



Flood threat eases after 60 hours in Kashmir



- ▶ Jhelum level below flood mark at Pampore, RM Bagh
- ▶ Wullar swells slowly; alert sounded in Uri
- ▶ No weather activity till Sept 12: MeT

Owais Gul/ Waris Fayaz

Srinagar, Sept 06: The flood threat in Kashmir eased after 60 hours as the water level in the Jhelum receded below the flood declaration mark on Saturday.

According to the details gathered by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Jhelum level fell below flood declaration mark at Pampore and Ram Munshi Bagh stations this morning.

Independent Weather Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng informed that the Sangam station witnessed a fall below the flood declaration mark after the gap of 42 hours.

Notably, Kashmir witnessed flood-like situation after heavy rainfall led to the rise in the water level in river Jhelum and other tributaries till September 4. However, some of the areas including Zoonipora, Shalina, Tailbal, Taigan and adjacent areas got submerged after the river water entered into the residential areas.

WATER LEVELS RISE IN BANDIPORA, URI

While the situation eased in Srinagar and southern parts of Kashmir, the Jhelum witnessed a rise in frontier town of Uri in North Kashmir's Baramulla district while the Wullar Lake also swelled in Bandipora District.

Keng informed that Wullar Lake rose silently. "The rising rate has been extremely slow, at nearly 0.5 inches per hour, during the recent hours. However, as the water level of the Jhelum at Asham has fallen by a couple of feet, it suggests that levels may stabilize soon," he said.

Furthermore, the authorities in Uri issued an urgent public advisory after a significant rise in the water level of the Jhelum river, urging people to remain cautious.

The Jhelum, officials said was flowing at around 630 Cumecs and was expected to swell further in the coming hours, posing a threat to low-lying areas in the villages near Line of Control in Uri sector.

In an advisory, authorities strictly prohibited any movement near the Jhelum and other water bodies in Uri.

Residents living in vulnerable and low-lying areas were asked to remain on high alert and adopt precautionary measures. Besides, citizens were advised to stay indoors, remain attentive to official warnings and in case of emergencies, dial 112 immediately.

"All concerned | [More on P6](#)

Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) celebrated with zeal, thousands flock Dargah Hazratbal

Emotional scenes witnessed as devotees had glimpse of holy relic after prayers

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Sept 06: The famous Hazratbal shrine in Srinagar on Saturday turned into the epicentre of spiritual devotion as thousands of people, from different parts of the valley, thronged the revered shrine to mark Milad-un-Nabi (SAW), the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (SAW).

The shrine, nestled on the beautiful banks of Dal Lake, witnessed massive gatherings from late Friday night as devotees from across Kashmir converged to participate in 'Shab-e-Khawani' — night-long prayers, Qur'anic recitation and supplications. According to details



Pics: KNO | Shah Jehangir

collected by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the most moving and emotional scenes were witnessed after Fajr prayers this morning when the holy relic,

Moi-e-Muqqadas — believed to be of Prophet Muhammad (SAW), was displayed before a sea of devotees.

The relic was shown five times throughout the day

after each prayer, drawing overwhelming emotional responses.

As the relic was being displayed, the cries of "Allahu Akbar" reverberated across

the shrine compound. Many devotees broke down in tears, raising their hands in prayers, while others quietly recited verses, overwhelmed by the charged atmosphere of devotion and spirituality.

"It is a blessed moment of our lives. Just one glimpse of the holy relic fills our hearts with peace and tears come naturally," said Mohammad Shafi, a devotee from north Kashmir's Kupwara, who had reached Hazratbal on Friday evening.

For many, the experience was deeply spiritual and personal. "We come here with our families every year. The atmosphere, the prayers, the tears is our way of expressing love for our | [More on P6](#)

Govt emblem not meant for religious places: CM Omar on Hazratbal incident

Seeks apology, says no justification for move

Visits flood-hit areas in Anantnag, Kulgam

Chairs meetings to assess damages, restoration works

Jahangeer Ganaie

Anantnag/Kulgam, Sept 06: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday strongly criticised the installation of a government emblem at the revered Dargah Hazratbal Shrine, terming it both "unnecessary" and "avoidable".

Speaking to reporters in Anantnag after assessing the post-flood situation, Omar, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said he had never seen such symbols installed in any religious place or function, and argued



there was "absolutely no justification" for the move.

"If the work at Hazratbal had been done sincerely, people themselves would have recognised it. You don't need plaques or emblems to claim credit," he said.

The Chief Minister said that Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah gave the shrine its current shape, yet "he (Sheikh Abdullah) never thought of using a plaque or stone to

highlight his contribution, and still people remember his role with respect."

Reacting sharply to Waqf Board chairperson Dr Darakshan Andrabi's statement warning of PSA action against those who damaged the emblem, Omar said the approach was wrong from the start. "The first mistake was to hurt people's sentiments. Instead of threatening PSA, the right | [More on P6](#)

LG Sinha assures justice in Chittisinghpura massacre

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sept 06: A delegation of 35 Shaheed Singhs Welfare Organization, Chittisinghpura led by its Chairman S. Jagjeet Singh called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday and demanded a fresh probe into Massacre of 35 Sikhs at Chittisinghpura Anantnag by Pakistan-sponsored terrorists on 20th March 2000.

They further put forth various welfare issues of the Next of Kins of the martyred civilians including compassionate appointment under SRO-43, extension of benefits at par



with non-migrant Kashmiri Pandits; reservation in admissions in different courses in Government universities/

Colleges, and financial assistance for the construction of memorial at Chittisinghpura Anantnag. | [More on P6](#)

'Operation Sindoor'

Indian armed forces demonstrated capability to hit enemy hard: Air Chief Marshal

KNO Monitoring Desk

Srinagar, Sept 06: Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh on Saturday said that through 'Operation Sindoor' Indian armed forces demonstrated their capability to deliver swift, precise and decisive blows to the enemy.

Addressing a passing out parade at Chennai the Air Chief Marshal, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "Operation Sindoor stands as



a shining testament to India's unparalleled prowess."

He said that "Operation Sindoor" showcased the exceptional coordination between three services. | [More on P6](#)

IAF rescues 541, airlifts 10,000 kg relief in flood, landslide-hit J&K, Punjab, HP

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Sept 06: Officials said on Saturday the Indian Air Force (IAF) evacuated 541 people and airlifted over 10,000 kilograms of essential relief material across Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir in the aftermath of landslides and floods triggered by heavy rains.

According to the details shared by officials with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) IAF helicopters conducted operations in the Bharmor—Chamba sector of Himachal Pradesh, the Kullu

and Kishtwar sectors, and other affected areas in Jammu & Kashmir.

"In a continuous 17-hour operation, four helicopters and 35 crew members evacuated stranded residents and delivered supplies, including food, medicines, and tarpaulin sheets, to remote locations such as Sainj Valley and Bharmor," officials said.

"The operations in J&K focused on regions affected by landslides and cloudbursts, including areas along the Jammu-Rajouri-Poonch and Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag routes," they added. | [More on P6](#)

J&K Bank MD hands over Rs 130 cr dividend for FY25 to UT admin

LG Sinha congratulates Bank

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sept 06: Initiating the payment of dividend to shareholders, Managing Director and CEO J&K Bank Amitava Chatterjee on Saturday presented two dividend cheques of Rs 122.85 Crore and Rs 7.92 Crore to the UT Administration — the Bank's promoter and major shareholder — for the Financial Year 2024-25. The dividend cheques were handed over to



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo; Principal Secretary, Finance, Santosh D Vaidya; Principal

Secretary to Lieutenant Governor Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, and Mohammad Shafi Mir, Company Secretary J&K Bank | [More on P6](#)

Jmu-Sgr National Highway likely to reopen in two days: Dr Jitendra

Downpour derails traffic restoration on NH

250-mt stretch buried under hill in Udhampur

Mughal Road remains open for LMVs

Umaisar Gull Ganaie

Udhampur, Sept 06: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, on Saturday said the restoration work of the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway is going on at a war footing basis and it is expected to reopen within two days.

In a post on X, Dr Singh, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "Road restoration in the district is progressing fast! Out of 400 damaged roads, over 50% have already been restored, and many more will reopen soon."

He said, "Restoration work of the National Highway is going on despite constant rain and adverse weather conditions. It



is expected to be operational soon—maybe in one or two days—depending on how favorable the weather remains to ensure speedy work."

The Jammu-Srinagar Highway in Udhampur has remained shut for more than ten days after it was badly damaged in the district.

According to the officials an early | [More on P6](#)

CM, Dr Farooq offer Maghrib prayers at Hazratbal shrine

Pray for peace, prosperity in J&K

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sept 06: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday joined the devotees at the revered Hazratbal Shrine here on the auspicious occasion of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW). The Chief Minister offered Maghrib Namaz (evening prayers) at the shrine, which houses the sacred Moy-e-Muqaddas (Holy Relic of Prophet Muhammad, PBUH). After the prayers, he was blessed with a glimpse of the Holy Relic, along-with the congregation of devotees.

Former J&K Chief Minister

Dr Farooq Abdullah, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, and MLA Zaidil Tanvir Sadiq also participated in the congregational prayers at the shrine.

On this spiritually significant occasion, Omar Abdullah prayed for everlasting peace, communal harmony, and the well-being and prosperity of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Chief Minister extended warm greetings to the people on Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW), urging them to uphold the noble teachings | [More on P6](#)

Flood aftermath

Rise in diarrhoea, fever, typhoid, skin infections in J&K

Doctors urge authorities to strengthen preventive measures

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Sept 06: A mild but noticeable rise in cases of diarrhoea, fever, typhoid, and skin-related infections has been reported from several parts of Jammu and Kashmir following recent foodborne conditions that have affected the region.

Doctors across different hospitals and private clinics have observed an uptick in patients complaining of abdominal discomfort, high-grade fever,

vomiting, and skin rashes.

Health experts, who spoke to the news agency - Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said the surge is due to the consumption of contaminated food and unsafe drinking water during the humid weather spell, which provides a favourable environment for the spread of bacteria and viruses.

"We are seeing more patients with waterborne and foodborne infections in the past one week. In many cases, people admitted to hospitals were found to have consumed unsafe water or improperly stored food," said | [More on P6](#)

Govt on high alert until complete normalcy: Satish



KT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 06: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma Saturday undertook an extensive tour of Block Maira Mandrian and Kathar to assess the damages caused by the recent floods and oversee the relief measures being extended to the affected families.

The Minister was accompanied by senior officials of the district administration, Revenue, FCS&CA, PWD, PHE, and Rural Development departments.

The Minister visited several inundated localities, inspected damaged houses, agricultural fields, and public infrastructure, and interacted with the people to understand their immediate requirements.

During his visit, the Minister expressed solidarity with the affected families and assured them that the

Government is fully committed for their speedy rehabilitation and restoration of normalcy. He directed the district administration to carry out on-the-spot assessment of damages to houses, crops, and livestock so that adequate compensation is provided without delay.

The Minister further stressed the need for adequate supply of food grains, clean drinking water, electricity, and medical facilities in the affected areas. He instructed the Food & Civil Supplies Department to ensure uninterrupted distribution of ration under PDS and further asked the Health department to deploy mobile health units to vulnerable areas for immediate medical aid.

The Minister also directed the PWD and Rural Development departments to undertake urgent restoration of damaged roads, culverts, and link paths to ensure smooth connectivity of the villages with main roads, thereby facilitating quick

transportation of relief material. Highlighting the need for long-term solutions, the Minister said that the Government is working on comprehensive flood management and mitigation strategies for the region to reduce the recurring loss of life and property during heavy rains. On the occasion, the locals, while interacting with the Minister, raised certain concerns and issues like drainage, embankments, and road safety before the Minister.

While addressing the locals, Satish Sharma said: "This is a difficult time for our people, but I assure you that no family will be left unattended. The Government is taking every possible step to provide relief, restore essential services, and support the affected households in rebuilding their lives."

He reiterated that the Government will remain on high alert until complete normalcy is restored and he himself will continue to monitor the progress of relief and rehabilitation works in the constituency.

Water supply restored in 80% affected areas of Jammu

KT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 06: After significant improvement in the water supply situation across Jammu city, private water tankers have been permitted to resume independent operations with immediate effect.

The services of private water tankers had earlier been placed under the regulatory control of the Jal Shakti Department, following directives issued by the Jal Shakti Minister, Javed Ahmed Rana, in response to a severe water shortage affecting several parts of the district.

This temporary measure was aimed at ensuring equitable distribution, price regulation and

uninterrupted access to safe drinking water for all residents during the crisis.

With the dedicated and coordinated efforts of the Jal Shakti Department, supported by district authorities and ground staff, normal water supply has now been restored in approximately 80% of the affected areas.

In the remaining localities, alternative arrangements like deployment of water tankers, bore-well supplies and temporary water stations are functioning efficiently to meet public demand.

Jal Shakti Minister has lauded the cooperation extended by private water suppliers during the period and acknowledged their

contribution in stabilizing the situation during this critical phase.

As private operators resume their services, they are expected to operate in accordance with applicable guidelines, safety protocols and quality standards.

The Government will continue to closely monitor the water supply scenario to ensure there is no disruption or exploitation of services.

Jal Shakti Department reaffirms its commitment to providing safe, reliable and adequate drinking water to every resident and expresses gratitude to the public for their support, patience and cooperation throughout the period of difficulty.

Mission YUVA DLIC Gbl approves 96 cases

KT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, SEPTEMBER 06: A meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) under Mission YUVA was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore.

The aim of the meeting was to review and approve applications submitted by young aspiring entrepreneurs under the Mission YUVA initiative, which aims to provide financial assistance and capacity-building support to youth for starting and sustaining their businesses so that they can earn their livelihood.

During the meeting, the committee held a threadbare discussion on the applications received under the scheme and after careful scrutiny and discussions, the Committee approved 96 eligible cases for further financial support and guidance.

Cluster Head J&K Bank was directed to ensure timely processing and quick disbursement of sanctioned cases to benefit the youth entrepreneurs at the earliest.

Milad-un-Nabi observed with fervor in Poonch DC, SSP join devotees in processions



KT NEWS DESK

POONCH, SEPTEMBER 6: Eid Milad-un-Nabi was observed with great religious fervor across district Poonch Saturday.

Deputy Commissioner Ashok Kumar Sharma; Senior Superintendent of Police, Shafaket Hussain Bhatt; ADDC Pankaj Magotra, ADC Tahir Mustafa Malik; ASP Mohan Lal, Tehsildar Haveli Azhar Majid; ARTO, Basharat Mehmood along with other district and police officers joined the grand procession and extended greetings to the people on the auspicious occasion.

Thousands of devotees chanting Islamic slogans participated in religious processions taken out at various places in the district. The main procession in Poonch town started from Jamia Masjid and passed through the main market, Parade Chowk, Nakhawali Road before culminating at Eidgah, where a large gathering offered prayers.

Similar processions were also held at Mendhar, Mandi and Surankote, where religious preachers and scholars addressed the gatherings, highlighting the noble teachings of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). They emphasized that Islam stands for peace, brotherhood and harmony, calling upon people to uphold unity and strengthen communal amity beyond barriers of caste, creed, religion or region.

Mudgal reviews performance, functioning of JKSC



KT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 06: Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services and Sports (YSS), Yasha Mudgal Saturday chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to assess the overall functioning and performance of the Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council (JKSC).

The meeting was attended by Special Secretary YSS, Director Finance YSS, Secretary JKSC, Executive Engineer JKSC and other senior officers of YSS and JKSC.

While reviewing the human resource issues of the department, the Commissioner Secretary underscored the need to expedite the process of filling all vacant positions. She emphasized that adequate staffing is essential for the optimal functioning of sports infrastructure across the Union Territory.

Highlighting the importance of youth engagement in sports, the Commissioner Secretary directed JKSC to conduct population-wise analysis of youth participation in sports activities across J&K and analyse the same with respect to the national average. She further instructed that a comparative study be undertaken with other states that have demonstrated success in sports development,

and adopt their best practices to boost sports culture across Jammu and Kashmir.

In order to enhance the competitive performance of athletes in J&K, the Secretary JKSC was asked to formulate a comprehensive plan aimed at increasing medal tallies in national and international competitions.

Highlighting the potential of J&K as an emerging global sports destination, the Commissioner Secretary advised the JKSC to examine the feasibility of hosting international sporting events, including World Championships, in the Union Territory, which will significantly contribute to enhancing the global visibility of Jammu & Kashmir as a sports destination.

She also stressed on the importance of media visibility and directed the J&K Sports Council to ensure that all sports events receive adequate publicity before, during, and after their conduct.

During the meeting, Secretary JKSC delivered a detailed presentation covering key aspects of the Council's operations like institutional functioning, upcoming projects, major achievements, upcoming international and national championships and the status of the ongoing works under the Capex /PMDD.

Dir Agriculture conducts extensive tour of Gbl

KT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, September 06: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah, conducted an extensive tour of Ganderbal district to review agricultural activities and engage with the farming community.

Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Ashok Kumar Sharma and Senior Superintendent of Police, Shafket Hussain Bhatt, ADDC Poonch, Pankaj Magotra, ADC Poonch, Tahir Mustafa Malik, ASP Poonch, Mohan Lal besides other administrative and police officers also took part in the yatra. They greeted the devotees and extended their wishes on the occasion, appreciating the communal harmony and active participation of the people in ensuring a peaceful and joyous celebration.

The visit focused on promoting sustainable practices and strengthening agricultural initiatives, with interactions centered on apiculture, vegetable cultivation, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and organic farming in key areas, including Patishalbugh Organic Village, Zazna Village, and Kangan.

During the tour,

Shah met with farmers involved in apiculture, emphasizing the potential of beekeeping as a sustainable income source. He highlighted the department's commitment to providing technical support and quality assurance for apiculture products to access broader markets.

In the realm of vegetable cultivation, the Director interacted with farmers to promote crop diversification and modern farming techniques. He reviewed ongoing initiatives under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP), encouraging farmers to adopt high-yield, climate-resilient vegetable varieties.

He assured the provision of quality seeds, poly houses, and technical guidance to ensure year-round production and improved livelihoods.

He also engaged with Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in Ganderbal, discussing their role in collective marketing, resource sharing, and value addition. He emphasized the department's support in strengthening FPOs through training, infrastructure, and market linkages to enhance their operational efficiency and economic impact.

A significant part of the tour included a visit to Patishalbugh Organic Village, where the Director assessed

the progress of organic farming initiatives. He interacted with farmers adopting organic practices, praising their efforts in sustainable agriculture and encouraging certification to boost market access.

Director reiterated the department's commitment to empowering the agricultural community through technology, innovation, and financial support under HADP and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs). He urged farmers to leverage these initiatives for enhanced productivity and profitability, assuring close coordination with field functionaries for pre- and post-harvest support.

OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

(OFFICER CHAIRMAN PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE) POSHAN PROJECT, TRAL

Quotation for supply of nutrition items for Blocks Tral, Dadasara, Aripal & Awantipora

Subject: Providing of rates of below mentioned Nutritions items (SNP).

As per the directions of the procurement, committees of the respective blocks, the Super Bazaars / Cooperatives Stores / Fixed Shops / registered Local Shopkeepers of concerned blocks are hereby informed that the Poshan Project Tral is going to procure the below mentioned nutrition items under SNP / SAG for supplying to Anganwadi Centre. In this context, a Short term quotation in invited under which interesting parties possessing their Shops / establishment in these concerned blocks may furnish their rates along with sample of items (Including Loading / Unloading & Labour charges) upto the Aw Centres. The rates should reach to this office within seven days from the date of issuance of this quotation:-

S. no	Nutrition items	Unit	Rate	Brand
1	Channa-A Grade (Atleast 2-3 samples from various brands)	Rate Per KG		A-Grade
2	Moongi Green-A Grade (Atleast 2-3 samples from various brands)	Rate Per KG		A-Grade
3	Egg	Rate Per Egg		Medium Size
4	Mustard Oil -A Grade (Atleast 2-3 samples from various brands)	Rate Per KG		A-Grade
5	Haldi- A Grade (Atleast 2-3 samples from various brands)	Rate Per KG		A-Grade
6	Salt Iodized - A Quality (Atleast 2-3 samples from various brands)	Rate Per KG		A-Grade
7	Biscuits Quality (Atleast 2-3 samples from various brands) (oats/ Millets)	Rate per Packet (7 biscuits / Pkt)		A-Grade
8	Green Peas (Atleast 2-3 samples from various brands)	Rate Per KG		A-Grade
9	Packed Nutrie (Atleast 2-3 samples from various brands)	Rate Per KG		A-Grade

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- The quotation duly signed and stamped should be submitted in a sealed envelope to the office of Child Development Project Officer (Chairman Nutrition Procurement Committee), Poshan Tral, by or before 11-09-2025 up to 4:00pm.
- The items are required to be delivered at each AWC of the project.
- The delivery of nutrition items must be completed within seven days of the supply order. Any delay in delivery of nutrition items beyond stipulated time frame shall attract a penalty of 1% of total cost, per day of delay. Continuous non-compliance with terms will lead to cancellation of supply order and black-listing of firm.
- In case of unforeseen Circumstances i.e., natural calamities or any government imposed restrictions delivery of nutrition may be revised upon mutual agreement.
- The items supplied will be surveyed by the procurement committee at AWCS. Any deviation to Supply Order/ approved sample Will lead to cancellation of supply order.
- The items [supplies approved shall be sent to Food Safety Department for testing and in case of adverse report regarding the same, the concerned supplier shall be blacklisted and FIR shall be lodged against him / her under rules.
- The payments will be made after satisfactory survey of nutrition items by procurement committee members. Supply of substandard nutrition items may result in cancellation of supply order and penalty upon the concerned firm.
- The department reserves the right to accept or reject any sample based on the recommendations of members of the nutrition procurement committee.
- The department reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation without any reason.
- A supplier can submit quotations for one RDD Block only and must be from the same block and possess his/her shop/ establishment in the same Block. In case, no quotations are received from any supplier for any of the four Blocks, the suppliers can participate in quotations for more than one Block.
- The Quotations shall be opened on 12-09-2025 at 12:30 pm in presence of intending suppliers.

Sd/- Member Secretary Block Tral
Sd/- Member Secretary Block Aripal

Sd/- Member Secretary Block Dadasara
Sd/- Member Secretary Block Awantipora

Sd/- Chairman Child Department Project officer Poshan Project Tral

DIPK-5948/25 Dated: 06-09-2025

Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW)

Children lead rallies across Kashmir

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

Srinagar, Sep 06: Streets of Kashmir on Saturday transformed into rivers of devotion as people of all ages, from small children to young adults and the elderly, including women, joined the Eid-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) rallies held across the Valley.

From the crowded markets of Srinagar to the quiet hamlets of North and South Kashmir, Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) processions filled every corner, carrying the colours of faith, love and unity. Children were at the heart of the celebrations. Wearing green headbands and with Islamic flags painted on their faces, they marched with tiny steps but immense spirit, drawing smiles from elders and



parents alike.

The melodious recitation of Naats, gave the processions a rhythm of innocence and reverence.

In Srinagar's Alamgari Bazar, flags fluttered above rooftops as crowds swelled. The air was fragrant with rose water.

Abdul Rashid, a father watching his 9-year-old wave a green

banner taller than himself, said his son insisted on painting the flag on his cheek today, as it made him feel part of something bigger.

Similar scenes unfolded in Anantnag, Baramulla, Pulwama, Budgam, Kupwara, and other districts. Villages that usually echo with silence in the evenings reverberated

with loudspeakers praising the Prophet (SAW).

Homes were decorated with lights, mosques adorned with banners, and shops offered free sweets and bread to passersby.

"This love has been carried through centuries," said Mohammad Yaseen, an elderly participant in Srinagar. "Seeing children lead today shows our devotion will never fade."

Notably, the processions were not only spiritual but also social gatherings. Neighbours met on the streets, women watched from balconies, and travellers paused to join the chants. In some areas, local volunteers managed traffic, offered food, and maintained discipline, blending service with faith—(KNO)

Netizens slam vloggers for making circus of floods in Kashmir

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

Srinagar, Sep 06: With life in Kashmir gradually returning to normal after recent flood scare people have voiced strong concern over the mushrooming presence of vloggers and self-styled reporters who flooded social media platforms with "live updates" on recent flood like situation in Kashmir.

"Social media has turned into a fish market. Every other person is going 'live' on Facebook, saying 'hum abhi apko information de re h subha se, nazreen share kro,'" Umer a student from Srinagar said. He said,

people are scared because instead of clarity, we are bombarded with half-truths and rumors. "Everyone here is a journalist. A mike and a mobile makes you journalist in Kashmir, it is everywhere here," he said.

"When we open our phones, all we see are new faces with a mic and cameraman. They talk as if they are running TV channels. It creates unnecessary panic," said Shazia.

Meanwhile, people urged the administration to regulate these practices. "Authorities should have a look at social media and see who is doing what. People need information, not chaos

and fish market in the name of social media journalism" said another resident.

Moreover, pointing out the nonsense of the trend, one resident in a lighter vein said, "If Kashmir's population is over estimated one crore, then 99 lakh people here are just saying nazreen, share karo every day."

Notably, KNO on September 3 had reported that the Jhelum has swelled and officials have urged the journalist fraternity and Facebook page administrators not to spread panic by posting hourly gauge readings or live minute-to-minute updates—(KNO)

Former Indian skipper to visit Sgr today

KNO

Srinagar, Sep 06: Cricket enthusiasts and aspiring young cricketers in Kashmir are set to receive a rare opportunity to train under a cricketing icon.

Former Indian captain, Mohammad Azharuddin, will visit Srinagar tomorrow on September 7, 2025, to conduct a specialized training camp at the MS Cricket Academy.

This highly anticipated visit offers local talent a unique chance to learn directly from one of India's most celebrated cricketers. Azharuddin, renowned for his elegant batting style and astute leadership, is expected to provide invaluable guidance and insights into the finer nuances of the game.

The training camp aims to hone the skills of budding cricketers and is being viewed as a significant boost for the sport in the region. Azharuddin will be at the academy



to directly mentor participants, sharing his vast experience from representing India at the highest level—(KNO)



People buying crispy food outside Hazratbal shrine in Srinagar on the occasion of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW)

Pic: Jahangir Shah (KNO/KT)

Growers delay apple harvest due to highway closure

JAHANGEER GANAIE

Srinagar, Sep 06: As Kashmir's famed apple season begins, fruit growers in lower areas, where the season starts early, are caught in a crisis yet again due to the frequent closure of the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, the valley's only all-weather road link with the rest of the country.

The disruption has forced many to delay apple picking, fearing heavy losses if their produce gets stranded en route to markets.

According to the Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers Cum Dealers Union, around 800 vehicles carrying high-density apples and pears are currently stranded on the highway, putting the livelihoods of thousands of families at risk.

"This is extremely worrying," said Bashir Ahmad Basheer, Chairman of the Union said.

He said that every year, during harvest season, fruit growers face one crisis or another. This year, prolonged closures have already delayed transportation, and our perishable fruit cannot survive such conditions, he said.

"We strongly demand the intervention of the government to arrange goods trains for transportation or make arrangements for heavy vehicles on Mughal roads so that this crisis is not repeated every season," Basheer added.

Nearly 70 per cent of the valley's population depends directly or indirectly on horticulture, with apples being the backbone of the rural economy. Kashmir produces over 70 per cent of India's apples,



contributing thousands of crores annually to the UT's economy.

Farmers fear that if the stranded produce does not reach markets on time, the fruit will rot, and even those that make it will fetch far below the expected rates due to deteriorated quality.

"This is the peak season for gala varieties of apples and pears," said Basharat Ahmad, a grower from Sopore, one of the largest fruit trade hubs in north Kashmir. "The longer our trucks remain stuck, the more we lose. Even if they somehow reach Delhi or other markets, their condition won't be the same, and we won't get the right price."

While the Mughal Road is seen as an alternative, growers say it has offered little relief. Current restrictions allow only six-tyre vehicles, which limits the volume of fruit that can be transported. Moreover, such vehicles often do not make it beyond Delhi, leaving major southern and central Indian markets, such as Bangalore, Kanpur, and Chennai, out of reach.

"Without access to these major markets, our income potential

shrinks drastically," said Ghulam Mohammad, an orchardist from Shopian. "This is why we need a long-term solution." Many growers are now urging the government to explore railway transport as a permanent alternative. "If goods trains are arranged, fruit growers won't be held hostage to road closures every year," said Mohammad Yousuf, a grower from Pulwama. "This sector is the backbone of J&K's economy. The least the government can do is ensure its survival."

The Srinagar-Jammu Highway has remained mostly closed over the last two weeks following landslides and road damage caused by heavy rains at several vulnerable spots. For fruit growers, this is not just a seasonal inconvenience but a recurring nightmare that threatens the very future of Kashmir's horticulture.

"We appeal to the government to treat this as an emergency," the growers said. "Without smooth transport, all our hard work will go to waste, and the valley's economy will collapse further. Immediate steps must be taken before the damage becomes irreparable."—(KNO)

3 Kashmiri labourers killed in HP Landslide laid to rest

RAJA SYED RATHER

Kangan, Sep 06: Grief and mourning engulfed Central Kashmir's Kangan on Saturday as the bodies of three local labourers, who were killed in a devastating landslide in Himachal Pradesh's Kullu district, were airlifted and brought back to their native villages.

Pertinently, at least eight persons including six Kashmiris were killed in a landslide incident at Inner Akhara Bazar in Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh two days ago.

The deceased have been identified as Abdul Rashid Sheikh, son of Mohammad Jamal Sheikh of Kijpora Kangan, Mehraj-ud-Din Lone, son of Mohammad Sabir of Gundari Kangan and Sajjad Ahmad Wani, son of Abdul Ahad Wani of Gundari Kangan. Emotional scenes were



witnessed as the coffins arrived in Kijpora and Ari Guripora Kangan. Thousands of people joined the funeral prayers, with heart-wrenching cries echoing through the villages.

Locals carried the coffins through the narrow lanes before the victims were laid to rest.

MLA Gurez Nazir Ahmad Khan Gurezi, MLA Kangan Mian Mehar Ali, SDM Kangan Nazir Ahmad, and Tehsildar Kangan Mubashir Amin expressed solidarity with the families and took

part in the last rites.

Shabir, a resident of Ari, told KNO, "We sent them to earn a livelihood, but they returned in coffins. Our hearts are shattered."

Political leaders across Jammu and Kashmir expressed their condolences.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah termed the tragedy heart-wrenching, while Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha described the incident as "unfortunate and saddening,"

extending condolences to the bereaved families and praying for the safety of those still missing.

MLA Kangan Mian Mehar Ali said he had spoken to one of the injured labourers and assured the victims' families of all possible support. He also confirmed that MP Central Kashmir Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi had been approached to take up the matter for timely assistance.

Officials confirmed that while the bodies of three victims have been handed over to their families, at least three more labourers from Kangan remain trapped under the debris in Kullu. Their bodies are expected to reach their native villages once recovered. Rescue operations in Kullu is ongoing on a war footing as anxious families in Kashmir wait for news of their loved ones—(KNO)

Heavy rainfall lashes Zojila sector

RAJA SYED RATHER

Ganderbal, Sep 06: Heavy rainfall lashed Zojila sector on Saturday afternoon, triggering concerns among commuters and locals. However, the officials here have confirmed that no damage or untoward incident was reported during the inclement weather conditions.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Ganderbal, Khalil Ahmad Poswal clarified that while the downpour was intense for a short duration, speculation

about a cloudburst was incorrect. "There has been no cloudburst in Zojila. People are requested not to pay heed to rumours and avoid spreading misinformation," the SSP said.

Traffic authorities and Beacon officials were placed on alert to respond swiftly in case of disruptions, but the situation remained under control.

Weather experts also dismissed cloudburst reports.

An Independent Weather forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng said that no such event

occurred in the Baltal-Sonamarg area of Ganderbal district, contrary to some media claims. "What took place was a brief spell of heavy rain. No significant damage has been reported, and the minor landslides on the SSG road are already being cleared," Keng said.

Satellite observations further confirmed the same, showing no major cloud formation such as strong cumulonimbus (thunder) clouds. The buildup began around 3 p.m. and gradually cleared by 6:30 p.m, he said—(KNO)

14 FIRs registered against violation of food safety norms

KNO

Anantnag, Sep 06: In a continued effort to uphold public health standards and ensure the safety of food being served and sold across the district, Anantnag Police on Saturday said to have launched a massive drive against restaurants and shopkeepers found violating food safety regulations and public health norms.

During the ongoing inspection and enforcement drive, several

establishments were found to be operating in contravention of prescribed guidelines, a police spokesman said in a statement.

Consequently, strict legal action has been initiated by various police stations across the district including Police Station Bijbehara has registered four FIRs bearing numbers 170, 171, 172, and 173 of 2025 under relevant sections of law; Police Station Kokernag has also registered four FIRs numbered 97,

98, 99, and 100 of 2025; Police Station Achabal has registered two FIRs, bearing numbers 76 and 77 of 2025; Police Station Anantnag has filed two FIRs, numbered 173 and 174 of 2025 and Police Station Dooru registered two FIR's under FIR No's 79 and 80 of 2025.

All the cases have been registered under the relevant provisions of law applicable to food safety, public health, and hygiene standards. Further

investigations are underway and defaulters will be dealt with strictly as per legal provisions, the spokesman said.

Anantnag Police reiterated their commitment to ensuring the health and safety of the public and urges all food business operators to strictly adhere to the norms laid down by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and other regulatory bodies—(KNO)

KPDCL announces power shutdown in Kashmir parts

KT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Sep 06: According to Chief Engineer KPDCL, that in view of emergency restoration of damaged portion of tower no. 95 A of 132 KV D/C Zainakote-Pattan Transmission Line, the power supply from 33kv feeders including Nowpora, Arampora, Sopore, Watergam, Bandipora & SIDCO, Kupwara Hotline, Kupwara Old, MES, Handwara Hotline & Handwara Old, Dollipora,

Kralpora, Hyhama, Pattan, Gulmarg, HMT, Markundal and adjoining areas.

Similarly, the power supply from 33 KV Lisser Hiller line to receiving stations including Aarkhoshipora, Hiller Bahi and Shankerpora shall remain affected on September 08 from 10:00Am to 3:00Pm.

The areas to remain affected include Nowpora, Arampora, Sopore, Watergam, Bandipora & SIDCO, Kupwara Hotline, Kupwara Old, MES, Handwara

Hotline & Handwara Old, Dollipora, Kralpora, Hyhama, Pattan, Gulmarg, HMT, Markundal and adjoining areas.

The areas to remain affected include Hiller, Shankerpora, Sagam, Aarkhoshipora and adjoining areas.

Role Of Technology In Empowering Annadatas: Transforming Agriculture Through Technology

Our farmers are the 'Annadatas.' When our farmers prosper, India will prosper: Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Press Information Bureau

India has been an agrarian country since ancient times, and therefore, the foundation of a strong and developed nation lies in empowering and uplifting its farmers—the Annadatas. Recognizing this, the government has consistently prioritized farmers' welfare, and worked on streamlining the Beej Se Bazaar Tak (from seed to market) journey to make it more efficient and productive. Technology is today playing a pivotal role in this transformation.

The sector is witnessing large-scale integration of modern tools—Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Machine Learning (ML), drones, satellite mapping, and the JAM Trinity. These innovations are revolutionizing farming practices and improving the lives of millions of farmers.

Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT)

To modernize agriculture and improve farmer welfare, AI and IoT are being widely adopted. They help increase yields, encourage sustainable practices, and address challenges related to weather, pests, and market access.

Kisan e-Mitra: Government of India has developed Kisan e-Mitra, an AI Chatbot –to address farmers' queries digitally in their own languages, thereby empowering them through technological interventions. The Kisan e-Mitra is removing technological and language barriers of the farmers. This AI-powered voice-based chatbot answers farmers on their queries regarding PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, Kisan Credit Card & Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in 11 Indian languages. It handles over 20,000 queries daily and has already responded to more than 95 lakh farmer inquiries.

National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS): Launched on 15 August 2024, NPSS uses AI and ML to detect pest attacks and crop diseases early. Farmers and extension workers can upload crop images to NPSS app or its portal <https://npss.dac.gov.in/> for instant

analysis and expert advice. Covering 61 crops and identifying more than 400 pests, it helps protect crops from climate-related risks. As on March 2025, 10154 pest management advisories have been issued through NPSS for the benefit of farmers.

Satellite-based Crop Mapping: AI-powered analytics help monitor crop growth with weather patterns, enabling accurate forecasting and better decision-making at the farm level.

IIT Ropar – Technology and Innovation Foundation is developing IoT-based devices and sensors aimed at enhancing saffron cultivation and streamlining its supply chain across India.

Applications of AI and IoT include precision farming, climate monitoring, smart greenhouses, livestock tracking, and drone-assisted farming.

Space Technology in Agriculture

Space technology is being leveraged to make farming more resilient and data-driven:

FASAL (Forecasting Agricultural output using Space, Agro-meteorology and Land based observations) Project: Under FASAL program, the Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) plays a crucial role in Crop Production Forecasting for India. Using methodologies developed by the Space Applications Centre (SAC), ISRO, the MNCFC generates crop forecasts at District, State, and National levels for major crops of the country. The program covers a wide range of crops, including wheat, rice, mustard, sugarcane, jute, rabi sorghum, cotton, soybean, tur, gram, and lentil, for which crop maps and acreage statistics are produced. Recently, the center has also started generating a Crop Health Factor for wheat and paddy. These forecasts are generated using a combination of optical and microwave remote sensing data, which help in estimating crop area, assess crop condition, and predicting production.

Real-time Drought Monitoring: Geoportals developed with Space Applications Centre (SAC), ISRO provide live updates on rainfall,

soil moisture, crop condition, water storages etc.

Support to PM Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY): Under PMFBY, space technology is being leveraged for several operational applications, including smart sampling for crop cutting experiments (CCEs), yield estimation, and dispute resolution related to area and yield.

Krishi Decision Support System (Krishi-DSS): A cloud-based geospatial platform integrating satellite images, weather, soil, and water data to guide farmers and policymakers.

Use of Drones

Drones are emerging as game changers in agriculture, helping with spraying, monitoring, and precision farming. The government has introduced several initiatives to promote their adoption:

Subsidies and Support under Sub-mission On Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM):

The Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization' (SMAM) is one of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) implemented through the State Governments. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to the farmers for purchase of agricultural machines and equipments including the post-harvest and processing machines on individual ownership basis. Financial assistance is also provided for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) and Village Level Farm Machinery Banks (FMBs) in order to provide machines and equipments to the farmers on rental basis as per their requirements.

100% financial assistance, up to Rs 10 lakh per drone, is provided for purchase and field demonstrations by ICAR institutes, Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs) are eligible for grants up to 75% of the cost of Kisan Drones for demonstrations on farmers' fields.

In order to make available drone services to farmers on rental basis, financial assistance @ 40% up to a maximum of Rs. 4.00 lakhs are provided for purchase of drones

by Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) under Cooperative Society of Farmers, FPOs and Rural entrepreneurs.

Agriculture graduates establishing CHCs are eligible for 50% assistance, up to Rs 5 lakh per drone.

Individual small and marginal farmers, SC/ST farmers, women farmers, and farmers from North Eastern States are provided 50% assistance, up to Rs 5 lakh per drone.

Other farmers are eligible for 40% assistance, up to Rs 4 lakh per drone.

Namo Drone Didi Scheme: The Government has approved the 'Namo Drone Didi' Central Sector Scheme with an outlay of Rs 1261 crore for 2023-24 to 2025-26, aimed at providing 15,000 drones to Women Self Help Groups (SHGs). The scheme seeks to promote advanced agricultural technology for improved efficiency, higher crop yield, and reduced operational costs, while simultaneously empowering SHGs as drone service providers to enhance their income and livelihood opportunities. Under this initiative, selected Women SHGs are eligible for Central Financial Assistance (CFA) covering 80% of the drone package cost, up to a maximum of Rs 8 lakh.

SVAMITVA Scheme: The scheme helps people in villages get legal ownership papers for the houses and land they live on. Drones are also being utilized for land mapping, helping farmers obtain legal property ownership documents. As on July 2025, drone survey has been completed in 3.23 lakh villages under the SVAMITVA Scheme. This not only reduces disputes but also facilitates access to bank loans, thereby improving farmers' prosperity.

JAM Trinity

The Jan Dhan–Aadhaar–Mobile (JAM) Trinity ensures transparent and leak-proof subsidy transfers directly into farmers' bank accounts. This system has eliminated middlemen and corruption, empowering farmers economically.For instance, on 2 August 2025, honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the 20th instalment of PM-KISAN, transferring Rs 20,500 crore directly

to the accounts of 9.7 crore farmers. This is a powerful example of how JAM is transforming farmers' lives.

Beyond these initiatives, the government continues to push forward digital and technological missions in agriculture—whether through the Digital Agriculture Mission or e-NAM (National Agricultural Market). Each step is aimed at simplifying the farmer's journey from seed to market (Beej Se Bazaar Tak) and making Indian agriculture self-reliant, efficient, and future-ready.

Technology is no longer a distant concept for farmers—it has become an everyday ally in the fields, empowering the true providers of the nation, Annadatas.

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The Limits Of Xi And Putin’s ‘No-Limits’ Partnership

Despite Russia's obvious economic dependence on China, the Chinese are not yet dictating outcomes, and Russia is not acting like a junior partner.

Political, historical, and geographical factors on each side ensure that nothing about the relationship will be simple or straightforward.

Ruby Osman and Dan Sleat

Much has changed since Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin last stood together atop Tiananmen Square in 2015. When they did so again this week, it was supposedly as equal partners. But, of course, the reality is far more complex.

The conventional wisdom is that China has cemented its position as the dominant partner, especially since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. After all, it is now Russia's biggest trading partner, accounting for more than half of Russian imports in 2023, whereas Russia doesn't even make China's top five. While Russia relies on China to buy roughly half of its crude oil exports, these purchases account for only 17.5% of China's total oil imports. Simply put, Russia needs China to keep its own economy going.

Yet for all this dependence, China is not dictating outcomes, and the Kremlin is not acting like a junior partner. Consider the war in Ukraine. While it has some significant upsides for China – not least by diverting US resources from the Pacific theater – there is no doubt that Putin is calling the shots on the timing, scope, and endgame.

On paper, China may have the leverage to influence Russia's policy. But it's hard to imagine a scenario in which Ukraine could compel China to use it. Doing so would not only jeopardize China's relations with a key partner, but also contravene its own core foreign-policy principle of “non-interference.” Putin knows that better than anyone.

Although China has consistently pitched itself as a “peacemaker,” that role has been filled by other countries, including Turkey and Saudi Arabia; and now, US President Donald Trump and Putin have proved capable of engaging each other without a broker.

The limits of Chinese influence are even more striking around its own borders, where Russia's deepening partnership with North Korea is raising alarms. China may welcome Russian meddling in Europe, but potentially destabilizing the Korean Peninsula is quite another matter.

If China is unwilling to influence outcomes in Ukraine and unable to deter potential instability in its own neighborhood, that suggests there is more to Sino-Russian relations



Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, Chinese President Xi Jinping, centre, and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, right, arrive at a military parade in Beijing, China, on Wednesday [Sergei Bobylev, Sputnik, Kremlin pool via AP]

than a simple junior-senior partnership. Though the economic relationship may have changed, the politics have yet to catch up.

Historically, China was long its northern neighbor's junior partner – and sometimes its victim. Czarist Russia was among the imperial powers that carved up Chinese territory in the nineteenth century, seizing roughly 1.5 million square kilometers (579,000 square miles) in China's northeast – an area roughly one-sixth of China's current territory. And later, in 1969, disputes over the same border sparked a seven-month conflict with the Soviet Union.

Thus, the view in Beijing is that the last 30-odd years of strong relations are an

exception, not the norm. Chinese leaders remain reluctant to redefine the relationship, especially when the current posture brings valuable benefits such as cheap energy. Given this potent combination of economic gain and political anxiety, they are unlikely to put meaningful pressure on the Kremlin.

Russia, for its part, is struggling to accept the idea of Chinese dominance. It is still holding its ground in negotiations over the Power of Siberia 2 pipeline, refusing China's demands that it sell gas at its heavily subsidized domestic price level. Russia has also imposed significant “recycling fees” – which function similarly to tariffs – to counter the sevenfold surge in imported Chinese autos that followed

Western carmakers leaving the country.

Meanwhile, the Russian right has been increasingly vocal in urging the Kremlin to resist dependence on China. Noting that Russia's sparsely populated Far East sits uneasily beside China's vast population, nationalist commentators warn that the Chinese have not forgotten their “lost territories,” and surely covet Russia's endowments of cheap energy and raw materials. Their arguments draw on history and identity, not just economics, to bolster a politics that rejects the role of supplicant.

Russia also appears to be keeping China at arm's length in the Arctic, where China aspires to assert itself as a “near-arctic state.”

And in North Korea, the more that Russia provides fuel, food, and technical assistance, the less leverage that China will have over Kim Jong-un.

Still, there are some areas where China is growing bolder. It is increasingly stepping into Russia's traditional sphere of influence in Central Asia, pledging more than \$25 billion in investment in the region just in the first half of this year. Xi also recently attended the second China-Central Asia Summit in Astana – a clear signal of Chinese priorities, given that he had been limiting his international engagements.

These realities, not hand-on-heart declarations of “no-limits” partnership, offer the best gauge of bilateral ties. Sino-Russian relations are by no means on the verge of collapse, but their evolution will reflect political, historical, and geographical constraints, not trade volumes.

China still harbors a deep-seated fear of instability along its borders, informed in part by Russia's own history of territorial aggression. That is why neighboring North Korea, not Ukraine, has more potential to serve as a wedge between the two. It is also why China views the fall of Putin's regime, and the chaos that could ensue along its border, as an intolerable outcome.

For Russia, the same mindset that drove the invasion of Ukraine also shapes its view of China. The Kremlin is struggling to reconcile growing economic dependency with its self-image as an enduring great power. The nationalist right argues that Western sanctions have forced Russia to become more self-reliant, and that this hard-won “autonomy” must not be surrendered. The idea that Russia's future could be dictated on Chinese terms is anathema to the country's political elite as well.

That makes Russia's own vision of the future unpalatable to China, which wants to cement itself as a technological powerhouse and lynchpin of the global economy, not join an alliance of isolated, willfully destabilizing rogue actors.

Ten years after Xi and Putin's previous Tiananmen meet-up, the images depicting unity cannot hide their countries' historical mistrust and diverging long-term interests.

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Source: Project Syndicate

The views expressed by contributors on this page are their own and do not necessarily reflect the policies or positions of the newspaper

Admin committed to responsive governance: Ayushi



KT News Desk

SAMBA, SEPTEMBER 06: In a proactive response to the recent heavy rainfall and flooding, Deputy Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Purmandal Morh to Samba stretch of National Highway Saturday.

The inspection, undertaken in collaboration with senior officers from the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and functionaries of other stakeholder departments, focused on assessing flood damage and ensuring swift rehabilitation measures for affected people.

During the extensive field visit, Deputy Commissioner Sudan engaged directly with local residents who have been adversely affected by the recent spell of heavy rainfall, demonstrating the administration's commitment to ground-level interaction and responsive governance.

She issued categorical directions to all concerned officers to prioritize the proper maintenance and enhancement of the drainage infrastructure to ensure unimpeded water flow and prevent future damage to public and private property.

The DC's inspection also covered the severely affected areas of Sarore and Jakh,

where she conducted detailed interactions with local populations to assess their immediate needs and concerns.

Emphasizing the government's commitment to supporting disaster-affected citizens, Deputy Commissioner Sudan provided firm assurances that all individuals who have suffered property losses due to heavy rainfall or natural calamities will receive appropriate compensation under existing government relief schemes, following due verification of documentation and completion of requisite administrative formalities.

She specifically instructed NHAI officials to treat road-related infrastructure issues as priority matters requiring immediate attention and resolution. Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner directed all departmental officials to extend comprehensive support to affected families by ensuring timely delivery of assistance and expeditious processing of compensation claims.

The inspection reflects the district administration's commitment to proactive disaster management and citizen welfare, with Deputy Commissioner Sudan's hands-on approach ensuring that post-flood recovery efforts are coordinated effectively across all relevant departments and agencies.

LMD imposes Rs 1.31 lakh penalty on erring traders



KT News Desk

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 06: Acting swiftly on consumer complaints, Deputy Controller Legal Metrology Enforcement Jammu has booked three traders for indulging in overcharging and short weighing. The action was taken under the direct supervision of Controller Legal Metrology, Rajinder Singh Tara.

In one instance, a departmental store was caught charging 5 extra over the Maximum Retail Price (MRP). At Jumbo Zoo, a consumer was overcharged under the false pretext of GST. In another case, a rice seller was found supplying underweight rice bags.

All three cases were registered under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009, and

the rules framed thereunder. The Deputy Controller, Legal Metrology (Enforcement), Jammu, issued show-cause notices to the offenders, who admitted to the violations. A penalty of 1.31 lakh was imposed as composition money, which has been recovered. The defaulters were further warned against repeating such unfair trade practices.

Controller Rajinder Singh Tara stressed that the department has intensified its enforcement drive and officers have been directed to keep strict vigil on such malpractices. He assured that all genuine consumer complaints will be dealt with on priority to strengthen public trust and encouraged citizens to report unethical trade practices without hesitation.

Expedite restoration works of road connectivity: Div Com Jammu

KT News Desk

KATHUA, SEPTEMBER 06: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar Saturday conducted an extensive inspection of the ongoing protection works along the Ravi River embankment near Lakhanpur, which has suffered severe damages amidst the recent spell of torrential rains.

He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Kathua, SSP Kathua, Project Director NHAI, senior officers of Punjab Irrigation Department and representatives of the Indian Army.

During the visit, the Divisional Commissioner held threadbare discussions with all stakeholders including Kathua District Administration, Punjab Irrigation Department, NHAI and Army authorities to devise a multi-pronged strategy aimed at diverting the water flow, protecting critical assets and minimizing risk to life and property.

DC Kathua briefed the Divisional Commissioner about the emerging situation and the measures being undertaken to safeguard vital installations including the Office of the DDC Chairman, Animal Husbandry Check Post and adjoining government buildings. He informed that men and machinery have been mobilised and are working round the clock to raise crates and carry out strengthening works on vulnerable stretches of the embankment.

The Divisional Commissioner



directed the concerned departments to maintain constant coordination and ensure timely completion of protective works. Stressing on the urgency, the Div Com called for deployment of adequate resources, regular monitoring of the situation and immediate plugging of weak points along the embankment.

The Div Com further emphasized upon exploring long-term measures to provide permanent protection against any threats caused by changes in river course. He urged close liaison between J&K and Punjab

authorities to evolve a joint mechanism for flood management in the Ravi River basin.

Meanwhile, the Divisional Commissioner also reviewed the relief and restorations measures ongoing in the affected areas of the district. He asked the district administration to expedite the restoration works of road connectivity that were severely affected during the heavy rains. He directed for complete restoration of Power and water supply, wherever pending in the affected areas, if any.

RELIEF FOR FLOOD-HIT

Reasi admin releases Rs 90 lakh

KT News Desk

REASI, SEPTEMBER 06: Deputy Commissioner Reasi Nidhi Malik Saturday chaired a review meeting with the SDMs, XENs of PWD and PMGSY and other concerned officials to take a detailed assessment of the progress of relief and restoration works after the recent floods.

The DC emphasised that with weather conditions now clear, all SDMs and Tehsildars must expedite the damage assessment and submit final relief cases by tomorrow to ensure immediate assistance to the affected people. She informed that the District Administration Reasi has released around 90 lakh as relief for loss of life and livestock, besides Cattle shed damage.

Emphasising timely action, the Deputy Commissioner said that measures are being taken to provide prompt relief to affected families.

The DC also reviewed ongoing restoration works across all subdivisions and directed officials to utilise the clear weather to fast-track repair and restoration activities.

She further directed all Executive Engineers of PWD and PMGSY to ensure adequate machinery is available for road clearance and restoration, and that work continues round-the-clock. The DC instructed



SDM Dharmari to coordinate with the GREF department for immediate restoration of roads under their jurisdiction.

The Executive Engineer PMGSY Mahore was directed to prioritise the clearance of vital roads. Both PWD and PMGSY departments were asked to submit detailed reports on the current status of all roads in their areas.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the ADC to obtain a report from Executive Engineer PWD Mahore by this evening on the number of roads made trafficable, while SDM Mahore was tasked with verifying the ground status. PMGSY Mahore was instructed to restore all roads by tomorrow, except those that are technically difficult to clear, while partially open roads must be made fully operational before schools reopen.

On reviewing power restoration efforts, the DC took an update from JPDCL officials regarding areas where electricity has been restored and where it is still pending. She stressed timely repair of feeder lines

and transformers to ensure uninterrupted power supply.

The DC also directed Executive Engineer Jal Shakti to ensure repair of all damaged pipelines and restoration of safe drinking water supply to the public.

She reiterated that all departments must work in close coordination to ensure speedy restoration, uninterrupted supply of essential commodities, and effective relief distribution in affected areas.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the status of houses damaged in Mahore due to land sinking. She directed SDM Mahore to ensure safe and prompt evacuation of affected families to safer locations or relief camps. She further directed that additional relief materials—including tents, mattresses and food supplies be dispatched immediately.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Sukhdev Singh Samyal, ADC Rakesh Kumar, ACR Nitin Verma, XEN Jal Shakti and other concerned officers. The SDMs joined the meeting virtually.

DC inspects pace of restoration work on NH-244 stretch



KT News Desk

KISHTWAR, SEPTEMBER 06: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma conducted an extensive inspection of Kishtwar to Thathri stretch of NH-244 to review its condition, the pace of the ongoing maintenance works and traffic management arrangements.

The DC was accompanied by SSP, Naresh Singh along with other senior officers.

During the visit, the DC inspected vulnerable spots and directed the concerned departments to ensure timely repairs, removal of debris and smooth flow of traffic.

He stressed strict adherence

to safety measures, especially at landslide-prone and accident-prone locations and instructed to minimize risks.

The DC also issued necessary directions to the NHIDCL authorities for proper upkeep and regular maintenance of the road.

The Head of Project (HOP) Rattle HEP Drabshalla apprised the Deputy Commissioner about the current status of the reconstruction work on the bridge at Project Site that was washed away in the recent flood.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the HOP to expedite the construction of the bridge and mobilize all necessary resources to ensure its completion in a time-bound manner.

POST-FLOOD CHALLENGES

JMC issues health advisory

KT News Desk

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 06: Commissioner Municipal Corporation Jammu Dr Devansh Yadav has made an urgent appeal to the people of Jammu to remain cautious and adopt preventive measures as several areas of Jammu Municipal Corporation and district Jammu continue to recover from the aftermath of recent floods.

He emphasized that flood-hit regions are highly vulnerable to outbreaks of waterborne and vector-borne diseases, and immediate action is necessary to protect public health.

Speaking on the current situation, Dr. Yadav stated that contamination of drinking water is a major concern during such times and can lead to illnesses such as stomach infections, headaches, fever and diarrhea. Alongside this, the ongoing season poses an increased risk of mosquito-borne diseases including dengue and chikungunya, which are more likely to spread in areas with accumulated stagnant water.

Issuing instructions to all residents to ensure the safety of their drinking water, Dr. Yadav advised the citizens to boil water for a minimum of 10 minutes before consumption to eliminate harmful microorganisms. "Chlorine tablets should be used wherever possible, and water should be allowed to settle for at least half an hour after adding the tablets before it is used for drinking or cooking purposes. Residents are also urged to maintain their surroundings by removing stagnant water

from rooftops, courtyards and nearby drains as such areas provide ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes" he advised.

To facilitate public health services and immediate assistance, the Health Department has activated the 104 helpline number. This helpline will provide guidance and address any health-related queries from residents. In addition, the Jammu Municipal Corporation has intensified its efforts to conduct fogging and spraying activities across all wards of JMC to control mosquito breeding and minimize the risk of vector-borne diseases.

Appealing to the public, Dr. Yadav said if fogging and spraying activities have not yet reached their locality, they should promptly register their area and ward number on the JMC helpline. This will help the authorities prioritize the areas that require immediate attention and ensure that every ward receives timely preventive measures, he added.

The health and well-being of our citizens is our top priority," said Dr. Devansh Yadav, adding that JMC is making every possible effort through coordinated actions involving our sanitation teams, health workers, and support staff. The success of these measures greatly depends on the active cooperation of the public, he said and added that together, we can prevent the spread of diseases and ensure a healthy environment for everyone. JMC is in continuous monitoring and proactive steps are being taken to safeguard the health of the people during this critical period of recovery, he maintained.

IAF, Udhampur admin airlift two critical patients

KT News Desk

UDHAMPUR, SEPTEMBER 06: In a swift humanitarian response, the district administration Udhampur in collaboration with the Indian Air Force Saturday successfully airlifted two patients from the flood and landslide-hit region of Tehsil Latti-Marothi for urgent medical intervention.

The two patients namely Shiv Lal, resident of Sira and Diwan Chand, resident of Latti were in a critical condition requiring immediate medical attention.

Due to incessant rains and multiple landslides, road connectivity between Tehsil Latti-Marothi and Udhampur remained disrupted, making air evacuation the only viable option.

On receiving information from the Chief Medical Officer Udhampur, District Magistrate Udhampur Saloni Rai promptly



coordinated with the Indian Air Force under the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief framework to ensure timely evacuation.

As part of the operation, one patient was shifted to Military Hospital Udhampur, while the other was admitted to Government Medical College

Udhampur for specialized treatment.

The district administration reiterated its commitment to ensuring that all possible assistance, including emergency medical support, reaches people stranded in remote and inaccessible areas due to recent heavy rains and landslides.

Air warriors trained for Disaster Management

KT News Desk

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 06: The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) 2nd Battalion successfully conducted six days Basic Disaster Management Course at its headquarters in Jammu, specifically tailored for personnel from 23rd Wing Air Force Station, Jammu.

As many as 32 Air warriors participated in the training that commenced on September 1 and culminated successfully on September 6, 2025.

Designed to build capacity in disaster preparedness and response, the course offered a comprehensive blend of theoretical sessions and hands-on practical exercises. The curriculum focused on life-saving techniques and protocols essential for effective disaster management, aiming to empower participants with the knowledge and confidence to act swiftly and efficiently



during emergencies.

The course underscored the importance of inter-agency cooperation, reinforcing the strong collaboration between the Indian Air Force and SDRF in enhancing community

resilience.

The inaugural and valedictory ceremonies were attended by senior officers from both forces, including Zahid Manhas, Commandant SDRF 2nd Battalion, Gp. Capt. J S

Sudan and Gp. Capt. Ambresh Pandit.

Zahid Manhas highlighted the growing need for preparedness in an era of increasingly frequent and complex disasters. "We are committed to strengthening our response capabilities through collaborative training initiatives like this. The knowledge and skills gained during this course will enable our Air warriors to act decisively and efficiently in critical situations," said Zahid Manhas during the valedictory function.

This training initiative not only imparted critical disaster response skills but also further cemented the partnership between SDRF and the Indian Air Force, ensuring a higher level of operational readiness and coordinated response in the face of future emergencies.

Dy. SP (Trainings) Dinesh Gupta (Course Coordinator) presented the vote of thanks.



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah offers Maghrib prayers at Hazratbal shrine on Saturday. Source: DIPR

Doctors voice concern over rising PCOS cases, stress on need for early diagnosis

PTI

New Delhi, Sept 06: As September marks PCOS Awareness Month, experts have voiced concern over its growing prevalence and impact on women's health, especially as stigma and lack of awareness delay diagnosis.

Globally, polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) affects 6-26 per cent of women, and in India, nearly 1 in 5 young women. Despite being among the most common hormonal disorders, it often goes undiagnosed. Alarmingly, nearly 70 per cent of cases remain unidentified, experts said.

PCOS is a hormonal disorder causing irregular periods, weight gain, acne, excess hair growth and infertility.

Often marked by fluid-filled

sacs on the ovaries, it extends beyond reproductive issues, increasing risks of insulin resistance, type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and even endometrial cancer.

Dr Yashica Gudesar, Director and unit head, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, at the Max Super Speciality Hospital in Dwarka, said that PCOS is one of the most widespread endocrine disorders among women of reproductive age. "In India, stigma and lack of awareness delay diagnosis," she said.

With early screening and timely lifestyle interventions, many severe complications can be prevented, Dr Gudesar underlined.

PCOS has strong links to low-grade inflammation along with genetic, environmental and lifestyle factors, she said.

While family history raises susceptibility, poor diet, inactivity, stress and obesity can trigger or worsen symptoms.

"Treatment is always tailored to the individual -- since not all women with PCOS need medical therapy. In many cases, lifestyle modification alone can be transformative, while medications are used only when specific symptoms, such as infertility, irregular cycles, or excess hair growth, need to be addressed," Dr Gudesar stated.

Dr Swapnil Agrahari, a gynaecologist at Silverstreak Multispecialty Hospital, said, "PCOS needs a multi-pronged approach -- medical care alongside lifestyle changes like exercise, diet, and stress management. It should be seen not just as a reproductive disorder

but as a chronic condition with wide-ranging health impacts." Experts emphasise that beyond physical health, PCOS also exerts a toll on mental health, leading to anxiety, depression and social stress. The stigma surrounding women's reproductive health in India further delays conversations and diagnosis.

Dr Astha Dayal, Director, Obstetrics and Gynaecology department at CK Birla Hospital in Gurgaon, said, "As a gynaecologist practising in Gurugram, I see PCOS rising sharply among young women, especially in metros due to stress, poor diet, and sedentary lifestyles.

"Early awareness and lifestyle changes -- not just medication -- are key to preventing long-term complications and

protecting women's health." As India already battles the burden of non-communicable diseases like diabetes and hypertension, the growing prevalence of PCOS poses a serious public health challenge.

Doctors and health advocates are calling for greater awareness campaigns, nationwide screening programmes and integrated treatment approaches that address physical, emotional, and lifestyle dimensions of the disorder.

Experts urged the women to seek timely medical advice, break the stigma around reproductive health, and adopt preventive measures early.

Only through awareness, early diagnosis, and holistic care can India effectively address the growing PCOS burden, they said.

LoP Sharma tours flood-affected Jammu localities, assures support



KT News Desk

Jammu, Sept 06: Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the J&K Legislative Assembly, Sunil Sharma, today conducted an extensive tour of flood-affected areas in Talab Tillo, Roopnagar and Muthi localities of Jammu city to assess the damage caused by the recent torrential rains and subsequent flooding.

Sunil Sharma was accompanied by Jammu West MLA Arvind Gupta. During the visit, the LoP interacted with numerous families who have been severely impacted by the floodwaters, many of whom have lost personal belongings, homes, and essential infrastructure.

Expressing deep concern over the situation, Sunil Sharma conveyed his solidarity with the affected residents, assuring them of every possible assistance in relief and rehabilitation efforts. "This is a time for united action, and I want to reassure the people of

Roopnagar and Muthi that they are not alone. We are committed to standing with them until normalcy is fully restored," Sharma stated during his interactions.

He further emphasized that his office will remain in constant touch with the administration to ensure that timely relief, medical aid, and compensation reach all those affected.

We have already urged the government to expedite the damage assessment process and disburse immediate financial assistance to those in need, he said, adding that special care should be taken for vulnerable sections including the elderly, women, and children.

The visit also included spot assessments of waterlogged streets, damaged infrastructure, and disrupted public utilities.

The LoP also appealed to voluntary organizations and civil society groups to come forward and support relief efforts, noting that "community participation is crucial in rebuilding lives".

Leopard mauls minor girl to death

KNO

Srinagar, Sept 06: A minor girl was mauled to death by a leopard in Midoora area of Tral in South Kashmir's Pulwama district on Saturday evening.

An official told the news agency--Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that a minor girl was attacked by a leopard at Gujar

Basti Midoora and her body was found in nearby forests.

She has been identified as Tanzeela Jan (05), daughter of Mohammad Roshan Khan, resident of Gujar Basti Midoora.

Meanwhile, locals have sought the attention of wildlife department to take immediate steps to catch the wild animal before any further damage.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Flood threat

departments have been directed to remain on maximum alert and ensure full readiness to deal with any emergent situation," the advisory reads.

Meanwhile, the SDM Uri directed the Tehsildar Uri/Boniyaar to restrict public movement near the river, while NHPC-1 and II were asked to make announcements in flood-prone areas to alert the public.

A 24x7 Sub-Division Control Room was activated for assistance on helpline numbers: 7780940038 and 9103303428.

NO SIGNIFICANT WEATHER ACTIVITY EXPECTED TILL 12TH SEPTEMBER

Moreover, Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad told KNO that no significant weather conditions are expected till 12th September.

He said that a brief spell of light rain is expected to occur at scattered places in the next six days.

In its advisory, the MeT said that there is a possibility of landslides and shooting stones at few vulnerable places, advising people to stay away from water bodies, nallas, river embankments and loose structures.

The farmers have been advised to resume farm operations forthwith & harvesting of paddy from 9th onwards. (KNO)

Milad-un-Nabi (SAW)

beloved Prophet (SAW)," said Ruqaya Jan, a woman devotee from downtown Srinagar.

Meanwhile, the authorities had made elaborate arrangements for the congregation, including traffic regulation, uninterrupted electricity, water supply and medical facilities. Security personnel were also deployed to ensure the smooth conduct of the gathering.

Similar congregations were reported from other shrines and mosques across the Valley, including Asar-e-Sharif Kalashpora, Khanyar, Jinab Sahib Saura, Sonwar, Budgam, Bandipora and others where people participated in special prayers with equal fervour. (KNO)

Govt emblem not

course would have been to apologise to the people," he said, adding, "Emblems belong in government offices, not in religious places like temples, mosques or shrines."

Speaking to reporters in Kulgam, the CM said that whoever ruled J&K for the last 10 years must place before the people a clear record of what has been achieved since 2014.

"The government should present its track record honestly, instead of diverting attention through unnecessary controversies," he said, adding that in the coming months, an Assembly session will be held where he will seek a report about it. "Our government will

take steps so that people won't face such issues in future," he added.

Omar further said that his government will adopt a zero-tolerance policy towards illegal mining. "Illegal mining will not be tolerated. Strict action will be taken against all those found involved," he said.

Accompanied by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Ministers Sakina Itoo and Javed Ahmad Rana, Advisor to the CM Nasir Aslam Wani, and concerned MLAs of the district, the Chief Minister inspected the flood-hit localities of Mehandi Kadal, Janglaat Mandi, Deva Colony, Ashajipora Bridge, and other areas of Anantnag.

Residents of Ganjiwara raised demands for the early completion of the flood shed pump, along with repairs of interior roads and drainage works in Eidgah Colony.

Later, the CM chaired a high-level review meeting in Anantnag, attended by the Deputy CM, Ministers, CM's Advisor, concerned MLAs, Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, SP Anantnag, district officers from all line departments, and other officials. He personally took stock of damages, restoration works, and the challenges faced by the people in Kulgam district.

Omar's visit, marked by interaction with affected families and on-ground review of damaged infrastructure, underscored the government's commitment to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the public in this testing time.

The Chief Minister toured several affected areas, including Khudwani, Aadigatnoo, Gudder, Laisoo and adjoining localities. He assured the people that his government would take every possible step to provide timely relief and assistance.

He directed the district administration to accelerate restoration works on a war footing while ensuring an uninterrupted supply of essential services in affected areas.

Later, at a meeting convened at the Mini Secretariat Kulgam, the Deputy Commissioner briefed the Chief Minister about the early evacuation undertaken to safeguard lives and presented details of damage to roads, bridges, and public utilities. He outlined the steps initiated for a fast-track restoration of services. (KNO)

Jmu-Sgr National

morning downpour on Saturday derailed the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) efforts to restore traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway today. "Efforts are on at a war footing to clear the 250-metre stretch of the highway at Thard in Udhampur district which was buried under a hill," said an official, adding, "What we had gained during the day on Friday was washed away by intense half-an-hour rainfall this morning. We have mobilised the men and machinery and started the work

afresh to ensure early reopening of the arterial road as soon as possible."

Jatinder Singh, Deputy Superintendent (DySP)-Traffic Udhampur-Reasi Range, said men and machinery are at work to restore the highway and blasting is being carried out on the stretch. "The work to restore the highway is underway. NHAI is doing their job so that people will not struggle to cross the highway on foot, and single-way traffic for small vehicles will be restored soon," he said.

It may be recalled that the highway was closed for traffic amid heavy rain across the Jammu division early this week, following multiple landslides, mudslides and shooting stones from the hillocks overlooking the road besides washing away of road patches at different places between Udhampur and Banihal.

The closure of the highway left hundreds of vehicles, mostly trucks, stranded on both sides, officials said.

Meanwhile, the Mughal Road -- an alternate link connecting Poonch and Rajouri districts with south Kashmir's Shopian district -- is open for light motor vehicles.

The Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road, another alternate link, remained closed for the fourth day despite a massive road clearance operation. (KNO)

CM, Dr Farooq

of the Prophet (SAW) as a guiding light for unity, compassion and service to humanity. (KNO)

Indian armed

synergy and integration with the Armed forces and other agencies.

"As we look towards future, two things are certain -- fast evolving character of warfare and the increasing relevance of military power."

Addressing the new recruits Singh said, "You, as the future of these forces must understand that defence forces have always been and will always be the first responder."

"The professional conduct of these young officer cadets in their service career will be a strong reflection of these instructors' mentorship and the high training standard of this Academy," he said.

Appealing to the officer cadets, he said, "Remember our strength comes not just from individual excellence but from cohesion of the whole team. No service operates in isolation, whether in the sky, on the ground or at sea." "You must keep furthering the spirit of jointness as you grow in service," he said. Underlining that every officer cadet has a vital role to play, he said, "Make sure that you understand your role and the role of others and give your best to bring glory to this Motherland." (KNO)

LG Sinha assures

The Lieutenant Governor reaffirmed his commitment to deliver justice to families affected by terrorism in Jammu Kashmir. He assured that a thorough inquiry will be conducted and justice will be served.

He said the issues and grievances of families of the civilians martyred in the massacre will be addressed with the utmost sensitivity and on priority. He assured that the eligible family members will receive Compassionate appointments, and also financial assistance for self-employment.

Rise in diarrhoea,

a doctor from Srinagar's SMHS Hospital.

Medical professionals have also linked the rise in typhoid and gastrointestinal problems to poor hygiene practices and flooding of water pipelines in some localities. "Mixing of sewage water with drinking sources in certain areas poses a big risk. This is a recurring issue during this season, and we need stronger preventive measures," said a doctor at Anantnag District Hospital.

He said that a mild increase has already been reported, but if necessary precautions aren't taken, cases may rise further.

In addition to gastrointestinal infections, skin specialists have reported an increase in fungal and bacterial skin infections, especially among children. "Excessive sweating, humidity, and exposure to contaminated water have caused more cases of skin rashes, boils, and fungal infections," said dermatologist Dr Shazia Akhter.

Doctors from the Jammu division said there has been an increase in the number of diarrhoea cases, skin infections and fever following two back-to-back incidents of floods in the last 10 days.

They have issued an advisory urging people to take basic precautions to avoid falling ill: "Drink only boiled or filtered water, wash fruits and vegetables thoroughly before eating, avoid street food and uncovered eatables, store food properly to prevent bacterial growth, maintain hand hygiene by washing hands with soap before meals and seek medical attention promptly if symptoms like persistent fever, abdominal pain, or dehydration appear."

Doctors have appealed to the government to intensify checks on food outlets and to ensure a clean drinking water supply across towns and villages. "Awareness drives, along with strict monitoring of water pipelines and eateries, are necessary to prevent further rise in such cases," a health department official said.

Though the situation is being termed "manageable" at present, doctors warn that negligence can turn it into a larger health concern if preventive steps are not taken. (KNO)

J&K Bank MD

were present on the occasion.

The dividend pay-out, which followed the Bank's approval of 215% dividend at its 87th Annual General Meeting (AGM), underscores both the Bank's financial strength and its pivotal role in supporting the region's economic development.

The Lieutenant Governor congratulated the entire team of Jammu Kashmir Bank and urged the Bank to continue to drive substantial and sustained growth and serve the people with excellence. He said that J&K Bank should continue its focus on financial inclusion by connecting people and it should promote small and micro-enterprises for manufacturing and services.

The LG observed that J&K Bank had witnessed complete turnaround after 2019. He said the Bank was in loss of Rs. 1139 Crore in the year 2019-20, however, it was transformed and within 4 years it reported a profit of Rs. 1700 Crore in the year 2023-24.

Amitava Chatterjee outlined the Bank's performance and roadmap ahead. He reiterated the J&K Bank's commitment to offering the best banking services while actively contributing to Mission YUVA for inclusive, equitable, and sustainable economic growth across J&K. It was informed that J&K Bank has performed a hat-trick of historic earnings capped by its highest-ever net profit of Rs 2082 Cr in FY 2024-25.

IAF rescues 541

Notably, multiple highways, including the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, remained closed due to damage caused by landslides and restoration work getting hit due to incessant rainfall.

Officials said that in Udhampur, IAF helicopters carried out supply aidpours to families cut off by landslides. "Ongoing rescue and rehabilitation efforts are being coordinated with the Jammu & Kashmir administration to ensure timely assistance to affected people," they added.

Pertinently, over 170 people have lost their lives in the past three weeks due to weather-related incidents, including landslides, cloud-bursts, and floods.

The officials said that the IAF continues to maintain assets in the region for follow-up rescue missions and to deliver additional supplies as required.

They said the operations are ongoing, and all available resources remain ready to support disaster-affected areas in Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, and Punjab.

The IAF, in coordination with local authorities, continues to monitor the situation and provide assistance where required, they said. (KNO)

I'll always be friends with Modi, says Trump

'India & US have special ties, nothing to worry about'

PTI

New York/Washington, Sept 06: Amid current tensions between Washington and Delhi over tariffs and purchase of Russian oil, US President Donald Trump said India and the United States have a "special relationship" and there's nothing to worry about as the two countries "just have moments on occasion".

"I'll always be friends with (Narendra) Modi... He's a great Prime Minister. He's great. But I just don't like what he's doing at this particular moment. But India and the United States have a special relationship. There's nothing to worry about. We just have moments on occasion," Mr. Trump said in the Oval Office on Friday (September 5, 2025).

The president was responding to a question on whether he is ready to reset relations with India, as ties between the two countries continue to reel under possibly the worst phase in over two decades.

Trump also said he is "very disappointed" that India would be buying "so much oil" from Russia.

"I've been very disappointed that India would be buying so much oil from Russia, and I let them know that. We put a very big tariff on India, 50% tariff, a very high tariff. I get along very well with (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi, he's great. He was here a couple of months ago," Mr. Trump said in response to a question on his social media post that the U.S. has lost India and Russia to China.

In the Truth Social post, Trump said that "Looks like we've lost India and



Russia to deepest, darkest, China. May they have a long and prosperous future together!"

Trump had also posted an old photo of Modi with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

Trump's post on social media came days after the bonhomie among Modi, Xi and Putin at a summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in the Chinese city of Tianjin drew global attention.

To a question on how trade talks are going with India and other countries, Trump said, "They are going great. Other countries are doing great. We're doing great with all of them. We're upset with the European Union because of what's happening with not just Google, but with all of our big companies."

Meanwhile, Trump administration's Senior Counselor for Trade and Manufacturing, Peter Navarro, said in a post on X that India's highest tariffs cost U.S. jobs. "India buys Russian oil purely to profit/revenues feed Russia war machine. Ukrainians/Russians die. US taxpayers shell out more. India can't handle truth/spins," Navarro said.

National Economic Council Director Kevin Hassett said that Trump and his trade team are disappointed that India continues to "fund" Russia's Ukraine war.

"I think the trade team and the president are disappointed that India continues to fund Russia's Ukraine war, and hopefully it's a diplomatic issue that will have positive development soon," Hassett told reporters at the White House on Friday.

PM Modi fully reciprocates Trump's positive assessment

PTI

New Delhi, Sept 06: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday "deeply" appreciated US President Donald Trump's "positive assessment" of the India-US partnership after the American leader hailed the "special" relationship between the two nations -- remarks seen as an attempt to check the downturn in the ties. The prime minister's comments on social media came hours after Trump said at a news conference in the White House that he will always be "friends with Modi" but added without elaborating that he didn't like what the Indian leader was doing at this "particular moment".

"Deeply appreciate and fully reciprocate President Trump's sentiments and positive assessment of our ties," Modi said.

"India and the US have a very positive and forward-looking Comprehensive and Global Strategic Partnership," he noted on X.

It was the first exchange of views between the two leaders after they held a phone conversation on June 17.

The relations between New Delhi and Washington are on a major downturn after Trump doubled tariffs on Indian goods to a whopping 50 per cent, including 25 per cent additional duties for India's purchase of Russian crude oil. India described the US action as "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable".

Earlier, responding to a question on the

possibility of the US resetting relations with India, Trump said both countries have a special relationship and there is "nothing to worry about". "I will always be friends with Modi, he is a great prime minister, he's great. I'll always be friends but I just don't like what he's doing at this particular moment," he said.

"But India and the United States have a special relationship. There is nothing to worry about," the US president said.

Asked about his social media post on Thursday suggesting that the US was losing India to China, Trump said, "I don't think we have. I have been very disappointed that India would be buying so much oil... from Russia."

"And I let them know that we put a very big tariff on India -- 50 per cent tariff, very high tariff. I get along very well with Modi as you know, he was here a couple of months ago."

"In fact, we went to the Rose Garden, the grass was so soaking wet, it was such a terrible place to have a news conference. We had a news conference on the grass, it was my last news conference we had on the grass."

In his social media post on Thursday, Trump said it appeared that the US was losing India and Russia to "deepest, darkest China".

The post came days after the bonhomie among Prime Minister Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin at a summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in the Chinese city of Tianjin drew global attention.

PM Modi to skip UNGA General Debate, Jaishankar to represent India

PTI

New Delhi, Sept 06: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will not address the General Debate at the annual high-level session of the United Nations General Assembly later this month, according to a revised provisional list of speakers issued here.

The 80th session of the UN General Assembly will open on September 9. The high-level General Debate will run from September 23-29, with Brazil as the traditional first speaker of the session, followed by the US. US President Donald Trump will address world leaders from the iconic UNGA podium on September 23, his first address to the UN session in his second term in the White House.

According to a revised provisional list of speakers for the high-level General Debate of the 80th session of the General Assembly released Friday, India will be represented by a 'minister'.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will address the session on September 27.

According to a previous provisional list of speakers issued in July, Modi was scheduled to address the General Debate on September 26.

The heads of government of Israel, China, Pakistan and Bangladesh are scheduled to address the UNGA General Debate on September 26.

Modi had travelled to the US in February this year for a bilateral meeting with Trump at the White House in Washington. Trump has imposed tariffs



totalling 50 per cent on India, including 25 per cent for Delhi's purchases of Russian oil.

The UNGA list of speakers for the General Debate is provisional and there is always possibility of changes in schedules and speakers ahead of the commencement of the high-level week. The list will continue to be updated accordingly.

Considered the "busiest diplomatic season" of the year at the United Nations Headquarters, the high-level session opens in September annually.

The session this year comes amid the continued Israel-Hamas war as well as the Ukraine conflict. The theme for the 80th session is 'Better together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights'.

The session will open with a meeting to 'Commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the United Nations' on September 22.

Marking the 30th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the UN General Assembly will convene a high-level meeting centred on the theme "Recommitting to, resourcing and accelerating the implementation of the Beijing

Declaration and Platform for Action to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls".

The meeting will reflect on progress since the landmark 1995 conference in Beijing and highlight achievements, best practices, gaps, and ongoing challenges in advancing gender equality worldwide, the UN said. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will convene a Climate Summit on September 24 to serve as a platform for world leaders to present their new national climate action plans and seize the benefits of the new clean energy era.

Other high-level meetings to be held during the week include Summit for a Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient Global Economy; Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health and Well-being; 30th Anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth; Launch of the Global Dialogue on AI Governance; International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons; and Situation of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar.

DNA test of child after mother's admission insult to motherhood: HC

PTI

Cuttack, Sept 06: The Orissa High Court has maintained that directing the DNA test of a child on the face of admission of the mother would be an insult to her motherhood and against the law.

This was observed by Justice BP Routray, the single bench judge of the Orissa High Court, which rejected a petition to direct DNA test of an opponent party in a property partition case. The opposition party had challenged the trial court's judgment, which rejected to direct the DNA test of a person.

"I do not see this as a fit case to be directed for DNA test of the man in this case. No infirmity is seen in the order of the learned trial court refusing the prayer of the petitioner. Resultantly, the Civil Miscellaneous Petition (CMP) is dismissed," Justice Routray said in a judgment on September 1.

The court also said that the man in question is now 58 years old. So the trial court has rightly observed that direction for DNA test at this stage would not bring any fruitful result, the order said.

In the case at hand, Justice Routray said, admittedly, the suit is for partition where the opposition party disputes the parentage of a man despite the evidence of his mother.

The man's mother has stated in her cross-examination that the man is her son through Thuta Budula. Moreover, the opposition party does not dispute the status of the mother as the wife of Thuta Budula, who is dead now, nor does he dispute valid marriage between Thuta Budula and the mother at any point of time.

The opposition party, being a third person, is also not authorised to do so, the court observed and maintained that in such a situation, directing a DNA test of the child on the face of admission of the mother would be an insult to her motherhood and against the law enumerated in section 112 of the Evidence Act.

Apart from this, the court said, it is inconceivable how the DNA test would be relevant in a case of partition where the status of the



parties as members of joint family is required to be seen to determine their respective shares.

"It is important to be reminded here that recognition of a person as son of another is not required to be determined through blood relation only, and what is important is his recognition in the society as such," the court said.

The court also said, "In our view, when there is apparent conflict between the right to privacy of a person not to submit himself forcibly to medical examination and duty of the court to reach the truth, the court must exercise its discretion only after balancing the interests of the parties and on due consideration whether for a just decision in the matter, DNA test is eminently needed".

It said that DNA test in a matter relating to the paternity of a child should not be directed by the court as a matter of course or in a routine manner, whenever such a request is made. The court has to consider diverse aspects, including presumption under Section 112 of the Evidence Act; pros and cons of such order and the test of "eminent need", whether it is not possible for the court to reach the truth without use of such test, Justice Routray said in the judgment.

Industry body hails agri input GST cuts, seeks similar relief for seeds



PTI

New Delhi, Sept 06: The Federation of Seed Industry of India (FSII) on Saturday welcomed the GST Council's decision to slash rates on key agricultural inputs while urging similar relief for the seed sector.

The move to cut GST on fertiliser raw materials, bio-pesticides, micronutrients and farm machinery will substantially lower input costs and create economic momentum, the industry body said.

"This is a transformative step for Indian agriculture. The government has directly empowered farmers and strengthened the rural economy," said Ajai Rana, FSII Chairman and CEO of Savannah Seeds. However, FSII flagged that similar reforms are overdue for the seed sector.

Currently, GST exemption on seeds denies the industry input tax credit (ITC) benefits on most inputs and services. Items like packaging, logistics, warehousing and chemical treatments attract standard GST rates, creating a higher tax burden on seeds versus other agri inputs with concessional rates.

The body urged the government to either fully exempt all seed production inputs currently attracting GST or bring seeds under the minimum GST slab. This would cut production costs, boost competitiveness and ensure affordable seed access for farmers. "This reform will energise consumption across sectors. We're confident the government's progressive outlook will drive similar steps for the seed industry," Rana said in statement. FSII said rationalised taxation and policy support for new technologies would provide impetus to India's farm sector while ensuring global competitiveness and food security.

Dementia cure: Neuroscientist shares food that can reduce Alzheimer's by 43%

TOI HEALTH

New Delhi, Sept 06: A 2024 study published by the Alzheimer's Association, reveals that an estimated 6.9 million Americans aged 65 or older are living with Alzheimer's dementia. This number could grow to 13.8 million by 2060. Alzheimer's, which affects numerous Americans every year, is a progressive brain disorder that weakens memory and thinking skills,

leading to a loss of the ability to execute simple daily tasks.

Neuroscientist shares food that can reduce Alzheimer's by half

Robert W.B. Love, a neuroscientist with 1.9M followers on Instagram, who has also been featured on the New York Times, Jimmy Kimmel Live and more, recently shared a video on his social media page. In the video, he revealed one food whose consumption just three times a week can reduce Alzheimer's by 43%.

What food is it?

"Research published in the Journal of Alzheimer's by Lei Feng and colleagues out of Singapore found that those who eat this specific food three times a week have a significant reduction in the risk of Alzheimer's by 43%," said the neuroscientist in the video. The food is mushrooms, specifically, Lion's Mane Mushroom. "This is one of my favourite forms of mushrooms. But the research found that eating all kinds of mushrooms was really

beneficial for the brain."

What kind of mushrooms?

The doc got oyster mushrooms and lion's mane mushrooms from Whole Foods. He added that every kind of mushroom is good for the brain except white button mushrooms. "Lion's mane mushroom is actually the absolute best, here's why." They improve memory, reduce stress and anxiety, and improve sleep. The doctor thus advised viewers to eat whichever mushrooms they

like at least three times a week to reduce the risk of Alzheimer's disease.

Is this true?

Research conducted to analyse the effects of Lion's mane mushroom supplementation in patients with mild Alzheimer's showed a significant improvement in mental state examination. Another study added that the mushrooms may improve the speed of performance and exert a stress reduction effect.

Earthquake in Afghanistan's east wipes out homes, generations, livelihoods



AP

Kabul, Sept 06: Ahmad Khan Safi had a good life in Afghanistan. The farmer raised livestock in the Dewagal Valley of Kunar Province, and people traveled from across the country to visit the area. Tourists marveled at its verdant landscape, winding paths and formidable slopes. The valley appeared untouched.

It was hard to reach, so inaccessible that people had to change cars four times from the city of Jalalabad, in neighboring Nangarhar province, and walk the rest of the way for several hours or ride a mule.

Safi had built a 10-room house from mud and stone because wood and cement were too expensive and impractical to transport. The home collapsed as soon as a major earthquake that killed at least 2,000 people struck on Aug. 31. His shock was quickly replaced by fear and panic.

"I was trapped in the mud and couldn't breathe," he told The Associated Press from a Jalalabad hospital. "I struggled a lot to get out, but was hit by rocks and fell so hard that my leg was injured." He spent the night under the rubble, not knowing if his family was alive or dead.

Help came the following morning, around 10 a.m., when people arrived on foot from other districts.

Region's remoteness complicating rescue efforts The devastating quake was not the strongest or deadliest in Afghanistan's recent history. But remote and rugged Kunar has defied rescue efforts. The ruling Taliban authorities have deployed helicopters or airdropped army commandos to evacuate survivors.

There is no helicopter landing site in Dewagal Valley and no path for vehicles, let alone heavy machinery. Many of the injured died because there was no way to reach them, said Safi, who was carried to safety on people's shoulders. A stream of homemade stretchers trickled down to more hospitable terrain.

"There was not a single household without dead or wounded people, and not a single home was left standing. Some 130 people died in our area. The earthquake killed 22 members of my family - children, nephews, nieces, and my elder brother - and injured 17."

Entire families were wiped out, he added. The death toll from this disaster exceeds 2,000, although this figure could rise as more bodies are recovered from villages that were razed to the ground and are now piles of dust.

"Now I think about it, whatever wealth and savings we had from our grandfather's time have all gone, and now we have nothing," said Safi. "My family lost about 300 cows, sheep and goats in this earthquake. All the people in the village were farmers and livestock keepers.

Pentagon rebrand as Department of War a 'message of strength', says Trump

REUTERS

Washington, Sept 06: After months of campaigning for the Nobel Peace Prize, President Donald Trump sent a sharply different message on Friday when he signed an executive order aimed at rebranding the Department of Defense as the Department of War.

Trump said the switch was intended to signal to the world that the United States was a force to be reckoned with, and he complained that the Department of Defense's name was "woke."

"I think it sends a message of victory. I think it sends, really, a message of strength," Trump said of the change as he authorized the Department of War as a secondary title for the Pentagon.

Congress has to formally authorize a new name, and several of Trump's closest supporters on Capitol Hill proposed legislation earlier Friday to codify the new name into law.

But already there were cosmetic shifts. The Pentagon's website went from "defense.gov" to "war.gov." Signs were swapped around Hegseth's office while more than a dozen employees watched. Trump said there would be new stationery, too. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, whom Trump has begun referring to as the "secretary of war," said during the signing ceremony that "we're going to go on offense, not just on defense," using "maximum lethality" that won't be "politically correct."

The attempted rebranding was another rhetorical salvo in Trump's efforts to reshape the US military and uproot what he has described as progressive



ideology. Bases have been renamed, transgender soldiers have been banned and websites have been scrubbed of posts honoring contributions by women and minorities to the armed forces. He's also favored aggressive — critics say illegal — military action despite his criticism of "endless wars" under other administrations. He frequently boasts about the stealth bomber strike on Iran's nuclear facilities, and he recently ordered the destruction of a boat that the US says was carrying drugs off the coast of Venezuela.

The Republican president insisted that his tough talk didn't contradict his fixation on being recognized for diplomatic efforts, saying peace must be made from a position of strength. Trump has claimed credit for resolving conflicts between India and Pakistan; Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and Armenia and Azerbaijan, among others. (He's also expressed frustration

that he hasn't brought the war between Russia and Ukraine to a conclusion as fast as he wanted.)

"I think I've gotten peace because of the fact that we're strong," Trump said, echoing the "peace through strength" motto associated with President Ronald Reagan.

When Trump finished his remarks on the military, he dismissed Hegseth and Gen. Dan Caine, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, from the room.

"I'm going to let these people go back to the Department of War and figure out how to maintain peace," Trump said.

Florida Republican Rep. Greg Steube proposed legislation in the House to formally change the name of the department.

"From 1789 until the end of World War II, the United States military fought under the banner of the Department of War," Steube, an Army veteran, said in a statement. "It is only fitting that we pay tribute to their eternal example and renowned commitment to

lethality by restoring the name of the 'Department of War' to our Armed Forces."

Sens. Rick Scott, R-Fla., and Mike Lee, R-Utah, are introducing companion legislation in the Senate.

The Department of War was created in 1789, then renamed and reorganized through legislation signed by President Harry Truman in 1947, two years after the end of World War II. The Department of Defense incorporated the Department of War, which oversaw the Army, plus the Department of the Navy and the newly created independent Air Force.

Hegseth complained that "we haven't won a major war since" the name was changed. Trump said, "We never fought to win." Trump and Hegseth have long talked about restoring the Department of War name.

In August, Trump told reporters that "everybody likes that we had an unbelievable history of victory when it was Department of War. Then we changed it to Department of Defense."

When confronted with the possibility that making the name change would require an act of Congress, Trump told reporters that "we're just going to do it." "I'm sure Congress will go along," he said, "if we need that." Trump and Hegseth have been on a name-changing spree at the Pentagon, sometimes by sidestepping legal requirements.

For example, they wanted to restore the names of nine military bases that once honored Confederate leaders, which were changed in 2023 following a congressionally mandated review.

'Khalistani extremists receive financial support from inside Canada'



PTI

Ottawa, Sept 06: At least two Khalistani extremist groups have received financial support originating from Canada, according to a new Canadian government report on terror financing.

The report titled '2025 Assessment of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Risks in Canada' has identified the Khalistani extremist groups receiving financial support originating from Canada as Babbar Khalsa International and the International Sikh Youth Federation.

The development comes two months after a report by Ottawa's intelligence agency said a politically motivated violent extremism threat in Canada since the mid-1980s has manifested through Khalistani extremists seeking to use violent means to create an independent nation state called Khalistan within India's Punjab.

The latest report said the 'Politically Motivated Violent Extremism (PMVE) encourages

"the use of violence to establish new political systems, or new structures and norms within existing systems."

"While PMVE may include religious elements, actors are more focused on political self-determination or representation, rather than racial or ethnic supremacy," it said. Several terrorist entities listed under the Criminal Code in Canada that fall under the PMVE category, such as Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Khalistani violent extremist groups Babbar Khalsa International and the International Sikh Youth Federation, have been observed by law enforcement and intelligence agencies to receive financial support originating from Canada, the report pointed out.

In 2022, the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada's (FINTRAC) Operational Alert on Terrorist Activity Financing had identified Hezbollah as the second most frequently identified international terrorist entity to receive outgoing Canadian funds.

Reason behind retirement from T20Is

I want to milk my body as much as I can for Test cricket: Starc

PTI

Sydney, Sept 06: Australia's frontline pace bowler Mitchell Starc believes he still has a lot left in him to play Test and ODI cricket, saying he is ready to "milk" his body to achieve more success in the longest format of the game.

Starc, 35, recently announced his retirement from T20Is in a move to keep himself ready for the Ashes, IPL, an away Test series in India, and the ODI World Cup in two years' time.

The decision means the left-handed quick, who has in the past skipped the Indian Premier League to preserve energies for international assignments, will not play the T20 World Cup which is scheduled to be held in India and Sri Lanka early next year.

"For lack of a better term, I want to



milk my body as much as I can for as much Test cricket as possible. That was never going to be off the table," Starc was quoted as saying by cricket.com.au. "I just felt like one of the other

(formats) had to give. I feel like I've got plenty to offer the ODI team and with that goal of getting my body to 2027 - but also being good enough to be in that team for the World Cup in 2027. I

felt like this was my best opportunity to prolong my Test career and get to that World Cup (in 2027)."

Starc had played a pivotal role in the 2021 T20 World Cup in the UAE where Australia won their maiden world title in the format.

"I umm-ed and ahh-ed about which was the right (format) to put to the side. If I wasn't going to be in the frame for 2027 then I didn't want to hold up the spot. I still feel like I've got plenty to offer that ODI team. I'd thought about it for a while. I feel like it was probably a good time. I'm 35 now. Tests have always been my priority and they will remain my priority," he said.

If Starc lasts till the 2027 World Cup in South Africa, he could finish his career as one of the greatest ODI World Cup bowlers of all-time. Only

Glenn McGrath (71 scalps in four World Cups - 1996, 1999, 2000/3 and 2007) and Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan (68 wickets from five tournaments from 1996 to 2011) have more World Cup wickets than Starc's 65 (2015, 2019 and 2023).

Starc felt he was leaving the T20 side at the right time, given that the team was in a good place with new faces coming in.

"The T20 team seems pretty settled with the guys that have come in, they've done some great stuff. Nathan Ellis is flying, Ben Dwarshuis is played a great role, Spencer (Johnson) has done some good stuff when he's played, Sean Abbott as well... I feel like that team is in a great spot and I don't need to interrupt that," he said.

India 'A' vs Australia 'A': Iyer named captain; Rahul, Siraj to play second game

PTI

Mumbai, Sept 06: Left out of the Test scheme of things as well as the upcoming Asia Cup T20Is, Shreyas Iyer was on Saturday (September 6, 2025) entrusted with leading the India A team in the two unofficial four-day games against Australia A in Lucknow.

Senior India players KL Rahul and Mohammed Siraj will be available for the second fixture.

Iyer, not picked even among the reserves for the Asia Cup beginning Tuesday (September 9, 2025), is currently turning out for West Zone in the Duleep Trophy semifinal against Central Zone in Bengaluru.

The first unofficial Test will be played from September 16-19 and the second from September 23-26 at the Ekana Stadium.

Karun Nair, who had suffered an injury while batting in the fifth and final Test at The Oval against England and had also missed the Maharaja Trophy (KSCA T20 tournament), has not been named in the side.

India wicketkeeper-batter Dhruv Jurel, who played the fifth Test in England, has been named Iyer's deputy.

Rahul and Siraj will join the squad for the second multi-day



match as they will get quality match practice ahead of home Test series against the West Indies and South Africa.

India's home season begins with a two-match Test series against the West Indies, with the first match to be played at Ahmedabad from October 2.

The India A squad includes Tamil Nadu wicketkeeper-batter N Jagadeesan, who was called up as a cover for the fifth Test in England. Jagadeesan scored a brilliant 197 (352 balls, 16 fours and 2 sixes) for South Zone in their Duleep Trophy semifinal against North Zone.

Mumbai's Tanush Kotian, who had received a maiden Test call up during the tour of Australia earlier this year, also finds a place in the India A side along with two players from Vidarbha — Harsh Dubey and

Yash Thakur.

Dubey had set the record for most wickets for any bowler in the history of the Ranji Trophy last season when he took 69 wickets for Vidarbha in their title-winning run. Among batters, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Sai Sudharsan and Devdutt Padikkal have been named along with Delhi skipper Ayush Badoni, who received his maiden call-up, while India all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy has also been named in the A side.

The fast bowling line-up includes India pacers Prasidh Krishna, Khaleel Ahmed, Thakur and Punjab's lanky pacer Gurnoor Brar, who has also been a regular nets bowler for the national side.

Dubey, Kotian and Rajasthan's Manav Suthar are among the spinners.

MOVIES Schedule

Sunday, 7th Sept.



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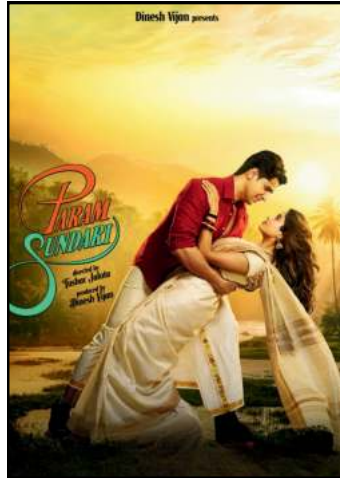
SAIYAARA (U/A16+) HINDI - 10:20 AM, 03:00 PM



INOX CINEMA SHIVPORA SRINAGAR



BAAGHI 4 (A) HINDI - 04:20 PM HINDI ATMOS - 12:50 PM, 06:50 PM



PARAM SUNDARI (U/A13+) HINDI - 06:10 PM



LOKAH CHAPTER 1 CHANDRA (U/A16+) MALAYALAM WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES 11:50 AM



THE CONJURING LAST RITES (A) ENG ATMOS WITH ENG SUBTITLES 10:00 AM, 04:00 PM ENG WITH ENG SUBTITLES - 07:30PM HINDI - 01:30 PM