platform for the attendees to interact, share ideas, and strengthen bonds, ultimately contributing to the growth and development of the community. The event also witnessed the launch of several new initiatives by JKECC, aimed at promoting education and social wel-

JKECC, presided over the overall development of the

function and expressed his community, Shah said that this Power gathering is mesheartfelt gratitude to the sage to power corridors that attendees for their over whelming support. He highwe are one on all fronts lighted the council's impres-Eminent guests, including sive achievements, includprominent leaders of JKECC addressed the gathering, ing its initiatives in Education, cultural Presersharing their valuable insights and experiences. vation and social welfare, while emphasizing its com-They praised JKECC's mitment to promoting the endeavors and stressed the

fare in the region. JKECC has been actively engaged in various initiatives aimed at promoting education, and social welfare in the region. The council's dedication to the cause has been widely appreciated, and its efforts have borne fruit in the form of positive change in the community.



# KVIB Srinagar organizes awareness camp at ITI Srinagar

#### HT News Network

Srinagar, February 22: Jammu & Kashmir Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) successfully organized an awareness camp today at I.T.I. Srinagar to sensitize the general public about the various government schemes being implemented by the Board.

The program was attended by Deputy CEO KVIB, Chief Planning Officer, Block Development Officer, Lead District Manager Srinagar, Director RSETI, Line Departments, Branch Heads of various banks and other dignitaries.

The event witnessed an enthusiastic response from the local community, entrepreneurs, and aspiring businesspersons.

The camp aimed to educate participants about the wide range of opportunities



available under the flagship included detailed presentaprograms of KVIB, includtions about the financial ing the Prime Minister's assistance, subsidies, and **Employment Generation** technical support provided Programme (PMEGP) and under the schemes to facilother state-specific itate the establishment of schemes designed to prosmall and medium entermote self-employment and prises. entrepreneurship in rural Special emphasis was

laid on the production of areas. Addressing the gathereco-friendly products and ing, KVIB officials emphaleveraging traditional sized the importance of crafts to enhance economic sustainability. Particiutilizing these schemes to boost local industries and pants were also guided on empowerurban/ruralcomthe application process, munities. The session eligibility criteria, and nec-

essary documentation required availing of these benefits.

The event featured interactive sessions, where experts addressed queries and provided personalized consultations to attendees. Success stories of beneficiaries who have established thriving businesses under KVIB schemes were also shared to inspire and motivate others.

It is pertinent to mention here that KVIB Srinagar have sanctioned/forwarded 2348 cases under PMEGP scheme to different Banks involving margin money Rs: 2028.30 lakh and 15 cases under JKREGP involving margin money Rs: 47.25 lakh.

Speaking at the event, a senior KVIB official stated, "We are committed to creating awareness about these schemes and ensuring that the benefits reach the grassroots level."

# DLSA Srinagar organizes Special Lok-Adalat for Traffic Challans, Electricity Bills

#### HT News Network

Srinagar, February 22: District Legal Services Authority(DLSA)Srinagar, organized a Special Lok Adalat for Traffic Challans & Electricity Bills at the District Court Complex,

Srinagar. The LokAdalat, aimed at amicably resolving Traffic Challans & Electricity Bills, was held following the direction of Jaffer Hussain Beg, Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority and Principal District & Sessions Judge, Srinagar, and under the supervision of Secretary DLSA Srinagar.

To facilitate the amicable settlement of cases, two benches were constituted for the said Special Lok



Adalat which settled max-<br/>imum number of cases,<br/>marking a significant<br/>achievementin promotingpeaceful and quick resolu-<br/>tions for Traffic Challans<br/>& Electricity Bills.<br/>This initiative not only

provided justice to the parties involved but also highlighted the advantages of settling disputes through Lok Adalats. The Lok Adalat witness the active participation from the legal fraternity, officers & and litigants alike. By organizing Lok Adalats, DLSA Srinagar continues its mission to provide equitable access to justice for all, ensuring that litigants can resolve their disputes quickly and amicably without the prolonged procedures typically associated with conventional courts.

Overall 11400 cases were taken up for settlement out of which 9662 cases were amicably settled & Rs.40,50000 was awarded as settlement amount.





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Srinagar, Sunday 23-February-2025



# **EDITORIAL**

# **Make Raabita** meaningful by holding officers accountable

n Friday chief minister Omar Abdullah chaired a review meeting of CM's public services and outreach office, Raabita to assess its functioning and strengthen its role in addressing public grievances effectively. During the meeting, the chief minister directed that Raabita nodal officers be designated at the district level to ensure prompt and efficient handling of public issues. He stressed the need for a proactive approach in reaching out to people, ensuring that government initiatives and grievance redressal mechanisms are accessible to every citizen.

The starting of Raabita was welcomed by one and all and it was expected that problems of the people will be solved through this platform. There is no denying the fact that even though some of the grievances have been addressed through Raabita most of them have remained un-addressed. People as a whole complain that the departments and the higher-ups of the departments don't take things seriously and it is due to this reason that only a few grievances have been solved so far.

During the review meeting the chief minister reiterated his government's unwavering commitment to a transparent, accountable and people-centric administration. He instructed officials to adopt a more responsive and result-oriented approach, ensuring that grievances are resolved in a time-bound manner. He emphasized on improving the quality of disposal of public grievances and to ensure that grievances are actually resolved when updating the final disposal of each grievance. The chief minister stressed upon all the important aspects of accountability but at the end of the day it has been observed that officers have not been held accountable for their actions.

There are many cases where the officers have provided wrong information in response to the grievances submitted by the citizens. Even though the citizens have expressed their resentment about the same while giving their feedback no follow-up action has been taken in such cases. It is important that necessary action is taken against such officers so that the people feel that nobody is going to take them for a ride and their genuine problems will be addressed. A government officer should understand that he or she is a public servant and as such his or her primary objective should be to serve the people. If people lodge a grievance to the officers through Raabita they should seek complete and correct information from the field staff. At the same time the officers should give proper consideration to the feedback so that confidence is inculcated among the people.

# **A Holistic Approach to Adolescent Mental Health: India and Kashmir Centric**

## **ARSHID QALM**

his is the book I'm writing-A Holistic Approach to Adolescent Mental Health: India and Kashmir Centric. It is not just a collection of research, theories, or academic discourse; it is a movement toward building a sustainable mental health ecosystem for adolescents. It is a blueprint for change, a vision for an education system that nurtures not just academic excellence but emotional resilience, psychological well-being, and social intelligence.

**HT-EDIT** 

Adolescence is a transformative yet challenging phase, marked by emotional turbulence, cognitive expansion, and social reorientation. It is the stage where young individuals start to forge their identities, shape their perspectives, and lay the foundation for their future selves. However, it is also a time when many adolescents silently struggle with stress, anxiety, social pressures, academic burdens, and unresolved emotional conflicts. Despite the urgent need for psychological support, mental health remains an overlooked aspect of education, particularly in India, where the emphasis on academic achievements often overshadows the emotional well-being of students.

The situation becomes even more complex in regions like Jammu and Kashmir, where adolescents carry an additional burden of historical trauma, sociopolitical discord, and exposure to instability. Unlike their peers in stable environments, many students in Kashmir grow up witnessing uncertainty, displacement, and disruptions to their education, making them vulnerable to post-traumatic stress, hypervigi-

deeply into these challenges, providing a comprehensive roadmap for educators, parents, policymakers, and mental health professionals to integrate mental well-being into the education system in a practical and sustainable way.

Through real-life case studies, research-backed strategies, and hands-on interventions, the book explores how schools, families, and communities can work together to create a holistic support system for adolescents. It begins by establishing why mental health should be treated as a core component of education and how psychological well-being directly

impacts academic success, classroom engagement, and long-term career growth. A striking example comes from a boy in South Kashmir, who became increasingly withdrawn after facing persistent peer bullying. His grades declined, he avoided social interactions, and he showed symptoms of severe anxiety, which many teachers initially dismissed as a lack of interest. However, when a structured program was implemented, his confidence was gradually rebuilt, and he reintegrated into school long-term psychological damage.

struggle with impulse control, emotional regulation, and decision-making, making them vulnerable to peer pressure, social anxiety, and stress overload. Neuroscientific research highlights why mir require a culturally sensitive the adolescent brain is wired for approach to mental health interheightened emotional reactions, vention. Unlike in metropolitan and this book demonstrates how areas, where psychological ser-

the tools to self-regulate, empathize, and manage stress effectively. In one case study, a 15-year-old girl in Pulwama, who dreaded public speaking and social interactions, was introduced to mindfulness techniques and guided exposure therapy. Over time, she overcame her fears and later won a school debate competition, proving that mental health interventions don't just treat issuesthey unlock hidden potential.

Another significant area this book explores is the impact of digital technology on adolescent mental health. The rapid rise of social media, online gaming, and digital entertainment has reshaped the way adolescents interact, compare themselves, and seek validation. While technology offers immense opportunities, it has also given rise to self-esteem issues, comparison anxiety, cyberbullying, and screen addiction. In this book, I discuss a case where students in Budgam experienced a sharp decline in academic performance peer mediation and counselling due to excessive screen time. To counteract this, their school implemented a Tech-Free Tuesday initiative, promoting offline life, proving that early interven- socialization, creative activities, tion in school settings can prevent and face-to-face interactions. Within three months, students One of the most critical themes reported improved sleep patterns, explored in this book is emotional reduced anxiety, and enhanced intelligence. Adolescents often focus, highlighting how structured digital detox interventions can positively impact adolescent mental well-being.

The unique challenges faced by adolescents in Jammu and Kash-

lance, social withdrawal, and even structured emotional intelligence vices are widely available, many sional development programs substance abuse. This book delves training can equip students with students in Kashmir hesitate to for teachers. Schools should no seek help due to social stigma, cultural expectations, and the lack of trained mental health professionals. In response, this book advocates for community-driven solutions that integrate local traditions, storytelling, and art therapy into psychological interventions. Programs like aesthetic literacy and expressive arts therapy, introduced in Piramal Foundation-led initiatives, have allowed students to use traditional Kashmiri art, poetry, and storytelling as therapeutic outlets, helping reduce can adapt to its unique adolesstigma and encourage self-expression.

stories in the book is that of a 15-year-old boy from Shopian, who became involved in opioid abuse due to unresolved childhood trauma. Instead of punitive disciplinary action, his school partnered with local mental health professionals and rehabilitation centres to provide him with structured therapy, family counselling, and mentorship. Over time, he not only recovered but went on to become an advocate for drug awareness, conducting peer-led anti-addiction programs to help prevent others from falling into the same trap. His story is a testament to the fact that every adolescent, no matter how lost, can be guided toward resilience with the right support system. This book also presents a

policy vision for integrating mental health into the Indian education system. It emphasizes how NEP 2020's focus on holistic learning can be expanded to incorporate mandatory mental is just the beginning of a muchhealth curricula, structured needed transformation. counselling services, and profes-

longer be places where mental health is treated as an afterthought; instead, they should be safe spaces where students can express, process, and navigate their emotions without fear of judgment. Successful global models, such as Finland's emphasis on mental well-being in education, the US's Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) programs, and Rwanda's post-conflict traumainformed school frameworks offer valuable insights that India cent mental health landscape.

At its core, this book is a call One of the most compelling to action. The future of India does not rest solely on academic excellence; it rests on psychologically healthy, emotionally intelligent, and socially resilient youth. Schools, families, and policymakers must work together not just to produce academically successful students but to nurture wellrounded, mentally strong individuals. Adolescents should not have to struggle in silence, they should be empowered with the tools, resources, and support systems they need to thrive.

This is not just a book, it is a vision for change. It is a manifesto for creating a world where mental health is not a privilege, but a fundamental right for every adolescent. It is my effort to bridge the gap between education and emotional well-being, ensuring that every student, whether in urban India or in the valleys of Kashmir, has access to the support they need to build a confident, balanced, and fulfilling future.

Stay tuned for its release, this

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# Make the right choices in life

## AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

good people. We know

otees) of God. I will now Tes, there are five give details regarding how choices; by making one can become these five fear, depression, etc. them we can excel in and what benefits one will life. These are to become derive by doing so.

of course is of bhaktas (dev- the results are not in our

This sets them apart from that of 'nimittas' (instru- (7.19) The topmost benefit hands. (2.47) One, there- the masses. One is aligned ments) of God; He chooses of being a devotee of God fore, suffers from anxiety, with the plan of God for them from those who are is liberation in a few lives. us, who is for upholding habitually followers of (6.45)I am going to describe The mode of darkness dharma. God even incar- dharma and are inclined the benefits in greater detail deludes, which gives rise nates to do so. (6.7) We to serve God as Arjuna did. because these are the high-To be good in spiritual to many faults like careless- know what dharma is; it is God does everything as est. God guides, and He, whom we call good. They parlance means to have the ness. (14.8) Lord Krishna the highest moral and reli- a karta for them and they being omniscient, knows are good in their behaviour, highest percentage of the has set out in great detail gious principle. Benefits are get credit for the acts done. what will work every time. choices, etc. The next level mode of goodness. There about activities in goodness many including accumulat- (11.33) The topmost catego- I have made a habit of pray-'durgati' (bad end) for such ers of dharma. Then, they prised by God's response. persons. (6.40) This is a big do spiritual practices like They are no longer intu-Deities, offering obeisance Lord Krishna has singled out names and mantras, dhyan devotees like one cannot King Janaka as the role model of God, thanking God for even dream of. favours done, etc. They become very dear

good people to strict follow- something. I have been surpraying, darshan of God's itions because they work. The same happens in the to God, chanting of God's case of help. God helps His

is of those, who are not only are three modes, which in the Bhagavad-Geeta. If we ing pious karmas. The third ry is those of devotees of ing for guidance anytime good but they mostly follow are: goodness, passion and imbibe them, the percentage higher level is that of welfare God. Their rise is from being I have some doubts about dharma also, which pleases darkness. They are always God. The next level is that of competing with us. (The welfare workers, who dedi- Bhagavad-Geeta 14.10) The cate their lives to the service mode of goodness is illuof humanity without any minating and free from disselfish motive. Out of the eases on account of purity. followers of dharma, God (14.6) The mode of passion appoints some as His (nimi- suffers from the fault of tta) instrument to carry out attachment. (14.7) One is too activities for God to uphold attached to certain acts and who strictly follow dharma dharma. The topmost level their results. Unfortunately, besides being good.

of the mode of goodness will gradually increase in us. There are many benefits in doing so and the best is goodness being the stepping stone to devotional life - the highest, and good karmaphalas of course. The next level is of persons,

workers. God promises no achievement because old age and bad ends are very scary prospects for human beings. in the Bhagavad-Geeta (3.20) in this connection.

The next higher level is to God, who is everything.

(The writer is a spiritual teacher, views are personal)

#### **MUNTASHIR KIFAYAT**

ffective Heads of Institutions (HOIs) are vital in driving holistic eduing the vision of NEP 2020, yet many remain limited to administrative tasks

mentation of NEP 2020 lies significantly in the proactive ZEO office, with no research, and innovative roles of HOIs no vision, no mission, no (school leaders). An HOI pre-strategy, and no goal for the pares a school development holistic development of the plan by embracing holistic education reforms, integrat-

Being a government cially for inclusive educateacher, I observe and value tion. My HOI should be the the impact of a credible HOI first source of learning for in adapting to and engaging me-the first to inculcate with the community, leav- work culture, pedagogy, the ing a lasting impact on the concept of holistic developbroader educational envi- ment, and inclusive educaronment. The school HOI tion. He should be the one to plays a key role in realiz- connect me, as an educator, ing the vision of NEP 2020, with the community.

ensuring the effective trantice. However, I also observe Institution, responsible for that the majority of HOIs overseeing all aspects of the have restricted themselves school's operations, includcation reforms and realis- to DDOs (passing salary bills ing academics, student only). In lower schools, in welfare, and overall school most cases, the HOI is either culture. His role is of utmost satisfied with a clerical job importance in setting the The success of the imple- or spends time roaming vision, driving improvebetween the school and the school.

A school's HOI should be ing technology, and foster- a researcher with a strong instrumental in reshaping, ing a learning environment. grasp of pedagogy, espe-

ments, and ensuring that the school achieves its educational goals.

Leadership occupies a pivotal position in every sphere of human activity. In education, leadership can be reinventing, and reorienting the growth and dynamics of the education system. The New Education Policy (NEP 2020) is designed to revitalize the landscape of the Indian education system,

In a school, the HOI ering in sustainable changes tion that fosters creativity, ments. sition from policy to prac- stands for the Head of the in the teaching and learning critical thinking, and social environment.

Key Responsibilities of a School HOI or School Leader primary responsibility of an HOI is to develop a clear mission focused on students' academic progress. He must inspire and lead new, challenging innovations. The vision of a school is to transform students and prepare them not only for tests but

also for life's challenges. Vision: What the school aims to accomplish.

Mission: A general statement about achieving the vision.

using the mission to achieve the vision.

A good vision statement ing student well-being. where leadership plays a for a school could be: "To

are instrumental in utilizing lifelong learners, empow- educational policies, regula- programs exclusively for available resources and ush- ered by a holistic educa- tions, and reporting require- HOIs. For education lead-

responsibility to thrive in a dynamic world."

Academic Leadership: Vision and Strategy: The Monitoring teaching and learning quality, ensuring effective pedagogy, and analyzing student achievement data to drive improvement. Community Engagement:

Building relationships with parents, guardians, and community organizations to seek their support.

Valuing Resourceful Educators: Appreciating and cherishing skilled educators while fostering a positive working environment.

student needs, and support-

Compliance and Reportcrucial role. School leaders cultivate a community of ing: Ensuring adherence to offline and online training

Demonstrating a relentless pursuit of knowledge and openness to new ideas.

Financial Management: NEP 2020 calls for significant investment in education. An securing and utilizing funds judiciously.

Training and Leadership Development for HOIs

The impact of an HOI is more significant in a school than that of teachers, yet they receive lesser training. There should be more rigorous training programs Student Welfare: Pro- for HOIs, ensuring they lead Strategy: A series of steps moting a safe and inclusive from the front in all aspects, school climate, addressing much like an officer in the army.

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**Role Of HOI As A School Leader** 

ers such as school headmas-Leading by Example: ters, NEP 2020 recommends several modular leadership programs, including workshops to enhance leadership qualities.

For the past decade, primary school HOIs in remote HOI should be capable of rural areas have often been only 12th-pass, lacking the qualities of leadership and management altogether. These positions should be filled with well-trained and qualified HOIs. The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) and the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) should take responsibility for training HOIs more rigorously, infusing leadership qualities into them

Narabal

com



## **The Digital Dilemma: Reconciling Technology** With Social Ethics

**OD**A

Zears ago, life in a society was simple, and people lived harmoniously, sharing their moments of happiness, excitement, and pain. People would meet on a regular basis to better understand one another and stay in touch. This period was marked by calm, unity, and the comfort of oneness. This changed with the emergence of contemporary technologies, particularly the internet. The internet is an environment in which everyone is virtually connected, transcending traditional borders. This has transformed the entire world into a single village, with people from all over the world able to communicate with one another in only seconds. The internet has altered our lives and made them easier by providing vast amounts of information in a single location within a matter of seconds. Traditional markets have been surpassed by e-marketplaces, where global giants such as Amazon, Flipkart, and Myntra operate. Even groceries can be purchased and sold on the internet. However, it is not without its restrictions. Just like a coin, the internet has two sides. It has various limitations.

However, technology is value-neutral; its good and bad aspects are determined by how it is used. While the internet offers many benefits, concerns over its misuse are rising, particularly in areas like cyber fraud and online betting. India, in particular, has become a hotbed for unlawful internet activity. Financial fraud is at the top of the list, along with others. Online betting has been a significant source of concern, and it has been encouraged even by so-called national figures. Online scams, financial fraud, and cyberbullying are among the most common bad acts that occur throughout India.

The situation in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is identical. People use social media for a variety of reasons, but the majority of them are not in line with the social structure or lack morality. A large number of people are involved in internet betting and gambling; they spend hours and use all of their resources to find ways to make money through online betting. The problem is also becoming more prevalent among children.

Another frightening aspect is the drive for popularity, which has led to teenagers engaging in foolish and immoral behavior on the internet, particularly on Instagram through reels. People posing as influencers and content creators use social media to obtain followers by engaging in irrational, unproductive, and socially destructive behavior, causing the social setup to fail. This type of behavior is becoming more common as people's desire for followers and instant celebrity drives them to reveal their true selves on social media.

However, none of these events occur at once. There are variables that motivate and sustain them for an extended period of time.

There is an increasing amount of unemployment among young people, both educated and unskilled, allowing them the opportunity to choose alternate ways of earning.

Economic slowdown - Even established firms are experiencing a recession and are looking for new ways to grow their brand, such as creating hilarious content for various social media platforms.

Erosion of conventional social frameworks - The advent of a new period has precipitated the deterioration of existing social structures, resulting in individuals engaging in immoral behaviors without regard for ethical considerations.

Rise of liberal ideology - Emerging Western culture and liberal ideology have instilled the concept of liberalism in the minds of young people, who prioritize themselves over their communities.

Inadequate governmental oversight of the escalating activity.

# Aripal: A place Where Nature's Bounty coalesce & **Commingle Opportunity for a Limpid & Pellucid Futurity**

some of Kashmir's most captivating tourist attractions. The mesmerizing NAWAZZ IBN AHAD

Nagberan, with its lush green meadows and tranquil ambiance, is a ecstasy and nirvana for nature lovers. Tarsar and Marsar Lakes, embraced by tow-

ering cedar forests, offer nuggled almost 10 a spectacular retreat for kilometers from Tral adventure seekers and Dheadquarters in the trekkers. These twin lakes, heart of Pulwama district, glistening under the azure aripal is Hidden paragon sky, are a sight to behold, yet they remain underutiand Gem with Untapped pecuniary and mercantile lized in Kashmir's tourism latent and potential, it is industry. Adding to the a land with astonishing region's charm, Aripal panorama and landscapes Spring, cradled in the lap and unexplored tourism of the Wasturwan Mounopportunities. Blessed tains, flows with crystalwith pristine cosmical clear water, providing a and inborn comiliness and exhilarating escape for pulchritude, this region visitors. Meanwhile, the remains largely obscure serene Nargistan Tourist despite its prodigious Resort, surrounded by potential to boost the local dense woodlands, holds parsimony. Aripal Tehsil immense potential for is a hidden jewel in the eco-tourism and sustaincrown of Kashmir's natuable development. The ral wonders. Renowned region's unspoiled charm for its crystal-clear Aripal and rich biodiversity make Spring, cradled by tower- it a perfect destination for eco-tourism, trekking, and ing deodar trees and enveloped in the lush greenery cultural exploration. Howof the Wasturwan forests, ever, despite its immense this tranquil destination potential, Aripal remains exudes an unmatched relatively undiscovered on charm. The region's pris- the tourism map. By levertine beauty is further aging its natural assets and accentuated by its trekpromoting sustainable king hotspots, such as Nagtourism practices, Aripal beran, Tarsar Lake, and could emerge as a key Marsar Lake, which attract driver of economic develadventure enthusiasts and opment, creating employnature lovers alike. Adding ment opportunities and to its allure is Nargistan, a boosting local businesses. burgeoning hub for local Despite its natural splentourists, especially during dor, Aripal remains an the summer season, where underutilized resource in visitors flock to soak in the terms of economic develregion's serene ambiance opment. With limited issue. By harnessing its a tourist destination. The ing eco-friendly accom- able future for Aripal and and breathtaking vistas.





jobs, the youth of Aripal often find themselves grap-

ties beyond government king trails, and cultural motion, and proper faciliheritage, Aripal has the ties hinders its growth as potential to become a a major travel hotspot. If ness are not just assets for pling with unemployment thriving tourist destina- harnessed properly, tourand underemployment. tion, generating thousands ism in Aripal can spawn way to prosperity for its However, the untapped of jobs for local youth. employment, uplift local people. The time has come potential of tourism in the Despite possessing such businesses, and provide to embrace this opporturegion offers a promising scenic marvels, Aripal has sustainable livelihoods for nity and pave the way for solution to this pressing yet to be fully developed as the community. Develop- a brighter, more sustainemployment opportuni- scenic landscapes, trek- lack of infrastructure, pro- modations and organiz- its youth.

ing adventure tourism activities such as trekking, camping, and heritage walks could significantly boost visitor influx. Additionally, showcasing local handicrafts and traditional Kashmiri cuisine to tourists could add economic value to the region.

To transform Aripal into a thriving tourist hub, government intervention and private investments are crucial. Initiatives like homestay promotions, adventure tourism campaigns, and cultural festivals could bring this hidden gem into the limelight. Strengthening Aripal's tourism sector not only preserves its natural beauty but also enhances its economic prospects, ensuring prosperity for future generations. By doing so, Aripal can transform from a hidden gem into a bustling tourist hub, providing livelihoods for its youth and preserving its natural beauty for generations to come. The potential is vast, the landscapes are breathtaking, and the opportunity is knocking-Aripal is ready to be Kashmir's next great tourist attraction. In a region where government jobs are the primary source of employment, tourism offers a beacon of hope. Aripal's untouched landscapes and cultural richvisitors but also a path-

# Climate Change in Kashmir: A Catastrophe in the Making



system and the livelihoods larly dry, with major parts provide a steady supply of cal resource. ing climate crisis. If this snow accumulation, have likely to face severe water ing. The lack of snowfall just a seasonal irregu-

of millions. The decreas- of the valley receiving little water to Kashmir's rivers, ing snowfall is not just to no snow. Even higher- including the Jhelum and heavily dependent on agri- mate change and adapt to an anomaly; it is a clear altitude areas, which its tributaries. With less culture and horticulture, its effects. The decreasing indicator of the worsen- usually witness heavy snowfall, the region is particularly apple farm- snowfall this year is not

call. Immediate action Kashmir's economy is is needed to mitigate cli-

Greed for fame and thirst for money drive people to earn more while working less. Furthermore, the love for followers has played a significant role in the rise of this phenomenon.

Individuals thrive when society thrives, not the other way around. Society is what makes an individual's existence worthwhile, and hence it is a fundamental structure. This fundamental framework, if undermined, ruins good living conditions. For a society to thrive, moral values and ethics must remain at its core. Educational institutions, families, and NGOs must work collectively to guide the youth toward responsible digital behavior. Only then can we balance the benefits of technology with societal well-being.

maliktufeelamin@gmail.com

#### JAVAID BHAT

ashmir, known have far-reaching consefor its breathtak- quences. ing landscapes and snow-capped moun- has relied on its winter tains, is experiencing an snowfall to sustain its alarming climatic shift. rivers, lakes, and agricul-This year, the region has ture. However, in recent are disrupting Kashmir's

snowfalls in recent his- erratic and significantly tory, raising serious con- lower than usual. This ural reservoir, gradually use. A decline in snow

trend continues, Kashmir reported unusually low may face an environmen- levels.

tal catastrophe that could For centuries, Kashmir Rising temperatures, changing wind patterns,

Snowfall acts as a nat- drinking and household for their livelihood.

cerns about its fragile eco- winter has been particu- melting in the summer to levels threatens this criti- in Kashmir is a wake-up change.

shortages in the coming disrupts the natural dor- larity-it is a sign of an months. This will impact mancy period of apple impending environmen-The reasons behind on agriculture.Kashmir's trees, leading to lower tal crisis. If urgent steps this decline are linked to farmers depend on snow- yields and inferior fruit are not taken to address global climate change. fed rivers for irrigation. A quality. Saffron cultiva- climate change, the region dry winter means reduced tion, another key indus- could face severe water water availability in try, also requires sufficient shortages, agricultural and decreasing moisture summer, leading to poor moisture from snowfall. A decline, and economic levels in the atmosphere crop yields, Besides Many dry winter spells disaster distress. Protecting Kashvillages and towns rely for thousands of farmers mir's environment is our recorded one of the lowest years, snowfall has been traditional weather cycles. on glacial meltwater for who rely on these crops responsibility. The time to act is now before this

The declining snowfall paradise is lost to climate

# Maintaining home gardens, Oxygen factory at home



SAHIL MANZOOR BHATTI

atural vegetation has widespread reach plateaus, hills, meadows, and water bodies. Banks are rich in a variety of natural vegetation like herbs, shrubs, running grass, and many more.

Nature itself likes and loves ture sector. beauty, so we can see bizarre and lovely, picturesque views culture also called as flower in a ascending order so that medicinal importance. all around the corners of the world.

There are millions of natural vegetation and varieties sector greatly known for the produced after different tech- marketing of ornamental niques like grafting and genetic engineering. Genetic engineer- ers. ing plays an immense role in

floriculture, and agriculture. Genetic engineering Genetic engineering is the technique used in laboratories to produce new varieties. Example tomato and potato produced a new variety called pomato.

Home gardens

There is an ample percentage of people who love flowup to lofty mountains, ers and plants; scientifically, pots inside our house and till as their hobbies. we call them Anthophile. Some people have their hobbies as they manage and maintain home gardens at home.

Advancements in floricul-

What is floriculture. Floriimportance is aspects of economic development. This

plants, and cultivation of flow-

the upliftment of horticulture, ture greatly generates employ- like plants having medicinal tive plants

ment and produces new varieties through a number of techniques like grafting and budding.

Vase or flowers bed which one is best

Vase adaptation is great but you have keep in mind the care on regular basis like watering, pruning regularly, even during

harsh winters we can keep the ending of the winters. Flower beds

attractive then flowers pots. We can maintain flower beds in a very alluring and beautiful

ways. Like keep flowers height farming, this sector has great every flower may get visible and enhance the beauty of the garden.

What are best flowers and garden.

In this case different people Like other sectors, floricul- have different choices some



importance like aloe veera rose etc.some people make garden

Roses of different types because roses bloom after Flowers beds are more every 6-8 weeks and during the growing season and lasts for upto winters.

Roses are shrubs it will stop soil erosion, and has great

Flower seedlings, are seasonal and most of the lover plant it in their gardens and like hamesh bahar, chrysanplants to choose for the home themum, etc. looks so mes-

merizing and enhances the beauty of the gardens. What are famous and attracand lavishing plant, cyprus, spent time within them. pines, golden cyprus, english ingly the space available.

Role of watering, watering is necessary to maintain the friend. garden in all respects, watering regularly your gardens.

Fertilizer, cow dung, chemical fertilizers lik di but in very little quantity.

Role of maintenance, lovers have to maintain, and look after every plant on regular basis

Why gardens are important, our surroundings, provides us oxygen, and reduces carbon dioxide concentration from the environment.

the flowers, and plants look so health benefits. mesmerizing, endowed and charming. Everyone wants tank of 500 litres to 1000 liters

Such filed generates employcyprus, italian cyprus, peach ment and for the gardeners flower tree, canadian maple, who have good knowledge and tion should provide seedlings etc are the plants lovers can it has great market. There are plant oll of them are accord- ample percentage of individuals related to it.

Morning and evening,

Well-maintained home garning friend; there are people who have fewer chances to get out and go for regular walks. surface provide you smoothening like environment and you

get enjoyed all the time.

gardens enhance the beauty of for 30 to one hour may provery vital for your good health. One who walk or run slowly

on green carpet like surfaces During the peak summer, may get great and immense Lovers should keep water

Plum is one the beautiful catch their aroma and wants during prolonged drought or when there is shortage of water in your surroundings.

Government administraon subsidiary plans and and should provide skill centres where gardeners may learn new techniques and how to enhance and producing more new varities. We need lovers dens are the morning and eve- and we have generate employment where we have a chance. Not a single chance should be ignored. This sector has great Home gardens with carpet like and immense potential to generate employment for the skilled youth.

Where from we can get best Morning and evening walk and fresh varietes. This season starts from from the mid Febvide you good health and is ruary every year. We can purchase from leading nurseries like we near botanical garden Srinagar, Tengpora bypass, and there sellers at main markets in your towns, cities.

> sahilmanzoor411990@gmail. com

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06

# **J&K Judicial Academy organises refresher** programme on 'Digitisation'

### HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 22: Under the patronage of Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief, J&K Judicial Academy), Tashi Rabstan and guidance of Chairperson, Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy and members of Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy, J&K Judicial Academy today organised one day refresher programme on "Digitisation"(ECT\_6\_2024&ECT\_15\_2024) for High Court Bench Secretaries, Digitisation officials, staff and Readers of Jammu Wing at J&K Judicial Academy, Janipur, Jammu.The

refresher programme was designed to impart practical knowledge and give hands-on experience on crucial digital tools and systems integral to judicial functioning. The first technical session was headed by Fayaz Ahmed Qureshi (CPC), who gave an overview of e-Courts Mission Mode Project, a Pan-India Project, monitored and funded by Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India.Nikhil Kohli (Senior Developer) and Shweta Sharma (Technical Assistant) gave a practical demonstration and explained the concept of CIS 1.0. They covered various aspects of CIS 1.0, including Filing & Registration of Cases, Caveat/Document Filing, Case



Proceeding, Roster Creation, Cause List Generation, e-Court services and the process involved in issuing certified copies. This session aimed

to enhance participants' familiarity with the digital case management system, ensuring seamless court operations. The resource persons

also gave a hand on demonstration of various concepts. The second technical session of the day was jointly conducted by Nikhil Kohli (Senior Developer) and Rajeev Gupta (Sr. System Officer), who delved into the Document Management System, covering its advantages and operational framework. They elaborated that as DMS forms the backbone of digital documentation, understanding its workflow is pivotal to streamlining case file management and promoting paperless courts.The third session was spearheaded by Fayaz Ahmed Qureshi (CPC), Shadab Khan (System Officer) and Vishav (Computer Operator). They focused on the practical application of vari-

ous video conferencing platforms such as Zoom, Webex, and BharatVC. These tools have become indispensable in the judiciary, ensuring continuity of proceedings even amid logistical constraints. The session was interactive and addressed challenges including the best practices for optimal usage.Director J&K Judicial Academy, Sonia Gupta, conducted the proceedings for the daylong training programme and presented the vote of thanks. All the sessions remained very interactive during which all the participants actively participated and shared their experiences, difficulties and also discussed various aspects of the subject topics.

## **Public Notice**

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill ) power connection is registered on my father's name ABDUL JABBAR MIR S/O AB KHALIQ R/O. WALRAMAN ...Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 0212040008100 wants to be regis-tered on my name MOHAMMAD SULTAN MIR S/O ABDUL. JABBAR MIR R/O WALRAMAN ... If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his, her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication ofthis notice after that no objection will be entertained.

> Name....MOHAMMAD SULTAN MIR S/O ...ABDUL JABBAR MIR R/O WALRAMAN

## **Public Notice**

This is for information of general public that the (Electric bill ) power connection is registered on my father's name MOHAMMAD RAMZAN RATHER R/O. WAHDATPORA ... Now this Connection bearing Consumer ID NO 0212040010310 wants to be registered on my name SHAFAT AHMAD RATHER S/O MOHAM-MAD RAMZAN RATHER R/O WAHDATPORA ...If anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name..SHAFAT AHMAD RATHER S/O ...MOHAMMAD RAMZAN RATHER R/O WAHDATPORA

## **Office of the Assistant Director Fisheries District Baramulla Sopore**

Email:- adfbaramulla@gmail.com

## **ADERTISEMENT NOTICE**

Applications on plain paper along-with land paper, Aadhar Card and Bank account No 16 digit are invited from unemployed youth of the UT of Jammu & Kashmir who intend to avail incentives on the following activity/component under General Category "Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana" PMMSY in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir during the year 2024-25 (3rd instalment).

The applicants have to provide the pre-requisite documents in original as per the guidelines of the PMMSY, in respect of the applied component, as and when demanded.

Establishment of Trout Raceway 01 No

Establishment of Backyard Ornamental Fish Rearing Unit

The application has to be delivered in the office of the Assistant Director Fisheries District Baramulla (Sopore) located near Tehsil Office & Police Station Sopore against proper receipt by or before 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2025 upto 2.00 PM

Those candidates, who have applied earlier for the same need not to re-apply

DIPK-12344/24 Date: Feb 22 2025 Asstt. Director Fisheries, **District Baramulla Sopore** 

## **Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir**

## **TSWOOI Submits Memorandum to ADC Bhadarwah** for Public Amenities During Ramzan, Shiv Ratri

Amir Igbal Khan

Bhadarwah. Feb 22: In anticipation of the upcoming holy month of Ramzan and Shiv Ratri, a delegation of "The Social Welfare Organisation of India" (TSWOOI) called on Additional Deputy Commissioner(ADC) Bhadarwah Sunil Kumar and submitted a memorandum to him urging the administration to ensure essential public amenities for the convenience of worship-

pers. The delegation was headed by Zaffar Hussain Wani Vice President TSWOOI. The prominent delegates included Shahid Hussain Malik- District President and Senior Vice President District Doda Saqib Ahmed besides Umar Tak, Mool Raj Mishr and others.



As per a statement issued in this regard, the memorandum outlined key public concerns keeping in view the upcoming festival of Shivratri and holy month of Ramzaan and sought immediate redressal to facilitate a smooth observance of the festival on 26th of February and Ramzaan which is set to commence



Later, delegation also met Executive Officer of the



'Municipal Committee Bhadarwah'(MCB) Ravi Kumar and submitted similar charter of demands to him ensuring essential public amenities for the convenience of worshippers.

The burning demands urged the authorities to ensure continuous water supply especially during Sehri(pre-dawn meal) and Iftar (evening meal) hours. "Likewise, uninterrupted electricity must be provided particularly during prayer times and peak hours of worship," it suggested.

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SUMBA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No.83 of 2024-25/R&B Division Sumbal (Single Cover System)

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on percentage%basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following work:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees )	Earnest Money (In Rupees )	Time of Completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contract or
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Beautification of Hajin Town by way of Construction of Entry Gate at Tundapora and Main Bridge/ Construction of Clock Tower/Construction of 5 No Water Fountains and Development of Panda Bone Park at MC Hajin.	181.44	2600/-	362880/-	6 Months (180 Days)	FC Grants 2023-24.	AAY

Position of AA:- Accorded by Executive Officer MC Hajin vide endorsement No:-MC/H/W/23/1726-28, Dated:-26-09-2023.

Position of TS: - Granted vide order No:-CE/PWD(R&B)NK/TS/72 of 2024-25 Dated:-13-02-2025.

Position of Funds: - Available

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 <u>www.jktenders.gov.in</u> as per schedule of dates given below:

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	22-02-2025 from 1.00 P.M
3	Bid submission Start Date	22-02-2025 from 1.00 P.M
4	Bid Submission End Date	14-03-2025 upto 4.00 P.M.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	15-03-2025 at 11.00 A.M in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in the shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal.(The Date of Treasury Challan and CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End Date.The Treasury Challan must clearly depict the NIT No., S.No of work and Name of work against which the T.C has been deposited. The T.C should be deposited to the M.H 0059-Rev. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

The successful Bidder has to produce Performance Security Deposit @5% of contract value in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 days after opening of Bids, which shall be released after successful completion of work with DLP. This will replace the EMD @ 2% of the Advertised cost uploaded by the Bidder.

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an email message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Eng R&B Division Sumbal (tender receiving authority).

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website ders.gov.into acquaint bid submission process.

To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.

The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form

Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dp with black and white option. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to ExecutiveEngineer R&B Division Sumbal(The date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbalmust be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document), and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.

Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. Price escalation and Taxes:- The %age quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required In case of CRF and any other specified project. the relevant guidelines / standard bidding document shall be followed. Instructions to Bidder (ITB)

All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-All bidders shall upload Copies of Original Documents defining constitution/Legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence Address.

All Bidders shall upload Valid Registration Card with renewal (Latest), But the registration card issued by the PWD(R&B) should be renewed by the issuing Department i, e PWD(R&B). The Registration Card should be online available on JKPWDOMS website created by JKPWD .No other card shall be entertained issued by other department.

Sd./

**Executive Engineer** R&B Division Sumba

All bidders shall upload Treasury Challan.(Cost of tender document non-refundable)

All bidders shall upload CDR/FDR/BG@ 2% of advertised Cost pledged to opening authority All bidders shall upload Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No.

DIPK-12312/24. Dated:-22-02-2025

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR** 

**OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI** 

(Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of ASIMA BASHIR D/O BASHIR AHMAD LONE R/O DOLIPORA Tehsil KREERI Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 08/011/2012 and event has been shown to be occured at HOME for issuance of delay order .In this connection .

if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertaine

> **Executive Magistrate** 1st Class KREERI

#### GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR **OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI** (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of MARYAM BINT E IMRAN D/O IMRAN AHMAD KHAN R/O SHIRPORA TILAGAM Tehsil TANGMARAG Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 31/03/2022 and event has been shown to be occured at SDH KREERI for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained .

Executive Magistrate 1st Class KREERI

#### **GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR** OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR KREERI (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Registrar Births and Deaths (Block Development Officer Wagoora)/ chokedar hassubmitted case file pertaining to Birth of MOHAMMAD ZOHAAN KHAN S/O MUSHTAQ AHMAD KHAN R/O VIZER Tehsil WAGOORA Distt. Baramulla having verified the date of Birth as 03/02/2022 and event has been shown to be occured at SDH KREERI for issuance of delay order .In this connection . if anyone have any objection to the issuance of delay order of Birth certificate shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class KREERI

نائب تحصيلدار كريرى

## **Public Notice**

I have applied for FERTILIZER LICENCE & SEED LICENCE and style GROWERS STOP if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of CHEIF AGRICULTURE OFFICER SOPORE / BARAMULLA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained

> NAME .... PARVEEZ MOHI UD DIN S/O ....GH MOHI UD DIN MIR R/O JANWARA SOPORE BARAMULLA

## Name Change

Name) SYED JUNAID JAVAID NAQASH to (New Name) SYED JUNAID KASHANI. In future I will be known as ( New Name ) SYED JUNAID KASHANI. If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

**SYED JUNAID KASHANI** 

## **GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR** Office of the Executive Engineer **PWD (R&B) Division Pattan**

## **Cancellation of NIT**

Cancellation of NIT No 54 of 2024-25 issued vide endorsement No: 4328-34Dated: 20.02.2025 Subjected NIT issued vide this office NIT serial No: 54 dated: 20.02.2025 ishere by cancelled due to some technical error in BOQ.

DIPK-12341/24

Date:22-02-25

**Executive Engineer R&B Division Pattan** 



🥑 @HEADLINESTODA17





District Admin Kupwara holds Mega Workshop on Disaster Management

#### HT News Network

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 22: District Administration Kupwara today organized a One Day Workshop on Disaster Management which was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan.

The workshop was attended by SSP Kupwara, Gulam Jeelani; ADC Kupwara, Mohd Rouf Rehman, besides, district/sectoral officers, Senior Officers from Army, CRPF, NDRF, SDRF, Tehsildars and other stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the aim of organizing the workshop is know how to pool and utilize the resources from different agencies and stakeholders to tackle different kinds of disasters in the district.

She said that the administration

faces different adversities including flash floods, earthquake, cloud bursts, fire etc which need coordinated and immediate effort to tackle with the situation.

Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts among departments, volunteers, and individuals to minimize losses from unpredictable and unavoidable disasters

ADC Kupwara also spoke and thanked the participants for attending the Workshop. He also emphasized the need for collaborative efforts from different agencies to strengthen the efforts for disaster management in the district.

Meanwhile, experts and officers from different departments including SDRF presented their plan in the meeting for dealing with the untow-



ard circumstances. Later, the officials and volunteers

from SDRF, NDRF including Aapda Mitras provided detailed awareness and demonstrations about various life saving techniques to be followed while taking rescue and rehabilitation operation. They demonstrated how to support disaster victims, including procedures for cardiac attacks, road accidents, burns, drowning, and the use of critical ambulances.

The demonstration session covered essential topics such as earthquake preparedness, first aid, Basic Life Support (BLS), and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). An award ceremony was also held during which certificates of appreciation and momentos were given to the officials and volunteers who have shown good performance in mitigation efforts during disasters. The workshop was attended by SSP Kupwara, Gulam Jeelani; ADC Kupwara, Mohd Rouf Rehman, besides, district/sectoral officers, Senior Officers from Army, CRPF, NDRF, SDRF, Tehsildars and other stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the aim of organizing the workshop is know how to pool and utilize the resources from different agencies and stakeholders to tackle different kinds of disasters in the district.

She said that the administration faces different adversities including flash floods, earthquake, cloud bursts, fire etc which need coordinated and immediate effort to tackle with the situation.

Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts among departments, volunteers, and individuals to minimize losses from unpredictable and unavoidable disasters.

## **JSW GROUP CHAIRMAN SAJJAN JINDAL RECEIVES 'BUSINESS LEADER OF THE DECADE'** AWARD AT AIMA MANAGING INDIA AWARDS

#### **HT News Network**

Srinagar February 21: JSW Group Chairman Sajjan Jindal has been conferred with the coveted 'Business Leader of the Decade' honour at the 15th AIMA Managing India Awards, in recognition of his transformative leadership in expanding JSW Group into a global conglomerate.

The award was presented to Jindal at a ceremony here today in the presence of Chief Guest Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Education, and Guest of Honour Jitin Prasada, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry; Electronics and IT. . The citation was read by Yezdi Nagporewalla, Chief Executive Officer, KPMG India.

Under Jindal's stewardship, JSW Group has achieved remarkable growth, more than doubling its revenues to US\$24 billion. His strategic vision has led to JSW nearly tripling its annual steel production capacity to 39 million tonnes, whilst establish-



ing the group as a major force in renewable energy and cement manufacturing

The award recognises Jindal's pivotal role in aligning JSW Group with India's infrastructure modernisation initiatives. Under his leadership, JSW has emerged as the second-largest private player in India's ports sector, whilst also venturing into futurefocused sectors including electric vehicles and military drones through international partnerships. The AllIndia Management Association (AIMA) Managing India Awards celebrate outstanding contributions to India's business landscape. The ceremony brought together distinguished award winners, industry leaders and AIMA office bearers for this landmark 15th edition of the awards.

# **DC Kupwara Flags off 'Poshan** on Wheels' rally for mass awareness

## HT News Network

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 22: Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today flagged off 'Poshan on Wheels' rally, an IEC campaign about the Poshan Schemes, here at D.C Office Kupwara. District Programme Officer ICDS Kupwara, Tanveer Hakeem; CDPO Kupwara, Mujeeb Wani were present on the occasion.

The rally saw participation of large number of Anganwari Workers of Poshan Project Kupwara and other stakeholders who were holding banners and placards, spreading awareness about the Poshan Schemes and healthy lifestyle. The rally went through different streets of Kupwara town,



making the commitment to sensitize the people at for a Malnutrition free Kupground level regarding balwara.On the occasion, the anced diet and healthy life Deputy Commissioner said that the aim of the rally is to create awareness about the importance of nutrition and healthy practices comes in the district, espeamong the masses. She cially for women and chilimpressed upon the offidren, and urged the cers and field functionaries community to actively

participate in the campaign.

DPO Kupwara, Hakeem Tanveer also spoke and said that the department is making concerted efforts to reach the benefits of Poshan Schemes to the targeted beneficiaries for which rigors IEC campaign is held across the district.

## Police books 02 notorious drug peddlers under PIT NDPS Act in Sopore

HT News Network

## **DC Baramulla Inspects Developmental** Works in Sopore; Stresses Timely **Completion of ongoing projects**

## **8 Metric Tons of Misbranded** Fertilizer seized in Shopian

## HT News Network

to farmers and crop yields. The investigation into the matter is currently underway and shall be

style practices. She stressed the administration's commitment to improving health and nutrition out-

Sopore February 22: Continuing its drive against drug peddlers and its propagators, police have booked 02 notorious drug peddlers under PIT NDPS Act in Sopore after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority. Two notorious drug peddlers namely Firdous Ahmad Dar son of Nazir Ahmad Dar resident of Mahrajpora Sopore and Firdous Ahmad Bhat son of Ghulam Mohiudin Bhat resident of Mazbugh Sopore have been booked under PIT NDPS Act after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority & subsequently lodged in District Jail Udhampur and District Jail Kathua.Its pertinent to mention here that many cases are registered against these drug peddlers and they were involved in promoting drug trade by supplying drugs to local youth of Police District Sopore.

Consistent actions of Police against the criminals should reassure the community members that police are making all efforts to eradicate social evils and making all efforts to keep our society free from drug abuse.

## Police recovers stolen vehicle from accused involved in extortion case in Srinagar

### HT News Network

Srinagar February 22: In a significant breakthrough, Police in Srinagar recovered stolen vehicle from accused person in extortion case. The accused, identified as Imtiyaz Ahmad Shah @ 99, son of Ghulam Qadir Shah, a resident of Aikal Mir Khanyar, was apprehended by the team of Police Station Safakadal in connection with the extortion case vide FIR No. 02/2025 under section 308(2) BNS.

Upon his disclosure, a stolen (Alto) vehicle has been recovered by the investigating team. More recoveries are expected in the ongoing case.

It is pertinent to mention here that the accused person is involved in more than 30 FIRs involving theft and extortion in addition to being booked under PSA twice. The apprehension of the accused person is a significant achievement of Srinagar Police which was undertaken by the team of Police Station MR Gunj led by SHO Police Station MR Gunj. Police is committed to eliminating social crimes from the society. Respectable citizens are requested to share information of anti-social elements with J&K Police in eradicating crimes and maintaining peace and order in the society. Police is committed to eliminating social crimes from the society. Respectable citizens are requested to share information of anti-social elements with J&K Police in eradicating crimes and maintaining peace and order in the society.

### **HT News Network**

Baramulla, February 22: Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, Minga Sherpa, conducted an inspection of developmental projects in Nagbal, Seerjageer, and Ladoora to assess progress and ensure timely execution of works aimed at improving connectivity in the region.

During the visit, the DC reviewed the Ladoora-Nagbal Bridge, being constructed at a cost of 5.17 crore, and the Sopore-Seerjageer Bridge, with an estimated cost of 12.69 crore. These projects are important for enhancing road infrastructure and easing transportation for the local population.

DC directed the executing agencies to expedite the work while ensuring adherence to quality standards. He stressed the need for modern engineering techniques, proper safety measures, and minimal inconvenience to the public during execution. He also instructed

officials to closely monitor progress and ensure completion within the stipulated timeframe.

DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Sopore and Superintending Engineer R&B, along with other concerned officers.

Shopian, February 22: The authorities in Shopian district conducted a major enforcement action today and seized 8 metric tons of misbranded fertilizer viz Vermicompost/Organic Manure.

The operation was carried out based on specific inputs by Farooq Ahmad, Chief Agriculture Officer in coordination with the Enforcement Wing of the Agriculture Department and Naib Tehsildar Shopian, Sajad Ahmad.

Following the confiscation, the concerned shop owners were served a show cause notice by the Law Enforcement Inspector, and the shops were sealed in the presence of Naib Tehsildar.

Officials have reiterated that strict action will be taken against individuals engaged in the sale of misbranded or substandard agricultural inputs, which pose a threat

prosecuted in the court of law.

Pertinently, following the directions of District Development Commissioner, Shopian, blockwise teams comprising officials from the agriculture, horticulture, and revenue departments, led by authorized personnel, are actively monitoring the sale of agricultural inputs across the district.

During the enforcement action, the Chief Agriculture Officer advised farmers to request testing reports and permissions from licensed holders before purchasing agricultural inputs.

Farmers have also been urged to report any suspicious products or activities in the market to the Law Enforcement Inspector wingonphonenumber9596182640 for prompt action.

# **Municipal Council Anantnag Organizes** "SVANidhi Se Samriddhi" Prog

## HT News Network

Anantnag February 22: The Municipal Council (MC) Anantnag today organized an impactful "SVANidhi Se Samriddhi" programme at Town Hall Anantnag aimed to empowering street vendors by creating awareness about the benefits of the PM SVANidhi scheme and other government-linked welfare initiatives.

Commissioner Secretary, Mandeep Kour, while addressing the function virtually, emphasizing the need for street vendors to avail full benefits of the SVANidhi scheme. She urged them to focus on proper sanitation, cleanliness, digital payments, and actively seek assistance



through various government welfare schemes to enhance their businesses and livelihoods.

The event witnessed the presence of Director Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir, Qazi Sarwar, and Additional District Development Commissioner, Abdul Aziz Sheikh.Addressing the participants, the officers stressed the importance of maximizing the benefits of the SVANidhi scheme, ensuring financial inclusion, and enhancing socio-economic upliftment through government support.

A large number of street vendors, local residents, and stakeholders actively participated in the event, making it a grand success.

Besides, awareness sessions, the programme also featured various cultural performances, adding a vibrant touch to the occasion.

The Municipal Council Anantnag remains committed to the welfare of street vendors and will continue to work towards their empowerment by facilitating access to financial aid, capacity-building initiatives, and government welfare schemes.







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# **DC Budgam reviews arrangements for** upcoming Maha Shivratri Festival

HT News Network

BUDGAM, FEBRUARY 22: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo today held a meeting to review the arrangements put in place for the ensuing festival of Maha Shivratri.

The festival having great religious and cultural significance is scheduled to be celebrated on February 25 with zeal & enthusiasm by the Kashmiri Pandit community.

While taking review, DC directed concerned departments to ensure all necessary arrangements are put in place for the devotees especially at the Pandit colony, Sheikhpora, Budgam and other places.



DC instructed for ensuring hassle-free traffic movement for the devotees to the adjoining city areas, besides adequate facilities at the designated place for parking of the vehicles. He also directed for ensuring uninterrupted supply of electricity, besides illumi-

nation at the temple. of floriculture to ensure He directed executive availability of sufficient engineer PHE Budgam to quantities of flowers at the ensure adequate drinking colony.

first aid facilities.

AD Food was directed to ensure sufficient food grains there, and AD fisheries to install stalls of Fish, walnut, Almonds, lotus stem, saffron, honey etc inside the premises of pandit colony.

He also stressed on concerned for maintaining proper sanitation at the temple premises.

water facility is available at Police authorities were the venue so that devotees asked to take all measures do not face any problem. to ensure adequate secu-DC also directed the rity arrangements in and health department to around the Colony.

deploy a nedical team at Besides CPO budgam, the venue with the avail-CMO, Food safety officer, ability of all medicines and AD food, AD fisheries, Executive Engineer KPDCL, PHE He directed department , DSP HQ, representatives of all other concerned departments were present in the meeting.

# **Dy CM visits GMC Jammu; assures hassle** free deliverance of healthcare services

## HT News Network

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 22: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Kumar Choudhary, today visited Government Medical College, Jammu and reviewed functioning of the institution.

The Deputy Chief Minister took stock of the facilities being provided to the patients besides assessing the strength of doctors and para medical staff deployed there.

While interacting with the staff, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the government has already issued instructions that the people should not face any inconvenience with respect to the public services, especially the healthcare facilities. He said that the government is committed to ensure speedy and hassle free deliverance of public services to the people.

"Patients should not face any inconvenience while availing the facilities



meant for them as health is one of the main priority sectors of the Government," maintained the Deputy Minister. The Deputy Chief Minister directed the hospital authorities to ensure that the patients are provided with quality healthcare facilities. He

said that it should be ensured that benefits of all health related policies are provided to them without any fail.Principal Medical College and other senior faculty members accompanied the Deputy Chief Minister during his visit.

## **PDD Sub-Division Langate Hosts Awareness Program on PM Surya Ghar Mufat Bijli Scheme**

## DR.AB QAYOOM

Langate, Feb 22: The Power Development Department (PDD) Sub-Division Langate, including Handwara, organized an awareness program on the PM Surya Ghar Mufat Bijli Scheme at the Municipal Town Hall, Langate. The initiative aimed to educate the public on the scheme's benefits, registration process, and the advantages of solar energy as a sustainable power solution. The event saw the participation of SE PDD North as the Chief Guest, alongside officers from PDD Division Handwara and Sub-Division Langate. A large number of local residents also attended the session, engaging in discussions about the scheme.Prominent public representatives, including DDC Chairman Kupwara Irfan Sultan Pandithpori, MLA Langate Shaikh Khursheed Ahmad, DDC Mawer Khursheed Ahmad Dar, and Er. Avoub, Executive Engineer (Exn) PDD Handwara, were present at the event. Other key officials, including AEE Langate



and AEEs of Handwara Division, also contributed to the awareness session. During the program, officials emphasized the availability of online registration links for eligible individuals to apply and avail the benefits of the scheme. The initiative, aimed at promoting clean energy and free electricity through solar power, was well received by the attendees, who appreciated the detailed information and support provided by the PDD team. The department has announced plans to conduct similar awareness camps across Handwara and Langate in the coming months to ensure wider outreach and participation in the scheme.

# **ZEO Langate holds environment** awareness programme

## Rp Jawaid Iqbal

Langate:-Zonal Education Officer Langate in compliance to the orders issued by Worthy Chief Education Officer Kupwara organised Environmental Building Programme as part of the Inclusive Education initiative under SAMAGRA Shiksha. The said program was conducted at Government Girls Higher Secondary School Langate, in which all stakeholders, including School Nodal Officers (SNOs) for UDISE, parents, Children with Special Needs (CWSN), special educators, ZNO and resource persons participated.Eminent personalities who adorned the occasion included ZEO Langate Mr.Naseer Ahmad Moulvi, ZEPO Langate Mr. Reyaz Ahmad Shah, District Coordinator Inclusive Education Javid Ahmad



Wani and ZNO Altaf Hussain Dar. The basic objective of the programme was to identify and screen CWSN students, provide them with a conducive learning environment, and foster inclusion within the educational framework. The initiative aligns with the broader goal of achieving equitable access to

education for all, particularly under the Inclusive Education component of SAMAGRA Shiksha.During the event Resource person Ma'am Neelofer ji highlighted the challenges and opportunities related to the CWSN community, emphasizing grassroots-level implementation. Mr Javid Sb Resource Person

provide platform to have a comprehensive discussion on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act, 2016, focusing on its effective execution to ensure that CWSN students benefit from the various government schemes designed for them.The programme witnessed active participation from all stakeholders, and a discussion on different matters related to Inclusive Education was held in a congenial atmosphere.DNO Inclusive Education Kupwara Mr Javid Ahmad Wani provided a vital insight of IED component it's schemes and other related aspects. The vote of thanks to visiting officials, teachers and students was presented by ZEO Langate and he laid stress on to the early identification of CWSN children for their mainstreaming and inclusive Education in our schools.

## Er Aijaz Hussian Leads Budget Par Charcha in Pulwama, **Discusses Key Initiatives for Economic Growth and Welfare**

**MVD Baramulla Cracks Down on Traffic** Violators, Seizes 13 Vehicles, realizes fine 38K

HT News Network

Pulwama: Er Aijaz Hussian, Senior Leader BJP and DDC/Member Haj Committee of India, convened an engaging and insightful meeting on the 2025 Budget Par Charcha in Pulwama. The event was honored by the presence of District President Pulwama, Gayoor Ahmad Andrabi, as the guest of honor, with Er Aijaz Hussian attending as the chief guest.

During the session, Er Aijaz Hussian provided a comprehensive overview of the newly introduced budget, emphasizing how it brings tangible benefits for the common masses. He elaborated on the key initiatives and provisions aimed



at fostering economic growth, improving infrastructure, and enhancing social welfare.

Er Hussian further discussed the government's vision for sustainable development and how the

budget's provisions will create new avenues for progress and opportunity in the region. The meeting witnessed active participation from a wide range of stakeholders, including members of civil society,

businessmen, industrialists, and educationists. Attendees engaged in meaningful discussions on how the budget can shape the future of Pulwama and Jammu & Kashmir.

The event served as a platform for open dialogue, where ideas and suggestions were shared to further improve economic policies and drive progress. The gathering highlighted the growing interest in policy matters and demonstrated the community's eagerness to contribute to the region's development.

The session concluded with a firm commitment to ensuring that the benefits of the budget reach all sections of society, with a focus on continued efforts for the welfare of the people.

### **HT News Network**

Baramulla, February 22: In a decisive move to enhance road safety and enforce traffic regulations, the Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) Baramulla, headed by ARTO Baramulla Muazzam Ali, conducted an intensive two-day enforcement drive across key locations in the district. The crackdown resulted in realisation of Rs 38,000 in fines and the seizure of 13 vehicles operating with expired fitness certificates and permits.

The enforcement teams targeted major traffic violations, including over speeding, reckless driving, overloading, improper documentation, and non-compliance with seat belt and helmet rules. Vehicles lacking Speed Limiting Devices (SLDs) were also penalized as part of the strict measures.



ARTO Muazzam Ali said the drive aimed to instill discipline among motorists and reduce road accidents. He emphasized that strict enforcement would continue to ensure compliance with traffic laws and improve overall road safety. He further stated that similar drives would be conducted regularly, focusing on ensuring that all vehicles meet fitness and safety standards.

# Gongul-2025 Kicks Off at SKUAST-K, Showcasing Agri Innovations & Sustainabilit

## DR.AB QAYOOM

Srinagar, Feb, 22: Agriculture Minister Javid Ahmed Dar today inaugurated Gongul-2025, the 10th SKUAST-KAgriTech Mela, at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), Shalimar campus. The three-day mega event showcases the latest agricultural innovations, sustainable farming practices, and agri-entrepreneurship opportunities, attracting policymakers, industry leaders, and farmers from across Jammu & Kashmir.This year's mela places special emphasis on secondary and sustainable agriculture, aligning with the objectives of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). With over 400 stalls, the event features cutting-edge farm machinery, precision agriculture materials, and farm animals. For the first time, a pet animal show has been organized, where trained dogs and cats showcased their skills. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Agriculture Minister Javid Ahmed Dar lauded SKUAST-K for naming the AgriTech Mela Gongul, a term deeply rooted in Kashmiri agricultural traditions. He highlighted the importance of preserving Kashmir's rich cultural heritage while embracing modern farming techniques. He also reaffirmed the government's commitment to supporting SKUAST-K in transforming J&K's agriculture sector and ensuring strict regulation of agrochemicals to prevent the sale of spurious products.Vice Chancellor Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai along with Director Extension SKUAST-K and other officals of SKUAST-K said that the Gongul-2025 reflects the

tools, high-quality seeds, planting



aspirations of J&K's Holistic Agriculture Development Program, envisioning the region as a model bioeconomy for Viksit Bharat through innovation-driven farming. They thanked the J&K government for its continued support in fostering agricultural advancements.MLA Irfan Hafiz Lone stressed the need for policy interventions to prevent the rapid shrinkage of agricultural land and promote the export of local produce. MLA Hilal Akbar Lone called for effective implementation of laws to conserve natural resources, while Ashok Dalwai, Chairman of the Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru, underscored J&K's crucial role in India's Vision 2047. The event features multiple subthemes, including:Brand Bizz Fest - Facilitating networking among MNCs, FPOs, SHGs, and industry leaders.Food Fest – Showcasing

diverse cuisines from student startups and local food entrepreneurs.Startup and Tech Show – Highlighting groundbreaking agricultural innovations. Industry Exhibition – Displaying advanced farm machinery and technologies. Organic & Natural Farming Show - Promoting bio-inputs and sustainable farming.Medicinal & Aromatic Plants Show – Exploring Himalayan herbal products.Processed Products Show - Showcasing value-added farm products. Seed & Planting Material Show - Providing high-quality seeds and plants for farmers. With an extensive lineup of exhibitions, discussions, and hands-on demonstrations, Gongul-2025 is set to shape the future of agriculture in Jammu & Kashmir, blending tradition with modern technology.

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# Justice Sreedharan reiterates importance of ensuring timely legal aid for inmates, strengthening rehabilitation measures

## HT News Network

BHADERWAH, FEBRUARY 22: Reaffirming commitment of Legal Services Institutions towards ensuring access to justice and upholding the constitutional rights of prisoners, Justice Atul Sreedharan, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority today conducted an extensive tour to District Jail Bhaderwah to assess the living conditions of inmates, legal aid availability and evaluate the effectiveness of rehabilitation and reformative measures.Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&KLSA, Anoop Sharma, Registrar IT, High Court of J&K and Ladakh as well as Muzamil Hayat Kabli, Under Secretary (Adm), J&K LSA, accompanied the Executive Judge, J&K LSA.

Present on the occasion were Balbir Lal, District & Sessions Judge (Chairman, DLSA), Bhaderwah; Harvinder Singh, District Magistrate Doda; Sandeep Mehta, SSP Doda; Hamidullah Malik, Jail Superintendent and Tabraiz Qazi, Secretary, DLSA Bhaderwah.During the visit, Justice Sreed-



haran inspected various facilities within the jail, which currently houses 164 undertrial prisoners, 23 detenues and 04 convicts, against a total capacity of 155 persons. He also visited the separate female block, where 15 undertrial prisoners including 7 foreign nationals are lodged.

The video conferencing facility in the jail was also found operational, with an ongoing trial in the case titled "State vs Sahil Dingra" in which the accused appeared before the 2nd Additional Sessions Judge, Jammu through virtual mode from district jail Bhaderwah. The Executive Chairman

also inaugurated an Eye Check-up Camp organized by the District Administration in collaboration with the Red Cross Society, where 60 inmates were registered for examination and all the medicines prescribed were provided free of cost by the Red Cross Society. Taking note of medical needs, Justice Sreedharan directed the District Magistrate to explore the feasibility of providing e-consultations through tele-medicine services, particularly for addressing psychiatric and psychological concerns of the inmates. He also advised the District Administration to consider installation of a defibrillator within the jail dispensary to cater to the cardiac emergencies.Justice Sreedharan also inspected the 10-bedded medical dispensary, which was found clean and wellmaintained. He also visited the Yoga and Meditation Centre, where live yoga classes were being conducted under the guidance of Dr. Nidhi Padha, helping inmates incorporate physical and mental wellness into their daily routine. Besides, rehabilitation and vocational training being imparted to the jail inmates in the Vocational Centre was also inspected.

## MLA Hilal Akbar Lone Lays **Foundation Stone of New School Building at Vijpara Hajin**

### HT News Network

BANDIPORA, FEBRUARY 22: The Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Sonawari Constituency, of Bandipora District, Advocate Hilal Akbar Lone on Saturday laid the foundation stone for a new 06 roomed double storey school building at Secondary School Vijpara Hajin. The MLA accompanied by Executive Engineer R&B Sumbal Mushtaq Ahmad and other concerned officials laid the foundation stone in presence of Chairman District Development Council Ab Gani Bhat.

Giving details, ExEn R&B Sumbal said that the construction of the new 06 roomed double storey building is being undertaken with an estimated cost of Rs.80 lakh.

He informed that work for Rs.75.45 lakh has been advertised, with Rs.59.95 lakh already allotted for the execution of the project.

During his visit to Vijpara, MLA Hilal Akbar Lone also inspected various ongoing infrastructure projects in the area, assessing their physical progress.

He urged the concerned departments and executing agencies to ensure the timely completion of these works, emphasizing the importance of adhering to set deadlines.

Later, the MLA interacted with local residents, listened to their grievances, and assured them that their genuine issues will be addressed on priority. Later, the MLA interacted with local residents, listened to their grievances, and assured them that their genuine issues will be addressed on priority.

# **KPIs under Aspirational District Programme reviewed at Kupwara**

#### HT News Network

KUPWARA, FEBRUARY 22: In order to review the Key Performance Indicators of Financial Inclusion under Aspirational District Programme (ADP) in Kupwara district, Under Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Abdul Gufran convened a meeting of officers at Conference Hall, D. C Office Kupwara.

The review was aimed at assessing the progress of various development initiatives and ensuring the alignment of district-level performance with the overarching goals of the ADP. The meeting focused on the current

status of the district's growth in several critical sectors, including education, healthcare, infrastructure, financial inclusion and skill development

During the review, the Under Secretary emphasized the importance of strengthening the monitoring mechanism and improving the pace of implementation in order to achieve the desired outcomes.



The bankers were directed to improve their targets under the KCC and other centrally sponsored schemes so that the beneficiaries do not face any inconvenience in getting benefits under these schemes.

CPO Kupwara, ACD, CAO, ALC, DSWO, LDM, besides, District Coordinator, NRLM Kupwara, officers from DIC, bankers and other concerned attended the meeting. During the review, the Under Secretary emphasized the importance of strengthening the monitoring mechanism and improving the pace of implementation in order to achieve the desired outcomes.

## Javed Dar inaugurates 3 day mega AgriTech mela Gongul-2025 at SKUAST-K

HT News Network



SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 22: Minister for Agriculture Production and Rural Development Department, Javed Ahmed Dar, today inaugurated GON-GUL 2025, the 10th SKUAST-K AgriTech mela, a three-day mega event showcasing cutting-edge agricultural innovations, sustainable farming practices and entrepreneurial opportunities in the agriculture sector at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Shalimar campus.

This year's mela is special as it emphasises secondary and sustainable agriculture, reflecting the objectives of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). With a greater focus on value addition, climate resilience and agri-entrepreneurship, the event brings together policymakers, industry leaders and farmers to shape the future of agriculture in J&K.

The mela has more than 400 stalls exhibiting the latest farm machinery, precision agriculture, sale of seeds and planting material besides farm animals and birds. The mela for the first time organised a pet animal show in which pet dogs and cats displayed their training skills. Besides, the event is also featuring the majestic horses.

The Minister lauded SKUAST-K for choosing 'Gongul' as the name for AgriTech mela, which connects the next generation with rich Kashmiri culture. He narrated the childhood activities linked with Gongul (onset of sowing) in Kashmir and evolution of tech-driven farming in the valley. He emphasised the need for preserving the Kashmiri culture, known globally for its cuisine, literature, architecture and rich traditions.

While hailing the HADP, he said the initiative is going to change the fortunes of the people of J&K.

The Minister assured full support of the J&K Government to SKUAST-K in leading the transformation of agriculture landscape of the region. He also ensured strict law enforcement for checking the trade of spurious agrochemicals.

Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, said the Gongul-2025 reflects the achievements and aspirations of J&K's Holistic Agriculture Development Program. He said SKUAST-K has envisioned J&K as a model bioeconomy for Viksit Bharat through futuristic innovation-led farming. He thanked the J&K Government for generous support to the university initiatives.

Member Legislative Assembly for Kreeri Constituency, Irfan Hafiz Lone, while appreciating

# **ELECRAMA 2025 marks beginning of India's** next generation electrical revolution

## Jehangir Malik

SRINAGAR, Feb 22: As India accelerates its journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047 and strengthens its position as a global manufacturing hub under Aatmanirbhar Bharat; the power sector plays a crucial role in driving economic growth, energy security, and sustainability. In this evolving landscape, IEEMA (the Indian Electrical & Electronics Manufacturers' Association) commenced ELECRAMA 2025, the world's largest electrical show on an inspiring note today at the India Expo Mart, Greater Noida.

The 16th edition of ELECRAMA showcases India's capabilities in electrical and power technologies, reinforcing its role as a trusted global partner. The grand inauguration was graced by Manohar Lal Khattar, Union Minister of Power and Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs highlighting the government's commitment to strengthening India's energy infrastructure and fostering innovation in the sector.

The event also witnessed industry visionaries like Oliver Blum, CEO, Schneider Electric; Matthias Rebellius, CEO, Siemens Smart Infrastructure; Sunil Singhvi, President, IEEMA; Vikram Gandotra, President (Elect) and Chairman, ELEC-RAMA 2025 and Siddharth Bhutoria, Vice President, IEEMA & Vice Chairman, ELEC-RAMA 2025, who shared insights on the future of the electrical and power sector.

Addressing the gathering, Manohar Lal Khattar, Union Minister of Power and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs emphasized India's commitment to energy security, grid modernization, and sustainability, aligning with the nation's long-term vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. "India is well positioned to become the

and a developed nation by 2047, with power driving this transformation. The

world's third-largest economy by 2027 2025 presents cutting-edge innovations in energy storage, electric mobility, automation, and AI-driven power systems. electrical and electronics manufacturing The event will also host high-impact B2B



industry will be key in scaling clean energy, advancing grid modernization, and strengthening transmission networks. With over 200 GW of renewable energy capacity installed and a target of 500 GW by 2030, India is making significant progress in sustainable energy adoption. Expanding EV infrastructure and Vehicleto-Grid (V2G) technology will further accelerate the shift towards e-mobility. By 2030, India aims to achieve 800 GW of generation capacity, with 50% from renewable, reinforcing its role as a global clean energy leader. I commend IEEMA for organizing ELECRAMA 2025, a pivotal platform bringing together industry leaders, innovators, and policymakers to drive digital transformation and sustainability, solidifying India's position as a hub for energy innovation and economic growth." Marking its 16th edition, ELECRAMA

meetings, thought leadership sessions, and policy dialogues, fostering collaboration between global and Indian stakeholders

Adding to the launch of ELECRAMA 2025, Oliver Blum, CEO, Schneider Electric, emphasized India's growing role in the global energy landscape, stating, "The rapid expansion of AI, data centres, and industrial growth is driving an unprecedented need for advanced energy solutions. With its robust manufacturing base, skilled workforce, and strong focus on sustainability, India is well-positioned to spearhead the next phase of the energy transition. ELECRAMA 2025, hosted by IEEMA, will be a key platform to showcase innovations, set new industry benchmarks, and forge global partnerships that will define the future of electrification." Matthias Rebellius, CEO, Siemens Smart

Infrastructure, highlighted India's evolving energy sector, remarking, "India stands at a crucial inflection point, with digitalization and clean energy adoption reshaping its power sector. Strategic investments in smart grids, automation, and renewable energy are accelerating progress, positioning the country as a leader in sustainable electrification. ELECRAMA 2025, organized by IEEMA, will be instrumental in bringing together industry leaders to drive innovation, collaboration, and the deployment of next-generation energy solutions that will shape a more resilient and efficient future.'

Adding to the significance of the event, Sunil Singhvi, President, IEEMA, stated, "India's power sector is undergoing a remarkable transformation, fuelled by visionary leadership, robust policy initiatives, and industry collaboration. The nation has already achieved 210 GW of renewable energy, and with a clear roadmap, we are confident in reaching 500 GW by 2030. India is also emerging as a global hub for EV manufacturing and charging infrastructure, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable energy solutions. As supply chains shift globally, India stands poised to be a key player in the energy sector, offering innovation, reliability, and world-class quality. With a strong focus on up-skilling, fostering start ups, and enhancing market access, we are shaping India's future as a trusted leader in the global energy ecosystem. In this journey, IEEMA's ELECRAMA 2025 will serve as the definitive platform for industry collaboration, up skilling, and business excellence. Bringing together global stakeholders, it will shape the future of the sector and strengthen India's position in the global energy landscape."

SKUAST-K in empowering J&K farmers, policy formulation and law enforcement for preserving the fast-shrinking agriculture land and promoting export potential of local produce.

MLA Sonawari, Hilal Akbar Lone, stressed on implementation of the existing laws for saving the natural resources. He lauded the role of the scientists towards welfare and empowerment of farmers.

Chairman, Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru, Ashok Dalwai, said J&K has a crucial role to play in accomplishing the country's targets set under Vision 2047. He said it is important to educate rest of the country about J&K's agri-transformation journey under HADP.

This year's edition is structured around several key subthemes, each offering unique insights into different aspects of modern and sustainable agriculture. The Brand Bizz Fest facilitated networking between MNCs, FPOs, SHGs and industry leaders, while the Food Fest celebrated diverse cuisines crafted by student startups and local food entrepreneurs. The Startup and Tech Show highlighted groundbreaking agricultural innovations and the Industry Exhibition showcases cutting-edge machinery and advanced farming technologies.

Gongul-2025 also emphasised sustainable farming through the Organic and Natural Farming Show, focusing on bio-inputs, and the Medicinal & Aromatic Plants Show, exploring Himalayan herbal treasures. The Processed Products Show exhibited value-added and diversified farm products. Additionally, the Seed Show and Planting Material Show provided premium quality seeds and plants for the farmers and gardening enthusiasts.

## **Special Lok Adalat for Traffic Challans, Electricity Bills held** at Kulgam

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, FEBRUARY 22: District Legal Services Authority, Kulgam orgainsed a Special Lok Adalat today at District Court Complex Kulgam, under the chairmanship of Pr. District & Sessions Judge Kulgam, and Chairman District Legal Services Authority Kulgam Aijaz Ahmad Khan.

During the Lok-Adalat, three benches were constituted one at Headquarter & one each at D.H.Pora and Qazigund.

CMYK

Srinagar, Sunday 23-February-2025



## **Body of hostage Shiri Bibas returned Friday** confirmed by Israel

#### AGENCIES

JERUSALEM, FEB 22 (UNI)

The body of Israeli hostage Shiri Bibas, which was handed over to Israel on Friday night by Hamas via the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Gaza, was confirmed by forensic analysis, Israel's state-owned Kan TV News and other leading media outlets reported on Saturday.

After being handed over to the Israel Defence Forces, the body was transferred to the National Institute of Forensic Medicine based in Tel Aviv, where the identification was made. Bibas's remains were supposed to be returned to Israel on Thursday, along with the bodies of her two children and another hostage, 83-year-old Oded Lifshitz, as part of an arrangement under a three-phase ceasefire-hostage deal between Israel and Hamas, which took effect on Jan. 19.

However, forensic analysis showed the remains returned were not hers. In the developments afterwards, a senior Hamas official, speaking on condition of anonymity, explained that the mix-up occurred due to the chaos caused by Israeli airstrikes, which led to the misidentification of the remains.

"It was an unintentional mistake," he said. Earlier on Friday before the final delivery of the remains of Bibas, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel will seek revenge against Hamas over its failure to hand over Bibas's body.

"We will ensure that Hamas pays the full price for this cruel and evil violation of the agreement," he said.

## **Trump deems Zelensky not** very important at peace talks

AGENCIES

WASHINGTON, FEB 22 (UNI)

U.S. President Donald Trump on Friday depicted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's presence at peace talks as "not very important."

In an interview on Fox News Radio's The Brian Kilmeade Show on Friday, Trump criticised Zelensky's handling of the war. "I've been watching this man for years now, as his cities get demolished, as his people get killed, as the soldiers get decimated." Trump went on to accuse Zelensky of lacking leverage in negotiations. "He has no cards," said Trump. The American president said that Zelensky's participation in talks over the past three years had not led to any substantial progress.

"He's been at meetings for three years, and nothing got done," Trump said.

While acknowledging the devastation in Ukraine, Trump argued that Zelensky's involvement in peace talks has made it more difficult to reach deals. "He makes it very hard to make deals. But look what's happened to his country, it's been demolished."

# Trump says USAID gave \$21mn 'to my friend PM Modi in India for voter turnout'

the amount given by

AGENCIES WASHINGTON/NEW DELHI, FEB 22 (UNI)

US President Donald Trump has again said that USAID gave \$21 million for "voter turnout in India", only this time he said it was given "to my friend too, Trump mentioned PM Modi in India for voter turnout".

For the third time in as voter turnout in India. many days, the US President mentioned the US India turnout? We got Agency for International Development (USAID) as having disbursed the he said, addressing the money.

"...\$21 million going Association meeting in to my friend PM Modi in Washington DC. India for voter turnout. So, we're giving \$21 mil- that money going to India. lion for voter turnout in I wonder what they think India, what about us? I want voter turnout too. back scheme."

"\$29 million to strengthfrom the US government.

There are two people internal affairs. working in that firm; they must be very happy. They're very rich. They'll be on the cover of a very good business magazine mation put out by the US

produced soon," he added administration regarding certain USAID activities sarcastically. Earlier this week and funding.

# Lakhimpur no longer a backward district: Yogi

AGENCIES LAKHIMPUR KHERI (UP), FEB 22 (UNI)

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 373 projects worth Rs 1,622 crore at Rajendra Giri Memorial Stadium in Lkahimpur Kheri district.



# **Bhutanese PM Tshering Tobgay on India visit attended** SOUL conclave, met PM Modi

"These are obviously

deeply troubling. This has led to concerns about foreign interference in India's

internal affairs. "Relevant departments and agencies are looking into this matter. It would be premature to make a public comment at this stage."

USAID."\$21 million for Earlier, Trump, questioning the over \$21 mil-Why are we caring about lion USAID grant by the Biden administration "for enough problems. We voter turnout" in India, want our own turnout," said the funds may have been used "to get some-Republican Governors body else elected".

Addressing an event in Miami, Trump said: " ... "Can you imagine all US\$ 21 million for voter turnout in India. Why do we need to spend US\$ 21 million for voter turnout when they get it. It's a kickin India? Wow... I guess The Ministry of Exter- they (the Biden adminis-We have got to tell the

is a total breakthrough." Citing examples about where the USAID money was going before he

Indian elections, and US\$ 29 million to strengthen the political landscape in them money."

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, FEB 22 (UNI)

Bhutanese Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay was on an official visit to India from February 20-21 to participate in the inaugural Leadership Conclave of the School of Ultimate Leadership (SOUL), which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

meeting with Prime Min- ment of India called on the ister Narendra Modi.

Railways Minister Ash- a statement said. wini Vaishnaw; Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren exemplary ties of friend- exchanges between India

During the visit, Prime tra Margherita and other and mutual understand-

Minister Tobgay had a senior officials of Govern- ing at all levels. Prime Minister of Bhutan,

for External Affairs Pabi- based on trust, goodwill the special partnership.

The visit of the Prime Minister of Bhutan is in

keeping with the tradi-India and Bhutan enjoy tion of regular high-level Rijiju; Minister of State ship and cooperation, and Bhutan, a hallmark of

## 8 workers trapped in SLBC tunnel as its roof collapses in Telangana

#### AGENCIES

HYDERABAD, FEB 22 (UNI)

At least eight workers were trapped in the Srisailam Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel and three others seriously injured after its roof collapsed on a three meter stretch near Domalapenta in Nagarkurnool district of Telangana on Saturday

at the 14th-kilometer mark ations to locate and save Kumar Reddy, along with of the left tunnel, where the workers. ongoing construction work had started just four days ago

approximately 0830 hours. among those trapped. While 42 workers managed to escape, eight others tained serious injuries have

tion department and police treatment.



The incident took place have launched rescue oper-

Gurjeet Singh (Punjab), Sanneet Singh (Jammu & and oversee rescue efforts. Kashmir), Srinivasulu (UP), Around 50 workers Manoj Rubena (UP), Sandwere present in the tunnel eep (Jharkhand), Santosh ing irrigation and drinking during the first shift when (Jharkhand), and Jatka water to Nalgonda district the roof collapsed at Hiran (Jharkhand), are through a tunnel connect-

Three others who susters. were trapped in the tunnel. been rescued and taken to underway to determine the Officials from the irriga- nearby Genco hospital for cause of the roof collapse,

State Minister N Uttam senior officials, visited the site to assess the situation

The SLBC tunnel project is crucial for providing the Srisailam backwa-

Further investigation is official sources said.

## **Believed Air India would** improve under Tatas, but was mistaken, says Agri Minister

eign interference in India's Ministry of External became President, Trump Affairs spokesperson said: "...US\$ 21 million for Randhir Jaiswal said: "We have seen infor-

Bangladesh... Asia is doing well, we don't need to give

en the political landscape nal Affairs, reacting to the tration) were trying to get in Bangladesh; it went to statements by President somebody else elected. a firm that nobody ever Trump, said on Friday heard of. Can you imag- that the revelations are Indian government... This ine a little firm, they got deeply troubling and has a cheque for \$29 million led to concerns about for-

## Landmine blast kills 1 in S. Afghanistan

#### AGENCIES

LASHKAR GAH, AFGHANISTAN, FEB 22 (UNI)

At least one person was killed as a landmine left over from past wars went off in south Afghanistan's Helmand province on Saturday, a local official said.

The deadly accident took place on a road in Gereshk district early Saturday morning when the old landmine exploded on a tractor, killing the driver on the spot, provincial police spokesman Ezatullah Haqqani said.

Afghanistan is reportedly one of the most landmine-contaminated countries in the world, with dozens of people, mostly children, being killed and maimed every month.

## **Trump nominates** replacement for chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff

#### AGENCIES

WASHINGTON, FEB 22 (UNI)

U.S. President Donald Trump on Friday fired the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Air Force General Charles Brown, and announced his nomination of retired Air Force Lieutenant General Dan Caine as a replacement.

"I want to thank General Charles 'CQ' Brown for his over 40 years of service to our country, including as our current Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He is a fine gentleman and an outstanding leader, and I wish a great future for him and his family," Trump said in a post on social platform Truth Social.

Without giving a reason for Brown's dismissal, Trump described Caine as "an accomplished pilot, national security expert, successful entrepreneur, and a 'warfighter' with significant interagency and special operations experience.'

Trump said that during his first presidential term, Caine "was instrumental in the complete annihilation of the ISIS caliphate.

The CM also launched the 'Chhoti Kashi' Gola

Gokarannath Shiva

he said.

tion," he said.

ing that Lakhimpur Kheri ress has been made pos- tricts in the state. is no longer backward and sible through the guidance said that its fertile land of PM Modi, government Prayagraj Maha Kumbh as now yields gold. support, and the dedica-

He recalled Lakhimpur tion of public representa-Kheri's underdeveloptives," he said.

He addressed Lakhimment at independence which was plagued by pur Kheri's past connectivmalaria and poor accesity challenges, particularly sibility despite Dudhwa the uncertainty surround-National Park. "Now, an ing the Bahraich-Mailani Airstrip in Palia is set to railway line. He assured become a full-fledged Air- that the government port, and flood prevention would allocate necessary measures are underway," funds to enhance tourism through improved rail

Assuring no regulatory connectivity, expressing hurdles, Yogi emphasised confidence in Indian Railthe double-engine govways' positive initiatives to ernment's vision to boost boost tourism.

spiritual and eco-tourism, Besides, he lauded the creating ample jobs. "With Tharu tribal women's its fertile land yielding efforts in preserving their administration to ensure 'gold', Lakhimpur Kheri is culture and producing on the path to transformahandicrafts, which have been recognised under

He emphasised that the One District One Lakhimpur Kheri has pro- Product (ODOP) scheme. gressed beyond its status He said that even the PM as a backward district. has acknowledged their "Nearly Rs 4,500 crore efforts.

Yogi credited the worth of projects have been inaugurated and region's public represenlaunched in this district. tatives for actively par-These include the Gola ticipating in development beauty and improve resi-Gokarannath Temple Corinitiatives. "From buildridor and the country's ing a medical college and first PLA plant (bio-plastic developing an airstrip into manufacturing) set up an Airport to enhancing by Balrampur Chini Mills eco-tourism at Dudhwa Limited," he said. National Park, setting up a

The CM said, "Lakhim- PLA plant, and constructpur now boasts not just ing the Gola Gokarnath Shivaratri greetings and Dudhwa National Park Corridor, each initiative expressing gratitude but also a new medical reflects their dedication," college. Numerous develhe said.

opment projects will ease the lives of the people and that Lakhimpur Kheri include him in their Shicreate new employment would soon become one varatri prayers.



Temple Corridor, declar- opportunities. This prog- of the most developed dis-

The CM highlighted the a testament to UP's organisational prowess, with nearly 60 crore devotees participating in the sacred

bathing ritual between January 13 and February 22. He criticised detractors attempting to tarnish the state's reputation and emphasised that development fosters job creation and self-reliance, laying the foundation for a developed India. "The successful Maha Kumbh has,

according to him, silenced critics opposing progress and innovation," he said. Yogi directed the proper rehabilitation for those displaced by the Gola Gokarannath Corridor development. "Families losing homes are to be provided with suitable housing, and shop owners are to receive organised commercial spaces. The

government's goal is to enhance the region's dents' lives without leaving anyone without shelter or livelihood," he said.

Before the event, he offered prayers at the Gola Gokarannath Shiva Temple, extending Maha for contributing to the temple's development. He expressed optimism He requested citizens to

#### NEW DELHI, FEB 22 (UNI)

Miffed over getting a broken seat on an Air India flight, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Saturday called out the airline's poor passenger service and said that he wrongly believed that the carrier under Tatas would scale

"My impression was that uncomfortable to sit. Air India's service would have improved after Tata line staff why the seat was took over the manageminister wrote in a sevenparagraph post on X.

experience, Chouhan said There is not just one such to reach their destination that he was booked on an seat but many more," he early?" he further asked, Air India flight (AI436) said.



Chouhan, a four-time chief minister of Madhya Pradesh, said that his copassengers requested him to change his seat, but he preferred to complete the journey by sitting on the seat allotted to him.

"I don't care about discomfort in sitting, but it is unethical to make passen-

gers sit on bad and uncomtoday and was allotted seat number 8C, which fortable seats after charging them the full amount. was broken and therefore Isn't this cheating the pas-"When I asked the airsengers?" he asked.

"Will the Air India manallotted to me if it was agement take steps to ment, but it turned out to bad, they told me that the ensure that no passenger be my misconception," the management had been faces such inconvenience informed earlier that this in future, or will it continseat was not good and its ue to take advantage of the Narrating his harrowing ticket should not be sold. passengers' compulsion putting the airline in dock.

## **Afghan deputy PM leaves for** Uzbekistan to boost multiple ties

#### KABUL, FEB 22 (UNI)

ment's Acting Deputy statement on Saturday. Prime Minister for Ecoaiming to enhance bilateral enhance political, econom- in Afghanistan, it said.

relations in various sec- ic, trade and transit relators, the office of the acting tions between Afghanistan deputy prime minister for and Uzbekistan, the state-Afghan interim govern- economic affairs said in a ment clarified. During the two-day visit,

Leading a high-ranking the delegation seeks to capnomic Affairs, Mullah delegation, Barader would ture the attention of Uzbek Abdul Ghani Baradar, meet Uzbek officials to dis- investors for the purpose left Kabul for Uzbekistan, cuss issues in an effort to of encouraging investment

AGENCIES

new heights.



Srinagar, Sunday 23-February-2025

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@headlinestodaynews

# **EPIDEMIC OF HYPERTENSION**



**DR. TASADUK HUSSAIN ITOO** FELLOW, INTERNATIONAL DIABETES FEDERATION(BELGIUM)

ing as a global epidemic Land the most common non-communicable cardiovascular disorder -- affecting approximately 1.28 billion adults (mostly aged 30-79 years) globally, as per recent data by World Health Organization(WHO).

As per the same data, an estimated 46% of adult population history of hypertension, age over with hypertension are unaware that they have the condition, such as diabetes or kidney disease. while larger proportion remains undiagnosed, untreated, or inadequately treated for the condition -- thus posing a major risk factor

as well as vision problems, disability and premature mortality.

do not feel any symptoms, though and triglyceride levels and keepvery high blood pressures can ing them under control are crucial cause headaches, blurred vision, chest pain and other symptoms. However, checking one's blood pressure levels is the best way to know if one have it and seek doctor consultation for its early detection, control and treatment, besides prevention.

ypertension is emerg- could increase the potential risks is also low in sodium, saturated of high blood pressure include fat, total fat, and cholesterol. So, adoption of unhealthy routines like eating poorly, being overweight or obese, exercising less, deprived sleep or leaning more heavily on substances such as alcohol, smoking and drug abuse including taking stress; while as non-modifiable risk factors include a family 65 years and co-existing diseases

Therefore, primarily addressing the modifiable risk factors can routine as research has shown that significantly lower the chances of developing hypertension. Main- could increase a person's risk for for development of adverse car- taining a healthy weight, eating a diovascular events, such as heart healthy diet, exercising regularly,

disease, stroke, and kidney failure, taking less salt in diet, getting adequate sleep, avoiding smoking and alcohol consumption; Most people with hypertension and monitoring your cholesterol hallmarks in prevention of hypertension in general and heart diseases in particular.

Moreover, the DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) eating plan is a healthy diet plan which is rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, protein and low-fat The modifiable risk factors that dairy products. Besides that it focus on to consume more fruits and vegetables each day, choose whole grains over refined grains, and opt for protein-rich sources such as poultry, fish, beans, and nuts. As adopting the DASH diet in one's life has been shown to lower blood pressure and hence reduce the risk of hypertension.

More to say, people should also avoid unnecessary stress in their lives by following a good health the depression including stress developing hypertension.

drtasadukitoo@gmail.com

# **Dr Tasaduk launches Diabetes Education Program**



'n view of rising epidemic of diabetes, Kashmir-based medico cum noted columnist Dr Tasaduk Hussain Itoo launched diabetes edudiabetes awareness among masses and listen to que-

ries from diabetic patients and guide them to ensure conditions betes

In a statement issued,



cation program to create and it is crucial to adopt viduals with diabetes, screening and prevention their families, and caregivstrategies to early detect ers about the management and control it to prevent and self-care of diabetes. Fellow of the International complications; that is why The program typically Diabetes Federation(IDF proper screening, preven- diabetes education is key covers topics such as -tion and treatment of their for the prevention of dia- understanding diabetes; ther affiliated with prestinutrition and meal plan-A diabetes education ning; exercise and physi-Dr Tasaduk said that diabe- program is an initiative cal activity; medication Physicians(USA), Research

cation prevention; and lifestyle modifications.

Pertinently, Dr Itoo is a Fellow, Belgium) and furgious organizations including, American College of tes is emerging as a major and a structured program management; blood glu- Society for the Study of public health concern, that aims to educate indi- cose monitoring; compli- Diabetes in India(RSSDI).

# Greener anaesthesia may protect patients, environment: Lancet

#### AGENCIES NEW DELHI

Using less polluting inhaled anaesthetic agents, referred to as greener anaesthesia, may help reduce harmful emissions by 50 per cent in one year without impacting patient safety or outcomes, according to a study, published in the journal Lancet Planetary Health, on Friday.

The healthcare sector contributes significantly to overall carbon emissions via hospital waste, singleuse plastics, transportation, and food service.

About 3 per cent of these hospital-related emissions stem from inhaled agents used during anaesthesia,



gases, they are so dispro- lead to big changes for the

greenhouse gases on the environment, as well as the amount of anaesthetic used. They also analysed patient outcomes such as post-surgery nausea and vomiting, pain scores, unintended awareness, and recall of the surgery.

Separately, the researchers encouraged providers to reduce the use of nitrous oxide (which is 270 times more potent than carbon dioxide at warming the environment), as well as increase the use of sevoflurane -- the least environmentally harmful ether -- instead of isoflurane.

These changes were associated with an average decrease of more said the team from the portionately bad for the environment and, impor- than 14 kg per case in CO2

## Lifestyle and Environmental factors affect health and ageing more than genes: Study

#### AGENCIES LONDON [UK]

A new study led by researchers from Oxford Population Health has shown that a variety of environmental factors, including lifestyle choices (such as smoking and physical activity) and living conditions, have a more significant impact on health and premature death than our genes.

The study, which analvsed data from nearly half a million UK Biobank participants, examined the influence of 164 environmental factors and genetic risk scores for 22 ings were published today ciated with 21 diseases; on diseases of the lung, to improve the health of



Air pollution may be higher inside your

present).

environmental factors smoking around birth, course (referred to as the identified, smoking, socio- were shown to influence exposome) explained a economic status, physical activity, and living condimajor diseases on ageing, tions had the most impact later. age-related diseases, and on mortality and biological premature death. The find- ageing. Smoking was asso- sures had a greater effect for integrated strategies

senior author of the paper, said 'Our research demonstrates the profound health impact of exposures that can be changed either by individuals or through policies to improve socioeconomic conditions, reduce smoking, or promote physical activity.

The research shows that whilst many of the individual exposures identified played a small part in premature death, the combined effect of including body weight at these multiple exposures Of the 25 independent 10 years and maternal together over the life ageing and risk of prema- large proportion of preture death 30-80 years mature mortality variation. The insights from Environmental expo- this study pave the way

with greener options.

a natural area to pursue cal School. reductions in emissions

University of Michigan, environment," said Doug- tantly, no changes for the equivalents. who urged to replace them las Colquhoun, Assistant patients," he added. Professor of anaesthesiol-

There were no changes The study compared were found in the mea-"Inhaled anaesthetics is ogy at the Michigan Medi- the output of carbon sured depth of anaesthedioxide (CO2) equiva- sia, pain scores, or post-"We've shown that small lents, traditionally used operative nausea and because, as greenhouse changes in our practice to measure the effect of vomiting, the team said.

in Nature Medicine.

variation in risk of death, associated with 19 discompared to less than eases; and physical activ-2% explained by genetic ity was associated with 17 predisposition (as per the diseases.

As per the key findings, such as household income, genetic risk dominated identifying key combinathe environmental fac- home ownership, and for dementia and breast tions of environmental tors explained 17% of the employment status, were cancer.

home than outdoors: Study

socioeconomic factors, heart and liver, while ageing populations by

The early life exposures,

factors that shape the Professor Cornelia van risk of premature death Duijn, St Cross Professor and many common ageof Epidemiology at Oxford related diseases simulta-Population Heath and neously.

## Blood pressure drug could be safer alternative for treating ADHD symptoms: Study

#### AGENCIES

#### ENGLAND [UK]

A blood pressure medication may be a safer choice for treating symptoms of attention-deficit/ hyperactivity disorder, according to a study whi. Repurposing amlodipine, a commonly used blood pressure medicine, could help manage (ADHD) symptoms

According to an international study published in Nuropsycopharmologyy, involving the University of Surrey, researchers tested five potential drugs in rats bred to exhibit ADHD- ity and impulsivity--core as the targets for amlodiplike symptoms. Among reduced hyperactivity.

ine in zebrafish, an impor- function. tant model for studying



symptoms of ADHD--in ine. This suggests a potenthem, only amlodipine, a these fish. Further analy- tial target brain pathway common blood pressure sis of the fish revealed that for treatments. Finally, an medication, significantly amlodipine crosses the analysis of UK-wide patient blood-brain barrier for the data showed that people To confirm its effects first time, meaning it can taking amlodipine reportthe team tested amlodip- directly influence brain ed fewer mood swings and less risk-taking behaviour, ADHD.

The researchers then further supporting its brain function sharing turned to human genet- potential as a new ADHD about 70% of genes with ic data and found that, treatment. humans. The results remarkably, ADHD is showed that amlodipine linked to the same calci- author of the study from need for new treatment also reduced hyperactiv- um channels in the brain the University of Surrey, options.

said, "Repurposing amlodipine, a well-established blood pressure medication, offers a promising and swift pathway to address ADHD symptoms. Our research indicates that, due to its existing approval and safety profile, amlodipine could be rapidly redeployed as a treatment option for ADHD, potentially providing relief to patients sooner than developing new medications.'

Current ADHD medications are effective but come with significant side effects: from appetite loss, high blood pressure, headaches and sleep disturbance and carry a risk of misuse. Amlodipine, which is already widely used and well-tolerated, could offer a new, safer treatment option for

Around 25% of patients do not respond well to any current ADHD medication, Dr Matthew Parker, co- highlighting the urgent

#### AGENCIES BIRMINGHAM [UK]

A new study reveals that people may be exposed to unhealthy levels of airborne pollutants inside their homes, even if the outdoor air quality is good.

Researchers at the University of Birmingham used low-cost sensors and innovative techniques over a two-week period to compare particulate matter (PM) in three homes. They discovered that pollution levels in each house were

able than outdoor levels. The researchers found significant differences in PM levels between the three houses, with one home exceeding the World Health Organisation (WHO) 24-hour PM2.5 limit on nine days.

This highlights the importance of monitorhousehold-specific level.

Master's degree in Air Pollution Management and Control at the University

bone commented: "Our study shows the need to ing indoor air quality at a monitor indoor air pollu- ity. tion, as people can have

time spent working from home, understanding the factors that affect air quality within households is increasingly important. The methods we used accurately modelled indoor PM levels, helping to improve exposure estimates at a low cost."

Researchers identified five different factors contributing to PM in indoor spaces - two relating to indoor activities, such as increased movement by residents and three linked to external factors such as a nearby restaurant's kitchen vent. They found that larger particles (PM10) tended to settle faster compared to smaller particles (PM1, PM2.5).

Researchers used Nonnegative Matrix Factoriza tion (NMF) - a powerful tool for uncovering latent patterns in data - to more accurately model indoor PM levels. Using low-cost sensors enabled them to

higher and more vari- second paper published good. PM levels varied sig-Air Fellows studying the philanthropically funded

of Birmingham.

tific Reports, this is the even if outdoor air is commented: "With more within the properties.

enough."

by McCall MacBain Clean nificantly between homes, indicating that monitoring just one location isn't The team note that fac-

tors such as household location, ventilation, Co-author and Clean and occupancy patterns Air Fellow Catrin Rath- influenced particle levels - demonstrating the complexity of indoor air qual-

Co-author and Clean build a more detailed pic-Published in Scien- unhealthy air at home Air Fellow Owain Rose ture of pollutant levels **f** @headlinestoday @headlinestodaynews

Srinagar, Sunday 23-February-2025



## **China loses to Saudi Arabia** in U20 AFC Asian Cup quarterfinals

## AGENCIES

SHENZHEN, FEB 22 (UNI)

Substitute Amar Alyuhabi scored a last-minute goal as host China fell 1-0

to Saudi Arabia in the quarterfinals of the 2025 AFC U20 Asian Cup on Saturday, missing out on qualification for the 2025 FIFA U20 World Cup in Chile.

In the 95th minute, Alyuhabi fired a rightfooted shot from a tight angle, beating the goalkeeper into the bottom right corner after connecting with a cross from Talal Haji.

China dominated possession with 59%, but the young squad struggled to convert chances, including a missed penalty in the second half. Head coach Dejan Djurdjevic fielded China's strongest lineup, while Saudi Arabia made a surprising decision to bench several key starters, including Rakan Alghamdi, Haji, and Ziyad Alghamdi.

## **Jack Draper beats Jiri Lehecka** to reach Qatar Open final AGENCIES

DOHA, FEB 22 (UNI)

British number one Jack Draper reached the final of the Qatar Open with a 3-67-6 (7-2) 6-3 victory against Jiri Lehecka.

The Czech Republic's Lehecka took control of the opening set after breaking serve in the eighth game, before a more even second set went to a tie-break

Draper - who defeated former Wimbledon runner-up Matteo Berrettini on Thursday produced a near-flawless performance in the tie-break to send the match to a decider, the BBC reported.

The final set went with serve until a double fault from Lehecka gifted the 23-year-old Briton a break, with the Czech throwing his racket to the floor in frustration.

# India ready to crack Pak's unpredictability code

#### AGENCIES DUBAI, FEB 22 (UNI)

India is set to take on Pakistan in a crucial ICC Champions Trophy 2025 clash at the Dubai International Stadium on Sunday.

With the match slated to begin at 2:30 PM IST, cricket enthusiasts worldwide are eagerly awaiting yet another chapter in one of the most thrilling rivalries in the sport. India, known for their

consistency and adaptability, will be looking to crack Pakistan's unpredictable gameplay. While India started their campaign with a commanding sixin their opening match, succumbing to a 60-run defeat against New Zealand.

Pakistan has already over England has reaf- handle pressure in highsuffered a setback, with firmed their strength in opener Fakhar Zaman limited-overs cricket.

ruled out due to injury, inclusion. The team, nament, as India's matchwhich has often struggled with middle-order col- UAE instead of Pakistan, lapses, will need to put which was originally desup a strong batting performance to challenge ing attack.

India, on the other the two nations. hand, boasts a well-round-



conditions in the UAE. added to their challenges. Despite a recent 2-0 series loss to Sri Lanka, India's dominant 3-0 clean sweep stakes matches.

es are being played in the ignated as the host nation. This move has further heated contest between Trophy campaign alive.

ed squad and is expected team management, with will be on whether India Singh.

bounce back.

India's disciplined bowl- intensified the already to keep their Champions Hardik Pandya, Ravindra As cricket's fiercest prit Bumrah, Mohammed Pakistan's instability in rivalry unfolds, all eyes Siraj, Axar Patel, Rinku

stan can defy the odds and

Pakistan: Mohammad Rizwan (c & wk), Babar Azam, Shaheen Afridi, The Dubai pitch is Imam-ul-Haq, Shadab A political backdrop expected to be slow, Khan, Haris Rauf, Agha leading to Imam-ul-Haq's also looms over the tour- favouring spinners, while Salman, Mohammad Nawaz, Naseem Shah, vide an advantage to the Usama Mir, Iftikhar Ahmed.

> India: Rohit Sharma (c), Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, KL Rahul (wk), Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Jas-

**Bengaluru FC see off** NorthEast United FC & climb to fourth place



ball, and making inroads

into the Highlanders

defence with ease. They

picked the ball, circulat-

The entire frontline and

Alberto Noguera,

The home side struck

AGENCIES SHILLONG, FEB 22 (UNI)

Bengaluru FC defeated NorthEast United FC ing it from the centre to by 2-0 at the Jawaharlal the flanks and creating Nehru Stadium in the spaces inside the North-Indian Super League (ISL) East United FC defence. match here.

The Blues were efficient midfield moved in tandem in their gameplay, since with Ryan Williams landthey held only 37.3% of ing into the centre of the the possession, but scored box in the third minute, twice out of the four shots deviating from his usual that they took on target on role where he shunts out Friday night. wide to deliver lateral

NorthEast United FC deliveries inside the penwere arguably more alty area. industrious, making 25 crosses as compared to coming on the back of a the 10 of the visitors, brace against Jamshedpur but the Gerard Zaragoza- FC, pulled off a slick pass coached side clinched for Williams and the latter the triumph eventually, slotted it into the bottom moving to the fourth spot left corner to open the in the table with 34 points scoring early on. off 21 games, as the Highlanders are fifth with 32 back courtesy of Alaaed-

dine Ajaraie in the 18th points. Bengaluru FC built minute, who was served a strong momentum from probing cross by Redeem the onset, holding the Tlang.

## Ponting showers praise on Shubman Gill in **Champions Trophy win against Bangladesh**

## AGENCIES

DUBAL FEB 22 (UNI)

Recently crowned as the number one men's ODI batter, Opener Shubman Gill notched a scintillating century - his second in a row in ODIs - to help inspire a six-wicket win for India over Bangladesh at the ICC Champions



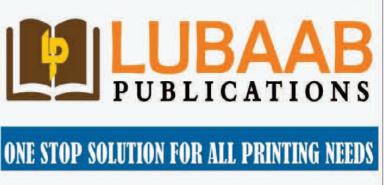
in ODI cricket, particularly off the quicks.

"I just think that the white ball game really suits his style of play," he said.

"One day cricket, he can come out and be nice and aggressive early on in the power play with the field up, get some boundaries away early by playing good, naturally aggressive

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wicket win over Bangla- to rely on their spin-heavy the exits of Gary Kirsten can decode Pakistan's desh, Pakistan stumbled attack, suited for the slow and Jason Gillespie, has unpredictability or if Paki-

Their opening loss to New Zealand has raised ques-Squads: tions about their ability to

evening dew could prochasing team. India will

look to assert their dominance, while Pakistan will aim for a turnaround

## Trophy 2025

ICC Hall of Famer Ricky Ponting believes the knock, and Gill's recent surge in ICC Rankings is old's brilliance in whiteball cricket.

Speaking to Sanjana Ganesan on The ICC while Gill hasn't been Review podcast, Ponting able to deliver his best in he's a big game player as heaped praise on the 25-year-old.

thoroughly "He deserves to be the number one ranked batsman in the world at the moment and it's a great sign for India said. that he's got his account

indicative of the 25-year- underway early in the ferred that over into Test first game of a Champions Match cricket yet, but his Trophy," he said. white ball cricket over the

Ponting added that last three or four years has been outstanding. Look, the longest format of the well. He's played game, white ball cricket

best suits his style of play. the last couple of years, "He's been a very, very obviously being captain good international player of his franchise there," for a number of years," he

"He hasn't sort of trans- ability to find boundaries ing run-getter.

really well in IPLs over

Ponting said.

cricketing shots,' Ponting said.

"He's not a big hitter, he's not anyone that goes out there and tries to do anything outside of the way that he can naturally play. He just scores, he scores boundaries almost at will against fast bowling, against the white ball," Ponting said.

Gill has been in a rich vein of form with the bat coming into the Champions Trophy, having closed India's recent series sweep

Ponting lauded Gill's over England as the lead-

## **Tripura to host 73rd edition of B N Mullik Police Football Championship from Sunday**

#### AGENCIES AGARTALA, FEB 22 (UNI)

Tripura is all set to host the 73rd edition of the BN Championship on Sunday Ranjan saoid.

The prestigious tourna- state till March 7. For the Mullik, a former Direc- ing such a grand tournator of the Intelligence ment. Bureau, is a significant

to compete in football country. We have made matches. As many as 1500 play- for the events. Our offi-

Mullik Memorial All India ers in 45 teams including cials have been working Football Police Football nine women's teams will hard to make sure that take part in the matches, the teams arriving from at U K Academy stadium which will be played at different parts of the here, Tripura Director Khowai, Jirania Agartala, country are accorded a already arrived and on General of Police Amitabh Jampuijala and Udaipur warm reception," Ranjan football stadiums of the said.

The DGP pointed out ment, named after B.N. first time, Tripura is host- that teams from seven central forces like BSF, TSR, and CRPF will

"Police forces of 25 also participate in the event in India's police states and four union ter- event and demonstrate sports calendar, bring- ritories will participate in their skill. A total of 102 lights at night.

ing together police teams the event besides other matches will be organized from across the country paramilitary forces of the during the whole tournament where 120 matches elaborate arrangements during the championship including 21 matches for women's teams and all the knock-out matches will be played at Agartala, All the teams have Sunday morning, Chief Minister Dr Manik Saha

will inaugurate the championship at a grand opening ceremony at U K Academy Stadium. He said that a few matches will be played in flood-

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