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Doors open for dialogue on Ladakh matters: MHA

Talks with Apex Body Leh, KDA yielded good results

Sajid Raina

New Delhi/Leh, Sept 29: Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Monday said that the Centre remains open for dialogue on Ladakh matters with Apex Body Leh (ABL) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) at any time and the doors will always remain

In a statement issued to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the MHA said, "The Government has always been open for dialogues on Ladakh matters with Apex Body Leh (ABL) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) at any time. We would continue to welcome the discussion with ABL and KDA through the High-Powered Committee (HPC) on Ladakh or any such platform."

"The dialogue mecha-nism established with Apex Body Leh (ABL) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) through the HPC on Ladakh has yielded good results till date in the form of increased reservations to the Scheduled Tribes of Ladakh.

Continuous parleys would bring desired outcomes

LG Gupta says peace cornerstone of development



providing women reservation in LAHDCs and protection to local languages. The process of recruitment for 1800 posts in government has already commenced in UT of Ladakh," it said, adding, "We are confident that continuous dialogue would yield the desired results in near future."

Earlier in the day, the LAB announced its decision to withdraw from the talks with the Centre, scheduled for October 6 in New Delhi. The LAB demanded a judicial inquiry into last week's violence and the withdrawal of cases against those arrested.

Pertinently, on September 24, there was violence during the protests over statehood demands during the hunger strike led by the environmental activist Sonam Wangchuk. The protesters had gone on rampage, attacking offices and burning down the BJP of-fice. The security personnel had opened fire, which left four people dead and more than 50 injured. Restrictions were imposed in the town after the violence and since then the relaxation is being given in phases | More on P6

Leh-like situation must not **Body of missing** emerge in J&K: CM Omar

Assures 'won't let my people down'

Says statehood not a favour but a promise by Gol

'Despite difficulties not wasted'

Raja Syed Rather

Ganderbal, Sept 29: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said that a situation like Leh over the restoration of statehood must not form in Jammu and Kashmir. He added that the statehood to the region is not a favour, but a promise made with the people here as well as in the Supreme

Speaking to the media persons here, the Chief Minister. as per the news agency— Kashmir News Observer Kashmir (KNO), said the situation witnessed a couple of days back in Leh should not form here in Jammu and Kashmir.

"It doesn't take time for any situation to worsen. We would never want innocent blood to be shed here. We will continue to raise our demand," he said while replying to a query over the Leh situation, adding



that statehood is not a favour but a promise made by the Government of India to the people of J&K and the Supreme

Omar said the delimitation and elections have been done, and now the government needs to fulfil their promise of statehood. "People are very calm about the whole thing, but they should not take undue advantage of this," he said.

The CM, addressing the gathering, said the people of Ladakh were happy and even celebrated the Centre's decision to downgrade the erstwhile State into two union territories.

"The people of Leh requested a UT and got it," he said. "A former minister, who served during late Mufti Muhammad Sayeed's tenure, recently made a statement that they (Ldakhis) have come to know that it was Article 370 that saved them in the last 70 years."

These are the people who were | More on P6

Kupwara man found inside shop in Sgr

Srinagar, Sept 29: The body of a man hailing from north Kashmir's Kupwara district, who had been missing for over a week, was recovered from a shop in Srinagar on Monday, officials said.

An official told the news agency–Kashmir Observer (KNO) that the body of a resident of Kupwara w found inside | More on P6

My mission is to ensure prosperity of all, says LG Sinha

Lays foundation stone for 60 AMRUT 2.0 projects worth Rs 699.79 cr

KT News Desk

Jammu, Sept 29: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday called for sustainable urban infrastructure and integration of smart technology to develop more liveable and vibrant cities and to mitigate environmental

challenges. Gracing Parv' celebrations organ-ised by Housing & Urban Development Department, the Lieutenant Governor laid the foundation stone for 60 projects of AMRUT 2.0 worth Rs 699.79 crore.

In his address the Lieutenant Governor lauded the efforts of Housing Development Urban Department and Jammu

LG terms Jammu floods as 'unprecedented catastrophe'

Calls for action against encroachments

Yogesh

Jammu, Sept 29: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday described the recent floods in Jammu as an unprecedented catastrophe, saying the region endured nature's fury for nearly a month in a manner never witnessed before.

Addressing the 'Swachhata Vijayotsav' organised by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj under 'Sewa Parv' here, LG Sinha, according to the



news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "Climate change is a reality and people should realise it.'

He said, "Many people

revealed that they had never seen such a catastrophe in the past. Everyone in the Jammu region was affected in one or other way.' | More on P6

Ganderbal will be set on steady growth path: CM Omar

KT NEWS DESK

Ganderbal, Sept 29: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday inaugurated and laid foundation stone for more than a dozen development projects worth Rs 36.50 crore during an extensive tour of Ganderbal district, reaffirming his government's commitment to strengthening infrastructure in sports, power sectors and improving road connectivity in the district.

At Beehama, the Chief Minister inaugurated six major sports infrastructure projects including the upgradation of Beehama Stadium, Madr-e-Meherban Stadium, and playfields at Gund Rehman, Manigam, Wakura, and Batwina. These projects mark a significant investment ent and promoting a healthy



sporting ecosystem across the district.

Unveiling new equipment for youth, the Chief Minister also witnessed impressive performances in Judo, Thang-Ta, and Yoga, showcasing Ganderbal's vi-

Omar Abdullah inaugurated and dedicated a 33/11 KV, 1x6 MVA receiving station to the public.

Later, he inaugurated the Pre-Fab Indoor Badminton Hall at the Government College of Physical Education At Saloora, Chief Minister participated | More on P6

MeT predicts snowfall in higher reaches on Oct 5, 6

KNO

Srinagar, Sept 29: The weatherman here has predicted the season's first snowfall over the higher reaches of north, central, and south Kashmir, as well as in the Chenab Valley, on October 5

According to a detailed fore-cast issued by the Director of the Meteorological Department, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad, as per the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the weather is expected to remain generally dry tomorrow.

He, however, said that generally dry weather is expected from October 1 till the evening of October 4, with the possibility of light rain, thunder, and gusty winds towards late evening or night.

Dr Ahmad added that from October 5 to 7, generally cloudy weather is expected, with the possibility of intermittent spells of light to moderate rain, thunder and gusty winds, | More on P6

Monitor social media to curb misinformation: IGP to officers

Srinagar, Sept 29: Inspector General of Police, Kashmir Zone, V.K. Birdi-IPS, chaired a security review meeting at the Conference Hall of Police Control Room, Kashmir, to assess the prevailing security scenario across the valley.

The meeting was attended by all Range DIsG, District SSsP of Kashmir Zone, and other senior officers, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

At the onset of the meeting, Range DIsG and SSsP briefed the chair about the overall crime and security situation in their respective jurisdictions.



Detailed reviews were presented on law & order management, ongoing anti-terror operations, and public safety measures.

The deliberations also focused on critical issues including actions under the NDPS Act, achieving zero terror strengthening recruitment.

district-level security grids, property attachment proceedings against terror elements, and other strategic concerns.

During the meeting, IGP Kashmir laid strong emphasis on enhanced monitoring of social media platforms to curb the spread of I More on P6

Over 4,200 MW to 10,000 MW energy deficit likely by 2034-35

Riyaz Bhat

Srinagar, Sept 29: Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh is likely to witness an energy deficit ranging from more than 4,200 Megawatts (MWs) to 10,000 MWs in next ten years.

According to the official documents available with the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), "J&K and Ladakh is likely to witness energy deficit ranging from 4293 MUs to 9929 MUs in different years from 2024-25 to 2034-35 with the existing and planned capacity addition."

The official documents

further reveal that a study was carried out considering existing capacity and planned capacity.

"It was observed that the total unserved energy in the year 2034-35 is about 8730 MU," it reads.

The study has also analyzed the daily and monthly pattern of unserved energy in the year 2034-35. "It can be seen that contracted capacity (present and planned) is unable to meet the demand."

The study further said, "It can be seen that during the high demand of winter months, the proportion of | More on P6

World Heart Day

Heart attacks now reported in every season in Kashmir, say doctors

'Urbanisation, unhealthy diet, pollution, stress fuels crisis'

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Sept 29: Heart attacks and strokes are no longer confined to winter in Jammu and Kashmir, as such cases are now being reported throughout the year, with young people also falling victim, doctors said on the occasion of World Heart



They said urbanisation. sedentary lifestyles, fast food

uncontrolled hypertension and diabetes are the main reasons. Cardiologists from leading

tertiary healthcare institutions in the valley, who spoke to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said the number of cardiac emergencies has almost doubled in the last five years, and it is increasing with each passing year.

The rise is evident from the sharp increase in stent procedures and pacemaker implantations being carried out at hospitals such as SKIMS, SMHS and other hospitals, they said.

Dr Ashraf Mir, a cardiologist at a tertiary care hospital in Srinagar, said that not only has the volume of cases risen,

but the very pattern of heart

attacks has changed. "Earlier, we would see far fewer cases in summer compared to winter, but now heart attacks are reported across all seasons. What is more worrying is the growing number of young patients—something we rarely encountered two decades ago," he said.

According to him, pollution, drug abuse, unhealthy diets, and lack of exercise are all fueling hypertension and diabetes, which act as precursors to heart attacks.

"Today, the | More on P6

Northern Rly to resume more trains in Jammu div from Oct 2

Naveed Ul Haq Ganaiee

Srinagar, Sept 29: Northern Railway on Monday announced that several trains in the Jammu Division, which had been disrupted due to rains and waterlogging, will be resumed in the fourth phase, starting October 2.

Officials told the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the decision comes after safety inspections and gradual restoration of tracks and bridges.

Trains to be reinstated include Jammu Tawi-Kanpur (12470) from October 2,

Jammu Tawi-Barauni (14692) and Jammu Tawi-Guwahati (15654) from October 3, Jammu Tawi-Gorakhpur (12588) from October 4, Jammu Tawi-Yoga Nagari Rishikesh from October 5, Tawi-Bhagalpur from October 7, and Jammu-Sealdah (22318) and Jammu Tawi-Guwahati (15652) from October 8.

Senior Commercial Manager Uchit Singhal said, "These trains are being reinstated after ensuring the safety and continuity of

railway tracks. Following the | More on P6

No child should be left out of schools: **Union Secretary DoSEL**

Inspects various schools in Srinagar, Budgam

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 29: Union Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL), Sanjay Kumar Monday conducted extensive field visits of various schools in Srinagar and Budgam districts.

Secretary, School Education department I&K, Ram Niwas Sharma; Director General School Education, Kashmir, Dr. G. N. Itoo; and other senior officers of the school education department also accompanied the Union Secretary during

the visit. During the visit, the Union Secretary inspected Higher Secondary School Rajbagh, SP Higher Sec-ondary School MA Road Srinagar, Government Boys Middle School Yarikalan Chadoora, KGBV Lanilab, PM Shri Higher Secondary School Draggar Khansahab, and DIET Beerwah in Bud-

gam district. During his extensive tour, Sanjay Kumar inspected classrooms, science laboratories including Atal Tinkering Labs, and took on spot assessment of ongoing works and available infrastructure and facilities for students.

The Secretary and his



with students, appreciated their science and innovation models, inaugurated sports events, participated in plantation drives, and witnessed cultural per-formances presented by students. The Students and faculty on the occasion put forth demands for digital libraries, upgraded laboratories, and improved infrastructure.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Secretary emphasized that no child should be left out of schools and called for achieving 100 percent school attendance.

Union Secretary urged that no child should drop out of school before completing higher secondary education. "After the 12th grade, students are mature enough team of officers interacted to decide whether they want to pursue medicine, engineering, government service, research, or any other career. Education till Class 12 is essential to help students realize their interests and potential," he said. The Secretary maintained that education helps students to become confident and students here have high level of

"This confidence comes from competence, from the ability to communicate and express oneself. It gives me hope that we are doing something right in our schools," he said while interacting with students at PM Shri Higher Secondary School, Draggar.

confidence.

Later, Union Secretary chaired a review meeting with officers of the School Education Department from both Jammu and Kashmir divisions to review the implementation of the Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK) in J&K.

He reviewed the pro-gress made under VSK, which seeks to strengthen data-driven governance in school education by enabling real-time monitoring of key indicators such as student learning outcomes, teacher performance, school infrastructure, and digital learning initiatives.

The Secretary stressed the importance of timely data collection, effective analysis, and proper utilization to improve learning outcomes and ensure accountability at all levels of the education system.

Senior officers of Union Ministry including Anandrao V. Patil , Additional Secretary, DoSE&L; A. Srija, Economic Adviser DoSE&L; Pankaj K. P. Shreyaskar, DDG (Stats), DoSE&L; Harikumar Janakiraman, Director, DoSE&L; Sreekala P. Venugopal, Director, DoSE&L; Dinesh Prasad Saklani, Director, NCERT; Ram Singh, Deputy Director; Abdul Momin, TSG and Akhilesh Mishra, Chairman, NIOS also accompanied the Sec-

retary during the visit.

Div Com for multi-pronged approach to curb substance use



KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 29: Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Monday convened an urgent meeting to address the alarming issue of drug addiction & substance use by youth in the Valley.

The meeting was attended by Director Health Services Kashmir; HOD Community Medicine, GMC Srinagar; CMO Srinagar, Deputy Director Health Service Kashmir, Deputy Director Planning, District Social Welfare Officer, OSD to Divisional Commissioner and other officers.

Taking serious note of the drug menace and stressing the need to curb its spread, Div Com called for multi-pronged approach to address drug abuse through intensive regulation of supply chain of Scheduled Drugs, monitoring of medical stores, regulation of private drug de-addiction centres besides evaluation of success rate of de-addiction centres & Alternate Treatment Facilities (ATFs).

Highlighting the requirement for the strict & tangible measures to curb spread and use of prohibited substances, Div Com directed the constitution of the divisional committee to frame guidelines to address the menace.

He expressed serious concern over the increasing substance use which destroys lives of youth & social fabric in the society.

He urged to destroy the supply chain of banned substances to protect society and also called for de-linking of private drug stores from prescribing those drugs used for withdrawal symptoms of victims of drug menace to curtail misuse of prescriptions.

Combined efforts key to sustaining fight against TB: **DCAnantnag** KT NEWS DESK

ANANTNAG, SEPTEMBER 29: As part of the National TB Elimination Programme, Deputy Commissioner (DC), who is also the chairman of the District Health Society, Anantnag, SF Hamid, Monday felicitated the Nikshay Mitras of the district during 'Nikshay Mitra Meet' organized by the Health Department under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (PMTBMBA) at GDC Women, Anantnag.

Speaking on the occasion, DC said Anantnag was declared TB-free two years ago, and combined efforts of the administration, health authorities, and community volunteers have been key to sustaining the fight against the disease. He emphasized the need for continued awareness, regular screening and early detection, and community participation, and urged citizens to come forward and register as Nikshay Mitras to further strengthen the fight against TB.

Earlier, Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Dr. Khalid Parvez, provided an overview of the various initiatives undertaken by the Health Department for TB elimination in the district. He credited the dedication of health workers and community support for sustaining the TB-free status.

Among those present were the Principal of the college, ACD, District Tuberculosis Officer, Secretary District Red Cross Society, faculty of the college, health professionals, and other stakeholders, who reaffirmed their commitment for the fight against TB.

Sewa Parv

DC Srinagar holds mega public grievance redressal camp

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR SEPTEMBER 29: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo on Monday conducted a mega public grievance redressal camp here at Central Shalteng under the ongoing fortnight long Sewa Parv-2025 campaign aimed to bring the people and address their issues and developmental demands.

The programme held within the premises of SDM/Tehsil Office Shalteng witnessed large participation of people from Bemina, Alochibagh, Batamaloo, Qamarwari, Panzinara, Rambirgarh, Shalteng, Parimpora, Khushi Pora, Zainakote, HMT, Maloora, Mujgund, Lawaypora, and other adjoining areas of Shalteng Tehsil of the Srinagar district.

Additional District Development Commissioner, Rifat Aftab Qureshi; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz;



Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar: Joint Commissioner SMC. Nuzhat Khurshid; SDM West, Assistant Commissioner Development, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Tehsildar Shalteng, and sectoral/ zonal officers of the district were also present on the occasion.

During the grievance redressal camp, scores of public delegations and individuals projected various

issues and demands before the DC including augmentation of drainage system & water supply, macadamization of inner roads, development of playgrounds, upgradation of health and school infrastructure, resolution of jurisdictional disputes, timely release of land compensation, development of Parimpora Fruit Mandi & Parimpora Bus Terminal and other issues.

Mission Director reviews progress on implementation of JJM

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 29: Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Khurshid Ahmad Shah Monday convened a virtual meeting to review the progress on implementation of JJM in all Jal Shakti (PHE) Divisions of J&K. The meeting was attended by Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Jammu, Superintending Engineers of respective circles in J&K, Executive Engineers of all civil and Mechanical divisions and other officers of Mission Directorate.

During the meeting, the MD enquired about the present status of Water Supply Schemes under JJM. He was informed about the current phase of execution of projects. The MD directed the Chief Engineers to commission those schemes which are nearing completion in the first instance, so that the beneficiaries of these villages are connected with a tap water network. The MD also took a district wise review of scheme completion under IJM. He reaffirmed the ending 2025 deadline for project completion and directed the

Superintending Engineers to assess the ground situation and review the progress of works fortnightly so that the timelines set for scheme completion are adhered in letter and spirit. Khurshid Shah also discussed on boarding of JJM 2.0 dashboard, uploading of KML files of pipe networks and assets on PM Gat Shakti portal, Geo tagging of JJM assets, Har Ghar Jal certification of reported villages in the current month and water quality monitoring and surveillance being undertaking by the water testing laborato-

JAMMU AND KASHMIR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION. RESHAM GHAR COLONY, BAKSHI NAGAR, JAMMU -180016

Website:http://jkpsc.nic.in Jammu:0191-2566533

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Subject:-Facility of Scribe and Compensator Time for person's with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBDs)-regarding.

It is hereby notified for information of the person's with Disability (PwD) Candidates appearing in the Written Examinations for the posts of Assistant Professor(s) in various disciplines in the Health & Education Department are Scheduled to be held on 07.10.2025 & 08.10.2025. that the facility of Compensatory time and /or Scribe shall be allowed as per the following details.

The facility of Compensatory time and /or Scribe shall be allowed to any person with benchmark disability as-defined under section 2 (r) of the RPwD Act,2016 and has limitation in writing including that of speed if so de-sired by him/her.

In case of persons with benchmark disabilities (PwBDs) in the Category of blindness.locomotor disability (Both arms affected -BA) and Cerebral Palsy.the facility of Scribe is provided, if desired by the candidate.

Compensatory time of 20 mints per hour of examination shall be provided for eligible persons with benchmark disabilities (Certificate by the standing Medical Board or a Medical Board constituted by the Government for the purpose, as per rule 17 of Jammu and Kashmir public Service Commission (Conduct of Examination) Rule ,2022}.

In case of remaining categories of person with benchmark disabilities (PwBDs), the facility of Scribe and Com-pensatory time will be provided on production of a certificate at the time of examination to the effect that the per-son concerned has physical limitation to write, and Scribe is $essential\ to\ write\ examination\ on\ his\ behalf, from\ the\ Chief\ Medical\ Officer/Civil\ Surgeon/Medical\ Superintendent\ of\ a\ Government\ Health\ Care$ Institution as per Proforma as Annexure -A.

Documents Which are required to be submitted to the controller of Examination by or before 03.10.2025

- I.Application on plain Paper
- II. Persons with Disability Certificate (Self- attested). III. Certificate regarding physical limitation to write {Annexure -A}.
- Iv. Letter of undertaking for Using Scribe, the same shall be provided by the Commission.
- V. Admit Card/Roll Number and Contact Number.

Note -I: For availing the facility of Scribe and /or Compensatory time in terms of the conditions given above ,a candidate should have filled the application from as PwD Candidate, at the time of applying for the post.

Note -II: The Candidature of such Candidates shall remain Provisional till the veracity of the relevant document/s is verified. Candidates shall be debarred from the examination in case of fraudulent claim of PwD status.

> {Sachin Jamwal }KAS, Controller of Examinations, J&K public Service Commission.

Dated: 29.09.2025 Encl :- Annexure "A" No:- PSC/Exam/AP-SKIMS/2025/20

Place:

Date:

ity- Orthopaedic Specialist/PMR}.

Annexure "A"

Certificate regarding physical in an examinee to write This is to certified that, I have examined Mr/Miss/Mrs_

{Name of the candidate with disability },a person with _ {nature and percentage of disability as mentioned in the certificate of disability}, S/O D/O___ _a resident of _ State that He/ She has physical limitation which hampers his /her writing Capabili-ties owning to his /her disability.

Signature

Chief Medical Officer/Civil Surgeon / Medical Superintendent of a Government Health Care Institution . Name and designation

Name of the Government Hospital/with seal

Note: Certificate should be given by a specialist of the relevant stream/disability (e.g. Visual impair-ment. Ophthalmologist, Locomoter disabil-

DIPK-6648/25 DATED: 29-09-2025

OFFICE OF THE HEADMASTER GOVT. UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL ZAIPORA

Zone: Vehil, District Shopian UDISE CODE: 01151201501 Ref.No.GUPS/ZP/355/2025Dated: 29/09/2025

AUCTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby served to general public for inviting bids for auction & dismantling of unsafe structures/assets at Govt. Upper Primary School Zaipora, Zone Vehil, District Shopian, **DETAILS OF THE AUCTION**

Date & Time of Auction	Location of Auction	Estimated Price	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)
6 th October, 2025 11:30 AM	Govt UPS Zaipora Zone Vehil	52,655	1053.1

The auction would be supervised by auction committee constituted by Chief Education Officer Shopian. The members of the committee are:

- Principal Govt. Higher Secondary School Kaprin (Chairman) **Zonal Educational Officer, Vehil (Member Secretary)**
- Headmaster Govt. High School Mantribugh (Member)
- **HOI Concerned (Member)** Representative from Forest Department (Member)
- Representative from Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Member)
- VECs/SMDC members who are willing to attend.
- **Terms and Conditions:** 1. The persons interested to participate in the auction shall deposit Earnest Money Deposit in Cash.
- 2. The property would be auctioned to the bidder who offers highest price. 3. The successful bidder will have to deposit 2% of the bid amount on the same date.
- 4. The property will be auctioned on "as is where is" condition.
- 5. The decision of the auction committee will be final and unquestionable. 6. The committee reserves its right to cancel or postpone the auction without assigning any reason.
- 7. The interested parties shall submit their participation application by or before 4th of October 2024 till 3PM in the office of the under-

signed. No participation application shall be entertained after the mentioned cut date and time.

DIPK-6660/25 DATED: 29-09-2025

Headmaster

MP Ruhullah allege deliberate delay in J&K by-polls

Thunder



NAVEED UL HAQ GANAIEE

Budgam, Sep 29: Member of Parliament from Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency and National Conference (NC) leader, Aga Syed Ru-

hullah Mehdi on Monday alleged that by-elections in two J&K Assembly constituencies are being "deliberately delayed."

Speaking to media at Charar-i-Sharief, Ruhullah alleged that in 2018 dissolution of the J&K Assembly was followed by a planned delay in polls to keep the legislature non-functional. This allowed the government to push through the Article 370 decision using the Governor's discretion. Elections should have been held within six months, but the Assembly was kept vacant," he said.

Ruhullah also criticized the continued delay in holding by-elections in Budgam and Nagrota constituencies, saying, "Delaying elections is unconstitutional. Polls should have been conducted long ago so that people get proper representation."—(KNO)

Growers face freight charges, fruit fall trials

JAHANGEER GANAIE

Srinagar, Sep 29: Apple growers across Kashmir are fac-ing one of their toughest harvest seasons in recent memory, as heavy fruit fall, poor market demand, and lo-gistical hurdles have combined to push the valley's horti-culture sector into crisis.

Farmers said they were compelled to harvest their crop earlier than usual after a prolonged dry spell was fol-lowed by incessant rains, strong winds, and hailstorms, which caused

apples to fall prematurely.
"The fruit fall began suddenly, and it simply didn't stop this year. Every morning, we would find apples scattered on the ground. If we hadn't picked them early, we would have been left with nothing," said Abdul Rashid, an or-chardist from Shopian.

Growers accused the horticulture department of failing to provide any meaningful



assistance. "We had been pleading for help to control the fruit fall, but no measures were taken. We watched helplessly as our hard work of the year kept going to waste," said Manzoor Ahmad, a grow-er from Pulwama.

The situation has been worsened by the fact that fallen apples have found no takers in the market, the growers said. "Earlier, juice factories or traders

would at least buy the fallen fruit at lower rates, but this year, nobody came forward. We had no choice but to let them rot under the trees," lamented Ghulam Nabi, a grower from Kulgam.

Transportation has emerged as another major challenge. With frequent highway closures, a shortage of trucks, and skyrocketing freight charges, many growers said whatev-er little margin they hoped for was wiped out. "Freight has become unbearable. Even if we somehow manage to send our produce to outside markets, the transport costs swallow all our returns," said another grower from

The cold storage crisis has added to the panic. Facilities across the valley filled up much earlier than usual, leav-ing hundreds of

Anantnag.

growers without storage space. "Those of us who could not secure cold storage are now forced to sell at throwaway prices. It is a huge blow to small farm-ers like us," said Mohammad Ashraf, an orchardist from Baramulla.

The growers said the demand for Kashmiri apples has remained weak this season, leading to a sharp drop in prices compared to last year. "We are not even getting back the amount we spent on fertilisers, pesticides, la-bour, and transportation. The market is dead and our ef-forts have gone in vain," growers said.'

Farmers appealed to the government to intervene urgent-ly by regulating freight charges, expanding cold storage capacity, and ensuring alternative marketing channels for Kashmiri apples. They said the horticulture sec-

tor is the backbone of Kashmir's economy. If the government does not act quick-ly, the entire economy will feel the shock of this crisis, they warned—(KNO)

Pregnant woman's mysterious death sparks protest in Handwara

WARIS FAYAZ

Srinagar, Sep 29: Grief and anger gripped Wahipora vil-lage of Langate in north Kashmir's Handwara after a pregnant woman (6th month) was found dead under mys-terious circumstances at her home, triggering protests and demands for a thorough investi-

Officials said that the 26-yearold woman, mother of an eight-year-old child, was discovered lifeless inside her residence late in the evening.

"The body was shifted to a nearby hospital for medico-legal formalities and later handed over to the family for last rites," an official said, adding that police have taken cognisance of the matter and a probe has been launched to ascertain the cause of death.

The incident cast a pall of gloom over the village as rela-tives and neighbours thronged the family home, wailing and demanding justice. Accusing the woman's husband of repeated harassment, the grieving family alleged foul play. his was not the first time she was tortured. I was on a phone call with her around 8 PM when I heard him say, 'I will throw you a cup.' Minutes later, she disconnected



the call, and within five minutes, we heard the shocking news," the victim's sister said, tears rolling down her face.

Relatives said the young mother was excited about an up-coming family wedding and had been discussing prepara-tions just moment the incident. "She had planned to attend her cousin's marriage. No one could imagine this tragedy was about to strike," a relative

Following the incident, villagers staged a protest demand-ing a fair and speedy investigation. They urged the au-thorities to bring the truth to light and punish the

Police assured the bereaved amily that the case will be thoroughly examined. "We have taken cognisance of the matter and are investigating it from all possible angles," an official said—(KNO)

Garkote set for ecotourism makeover

WARIS FAYAZ

Srinagar, Sep 29: The scenic hill station of Garkote in Baramulla is set for a major eco-tourism makeover, with Zaloora in Sopore slated to follow, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa said on Monday.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a mega public grievance camp at Tujjer on the outskirts of Sopore, DC Sherpa said that Rs 40 lakh has been sanctioned under the district capex budget to promote

Garkote as a green tour-ism spot.
"For the very first time, Garkote has been brought under the eco-tourism map with a dedicated budget allocation. Zaloora will be the next destination to be developed for eco-tourism promotion," Sherpa said.

During the camp, residents and representatives from Tujjer and adjoining villages raised a range of issues re-lated to healthcare, water supply and road connectivity. Responding to their concerns, DC Sherpa assured that genuine grievances will be addressed in a time-bound manner.

"We aim to resolve minor issues larger interventions will be taken up in the up-coming district or UT capex budgets for long-term solutions," he said—(KNO)

Karra chairs coordinators, district presidents meet

KNO

Srinagar, Sep 29: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Tariq Hameed Karra on Monday said the party will launch a mass signature cam-paign across the Union Territory against what he called "vote theft", while reiterating that the fight for restoration of statehood will continue.

JKPCC in a statement issued said that vote theft was pos-ing a grave challenge to the Indian democratic setup, which will be defeated by the Congress to safeguard the democracy and democratic institution in the country.

"Democracy is under assault since the BIP assumed pow-er at Centre. The systematic erosion of institutions by the ruling dispensation itself is fraught with serious conse-quences, which will neither be accepted nor tolerated," JKPCC said in a statement.

J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Tariq Hameed ments while chair-ing a meeting of Coordinators and District Presidents of Kashmir province at Srinagar



Speaking on the occasion, Tariq Hameed Karra alleged ECI-BJP collusion stands exposed by LOP Rahul Gandhi, who produced facts about the vote manipulation.

Karra added and said ECI is an autonomous poll body re-sponsible for ensuring free fair elections and maintaining transparency while conducting elections, alleging that the irony was (ECI) was itself shielding and encouraging Vote theft to benefit ruling dispensation, which has fraught with serious consequences for the India democracy.

"We are launching a signature campaign across J&K to seek public support to mising fight against election manipulation and we won't rest till the responsibility is fixed and Vote Chori is

stopped," JKPCC President

The vigorous fight for Statehood shall continue, Karra said and urged the Party leaders to gear up for more pub-lic outreach programmes in their respective

Those who were present and spoke on the occasion in-cluded MLA Nizam Ud Din Bhat, MLA Irfan Hafeez Lone, Ex.MLA Bashir Ahmad Magray, Ex. MLA Abdul Rahim Rather, Abdul Gani Khan, Nissar Ahmad Mundo, GSO Abid Ahmad Bhat (Kashmiri) Media Coordinator Adil Farooq Mir (Lasjan), Suhail Bukhari DCC Presidents Irfan Naqib, Zaffar Farfooq Salati, Abdul Rashid Lone, Mir Iqbal, Umer Jaan Sheikh Ajjaz Fr Muzaffar Dar, Mushtaq Ahmad Tantray, Reyaz Manhas and others—(KNO)

Gulmarg Gondola phase-1 to resume operations today

WARIS FAYAZ

Srinagar, Sep 29: The Jammu and Kashmir Cable Car Corporation (JKCCC) on Monday announced the success-ful culmination of trials for the Gulmarg Gondola Phase-I, paving the way for the resumption of routine commercial operations from tomorrow with enhanced carrying capacity. Managing Director, J&K Cable Car Corporation, Syed Qamar Sajjad said that rigorous testing was conducted. including cable trials of all 72 cabins followed by full cab-in capacity cum load-bearing tests, to ensure safety and operational efficiency.

tion of these tests marks

enhancing tourist experience while maintain-ing the highest safety standards, he said.

"With the trials concluded successfully,

The successful comple-

a signifi-cant step in

Phase-I of the Gulmarg Gondola will commence commercial operations tomorrow. The Gondola will now operate with an en-hanced carrying capacity, offering improved convenience to visitors", the director said. The JKCCC reiterated its

commitment to ensuring safe, reliable and worldclass services for tourists in the region. The Gondola, Asia's largest and highest cable car system, is a major tourist attraction in Gulmarg, drawing thou-sands of visitors annually—(KNO)

NOTICE

I have changed my name from (Old name) Feroz Ahmad to (New name) Feroz Ahmad Bhat. In future I will be known as (New name) Feroz Ahmad Bhat. If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact the Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be entertained.

Sudershan Mehta rebuts JKCA statement

Srinagar, Sep 29: Former cricketer and retired senior po-lice officer Sudershan Mehta has issued a rebuttal to the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association's (JKCA) state-ment on his petition, calling the remarks "aggravated criminal defamation" and a "calculated fraud upon the public."

In a detailed statement, Mehta said the JKCA's press re-lease, published on September 28 in print and digital me-dia, was not only malicious and defamatory but also mis-represented iudicial records.

He said the publication of such remarks caused "irrepa-rable damage" to his reputation as a police officer, sportsman, and long-time JKCA functionary.

Mehta stated that every assertion in the JKCA's statement was legally void, factually false, and conclusive evidence of malice in fact.

He contested JKCA's claim that the High Court dismissed his petition as "frivolous" and questioned his locus standi. He said the honourable High Court order in WP(C) No. 2685/2025, dated September 26, disposed of the matter solely on the "technical and procedural ground of territo-rial



jurisdiction."

"This statement constitutes an unequivocal and deliberate distortion of the judicial order of the Hon'ble High Court in WP(C) No. 2685/2025, dated 26/09/2025 which tan-tamounts to the Contempt of the Hon'ble High Court," Mehta stated. Mehta added, "The JKCA's subsequent false public decla-ration issued with utmost malicious dishonesty that the petition was dismissed on "baseless grounds" or due to "questioning locus standi" is a willful and egregious fabri-cation of facts, designed maliciously to prejudice the pub-lic record and deceive the stakeholders. The final order dated 26/09/2025 disposed of the petition only on the preliminary technical ground of

territorial jurisdiction and

significantly, the Hon'ble

Court has explicitly left the

merits open.'

Responding to JKCA's reference to his "morally corrupt practices," Mehta said, "This constitutes an extreme act of aggravated defamation and a direct affront to the rule of law. The precise factual and legal issues underpinning these defamatory allegations were the subject of Govern-ment Order No. 403-Home of 2022, which had directed punitive recovery from my pension. That punitive order was UNEQUIVOCALLY **QUASHED AND SET ASIDE** by the Hon'ble High Court in its landmark judgment ren-dered in WP(C)No. 2027/2025 dated 11/09/2025 (Para 33)."

The statement to the JKCA press release further added, "the statements accusing the petitioner of a "nefarious design" and claiming his actions

by envy and obstructionism" - constitute an extreme, baseless, and slanderous character assassination that con-firms the malicious intent whose calculated objective is to use the media to destroy the petitioner's reputation by falsely imputing high-level

criminal intent. The statement added, the JKCA's public denial of facts proven by its own administration is irrefutable evidence of calculated dishonesty and malice as the Modern Crick-et Club Jammu has been affiliated with the J&K Cricket Association since the 1972 and the undersigned petitioner is the President of Modern Cricket Club Jammu since 1998."

Mehta strongly objected to JKCA's description of him as a "retired junior police officer" and "self-proclaimed ex-cricketer." He clarified that he retired as Deputy Superin-tendent of Police (Selection Grade) with an unblemished service record and was twice recommended for the Pres-ident's Police Medal for Meritorious Service. He added that he was a genuine cricketer who represent-ed J&K in Ranji Trophy from 1985 to 1996, played for Northern Zone U-19 and U-22 winning teams, and was the first J&K cricketer to score a century in the Col. C.K. Nayudu Trophy in 1979-(KNO)

DGP participates in cleanliness drive



Srinagar, Sep 29: Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat and senior officers participated in a cleanliness drive at Ram Munshi Bagh Park, Srinagar

on Monday.

During the ongoing Sewa Parv, all formations of J&K Po-lice are conducting Swachhta drives in their own loca-tions and camps, besides

public places, as a part of our commitment to all social causes and national initiatives, a statement issued to the news agency-Kashmir News Ob-server (KNO). Special cleanliness drive

held today at CID SB Kathua under Sewa Parv 2025. Officers & officials participated

to promote hygiene, sani-tation & spread awareness as a tribute to Mahatma Gan-dhi's vision of Swachh Bharat—(KNO)



EDIT TUESDAY | 30.09.2025

EDITORIAL-

Reviving Tourist Sports A Welcome Step, But More Must Follow

The administration's decision to reopen 12 key tourist destinations in Jammu and Kashmir is a timely and welcome move that has been met with justified appreciation from the region's business community. This measured reopening of sites, including scenic spots like Aru Valley and heritage locations like Kaman Post, signals a crucial step toward reviving an industry that serves as the economic backbone

for thousands of families. The Lieutenant Governor's intervention acknowledges the severe distress faced by hoteliers, transporters, artisans, and guides, whose livelihoods have been crippled by months of downturn. However, this should be viewed as a beginning, not a conclusion. The trade bodies have rightly pointed out that a partial reopening is insufficient to address the scale of the crisis. The continued closure of other prominent destinations perpetuates uncertainty and prevents a full-sector recovery. When hotels report near-zero occupancy and artisans see no market for their crafts, it is clear that a piecemeal approach will only offer partial relief. A comprehensive strategy is now imperative. The government must expedite the reopening of all remaining tourist spots, bolstered by transparent safety protocols and confidence-building measures for visitors. This administrative action must be supported by a robust revival package. Marketing campaigns to rebuild Kashmir's brand, financial incentives for beleaguered small businesses, and infrastructure support for local stakeholders are no longer optional—they are essential. The collaboration between trade bodies and the government is a positive model that must be

deepened. Their shared commitment can help craft a resilient, forward-looking tourism ecosystem. Ultimately, the goal must be to not just reopen destinations but to restore hope, create sustainable employment, and reposition Jammu and Kashmir as a vibrant, must-visit destination. The administration has taken a commendable first step; it must now lead the march toward a complete and lasting revival.

BSNL's Indigenous 4G Stack Embodies Swadeshi Spirit

Driving 5G expansion, realizing Bharat's 6G vision for Viksit Bharat 2047

Press Information Bureau

ndia has marked a historic milestone with the launch of its first fully indigenous 4G (5G-ready) network and the commissioning of nearly 98,000 Swadeshi 4G towers, all powered by homegrown technology. The core network, developed by C-DOT, with Tejas Networks' Radio Access Network and integration by TCS, exemplifies a major technological breakthrough and the realization of the Government's commitment to Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Previously dependent on foreign technology for telecom services like 2G, 3G, and 4G, India responded to the Covid-19 pandemic by building this fully indigenous 4G stack from scratch, demonstrating resilience, rapid innovation, and supply-chain independence. This achievement places India among five nations capable of launching fully homegrown 4G services, reinforcing the swadeshi spirit. BSNL's cloud-native, 5G-ready 4G stack ensures immediate connectivity while enabling seamless upgrades, nurturing domestic talent, and strengthening supply chains. Complementary government initiatives, including the Bharat 6G Alliance, 100 5G/6G labs, and the Telecom Technology Development Fund are advancing research and innovation, charting a path toward Viksit Bharat 2047 and global leadership in digital technology.

What is 4G?

4G is the short name for fourth-generation wireless, the stage of broadband mobile communications that supersedes 3G (thirdgeneration wireless) and is the predecessor of 5G (fifth-generation wireless).

With 4G download speeds, wireless users can stream high-definition video and audio. 4G also enables wireless broadband, which provides a way for users to get internet connectivity without the need for a fixed, wired connection from an internet service pro-

4G leverages technologies like LTE, MIMO (Multiple Input Multiple Output), and OFDM (Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing) for improved bandwidth, network efficiency, and reduced congestion.

Features of the 4G Stack

End-to-end indigenous stack: Radio Access Network (Tejas), Core Network (C-DoT) and domestic integration, therefore reducing dependency on foreign vendors and building local capability.

Software-first/ cloud native: Enables rapid upgrades, scalability and easier future migration path to 5G.

Future proofing: Sites and architecture described as "5G ready," facilitating an upgrade path without replacing large parts of the deployed infrastructure.

BSNL's indigenous 4G services are expected to benefit tribal regions, remote villages, and hilly areas by providing access to quality digital services. This will enable children in rural areas to attend online classes, farmers in distant locations to check crop prices, and patients to consult doctors through telemedicine. Additionally, the initiative will greatly support armed forces personnel by enhancing secure communication through improved connectivity.

Benefits & Impact of the Indigenous 4G Stack

Autonomy and Digital Sovereignty: The fully indigenous 4G stack empowers India to control its telecom infrastructure, reducing reliance on foreign technologies and enhancing national security, thereby strengthening the country's strategic autonomy and digital sovereignty in critical communication networks.

Employment generation and supply-chain development: Localised manufacturing and deployment are creating employment, strengthening supplier ecosystems, and



nurturing a skilled domestic workforce capable of designing, testing, and maintaining advanced telecom systems. This adds both human capital and supply-chain autonomy

Catering to domestic demand with global potential: The fully indigenous 4G stack is not only meeting India's internal requirements but is also designed with export potential, with several countries having already expressed interest.

Rapid development through indigenous capability: The entire 4G architecture was indigenously built in just 22 months, a pace significantly faster than comparable nations.

Expanding scale and reach: More than 92,000 4G sites have been commissioned across the country, connecting over 22 million citizens. For two million users, this marks their first entry into the digital era. The network is managing nearly four petabytes of data traffic every day with effi-

ciency and security.

Realisation of the Swadeshi principle: The deployment reflects the Swadeshi ethos, transforming an idea into a growth engine that promotes domestic production, cultivates indigenous skills, inspire community enterprise, and embeds economic dignity into everyday life.

Financial turnaround and citizen trust: Confidence in homegrown technology has enabled BSNL to record consecutive profitable quarters after 17 years of financial strain. This turnaround underlines the trust citizens place in institutions aligned with the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Going beyond 4G: Embracing 5G

The successful deployment of indigenous 4G technology and expansion of 5G is accelerating digital connectivity and strengthening India's telecom ecosystem for future

5G services launched on 1st Oct 2022.

Within 8 months of launch, 2,00,000 sites covering 700 districts have been installed. 5G network rolled out in all 28 states and

Becoming one of the fastest 5G rollouts in the world.

Presently, 5G is available in most of the

districts across the country.

As of 30th June, 2025, 4.86 lakh 5G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) have been installed by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs)

5G Use Cases

Agriculture: 5G will empower precision farming and smart agriculture with realtime data from IoT sensors, drones, and AI for enhanced productivity and resource management.

Healthcare: 5G enables telemedicine, remote diagnostics, and real-time health monitoring, improving healthcare access especially in rural areas.

Education: Enhanced virtual classrooms and immersive augmented/virtual reality (AR/VR) experiences will improve remote learning opportunities.

Manufacturing & Industry 4.0: 5G supports automation, robotics, and smart factories with ultra-reliable, low-latency communication for increased efficiency and safety. Smart Cities: It enables intelligent traffic

management, energy-efficient infrastructure, public safety, and environmental monitoring through connected devices. Automotive & Transport: 5G facilitates

connected and autonomous vehicles, realtime traffic updates, and safer road transport systems. Entertainment & Media: Enhanced high-

definition streaming, immersive gaming, and interactive media experiences will be

Stepping Stone to 6G

The rapid rollout and domestic adoption of 5G are laying the foundation for India's Bharat 6G Mission, positioning the country as a global leader in future telecom innovation. Currently, the 6G technology is under development phase at international level and is expected to be available by 2030. On March 23, 2023. India's 6G vision "Bharat 6G Vision" document was released, which envisages India to be a frontline contributor in design, development and deployment of 6G technology by 2030.

Bharat 6G Vision is based on principles of affordability, sustainability and ubiquity (universality). The Department of Telecom has

This represents an increase from only 53 per cent in 2019, with 1.3 billion people estimated to have come online during that

- are using the Internet in 2024.

Some key findings from ITU in 2024

Gender parity improving: In 2024, 70% of men and 65% of women use the Internet, a gap of 189 million users. Progress continues except in LDCs.

Youth more connected: 79% of people aged 15–24 are online, 13 points higher than others. The gap is shrinking. Affordability challenge: Fixed broadband

in low-income countries costs nearly a third of monthly income. Mobile ownership high: 4 in 5 people over 10 own a phone; 95% in high-income vs 56%

in low-income economies. 5G expanding unevenly: Global coverage reaches 51%; 84% in high-income vs 4% in

low-income countries. Mobile broadband rising: Subscriptions nearing parity with mobile-cellular, but

fixed broadband remains a luxury. Traffic growth strong: High-income users average 16.2 GB per month, eight times more than low-income (2 GB).

The rollout of the indigenous 4G stack marks a defining step in India's digital transformation. It blends technology, selfreliance, and inclusive growth, bringing millions online, creating jobs, and proving India's capability to design and deploy world-class telecom solutions. With its future-ready, 5G-ready architecture and export potential this initiative strengthens India's position as a global digital powerhouse. Complementing this progress, ongoing government initiatives for 5G expansion and the development of 6G technologies through the Bharat 6G Alliance and related programs ensure that India is well-positioned to lead in next-generation telecom innovation. Together, these efforts pave the way towards Viksit Bharat 2047, where India not only builds for itself but also empowers the world in the era of 5G, 6G, and

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plan according to the Bharat 6G Visior Initiatives taken by the government for

which is an alliance of domestic industry,

academia, national research institutions and

standards organisations to develop action

Established 100 5G labs at academic institutions for capacity building and a 6G-ready academic and start-up ecosystem.

Technology Launched Telecom Development Fund (TTDF) Scheme on 1 Oct 2022 to fund R&D and innovation in telecom, including 6G, fostering collaboration across academia, start-ups, MSMEs, research institutes, and industry. Approved 104 projects worth Rs. 275.88 Crores by 31 July 2025.

Facilitated 'Bharat 6G Alliance,' uniting industry, academia, research, and standards bodies to develop the Bharat 6G Vision. Signed MoUs with global 6G alliances for international collaboration.

Under NM-ICPS, established Technology Innovation Hub at IIIT Bangalore, focusing on Advanced Communication Systems like Reconfigurable Intelligent Surfaces and O-RAN Massive MIMO to improve future 6G network coverage, capacity, and sensing.

GSMA Mobile Internet Connectivity Index

As per the State of Mobile Internet Connectivity 2025 report (Network Coverage and Infrastructure), the majority of network investment continues to be in deployments of 5G, which has now reached more than half the world's population (54% or 4.4 billion people), with more than 700 million additional people covered in 2024. More than half of that growth was driven by India, which has achieved just over 80% population coverage for 5G.

During 2024, monthly 5G traffic in the country increased threefold and now accounts for 36% of India's total mobile traffic, compared to 15% in 2023.

Global Context

According to statistics by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), it is estimated that approximately 5.5 billion people - or 68 per cent of the world's population



Govt committed to promise of outreach: Sakeena

Reviews developmental scenario of Mendhar, Rafiabad ACs

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 29: Minister for Health & Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo Monday convened a comprehensive review meeting to assess developmental works, infrastructure projects and welfare initiatives in the Mendhar and Rafiabad Assembly Constituencies.

Besides, Cabinet Ministers Javed Ahmed Rana and Javid Ahmed Dar, the meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary Higher Education Shantamanu; Secretary Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah; Director School Education Jammu; Director Health Services Kashmir/Jammu, and other senior officers of concerned departments.

During the review, Sakeena Itoo emphasized the need to accelerate ongoing projects in both constituencies, with a focus on healthcare, education and implementation of social welfare schemes.

She impressed upon the concerned officers to iron out all the issues that delay public service delivery.

Highlighting the govern-ment's responsibility towards

SHOPIAN, SEPTEMBER 29:

Sewa Parv campaign in Shopian continued with renewed vigour Monday, highlighting

cleanliness, health, fitness, and community outreach as core

Multiple departments orga-

nized impactful programmes

across the district, ensuring

MC Shopian, under the on-

going Swachhata Hi Seva

campaign, carried out a drain

cleanliness drive in the town.

Additionally, a drawing compe-

tition at Eternal Success School

engaged students creatively,

spreading messages of hy-

giene and social responsibility

grammes were held under

which screening and aware-

ness activities were conducted,

ensuring community members

received guidance on preven-

Similarly, Ayush department

conducted health camps under

'Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar

Abhiyan', focusing on women's

health with diagnostic testing,

diet counseling, and yoga sessions

Sheep Husbandry depart-

ment continued its community

outreach and awareness drive,

with experts sensitizing farm-

to encourage a holistic lifestyle.

Nari Sashakt Pariyar

tive care and wellness.

In the health sector, Swasth

strong citizen participation.

KT News Desk

Cleanliness, Health lead way

in Shopian's Sewa Parv



border and rural constituencies, she said that Mendhar and Rafiabad deserve equal opportunities in development.

"Our priority is to ensure that healthcare, education and basic facilities reach every household to ensure equitable access to public services for remote and border areas," she said.

She said that our government is committed to the promise of outreach, inclusion and today's evaluation will feed into immediate corrective steps and future

Earlier raising the issues of the school education sector in Mendhar, Minister Javed Rana highlighted the lack of staff strength in border areas in schools

of adopting scientific methods

an awareness-cum-registration camp at Tehsil Keller, where

people were briefed about key

welfare schemes including

pensions, senior citizen sup-

port, marriage assistance, OSC

and child/ women helplines,

with on-the-spot enrollment

Education department turned

its focus on physical and mental

fitness, organizing Health and

Wellness Yoga & Fitness classes

Students and teachers actively

participated, taking away practi-

cal lessons on the importance of

These activities once again

reflected the spirit of Sewa Parv

community participation, ser-

vice and awareness, bringing

together citizens, students, and

balancing studies with health.

in schools of the district.

for beneficiaries.

Social Welfare Shopian held

for better productivity.

and called for urgent measures to fill those staffing gaps.

He urged upon the concerned to expedite the completion of Model School in Pathanatir, girls hostel in Balakot and Mendhar and other buildings where work has been going on for a long time.

During the meeting, Rana highlighted the issue of the absence of science subjects in several schools across the constituency. He stressed for the immediate introduction of science streams in these institutions, emphasizing that access to modern education is essential for empowering the youth and enabling them to compete at par with students from other regions.

Regarding the health sector

BUDGAM, SEPTEMBER 29: As

part of the ongoing Sewa Parv celebrations, a wide array of activities focusing on social

awareness, community service,

health, education, and skill

development were carried out

across various blocks of district

Budgam, drawing enthusiastic

participation from students,

staff, municipal authorities,

At Block Surasyar, an aware-

Prevention of Sexual Harassment

(POSH) Act was conducted to

sensitize participants about safe,

inclusive, and respectful work-

places. The initiative aimed at

creating a better understanding

of rights, responsibilities, and

working professionals and com-

In HSS Kandoora, Beerwah, a

series of activities under Sewa

Parv engaged students and

staff in promoting values of

service, social responsibility,

and community welfare. The

activities included interactive

sessions and hands-on initia-

tives to instill a spirit of selfless

Awas Yojana (PMAY), a Greh

Pravesh celebration and aware-

ness camp was organized at

Block S.K. Pora, where ben-

Under the Pradhan Mantri

service among the youth.

munity members.

measures among

programme on the

and the local community.

KT News Desk

issues of Government Degree College Bomai, Girls Hostels in Watergam and Rohama. He also raised the issue of SDH Rohama and called upon the concerned to arrange funds for its completion. He also raised the issue of pending compensation to land donors and urged upon the concerned to resolve the matter at an earliest. While listening to the issues in the Mendhar constituency, raised, Sakeena Itoo emphasised Rana stressed the urgent need on transparency in the completo fill the existing vacancies tion of pending projects and as-

in the Health Department. He

emphasised to expedite recruit-

ment and ensure that health

centres and hospitals are ad-

equately staffed so that quality

medical facilities are made ac-

cessible to all residents. He fur-

ther called for optimal utilisa-

tion of Medical Mobile Units in

the constituency so that medi-

cal care is provided to nomadic

Minister for Agriculture,

Javed Dar highlighted the issues

pertaining to his constituency

and stressed for filling of vacan-

cies across all educational insti-

tutions. He also raised the issue

significant milestone in the dis-

trict's mission of 'Housing for

A medical camp was held at

Palaash, Budgam, providing es-

sential healthcare services, free

check-ups, and awareness on

health and hygiene to the local

community, emphasizing the im-

portance of preventive healthcare.

ticipated in Sewa Parv by distributing IEC material to

spread awareness on cleanli-

ness, sanitation, and other

community welfare initiatives.

Additionally, the municipal

body organized a painting

competition, encouraging stu-

dents to creatively express

themes related to social aware-

practical demonstration on fruit

and vegetable preservation and

training on post-harvest han-

dling was conducted, equipping

ness and civic responsibility. At HDO office Khansahib, a

MC Chadoora actively par-

Budgam celebrates 'Sewa Parv' with awareness initiatives

and underserved populations.

sured that raised issues will be taken to its logical conclusion. She also said that a plan will be drawn to fill staffing gaps in healthcare and educational institutions in both the constituencies

of abandoned buildings and

called for taking some concrete

measures to complete those

buildings. He also raised certain

for better public service delivery. She directed the concerned to undertake several measures like rational deployment of existing human resources and creating mechanisms to ensure timely filling of future vacancies, so that hospitals, health centres, schools, and colleges in these constituencies function at their full capacity and provide unin-

farmers and community mem-

bers with vital skills to enhance

agricultural productivity and

HSS Bugam Chadoora as well as

across various schools of Budgam,

fulness, and overall well-being

Officials highlighted that the

Sewa Parv serves as a platform

to foster civic consciousness,

social responsibility, and com-

munity participation. Through

these diverse initiatives, district

administration continues to

strengthen public engagement

in programs aimed at health,

education, cleanliness, social

welfare, and skill development.

continue in the coming days,

further encouraging citizens

to actively participate in com-

munity-building and service-

oriented initiatives.

Sewa Parv activities will

promoting physical fitness, min

among students and staff.

Yoga classes were organized at

reduce food wastage.

SARAS Kashmir to bring India's Flavours & Hues to Life

JKRLM set to host SARAS Mela from Oct 4

SRINAGAR SEPTEMBER 29: Jammu & Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM) is set to host the SARAS Mela in Kashmir from 4th to 14th October 2025 at Sher-i-Kashmir Park Srinagar.

SARAS Kashmir is a celebration of India's colours and flavours, showcasing the rich art, culture, and creativity of rural women from across the country.

With over 50 bustling stalls, the Mela will offer a fusion of products from different regions of India, providing visitors a true representation of the country's artistry and craftsmanship. Each stall showcases flavours and traditions brought to life by over 150 rural women entrepreneurs, nurtured through NRLM, presenting their success and products in Kashmir.

Speaking about the SARAS Mela, Mission Director JKRLM, Dr. Shubhra Sharma said, "SARAS Mela is not just a fair, it is a pan-India celebration of India's diversity talent, enterprise, and community spirit. The participation

of rural women artisans and artists from across the country makes this a unique platform to showcase talent and culture where every stall tells a story and every product embodies the spirit of empowerment."

The Mission Director added that visitors at the Saras Fair can explore a wide range of products highlighting India's rural diversity artistic creations and the unique cultural identities of each State including handlooms, handicrafts, jewellery, textiles, home decor, and delectable delicacies. She further said that cultural programs, selfie zones, and entertainment areas have also been made part of Mela for children which will enhance the festive spirit of the event.

"This national-level event will provide a platform for participants to sell and promote their self-made products and create marketing linkages with various selling platforms", Dr. Shubra said.

Highlighting the creativity, resilience and entrepreneurial spirit of rural women of the country, she said that the SARAS Mela promises a vibrant experience and appeal to locals.

Sewa Parv

Pulwama admin organises mega outreach camp



KT News Desk

PULWAMA, SEPTEMBER 29: As part of the ongoing Sewa Parv celebrations, district administration Pulwama Monday organised a mega public outreach camp at Sangerwani, bringing together a wide range of government departments and services under one roof.

Departments including Departments including Education, Social Welfare, Labour & Employment, Cooperatives, Agriculture, Development, Horticulture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Forest and others had set up stalls at the venue that facilitated on-the-spot registrations, enrolment of beneficiaries, scheme consultations. grievance redressal and dis-

semination of information. Health department also organised a medical camp under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan, providing free health check-ups, screenings and awareness.

The event was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. S.M. Ashraf. He emphasised the essence of Sewa Parv, which lies in serving the people and ensuring that welfare schemes reach every household.

Dr Ashraf highlighted the series of activities being undertaken across the district during the campaign, while stressing the importance of cleanliness and behavioural change to achieve the goals of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

He further urged locals, particularly women, to benefit from the medical camps being organised under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan, stressing regular health checkups to prevent anaemia, lifestyle disorders and other ill-

nesses common in the region. The occasion also featured cultural programmes, student speeches, and awareness campaigns on cleanliness, hygiene, drug de-addiction, and welfare schemes. A plantation drive was carried out to reinforce the themes of environmental pro-

tection and community service. The outreach event witnessed overwhelming public participation and was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development Pulwama; Chief Education Officer, Pulwama; concerned Block Development Officers & Tehsildars, and other district and sectoral officers.

Meanwhile, as part of the ongoing Sewa Pary activities across the district, plantation drives, cleanliness drives, and awareness camps continued with active community participation.

Rural Development department organised awareness programmes on cattle dung management and vermicomposting at panchayat level while the Education department held yoga and fitness sessions in schools to promote physical and mental well-being among students.

In addition, free medical camps were organised at PHCs. CHCs, and Ayushman Arogya Mandirs under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan. These camps provided free screenings for anaemia, tuberculosis, sickle cell disease, blood pressure, and lifestyle-related illnesses, along with awareness sessions on maternal and child health, nutrition, and menstrual hygiene.



Department of Information and Public Relations, Jammu Monday organised a special programme at Government College for Women, Parade to mark the celebration of Sewa Parv 2025. A street play (Nukkad

Natak) was presented by the artists of the Cultural Unit, Department of Information and Public Relations, Jammu highlighting the values of selfless service and com-munity welfare. The play conveyed the significance of "Sewa" as a guiding principle in building a compassionate also sensitized the students ment schemes.

sonal and professional lives.

Department Information and Public Relations reaffirmed its commitment to using art and culture as effective tools for mass awareness and to promote positive social values through community outreach

JKEDI Pulwama concludes MDP-3 Batch under RAMP

KT News Desk

PULWAMA, SEPTEMBER 29: Jammu Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Pulwama, successfully concluded its third Management Development Program (MDP-3) under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) initiative at the District Employment & Counselling Centre (DECC), Pulwama.

14 Participants, comprising seven female and seven male entrepreneurs, completed the training program. District Nodal Officer, JKEDI Pulwama, engaged with the trainees, evaluated their progress, and emphasized

the role of such programs in enhancing entrepreneurial skills and fostering capacity building for both aspiring and established entrepreneurs. The program included busi-

ness

group market surveys, expertled sessions, and interactive learning modules, all designed to provide participants with practical skills and boost their entrepreneurial confidence. This initiative underscores

simulation exercises,

JKEDI's dedication to strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Pulwama and empowering youth to become successful job creators.

ers about modern sheep rearofficials to contribute towards a eficiaries joyfully stepped into ing practices and the benefits healthier and cleaner Shopian. their new homes, marking a Awareness programme conducted for Budgam farmers

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, SEPTEMBER 26: A training-cum-awareness programme was organized by the Agriculture Research (DARS), SKUAST-K, Station Rangreth, Budgam, in which around 100 farmers from District Budgam participated.

During the programme, Associate Director Research, DARS Budgam, Dr. M. Ashraf Bhat highlighted various initiatives undertaken by DARS for the development of new crop varieties in maize, pulses, forages, and millet crops. He emphasized the need for diversification of crops to counter the adverse effects of climate change, which are highly prevalent in the Agro-temperate conditions of Kashmir valley.

He further stressed that farmers must adopt high-yielding, disease- and pest-resistant varieties released by SKUAST Kashmir to enhance crop production.

Dr. Bhat appealed to farmers about the cultivation of SKUAST-K released varieties, along with standardised

practices, farm mechanization, and the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning, which will revolutionize agricultural production in the region.

On the occasion, Associate Director Research, SKUAST-K, Dr. Z.A. Dar; Former Associate SKUAST-K, MRCFC Director, Khudwani, Dr. G.A. Parray, and other scientists also participated in the event. Dr Parray advised farmers to remain in touch with

actual potential of various crop varieties of SKUAST Kashmir. Later, a field demonstration visit

was also organised; where farmers were acquainted with the high yielding potential of the latest released varieties developed by DARS Budgam in maize, fodder maize, cowpea, mung bean, soybean, etc.

Farmers were also made aware about the demonstrations trials on various millets (including pearl millet, proso millet, finger millet, management SKUAST Kashmir for realizing the foxtail millet, and sorghum).

Street Play on Sewa Parv held at GCW Parade



KT News Desk

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 29: The

and progressive society and

about youth-centric govern-

A large number of students and staff members of the College witnessed the performance and appreciated the artists for effectively spreading the message of Sewa Parv. The event inspired the audience to imbibe the spirit of selfless service in their per-

programmes.



Leh Apex Body withdraws from talks with Centre

Seeks unconditional release of Wangchuk, withdrawal of cases against all arrested, probe into Leh violence

KNO Correspondent

Leh, Sept 29: The Leh Apex Body (LAB) on Monday announced its decision to withdraw from the talks with the central government, scheduled for October 6 in New Delhi. The decision comes in the wake of the recent violence in Leh that led to the death of four individuals and injuries to over 50 others.

Speaking at a press conference, senior LAB member Thupstan Chhewang, as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) stated that the body had unanimously decided not to engage in discussions until certain conditions are met.

These include a judicial inquiry into the September 24 violence and the withdrawal



of cases against those arrested. Chhewang said that peace and normalcy must be restored before any dialogue can take

He called on the Union Home Ministry, the Union Territory administration, and district authorities to take steps to address the current situation. "The terror and grief among the people must be addressed. Only after that can talks be considered,"

The LAB also demanded the release of all individuals detained in connection with the September 24 incident, including environmental activist Sonam Wangchuk.

Following the violence on September 24, curbs have

been imposed in Leh town. The clashes occurred during a shutdown called by a constituent of the LAB, which has been campaigning for statehood and inclusion of Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

In a separate statement, the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) echoed the LAB's demands.

KDA member, Sajjad Kargili called for the immediate and unconditional release of Wangchuk, who has been detained under the National Security Act (NSA) and transferred to a jail in Jodhpur, as well as other detained youth leaders.

The KDA also called for an impartial judicial probe into the violence, questioning the role of the administration, which it said had prior intelligence of possible unrest. (KNO)

Union Secy DoSEL calls on Education Minister Sakeena Itoo

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sept 29: Union Secretary Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL), Sanjay Kumar to-day called on Minister for Education, Social, Health and Medical Sakeena Itoo, and briefed the Minister about his extensive field visit and assessment of various schools in Budgam and Srinagar districts.

Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education, Shantmanu; Secretary, School Education, Ram Niwas Sharma and other senior officers of education department were also present on the occasion.

During the deliberations, the Union Secretary assured the Minister of full support from the Centre for infrastructure development and modernization of schools to ensure universal access to quality education for all children in Jammu and Kashmir.

At the outset, the Minister stressed the need for reforms in the Samagra Shiksha scheme to make it more student-centric and outcome-oriented.

The Minister also asked the



Secretary to establish more ICT labs in schools, particularly in rural and far-flung areas. She also called the Secretary to make the provision for subject specific teachers under Samagra Shiksha or any other scheme.

"Our focus is on expanding vocational and skill-based education, ensuring that our students are future-ready. For this, support from the Central Government is crucial to upgrade infrastructure and take the education sector of J&K to new heights", the Minister

further said that the government is working to expedite the recruitment of teachers to increase the pupil-teacher ratio and strengthen the teachinglearning process.

Union Secretary appreciated the progress made by the J&K Government and said that the Centre is committed to extend all possible assistance to J&K in developing robust school infrastructure, digital learning platforms, and capacity building for teachers.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Doors open for

and situation has remained calm.

On Friday, Wangchuk was arrested under the stringent National Security Act, accused of inciting the mob. He has been shifted to a jail in Rajasthan's Jodhpur. A Pakistan angle has emerged in the probe against him, with the DGP Ladakh pointing to his visit to Pakistan and the arrest of a Pakistani Intelligence Operative.

"We also arrested a Pakistan PIO in the recent past who was in touch with him and was reporting back across. We have a record of this. He (Wangchuk) had attended a Dawn event in Pakistan. He also visited Bangladesh. There is a big question mark on him," Ladakh Police Chief SD Singh Jamwal had said.

LG Kavinder Gupta chairs law & order review

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, chaired a high-level review meeting on the prevailing law and order situation in the Union Territory on Monday.

According to the details available with the news agency-KNO, the meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Director General of Police Dr. S.D. Singh Jamwal, Rajesh Kumar, Additional Director General, CRPF; and senior officers of the Army and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) were present.

The officers briefed the Lt Governor on the latest developments, preparedness measures, and coordination among agencies to maintain peace and order in the Union Territory.

The Lieutenant Governor took a detailed asessment of the ground situation in view of the recent developments and the relaxation of restrictions in certain areas. He expressed appreciation for the responsible conduct of the people, who have largely cooperated with the administration in maintaining calm and discipline during the sensitive period. "The people of Ladakh have shown remarkable maturity, restraint, and commitment to peace even in challenging circumstances. Their patience and cooperation reflect the true spirit of harmony that defines our region," the LG said.

While acknowledging the role of security forces, police, and local administration for their coordinated efforts in ensuring normalcy, LG Gupta urged officials to remain vigilant, responsive, and people-friendly in their approach. He emphasised that law and order must be enforced firmly yet sensitively, keeping in mind the welfare and sentiments of the local population.

The Lieutenant Governor also issued clear directions for enhanced intelligence gathering, regular community engagement, and swift redressal of public grievances to strengthen trust between the administration and the citizens. He called upon youth to channel their energies towards constructive nation-building and assured that every legitimate concern of the people will be addressed through dialogue and democratic means.

Appealing to the people of Ladakh, LG Gupta said, "Peace is the cornerstone of development. I urge all sections of society to maintain unity and harmony and not fall prey to the designs of anti-social and anti-national elements. The administration stands firmly with the people and will ensure their safety, dignity, and progress."

Reiterating his government's commitment to safeguarding Ladakh's unique culture and aspirations, the Lt Governor affirmed that sustained peace and stability will pave the way for accelerated growth and opportunities in the region. (KNO)

My mission is

Municipal Corporation for fostering inclusive growth and improving their infrastructure and services for city's residents. He said our sustainable urban planning and execution on the ground is a bold roadmap for future cities.

"Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, my mission is to ensure that 'No one should be left behind'. We will ensure that marginalized are reached and included in development process for greater progress and prosperity," the Lieutenant

"We must adopt sustainable practices and strictly enforce environmental regulations to create a smart urban ecosystem. Tawi Riverfront served as a protective shield for Jammu city against recent natural disasters and saved surrounding areas from flooding. It is an excellent example of sustainable development projects," he added.

The Lieutenant Governor asked the Housing and Urban Development Department to replicate the Swachhata Internship Program and Green Colony initiative of Jammu Municipal Corporation in other cities across Jammu Kashmir.

He also urged all the officials and the people to cultivate a sense of ownership for their city to strengthen connect and contribute for betterment of urban assets and public spaces.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor felicitated the students under Swachhata Internship for best model and Swachhagrahis for their exemplary contribution during Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. Sanction letters were also handed over to beneficiaries under different

Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament; Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha; Bharat Bhushan, DDC Chairman Jammu; Yudhvir Sethi, Vikram Randhawa, Arvind Gupta, Surinder Bhagat, Members of Legislative Assembly; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department; Brij Mohan Sharma, Principal Secretary Culture; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu: Dr Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner Jammu; Dr Devansh Yadav, Municipal Commissioner Jammu, senior officials, members of NGOs and people in large number attended the Sewa Parv celebrations.

LG terms Jammu

He said, "J&K Administration and the Government of India are standing like a rock behind the victims of catastrophes. Every effort is being put to provide them with all the possible assistance so that their life comes back on

He said, "I extend my deepest condolences to the families who have suffered losses. I want to tell them that the Home Minister of India himself visited and assessed the situation with his own eyes.

"A central team also toured Jammu and Kashmir and, together with local authorities, prepared a damage assessment. I am fully confident that the Central Government will extend complete support to Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

The LG said that the Centre has approved the construction of more than 5,000 houses under the Rural Development Department. "A private organization from Kerala has assured that it would construct 1500 new houses, with each house having three rooms. They have said that the work will start in October. Each structure would cost around Rs 9 lakhs.

The Lieutenant Governor said that the losses have been enormous as more than 4,000 houses were damaged, over 3,237 kilometres of roads affected and more than 70 major bridges destroyed

Calling for the crackdown on encroachments along water bodies in the Union Territory, LG Sinha urged people and the administration to create a movement for it. "We exhort the officials to crack down on encroachments along the water bodies. Citizens must report encroachments on natural resources in their respective areas to the authorities. Let us unite to rebuild a stronger, more secure future," the LG

The Lieutenant Governor said, "Along with the administration, I also appeal to the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir that it is their moral responsibility to prevent illegal construction and encroachment around riverbanks and water bodies."

He said such encroachments may provide temporary relief to some people but in the process, "we end up losing our own people" during flood-like situations.

"I also expect the officials to keep a strict watch on this issue. Beyond the administration, the people themselves must take responsibility

to stop rampant encroachments on natural resources and ecologically fragile places. For this, we must build an environment and a movement," LG Sinha said.

He said that when the administration tries to remove encroachments, many people take to the streets. "But the devastation we have witnessed gives us an opportunity for self-reflection — we must think about how to create a safe and sustainable system."

LG Sinha asked the people of J&K to look into two major issues confronting the UT and their responsibilities towards them. "The first responsibility is to restore the lives of those whose lives have been disrupted due to floods and human-induced causes. At the same time, people must be made to fully understand the reality of climate change, as the scale of damage is continuously increasing. This message must be conveyed at the rural and panchayat

MeT predicts

and that light snow over higher reaches is also expected at many places in J&K.

From October 8 to 10, generally dry weather is expected across the region, he said.

In its advisory, the Met Department has advised farmers to continue harvesting paddy and other horticultural crops, including safe storage and other farm operations, until the afternoon of October 4.

The MeT Director further said that a gradual fall in daytime temperatures is expected from tomorrow, with a significant decrease during October 5 and 6. (KNO)

Ganderbal will be

in a friendly badminton match. In the same complex, the Chief Minister inaugurated a 400-meter Synthetic Athletic Track and a Synthetic Football Turf, flagging off a 100-meter sprint of girls before himself taking part in a 100-meter sprint, amidst applause

from the gathering. The Chief Minister also laid foundation stone for four crucial road connectivity projects, including the upgradation of Shajinga Link Road and Khatijinag Road; construction and upgradation of the Dar Mohallah-Watalbagh-Dangerpora road; construction of the Pati Waskura-Kharbagh road; and construction of the Tehsil Bagh-Lar Bye Pass-Yanihama-

Dangerpora road. During his tour, Omar Abdullah was accompanied by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Minister for Youth Services & Sports Satish Sharma, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Principal Secretary PDD Rajesh H Prasad, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal Jatin Kishore, Director General YS&S Anuradha Gupta, Managing Director KPDCL, Chief Engineers of PDD and PW(R&B), Secretary J&K Sports Council, and other senior

Addressing a large gathering at Government College of Physical Education, Omar Abdullah described the day's inaugurations and laying of foundation stone of multiple works "the beginning of a new era of development in Ganderbal." He said that these projects were not a favour to the people but an expression of gratitude for their trust and support.

The Chief Minister announced that every block in Ganderbal will be equipped with a modern cricket and football ground, as well as a library and reading room with internet facilities, so that both sports enthusiasts and students preparing for competitive exams are equally supported. He asked Youth Services & Sports Department to allow local residents access to the athletic track and football turf at GCOPE during non-academic hours, ensuring wider community participation.

Highlighting the newly inaugurated Saloora Grid Station, Omar Abdullah, who represents Ganderbal constituency, said it would significantly strengthen the power distribution system in the district. He further assured that funds had been allocated for upgrading facilities at the Ganderbal District Hospital, along with recruitment of additional doctors to address manpower shortages.

Omar Abdullah also reflected on the political

and administrative challenges following the 2019 changes, but asserted that his government is determined to deliver despite all these limitations. "We will not make excuses, nor will we stop working. We will provide roads, jobs, education, health, electricity, drinking water, and playfields to our people," he said, assuring that no part of Ganderbal district will be left behind.

Concluding his address, the Chief Minister vowed to work "day and night" to ensure that Ganderbal continues on a steady path of growth and development, echoing the legacy of "Baba-e-Qaum", Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah.

Over 4,200 MW to

unserved energy is high." Pertinently, in April this year, KNO reported that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh is likely to witness around 62 percent of share from non-fossil fuel-based capacity in mixed electricity generation by 2034-35.

The news agency had reported that "The share of non-fossil fuel-based capacity in the generation mix is projected to be around 62% by 2034-35 with higher contribution from non-fossil fuel-based capacities in alignment with Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) trajectory." (KNO)

Northern Rly

previous three phases, train operations are gradually being normalised. Passengers are advised to check schedules on the Northern Railway website or helpline numbers before travelling." (KNO)

Heart attacks

comfort-driven culture-online deliveries, work-from-home setups, and lack of physical activity-is pushing people into a sedentary lifestyle. This, combined with stress and substance abuse, is worsening the situation," Dr Mir said, adding, "Even college-going girls have been diagnosed with heart conditions linked to drug abuse and Endocarditis, which was once rare in our region."

Dr Showkat, another cardiologist, said that mental health is playing a key role in this crisis. "The socio-political climate, economic burdens, and competitive lifestyles are elevating stress levels. Stress is directly linked with high blood pressure, inflammation, and unhealthy coping mechanisms like smoking, excessive caffeine, or binge-eating," he said.

He said many young professionals and students complain of anxiety and hypertension, which has led to an alarming rise in stressrelated cardiac problems.

Doctors said that while medical facilities are improving, prevention remains the best cure.

The measures they suggested include: Engage in at least 30 minutes of physical exercise daily-walking, cycling, yoga, or sports, opt for a diet rich in vegetables, fruits, whole grains, lean proteins, and nuts, avoid processed and fast foods high in salt, sugar, and unhealthy fats, regularly monitor blood pressure, sugar, and cholesterol levels.

The medical professionals called for seeking timely treatment for diabetes and hypertension and quitting smoking and alcohol, saying both significantly damage blood vessels and raise the risk of heart disease.

"Practise mindfulness, meditation, or relaxation techniques, ensuring good sleep and mental health support is equally important," they said, adding that obesity increases the risk of hypertension and diabetes, which are key drivers of heart attacks. According to experts, families, schools, and

community bodies should encourage heartfriendly practices and discourage harmful habits like drug abuse. Doctors also advised people to be alert to

warning signs: chest pain or discomfort-described as pressure, squeezing, or tightnessradiating to the arm, back, jaw, or upper stomach is the most common symptom. Other signs include shortness of breath, sudden dizziness, cold sweat, fatigue, nausea, or indigestion-like

"Immediate medical attention can save lives.

Delayed treatment reduces survival chances drastically," the doctors added.

As heart disease continues to rise across Jammu and Kashmir, experts warned that the region is facing a "silent epidemic". They said while hospitals are better equipped now than in the past, the real battle must be fought at home-through lifestyle changes, community support, and stress management. (KNO)

Monitor social

misinformation, propaganda, and anti-national content.

Addressing the issue of narcotics, V.K. Birdi directed officers to intensify anti-drug operations, increase surveillance on offenders, and actively work toward dismantling drug networks. He also underlined the importance of community outreach and rehabilitation as part of a comprehensive anti-narcotics strategy.

A district-wise security plan was discussed in detail, with focus on key installations, sensitive areas, and inter-agency coordination. IGP Kashmir stressed the need for proactive intelligence gathering and swift response mechanisms to effectively deal with emerging threats. He directed officers to intensify area domination, conduct night patrolling in sensitive areas, and maintain strict surveillance on anti-national elements (ANEs).

IGP Kashmir appreciated the efforts of the district chiefs in preventing crime and emphasized the need for improving the quality of investigation. He also urged officers to remain vigilant, responsive, and people-centric in their

approach. Leh-like situation

satisfied with the situation in 2019, Omar said. "They were happy. Today, those people are also regretting seeing the situation. They also feel there is no progress in UT."

The Chief Minister said New Delhi's August

2019 decision was not made after seeking permissions. "But in Ladakh, it has been done as per the aspirations and demands of the people," he said.

Omar said that despite facing multiple challenges and "interference" in the Union Territory, the government led by him will not let the people down in any way.

"We are not even those people who take the law into their own hands and spoil the atmosphere. Despite facing the challenges, we are working. We have not wasted these 10 months. In a few days, when the government's one year is over, we will come up with the achievements and tell the people of Jammu and Kashmir that no time has been wasted," he said.

CM Abdullah further said that he couldn't do the work he wanted to do in the previous government, and then, for about 11 years, it was kept in a box.

"Now my complete effort is that this time we start the work of the new Ganderbal Hydroelectric Project, which will benefit the people of the district. This is our plan, and we will do it," he added.

The Chief Minister laid foundation stones for six major sports infrastructure projects at Beehama, Ganderbal, marking a significant investment in the district's sports ecosystem. The projects include the upgradation of Beehama Stadium, Madr-e-Meharban Stadium, and playfields at Gund Rehman, Manigam, Wakura & Batwina, aimed at nurturing local sports talent.

Omar also unveiled new sports equipment for youth, followed by impressive demonstrations by Judo, Thang-Ta & Yoga athletes, showcasing Ganderbal's vibrant sporting spirit. (KNO)

Body of missing

a shop near the BSNL Exchange Office in Srinagar.

He said the man had gone missing on September 21 and a missing report had been lodged at the nearest police station.

The official added that the body was identified as Mushtaq Ahmad Pathan, son of Mohammad Akbar Pathan, resident of Minigah, Kupwara.

He further said the body has been sent for medico-legal formalities while investigations have been initiated.

NCERT, UGC working to integrate Ayurveda into health edu curriculum in schools, colleges

New Delhi, Sept 29: The government aims to integrate Ayurveda into the health education curriculum in schools and colleges, Ayush Minister

Prataprao Jadhav said. He said that the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and the University Grants Commission (UGC) are working together to prepare course modules for school education and higher education so that the younger generation can connect with the principles of holistic health.

Some States, such as Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh, have already integrated the Indian knowledge system in school education, Mr. Jadhav said. "Discussions are underway with NCERT and UGC for preparing course modules for the school education and higher education," the

Minister told PTI recently.
On efforts being made to establish Ayurveda on a global level, Mr. Jadhav said that the Ayush Ministry is focusing on evidence-based research.

High-quality clinical trials are being conducted through the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) and other research institutions. In partnership with WHO, standards are being set to strengthen the scientific credibility of Ayurvedic treatments further, Mr. Jadhav said.

On the competition between modern medicine and Indian healing practices, Mr. Jadhav said that the goal is to



develop an integrated healthcare model. "Allopathy and AYUSH systems are complementary to each other, not competitors. Through the National AYUSH Mission and AYUSH Grid, we are working towards combining the benefits of both systems to provide better and more comprehensive healthcare services," he stated. As part of the government's policy to strengthen public health infrastructure, under the National AYUSH Mission, AYUSH doctors are being deployed in Health and Wellness Centres, especially in rural and remote areas, to make primary healthcare ser-

vices more accessible. The Ministry of AYUSH has given a new identity to India's traditional medical practices in the last decade, the Minister said. "We have not only established AYUSH systems with scientific evidence,

but also succeeded in spreading them to the masses and gaining global acceptance. From giving Yoga a global identity to the establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine, and through initiatives like International Yoga Day, AYUSH Chairs, and international Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), we have made historic achievements for global holistic health," he said.

The Minister stressed that the government's priority is balanced and equal development. The Ministry is giving everyone equal opportunities by preserving the uniqueness of each system, while promoting modern research, standardisation, and education.

Through the National AYUSH Mission (NAM), AYUSH health centres and medicinal gardens are being developed

Stock markets bounce back in early trade after falling sharply last week

Mumbai, Sept 29: Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded in early trade on Monday after registering a sharp fall last week, amid value-buying at lower levels and a firm trend in global markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 255.46 points to 80,681.92 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty went up by 89.05 points to 24,743.75.

From the Sensex firms, Bharat Electronics, Eternal, Tata Steel, Tata Motors, Titan and Mahindra & Mahindra were among the major gainers. However, Hindustan Unilever, Axis Bank, Larsen & Toubro and Bharti Airtel were among the laggards.

In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng traded in positive territory, while Japan's Nikkei 225 index quoted lower.

US markets ended higher on Friday "While US markets got a breather with the Dow snapping a 5-day losing streak, focus now shifts to RBI's policy on October 1 and US jobs data on October 3," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said.

Last week, the BSE benchmark tanked 2,199.77 points or 2.66 per cent and the NSE Nifty dropped 672.35 points or 2.65 per cent.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 5,687.58 crore on Friday, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought stocks worth Rs 5,843.21 crore, according to exchange data.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.60 per cent to USD 69.71 a barrel.

Bareilly violence: Cleric Taugeer Khan's aide detained for mobilising crowd, misleading cops

Bareilly (UP), Sept 29: Police on Monday detained a close associate of cleric and Ittehad-e-Millat Council chief Taugeer Raza Khan in connection with the recent violence in Bareilly during a protest in support of the 'I Love Muhammad' campaign, officials said.

Confirming the detention of Nadeem, Senior Superintendent of Police Anurag Arya told PTI that the incident was not spontaneous but premeditated.

According to senior officials, investigation has revealed that Nadeem allegedly orchestrated the protest. He called 55 individuals via WhatsApp, who then mobilised a crowd of around 1,600 people.

"They conspired to launch an agiition on the lines of anti-CAA and NRC protests, placing minors at the forefront of the demonstration," said an official.

Nadeem and his associates were allegedly active at key locations, including the Khalil School intersection and Shyamganj area, to incite people, he said.

Police also claimed that Nadeem initially "misled authorities" about the demonstration called by Tauqeer Raza Khan after Friday prayers.

On Thursday night, he allegedly visited the police station with associates Nafees and Liaqat, assured

would take place on Friday and that Ittehad-e-Millat Council (IMC) supporters would be instructed to pray peacefully in mosques at 5 am. However, the letter he submitted

the officers that no demonstration

to the police that night was later found to be forged, the official said.

A large crowd carrying 'I Love Muhammad' posters clashed with police outside a mosque in Kotwali area after Friday prayers.

The crowd was reportedly angry over the cancellation of a proposed demonstration called by cleric Taugeer Raza Khan, who claimed that authorities denied permission for it.

Khan, along with seven co-accused, was arrested on Saturday in connection with the violence. A total of 39 people have been detained so far.

According to police, 10 FIRs have been filed against 180 named and 2,500 unidentified rioters under sections pertaining to inciting violence, rioting, stone-pelting and hurting religious sentiments.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has warned of strict action against any attempt to disturb law and order, while security was intensified in Bareilly and neighbouring districts. Sensitive areas were fortified under heavy police and paramilitary deployment. Mobile internet services remained disrupted on Monday, according to locals.

India's real GDP growth projected to grow at 6.7 pc this fiscal: Report

New Delhi, Sept 29: Global professional services firm EY on Monday raised India's real GDP growth projection to 6.7 per cent - up from its earlier estimate of 6.5 per cent, owing to robust GST 2.0 reforms.

The upward revision reflects expectations of monetary easing and stronger domestic demand from GST rate rationalisation amid global uncertainties, according to EY's Economy Watch September edition.

"With Q1 FY26 real GDP growth at 7.8 per cent and stimulation of demand through GST reforms on the one hand, constrained by global headwinds affecting India's export prospects, both in goods and services, we expect



India to still show an annual real GDP growth of 6.7 per cent in FY26," according to the global professional services firm.

"With GST 2.0 reforms boosting disposable incomes and domestic demand, and trade diversification efforts opening new opportunities, India is well positioned to sustain its growth momentum in FY26. Strategic investments in technology and targeted policy measures will be key to translating reforms into long-term economic gains," said DK Srivastava, Chief Policy Advisor at EY India. In August 2025, manufac-

turing PMI increased to 59.3, its highest level since February 2008. Services PMI also increased to 62.9, its highest level since June 2010.

Overall IIP growth improved to 3.5 per cent in July 2025 from 1.5 per cent in June 2025, led by significant improvement in the

growth of manufacturing

"Led by fading base effects and a moderation in the pace of contraction in food prices, CPI inflation increased from 1.6 per cent in July 2025 to 2.1 per cent in August 2025 whereas core CPI inflation rose from 4.2 per cent to 4.3 per cent during the same period," the report mentioned.

WPI inflation turned positive at 0.5 per cent in August 2025 as compared to (-)0.6 per cent in July 2025, reflecting higher inflation in vegetables on account of both weakening of favourable base effects and some uptick in price of tomatoes.

As per the OECD, India's seasonally adjusted quarterly real GDP growth at 7.3 per cent during April-June 2025 was the highest among all G20 economies.

NCH receives 3,000 GST-related complaints after tax cuts: Govt

PTI

New Delhi, Sept 29: Consumer Affairs Secretary Nidhi Khare on Monday said the government's National Consumer Helpline (NCH) has received 3,000 complaints related to GST since the implementation of reduced taxes.

'We have so far received 3,000 consumer complaints. We are sending

Indirect Taxes and Customs) for further action," Khare told reporters on the sidelines of an event.

The Consumer Affairs Ministry is closely monitoring instances where consumers are being cheated through misleading discount practices to avoid passing on the benefits of reduced GST rates, she said.

The ministry is deploying

them to the CBIC (Central Board of artificial intelligence and chatbot technology to get a clearer picture of complaints across various sectors, she added.

The complaints mechanism comes amid concerns that retailers may not be fully passing on the benefit of GST rate reductions to consumers, prompting the government to strengthen its monitoring

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD

Dated: 27.09.2025

ject: Advertisement for UT/ Divisional/ District Cadre posts of Junior Assistant and Junior Scale Stenographer/Junior Stenographer pertaining to various Indenting Depart ment(s), Jammu & Kashmir.

The Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) has received various Indents for filling up vacancies of various Indenting Departments, Jammu and Kashmir under direct

ruitment, as per the details indicated below

S.No.	Reference of Indent	Indenting Department	No. of post received
1	i) Agri-Cordl49/2024 (7505111) Dated:- 08.08.2024 followed by Horti-NG/3/2021 (CC No. 34007) dated 22.05.2025 & HortiNG/3/2021-7198310 dated: 05.08.2025. ii) ASHF-AHONGAZ/14/2023 (7156990) Dated 07.10.2024 followed by ASH-FAHONGAZ/14/2023 (7156990) dated 13.02.2025. iii) ASHF-SHONGAZ/10/2023 (7526571) Dated 11-10-2024 followed by dated 19.03.2025. iv) Horti-Cord/6/2023 (7124596) Dated: 24.04.2025.	Agriculture Production Department	37
2	Coop-Estt/21/2022 (169047) dated 25.07.2024 followed by 30.12.2024 and CooP- Estt/18/2024 (7613475) Dated 23.01.2025.	Cooperative Department	24
3	Cul-Adm0Gen/237/2023-01 Dated 11.06.2025.	Culture Department	5
4	FST-GEN/28/2023-02 Dated 04.10.2024 followed by FSTNG/5/2021-04 dated: 06.12.2024 and FST-GEN/28/2023-02 dated 13.06.2025.	Forest, Ecology & Environment Department	79
5	D HME-SKIM/18/2024-02 (CC 7521674) dated 22.07.2024 followed by dated: 10.12.2024 and HME- SKIM/66/12/024-01. E759597732) Dated: 25.06.2025. ii) HD-NG-J/70/2023-02 bated 13.08.2024 followed by HD-NGJ/70/2023-02 dated 14.01.2025. iii) HD-FWI51/2024-02 Dated 1401.2025 followed by dated: 18.04.2025.	Health & Medical Education Department	38
6.	HED-NGZ/24/2022-04 (136845) dated 03.07.2024 followed by dated: 19.08.2024 and dated: 21.01.2025.	Higher Education Department	18
7.	i HOME-FSL/19/2024-10-HOME Dated 16.08.2024 followed by dated: 07.10.2024. ii HOME-Jail/122/2021- 01-HOME (CC-34193) Dated 25.10.2024 followed by dated: 17.01.2025 and HOME-Jail/122/2021- 01-HOME (CC-34193) Dated 07.05.2025.	Home Department	4
8.	IC-HRM/12/2024-02 Dated:-19-07-2024 followed by dated: 05.12.2024 and IC- HRM/30/2024-02 Dated:-18-02-2025	Department of Industries & Commerce	1
9.	D J5D-NG302/2/2021/28166 dated 28.06.2024 followed by dated: 22.08.2024 and dated: 11.11.2024. ii) JSD-Na/25/2024-01-7407022 Dated 07.01.2025.	Jal Shakti Department	116
10.	LE-Genl/12/2023-11 Dated: 09.12.2024 followed by LE- Ge1/10/2024-11-L&E dated: 27.02.2025 and LE-Gen1/12/2023- 11 (7122998) Dated: 01.05.2025	Labour & Employment Department	16
11.	LAW-Estt/122/2024-10 dated 01- 07-2024 followed by dated: 20.01.2025.	Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs	5
12.	LGS-121(Rect-Rules) 23-25/807 dated 24.02.2025 and LGS- 121(Rect-Rules) 2025/1144 dated: 19.03.2025.	Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, J&K	3
13.	ST-Adm/2/2021-07 (E-13578) Dated 18.07.2024	Science & Technology Department	2
14.	i)TRPT-ADMON/20/2024-02 (7600734) Dated: 23.05.2025. ii) TRPT-SMGONI/20/2021-02 (77654) Dated: 2708.2025. Hi) TRPT-MVDON/13/2023-02-Part (1) 7153349) Dated: 29.08-2025.	Transport Department	13
TOTAL			361

1	Date of Commencement for submission of Online Applications:	20.10.2025
2	Cut-off/Last Date for submission of Online Application Forms	18.11.2025
3	Name of the Post, Cadre, Pay Level, Category-wise break up, Qualification and Criteria of Selection for the Advertised posts.	Annexure-A
4	Certificate regarding Physical Limitation to write.	Annexure-B
5	Letter of Undertaking for using Own Scribe.	Annexure-C

posts are as under: 1. APPOINTMENT OF THE CANDIDATES:

2. DOMICILE: npetent Authority on the prescribed format on or before the cut-off date i.e. last date of submission of online application forms, which, unless otherwise extended, shall be

18.11.2025. 3. VACANCIES: The details of posts advertised are given in Annexure-A to this Notification. However, the actual number of posts may undergo increase or decrease during or before the com letinoid

the selecting rocess and the JKSSB is not legally liable for an such variation in the total number of posts advertised for which the final selection list will be issued. The Advertisemen Notification is subject to the outcome of any writ petition/O.A. Dendina before the competent Court of law. variation in the total number of posts advertised for which the final selection list will be issued. The Advertisement Notification is subject to the outcome of any writ petition/O.A. pending before the competent Court of law.

The requirement of age for applying against these posts as on 01.01.2025 for open merit & various reserved category candidates, shall be as under

S. No	Category	Max. Age Limit in Years	Not Born Before	Not Born After
1	ОМ	40	01.01.1985	01.01.2007
2	Sc	43	01.01.1982	01.01.2007
3	ST-1	43	01.01,1982	01.01.2007
4	ST-2	43	01.01.1982	01.01.2007
5	RBA	43	01.01.1982	01.01.2007
6	ALC/IB	43	01.01.1982	01.01.2007
7	EWS (Economically Weaker Section)	43	01.01,1982	01.01.2007
8	Other Backwald Classes (OBC)	43	01.01.1982	01.01.2007
9	Physically Challenged Person	42	01.01.1983	01.01.2007
10	Government Service/Contractual Employment	40	01.01.1985	01.01.2007
	l			1

Atul Kumar JKAS J&K Services Selection Board.

DIT/kM/9/25

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF HORTICULTURE, KASHMIR

Raibagh. Srinagar. opposite Presentation Convent School -190008

TELEFAX: 01943100919/01943100920 EMAIL: DHK-KASHMIR@JK.GOV.IN

WEBSITE: HTTP://HORTIKASHMIR.GOV.IN

Subject: Interview Notice for Post of Procurement Officer and Manager MIS & ITunder JKCIP, in Department of Horticulture Kashmir notified/published vide this office communication No. DHK/TS/JKCIP/2025/7090 dated 18.04.2025.

DATED: 27.09.2025 The interview for selection to the posts of Procurement Officer and Manager MIS & IT are scheduled as per the details given below

and will be conducted at the Directorate of Horticulture Kashmir, Rajbagh Srinagar.

S. No.	Name of the Candidate	Date of Interview	Time
Procurement Of	ficer		
1	Mr. Mateen Nazir	03.10.2025	10:30 AM
Manager MIS &	IT		
1	Mr. Moin Aijaz	03.10.2025	10:30 AM
2	Mr. Nazish Nazir Banday	03.10.2025	10:30 AM
3	Ms. Rutbaa IShfaq	03.10.2025	10:30 AM
4	Ms. Sumiya Mushtaq	03.10.2025	10:30 AM
5	Ms. Sumia Magsood	03.10.2025	10:30 AM
6	Mr. Altaf Hussain Bhat	03.10.2025	10:30 AM

The candidature of all the shortlisted candidates called for interview is purely provisional. The documents of the candidates will be verified at the time of interview. In case any discrepancy with regard to age and other eligibility conditions is noticed at the time of interview, the candidate(s) shall not be allowed to appear in the interview or where the candidate has already appeared

in the interview the candidature shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio. The candidates shall produce their original certificates/testimonials/other relevant documents at the time of interview.

(Vikas Anand) DIPK-6677/25 No: DHK/TS/2025/ Dated: 109/2025 DIRECTOR DATED: 29-09-2025

03.10.2025

No. JKSSB-PLAN/15/2024-03 (E-7597568)

diers who were of Jewish descent.

interred in cemeteries in these cit-

these soldiers, the embassy of India,

with the help of Israeli authorities,

is setting up "The India Trail" in the

History textbooks in Haifa teach

about the story of the liberation of

Haifa by Indian soldiers from classes

3 to 5. The Haifa Historical Soci-

ety has also been going around to

schools in the city telling the story

to youngsters over the last decade.

In a symbolic gesture of friend-

ship with Israel, India renamed the

iconic Teen Murti Chowk, a memo-

rial erected in 1922 in New Delhi to

commemorate this historic deed,

as "Teen Murti Haifa Chowk" dur-

ing Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu's visit to Delhi in January

2018. Prime Minister Narendra Modi

visited the Indian cemetery in Haifa

during his visit to Israel in July 2017

and unveiled a plaque commemorat-

ing Major Dalpat Singh for his critical

"I am deeply honoured to stand here today to salute the valiant Indi-

an soldiers, who laid down their

lives for the liberation of Haifa dur-

ing the WW I," Modi had written in

the guest book. The 61st cavalry, the

name given to the unit created after

the merger of the three cavalry units

after independence, sent a contin-

gent to Israel in 2018 to participate

The Israel Post had issued a

commemorative stamp in 2018 in

appreciation of the Indian soldiers'

n the centenary celebrations.

role in liberating the city.

role in the liberation of the city.

ies of Israel

Holy Land.

About 900 Indian soldiers are

As a tribute to the bravery of

Indians, not British, freed us from Ottoman rule: Israeli mayor

Haifa, Sept 29: The Israeli city of Haifa on Monday paid tributes to fallen Indian soldiers, with the mayor noting that the city's school history books are being changed to correct that it was Indian troops and not the British who liberated the city from Ottoman rule.

"I was born in this city and graduated from here. Constantly we were told that this city was freed by the British till somebody from the Historical Society knocked at my door one day and said that they have done a thorough research and found that it wasn't the British but the Indians who freed this city (from the Ottomans)," said the mayor of Haifa, Yona Yahav.

He made the remarks while addressing a gathering at the Indian cemetery of fallen soldiers during a ceremony to pay tributes to their bravery. "In every school, we are changing

the texts and saying that it wasn't the British but the Indians who liberated us," Yahav said.

During World War I, Indian cavalry regiments armed with spears and swords cleared the Ottoman forces from the rocky slopes of Mt Carmel under all odds to liberate the city, in what most war historians consider "the last great cavalry campaign in history"

Mayor Yahav had, during the first ceremony at the same venue in 2009, said that the northern coastal city's history textbooks will include the story of its liberation by Indian soldiers, and it is today a well-known fact among youngsters in the city. The Indian Army



IMAGE SHOWS JODHPUR LANCERS MARCHING THROUGH HAIFA

commemorates September 23 every year as Haifa Day to pay its respects to the three brave Indian Cavalry Regiments -- Mysore, Hyderabad and Jodhpur Lancers -- that helped liberate Haifa following a dashing cavalry action by the 15th Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade on that date

An event to pay tributes to the brave Indian soldiers is also organised every year at the Indian soldiers' cemetery in Haifa by the Indian mission and the Haifa municipality.

Captain Aman Singh Bahadur and Dafadar Jor Singh were awarded the Indian Order of Merit (IOM), and Captain Anop Singh and 2nd Lt Sagat Singh were awarded the Military Cross (MC) in recognition of their bravery in this battle.

Major Dalpat Singh, widely popular as the Hero of Haifa, was awarded a military cross for his bravery.

The Jodhpur Lancers lost eight men and had 34 wounded in the battle. But they also captured over 700 prisoners, 17 field guns and 11 machine guns.

The battle was described as "almost the only occasion when a fortified town was captured by cavalry on the gallop," India's Ambassador to Israel JP Singh said during his address at the event.

Indian troops played a crucial role in the campaign, resulting in the defeat of the Ottoman forces in the region. More than 74,000 Indian troops laid down their lives during World War I, including over 4,000 in West Asia, Singh asserted.

"It was one of the last classical cavalry actions in an era that saw large-scale mechanisation of war," the Indian ambassador said.

'These fallen soldiers represented all major faiths and regions of our country. And this tribute shows that their courage and sacrifice will never be forgotten." he added.

In Israel, memorials to Indian soldiers exist at Haifa, Jerusalem and

Will protest strongly with ICC: **BCCI on Indian team being** denied Asia Cup trophy by Naqvi

Mumbai, Sept 29: The BCCI will lodge a "very strong protest" in the next ICC meeting in November against Asian Cricket Council chief Mohsin Naqvi, who walked away with the Asia Cup trophy after the Indian team refused to accept it from him in Dubai.

BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia justified the team's refusal saying that India cannot accept the trophy from a person who is "waging a war against the country.'

India defeated Pakistan by five wickets in the final on Sunday with Tilak Varma hitting an unbeaten 69 to be adjudged the Player of the Match for the summit clash.

"So far as the trophy is concerned, trophy distribution, India cannot take the trophy from the person who is waging a war against our country," Saikia said.

"We have taken a decision not to accept the trophy but that does not allow the gentleman to take away the trophy and the medals to his hotel," he added.

"This is unexpected, very childish in nature and we will launch a very strong protest with ICC in the forthcoming ICC meeting to be held in Dubai in the first week of November."

Nagvi is also the head of the Pakistan Cricket Board and Interior Minister of his

country. Saikia praised the Indian team for their unbeaten run in the competition. "India won all the seven

matches at the group stage. India won all the three matches. Thereafter in the group of four they won the matches and finally also," he said.

"Out of these seven matches, India won against Pakistan 3-0. So this is a big victory and (a) big time cricket achievement for the country."

On the team's decision to play the tournament despite massive criticism of engagement with Pakistan in the backdrop of Pahalgam terror attack, Saikia said the Board has followed the policy set

by the Indian government. '...when it is a bilateral tournament, India is not going to play against Pakistan or any other hostile country and BCCI has been doing it for last 12 to 15 years," he said. "And now

the Government has said that in multinational tournaments -- Asia Cup is a multinational tournament --, or an international tournament where a lot of other countries are also involved. In those tournaments, Indian team, whether it is cricket or football, we have to play."

'Otherwise, our other games will suffer or the federation will be banned by international federations, so we followed the policy of the central government. We participated inspite of the fact that there are some protests or some resistance from some quarters," he continued.

Saikia said beating Pakistan across three games of this Asia Cup will bring "happiness to our people".

'Today, with this handsome win over Pakistan and the thumping victory of 3-0, I am sure we will bring a lot of happiness to our people. The country is really proud of the performance of Indian cricket team," he said.

Climate change, pollution threaten Europe's resources, EU warns

Amsterdam, Sept 29: Climate change and environmental degradation pose a direct threat to the natural resources that Europe needs for its economic security, the EU's environmental agency said on Monday.

The European Environment Agency said biodiversity in Europe is declining due to unsustainable production and consumption, especially in the food system.

Due to over-exploitation of natural resources, pollution and invasive alien species, more than 80 percent of protected habitats are in a poor or bad state, it said, while water resources are also under severe pressure. EUROPE'S FASTEST-WARM-

ING CONTINENT

"The degradation of our natural world jeopardizes the European way of life," the agency said in its report: "Europe's environment 2025.'

"Europe is critically dependent on natural resources for economic security, to which climate change and



environmental degradation pose

Europe is the world's fastis experiencing worsening droughts and other extreme weather events.

But governments are grappling with other priorities including industrial competitiveness, and negotiations on EU climate targets have stoked divisions between richer and poorer countries.

EU countries last week confirmed that the bloc will miss

a global deadline to set new emissions-cutting targets due to divisions over the plans among

> TIME RUNNING OUT, AGEN-CY SAYS

"The window for meaningful action is narrowing, and the consequences of delay are becoming more tangible," executive director Leena Yla-Mononen said.

"We are approaching tipping points - not only in ecosystems, but also in the social and economic systems that underpin our societies.

Suryakumar donates entire Asia Cup match fee to armed forces, Pahalgam attack victims

Dubai, Sept 29: India captain Suryakumar Yadav will donate his entire match fee from just-concluded Asia Cup to the country's armed forces and the victims of Pahalgam terror attack.

India defeated bitter foes Pakistan by five wickets in the final to win the trophy on Sun-

day night here.
"I have decided to donate my match fees from this tournament to support our Armed Forces and the families of the victims who suffered from the Pahalgam terror attack. You always remain in my thoughts. Jai Hind," the



'X' after the high-volt- exchange pleasantries

India players are entitled to Rs four lakh per match in the T20 format, which means that Survakumar would be donating a total of Rs 28 lakh for the seven games played in the continental event.

The Indian team

35-year-old posted on steadfastly refused to with the Pakistani side during the entire tournament, where it ended up beating Salman Ali Agha's men

on three consecutive

Sundays. Suryakumar had taken the lead in snubbing Pakistan at every opportunity during the tournament. He

the Pahalgam attack victims and the Indian armed forces after his team beat the arch foes in a group match on September 14. A furious Pakistan had accused him of making political statements and sought a ban on him in its complaint to the ICC. The world body had then asked him to refrain from ment that might be construed political, besides imposing a 30 per cent fine on his match fee of that day.

also paid tribute to

The BCCI has challenged the fine on him after Suryakumar pleaded not guilty during the ICC hearing last

Ukraine's **Zelensky proposes** joint aerial shield with allies

REUTERS

Warsaw, Sept 29: Ukraine has offered to build a joint aerial defense shield with its allies to protect against threats from Russia, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Monday, after a series of airspace incursions that caused alarm on NATO's eastern

NATO leaders have said that Russia has been testing the alliance's readiness and resolve with airspace incursions in Poland and the Baltic states, and Kyiv says its experience in dealing with aerial threats would be valuable. "Ukraine proposes to Poland and all our partners to build a joint, fully reliable shield against Russian aerial threats," he said in an address to the Warsaw Security Forum delivered via video link.

"This is possible. Ukraine can counter all kinds of Russian drones and missiles and if we act together in the region we will have enough weapons and production capacity.'

There are more robots working in China than the rest of world combined

NEW YORK TIMES

New York, Sept 29: There were more than 2 million robots working in Chinese factories last year, according to a report released Thursday by the International Federation of Robotics, a nonprofit trade group for makers of industrial robots. Factories in China installed nearly 300,000 new robots last year, more than the rest of the world combined, the report found. American factories installed 34,000.

While Chinese factories have been using more robots, they have also gotten better at making them. The government has used public capital and policy directives to spur Chinese companies to become leaders in robotics and other advanced technologies.

Worldwide, robots and artificial intelligence are playing an increasingly prominent and disruptive role in manufacturing. Factory robots range from machines that weld car parts together to claws that lift boxes onto conveyor belts. As technology helps



Over the past decade, China has embarked on a broad campaign to use more robots in its factories, become a major maker of robots and combine the industry with advances in AI.

Chinese companies have benefited from a national push that mirrors how the country's electric vehicle and AI industries have grown, said Lian Jye Su, a chief analyst at Omdia, a tech research firm. "This is

not a coincidence," Su said. "It has taken many years of investment by Chinese companies.' China's drive for facto-

ry automation has been a key part of achieving its position as the world's manufacturing powerhouse. Factories in China have installed more than 150,000 robots each year since 2017. At the same time, manufacturing output ballooned. By the start of this year, factories in China were making nearly a third of all manufactured goods worldwide, more

than the United States, Germany, Japan, South Korea

and Britain combined. Robot installations fell last year, compared with the year before, in all four of the next largest factory robot-using countries: Japan, the United States, South Korea and Germany. Japan installed 44,000.

Until last year, China installed more imported robots in its factories than domestically made ones. But last year, nearly threefifths of the robots installed in China were also made in the country.

