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Vice-President Radhakrishnan arrives in Sgr on maiden J&K visit

LG Sinha, CM Omar receive him at Srinagar airport | VP to attend 21st KU convocation as chief guest, confer degrees to students | Event reflects growing national recognition of KU's contributions: VC

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Feb 25: Vice-President C P Radhakrishnan arrived in Srinagar on Wednesday evening on his maiden visit to Jammu and Kashmir, marking his first official engagement in the Union Territory since assuming office.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) the Vice-President was received at Srinagar Airport by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and other senior officials.

"Delighted to welcome Hon'ble Vice-President of India, Shri C P Radhakrishnan Ji at the Srinagar Airport," LG Sinha wrote on X.

Office of the J&K Chief Minister wrote on X that the CM received Hon'ble Vice-President of India upon his arrival at Srinagar Airport today.

After landing in Srinagar, the



Vice-President drove to Lok Bhavan where LG Sinha presented him with a souvenir, said an official.

He said the Vice-President will attend the 21st convocation of the University of Kashmir as a

chief guest at its Hazratbal campus on Thursday.

"The programme is scheduled to begin in the forenoon with the academic procession, followed by the Vice-Chancellor's annual report highlighting the

University's academic achievements, research output and institutional milestones," said the official, adding, "Vice-President Radhakrishnan will then deliver the convocation address and formally confer | More on P6

CM Omar launches ₹190 crore projects for Srinagar-Budgam

Major push to strengthen drainage, sewage treatment | Focus on restoring Jhelum & Doodh Ganga

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Feb 25: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday laid the foundation for infrastructure and river conservation projects worth over 190 crore across Srinagar and Budgam districts, marking a significant push towards urban transformation and environmental sustainability.

Spanning five constituencies, the projects focus on urban beautification, pollution abatement of the Jhelum River, and advanced sewerage treatment infrastructure for Doodh Ganga, reflecting the Government's commitment to improving civic amenities, enhancing climate resilience, and restoring water bodies.

At Rainawari, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the construction



of BAB-UL-SULTAN-UL-ARIFEEN, a landmark city gateway featuring artistic calligraphy at Rainawari Chowk. Executed by PW (R&B) at a cost of 130 lakh, the project aims to enhance the aesthetic and cultural identity of the historic locality.

He said the gateway would not only beautify the area but also highlight its spiritual and cultural significance.

The Chief Minister also laid the foundation of a major

environmental initiative at Brari-Nambal Munawarabad for Pollution Abatement and Conservation of River Jhelum at Chuntikul and Gowkadal. The project, under the Housing & Urban Development Department, will be executed by UEED at a cost of 7090.68 lakh. It includes the establishment of an 8 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) to significantly reduce untreated discharge into the river. | More on P6

J&K Police unveil 'Snow Leopard' squad for mountain security ops

Elite squad trained to neutralise terror threats in high altitude zones



Waris Fayaz

Srinagar, Feb 25: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday unveiled its newly formed elite "Snow Leopard" squad, a specialized high-altitude unit created to strengthen security and carryout anti-terror operations in mountainous and snow bound regions across the Union Territory.

According to the details available with the news agency— | More on P6

DGP calls for focused action against terror ecosystem

KNO DESK

Srinagar, Feb 25: The Director General of Police, J&K, Nalin Prabhat-IPS, on Wednesday chaired a comprehensive Security Review Meeting in Budgam to assess the prevailing security scenario and operational preparedness of the district Police.

The meeting, according to a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), was attended by S.J.M. Geelani-IPS; Special DGP Coordination; IGP Kashmir Zone V.K. Birdi-IPS; DIG Central Kashmir Range Rajeev Pandey-IPS; SSP Budgam Nikhil Borkar-IPS; besides Additional SP Budgam, all SDPOs, DySSP SOG, SHOs, DOs, and other senior officers of District Budgam.



During the review meeting, SSP Budgam presented detailed briefing on counter terror operations, law and order management, measures to prevent crime, action against drug trafficking, area domination plan and overall security scenario of the district.

The DGP reviewed ongoing kinetic and non-kinetic operations, anti-terror | More on P6

J&K Govt sets up helpline for residents returning from Iran

KNO DESK

Srinagar, Feb 25: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Wednesday activated dedicated 24x7 helplines to assist residents of the Union Territory returning from Iran.



According to an advisory, a copy of which lies with news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the decision follows an advisory released by the Embassy of India in Tehran on February 23, 2026.

The helplines are aimed

at facilitating information-sharing and providing assistance to J&K residents returning from Iran.

The advisory states that the helplines will remain operational round the clock to ensure necessary support and | More on P6

CM felicitates winners of Chrysanthemum Garden Photography & Reel competition

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Feb 25: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday felicitated the winners of the Photography and Reel Competition held as part of the inaugural celebrations of the Chrysanthemum Garden in Srinagar.

The felicitation ceremony, organised by the Department of Floriculture, Gardens and Parks, honoured participants for their exceptional creativity and artistic expression in capturing the beauty and grandeur of the majestic garden.



The Chief Minister presented Certificates of Merit along with cash awards to the winners with 20,000 as first prize, 10,000 as second prize, and 5,000 as third prize in each category. Congratulating the

winners, the Chief Minister said such initiatives provide an important platform for creative engagement and youth participation.

"Kashmir's gardens are not merely landscapes of flowers; they are living

symbols of our heritage, creativity and cultural pride. Through photography and reels, our youth have beautifully captured the spirit of this garden and shared it with the world," he said.

He added that encouraging artistic expression around nature and public spaces strengthens community bonding and promotes eco-consciousness.

"When our young people use their talent to celebrate nature, they become ambassadors of Kashmir's beauty and values. Such platforms must continue to inspire | More on P6

Srinagar Airport expansion hailed as game-changer

Tourism operators, hoteliers, traders term it major boost for connectivity, economy

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Feb 25: The expansion of the civil enclave at Srinagar International Airport, approved at rupees 1,677 crore by the Union Cabinet on Tuesday, is being widely welcomed by tourism operators, hoteliers, business leaders, travelers and local residents, who see it as a good step to improve connectivity, generate employment and bolster the overall economy of the Kashmir Valley.

The expansion, covering 73.18 acres, will feature a

state-of-the-art terminal of 71,500 sq. metres, capable of handling 10 million passengers annually, an expanded apron with 15 aircraft parking bays and a multi-level parking facility for 1,000 cars.

The terminal will combine modern architecture with Kashmir's traditional wood-work and craftsmanship, while integrating eco-friendly features such as water harvesting and energy-efficient lighting.

Tourism operators, speaking to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer | More on P6

Day temps remain above normal across J&K

Dry spell to continue

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Feb 24: Day temperatures continued to hover significantly above normal across Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, with most places in the Valley recording departures of 8 to 10 degrees Celsius above the seasonal average, officials said.

According to data obtained by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 20.8 degrees Celsius, which was 8.8 degrees above normal. Qazigund settled at 20.6 degrees Celsius (9.6 degrees above normal), while Pahalgam recorded 17.1 degrees Celsius (8.6 degrees above normal).

Kupwara registered 20.7 degrees Celsius (9.3 degrees above normal), Kokernag 18.5 degrees Celsius (8.7 degrees above normal) and Gulmarg 10.5 degrees | More on P6

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Pollution-Free, Prosperous Jammu & Kashmir

A Visionary Step by **Jenab Omar Abdullah** Chief Minister, J&K

Towards Sustainable Development

Foundation stones laid for

VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS worth **About ₹191 Cr**

Construction of BAB-UL-SULTAN-UL-ARIFEEN City Gateway with Artistic Calligraphy Landmark at Rainawari Chowk	Pollution abatement and conservation of River Jhelum at Chuntikul & Gowkadal areas	Construction of Sewerage Treatment Plant for daily dry weather flow into Doodh Ganga, Alluchi-Bagh, Srinagar (DG-1)	Technology intervention for dry weather flow into Doodh Ganga Nallah from Chadoora to Baghi-i-Mehtab (DG-2)
₹1.30 Cr	About ₹71 Cr	About ₹51 Cr	About ₹68 Cr

Let's build a Sustainable Jammu & Kashmir together!

Dated: 25-02-2026
DIPK-11355/25

Zero tolerance policy against illegal mining in J&K: Deputy Chief Minister



KT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 25: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, Wednesday reiterated the Government's firm commitment to a zero-tolerance policy against illegal mining across Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that strict action will be taken against violators as well as the negligent officials.

During an inspection of the riverbed area near the 4th Bridge over River Tawi, the Deputy Chief Minister, as per an official statement, took serious note of mining activities allegedly being carried out in violation of established norms.

The Deputy Chief Minister was accompanied by Director Mining, Chief Engineer PWD, ADC Jammu, ASP South Jammu and other senior officers.

Taking serious note of mining issues near the bridge, the Deputy Chief Minister directed the Chief Engineer, PWD, to register a formal complaint and lodge an FIR to ensure stringent legal action against those involved.

"Presently, all mining blocks are non-functional and no extraction activity should be allowed. Any operation within this prohibited zone is illegal and will invite strict action," the Deputy Chief

Minister stated.

He emphasized that, as per the existing mining regulations, no extraction is permitted within 500 meters upstream or downstream of a bridge. "This is very unfortunate that mining activities are carried out under the bridge and the concerned have failed to take action. We have adopted a zero-tolerance approach and will not allow such unlawful operations," he added.

The Deputy Chief Minister informed that the Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, who serves as Chairman of the District Task Force on Mining, along with the Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu and the District Mineral Officer (DMO), have been directed to ensure strict enforcement of mining regulations.

He made it clear that no vehicle shall be allowed to transport mining material without valid documentation.

He further directed the immediate seizure of vehicles involved in illegal transportation, imposition of penalties and prompt initiation of appropriate legal proceedings against the violators.

Expressing concern over reports of extraction from non-functional or unauthorized blocks, the Deputy Chief

Minister ordered that responsibility be fixed and accountability ensured. He reiterated that mining can only be undertaken in duly identified and approved blocks after completion of all required formalities.

Voicing displeasure over lapses in enforcement, he remarked that officials must act responsibly and proactively. "It is unacceptable that senior authorities are compelled to intervene due to negligence at the field level," he said.

He also underlined that no department, including those engaged in flood control or dredging works, shall undertake any activity without prior approval from the competent authority. Unauthorized deployment of machinery in riverbeds will not be tolerated, he added.

The Deputy Chief Minister expressed confidence that the inspection would lead to visible improvements on the ground and assured the public that the administration remains fully committed to safeguard the natural resources, upholding the rule of law.

During the tour, the Deputy Chief Minister also took stock of ongoing works at the 4th Bridge and called for expediting the pace of work for timely completion.

Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament held at GDC Shopian

KT NEWS DESK

SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY 25: An inspiring and intellectually stimulating Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament was Wednesday organized by GDC Shopian in collaboration with Mera Yuva Bharat Shopian at Government Degree College, Shopian with the theme "50 Years of Emergency-Lessons for India".

Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament is a platform for young voices to engage in national discussions and contribute to shaping the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. It fosters leadership, civic participation, and meaningful policy dialogue, enabling students to deliberate on key national issues.

The venue, as per an official statement, was beautifully decorated to resemble a Parliament, with the Speaker, Dr. Aftab Ahmed in the Chair presiding over the proceedings.

The event featured two full-fledged sessions of the House along with an engaging Zero Hour, providing participants the opportunity to raise issues and present their viewpoints.

The young participants delivered impactful speeches on various contemporary topics, reflecting confidence, awareness and a deep understanding of democratic values. They eloquently threw light on 50 years of Independence, highlighting the nation's journey, achievements and the responsibilities of citizens in strengthening democracy.

The programme was graced by MLA, Zainapora, Showkat Hussain Ganie. On the occasion, he threw light on the theme of the event and appreciated organisers for providing such a meaningful platform to the youth.

SANJY-2026: DC Srinagar, SSP visit Yatra Transit Camp Pantha Chowk

Take onsite stock of preparations to augment facilities for pilgrims and ensure seamless conduct of annual yatra

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 25: In connection with the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo along with Senior Superintendent of Police, Sundeep Chakravarty visited the Yatra Transit Camp at Pantha Chowk to take onsite stock of the preparations being undertaken for the smooth and seamless conduct of annual SANJY-2026.

The DC, as per an official statement, reviewed arrangements related to registration, accommodation, bedding, sanitation, drinking water supply, electricity, healthcare facilities, security deployment, traffic management and other essential services at the Transit Camp, a halt site for pilgrims traveling to the Shri Amarnathji cave. He also took stock of other amenities to ensure they meet the needs of the yatis.

The DC also inspected the readiness of Yatri Facilitation Center, which will handle critical services such as e-KYC verification, RFID card distribution, and registration to streamline the pilgrimage process.

The DC directed the concerned departments to undertake proactive measures for necessary augmentation of facilities well ahead of the commencement of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026 to ensure timely completion of all works

and to maintain close coordination for the smooth and efficient management of the Yatra. He stressed upon maintaining high standards of hygiene, safety and public convenience to facilitate a hassle-free stay for the visiting pilgrims.

The DC also directed the Superintending Engineers of R&B and PHE Departments to ascertain requirements on ground for further facilitation of the Yatis.

Emphasizing pilgrim comfort, the DC stressed the need for seamless coordination among departments to enhance services at the Camp. Special attention was laid on ensuring proper sanitation facilities, availability of clean drinking water, electricity and setting up of Langars (community kitchens) to provide nutritious meals.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Aadil Fareed, Joint Commissioner SMC, Syed Abul Qasim, Superintending Engineer R&B, Tatheer Manzoor, Superintending Engineer, Jal Shakti, Anbreem Anjum, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, Deputy Director Information, Mohammad Rafiq Zulla, DPO Panthachowk Zohaib Ahmad, DSP Traffic, Suhail Ahmad, Tehsildar Pantha Chowk, Muzamil Zaman, Chief Sanitation Officer, Mudasir Ahmad Bandy, & other senior Officers of Police and District Administration Srinagar accompanied the DC and the SSP during the visit.

Director Agriculture Kashmir inaugurates Exhibition cum Awareness Programme

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 25: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah, Wednesday inaugurated an Exhibition cum Awareness and Promotion Programme dedicated to GI-tagged Kashmir Saffron at the Agriculture Complex, Lalmandi, Srinagar.

The event, as per an official statement, was organized by the Spices Board of India, Regional Office, Srinagar (Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India). It aimed to showcase the exceptional qualities of Kashmir saffron, create greater awareness among stakeholders, and promote its international market potential following the award of the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

In his inaugural address, the Director highlighted the various initiatives undertaken by the Department of Agriculture for the promotion and development of GI-tagged saffron. He reaffirmed the department's full

commitment to providing technical support, guidance, and assistance to saffron farmers to improve productivity, enhance production, and strengthen market linkages. He said that Saffron is our niche heritage crop, and Kashmir has the proud distinction of producing one of the finest and most premium saffrons in the world. The GI tag has opened new global opportunities for our saffron, ensuring its authenticity and commanding higher value in international markets, he added. He called for a unified and collective approach among all stakeholders to further strengthen and promote the saffron sector.

The Director emphasized that the GI tag is playing a key role in enabling saffron growers to receive remunerative prices, thereby ensuring economic sustainability and long-term viability of saffron cultivation in the region. Sartaj Ahmad Shah directed all concerned officers to ensure proactive outreach so that every saffron

farmer is fully aware of the departmental schemes, programmes, and support measures available for the advancement and modernization of the saffron industry.

Earlier, the Director visited various exhibition stalls set up by the India International Kashmir Saffron Trading Centre (IIKSTC), Spices Board of India, and private entrepreneurs. These stalls displayed saffron products, cultivation practices, post-harvest techniques, and value-addition opportunities.

The programme was attended by representatives from the Spices Board of India, officers from IIKSTC and the Agriculture Department, and saffron growers. This initiative reflects the strong collaboration between the Department of Agriculture Kashmir and the Spices Board of India to protect, preserve, and globally promote Kashmir's iconic saffron while empowering farmers through better awareness, improved market access, and sustainable development practices.

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02	Teacher (English)	01	Middle Department	MA in English with M.Ed./B.Ed.Ed or Equivalent
03	Teacher (Urdu)	02	Middle/Secondary	MA in Urdu with M.Ed./B.Ed.Ed or Equivalent
04	Teacher (Science)	02	Middle	M.Sc./B.Sc with M.Ed./B.Ed. Ed or Equivalent
05	Teacher (Mathematics)	02	Middle	M.Sc (Maths)/ B.Sc (Non-Medical) with M.Ed or Equivalent
06	Teacher (Computer Science and Information Technology)	01	Middle	MCA/BCA or Equivalent
07	Teacher (Social Studies)	01	Middle	PG (History/ Political Science) (M.Ed./B.Ed or Equivalent)
08	Nany	02	-----	-----

- The applications must reach the office by or before 22-02-2026.
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Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SOPORE.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No- 169 of RnB-Sopore of 2025-2026 e-tendering DATED: 25.02.2026.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) are invited on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S.No.	Name of Work	Adv. cost	Cost of Tender Documents In Rupees	E/ Money	Time for completion of work	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor	M. H of Account	Position of TS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1	Construction of Porta Cabin at Court Complex Sopore.	2.00	200/-	4000/-	10 days	03.03.2026	DEE	e-Courts project	157 / TS of 2025-26 dat-

Project Authority: Register General.
Position of funds: Available
Position of AA: Register General at Jammu vide his order No: 289/2026/Rqkpc
dt: 25.2.2026 for an amount of Rs.2.00 lacs.

- The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other detail's can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below

1	Date of issue of tender Notice	25.02.2026							
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	25.02.2026						03.03.2026 (upto 4.PM)	
3	Bid Submission start date	25.02.2026							
4	Bid submission End date	03.03.2026 (4.00 PM)							
5	Date and time of opening of bides (online)	03.03.2026(4.20 PM)							

- Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) with NIT No. Name of work and S.No. deposited in M.H. 0059. in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.
- At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/ FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released after submission of a performance security of 5% of the quoted cost which will be released after completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.
- (b) Geotag Photographs Minimum 03 sets (01 set Comprising of Photograph before, during and after execution of work) of size 26 cm x21 cm to be provided.

Unbalanced Bid: In case bid of the successful bidder is unbalanced, the Successful bidder will have to provide additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore (tender receiving authority) vide Principal Secretary to Government Finance department's circular issued under endorsement No: DF-Code/ 441/ 2021-02-158 dated" 8.8.20025.

- Where the bid price is below 10% but not below 20% of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee/security percentage shall be incremented by 0.1% for every percentage of bid price below 10% of the project cost put to bid starting at 11% with the additional bid performance guarantee being 0.1% and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
- Where the bid price is 20% or more below of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee percentage shall be incremented by 0.2% for every percentage of bid price below 20% of the project cost put to bid in addition to 1% of the bid price and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
- The additional performance guarantee percentage shall be rounded off to the next lower percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of bid price is below 0.5% or next higher percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of bid price is 0.5% or more.
- The additional performance security shall be treated as part of the performance security. Additional performance security shall be taken only after approval of next higher authority.

The additional performance security shall be released only after successful completion of work.

- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical Bids.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in acquaint bid submission process.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT,
No 11100-09
Dated: 25.02.2026.

DIPK-11340/25
DATED: 25-02-2026

sd/-
Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Sopore

No immediate implementation of TET in J&K: Sakina Itoo



REHAN QAYOOM MIR

Srinagar, Feb 25: Jammu and Kashmir will be the last region in the country to enforce the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) guidelines, Education Minister Sakina Itoo said on Wednesday, a day after the School Education

Department (SED) issued the formal order.

Speaking to reporters, Itoo said, "We are not implementing the TET orders immediately. J&K will be the last region in the country to conduct TET examinations."

She said many teachers have dedicated decades of

service to educating students and their concerns will be taken into consideration.

Earlier, the School Education Department had designated the Jammu and Kashmir State Board of School Education as the nodal agency to conduct the TET examination—(KNO)

Dual power system won't work in J&K: Satish Sharma

WARIS FAYAZ

Srinagar, Feb 25: Asserting that Jammu and Kashmir cannot function with two power centers, Sports Minister Satish Sharma on Wednesday said that people are tired of the Union Territory arrangement and statehood must be restored at the earliest.

Minister Sharma said public sentiment strongly favoured the return of statehood and added that the existing administrative structure has created governance challenges. "Statehood restoration must happen soon. People are tired of the UT setup," Sharma said, adding that Jammu and Kashmir required a unified administrative system to ensure efficient governance.

The minister said the present arrangement was unprecedented, noting that a full-fledged state had been converted into a Union Territory, which he described as a model that had not delivered expected results.

He exhorted hope that the Prime Minister would fulfil the commitment regarding restoration of statehood in the near future.

Sharma asserted that Jammu and Kashmir could not operate with dual centres of authority and stressed that a single,



accountable governance structure was necessary for political stability, economic growth and employment generation.

He said that restoration of statehood would strengthen democratic institutions, accelerate development initiatives and help address public aspirations across the region.

J&K EMERGING FACTORY OF TOURISM, ARTIFICIAL SNOW ESSENTIAL TO SUSTAIN WINTER SPORTS

While referring to the tourism boom, he said, "J&K is emerging as a factory of tourism. The visitor

inflow has not stopped despite attempts by certain forces to create a negative perception about the region." The Minister said that J&K continues to witness strong tourist interest. He credited the hospitality of local people and sustained government efforts for restoring confidence among travellers after challenging periods. "Peace and public participation have strengthened the tourism sector in the region," he added.

Responding to BJP criticism over the use of artificial snow during winter sports events, he defended

the decision and said the technology was widely adopted across global winter destinations to maintain competition standards amid changing weather conditions.

The minister, as per KNO, dismissed the criticism as uninformed and maintained that modern snow making systems were necessary to extend the duration of competitions and ensure smooth conduct of events such as the Khelo India Winter Games.

He also said future editions of the Winter Games would be planned in accordance with weather conditions. He said the technical team would finalise dates only after assessing snowfall and snow stability, ensuring better scheduling and athlete safety.

Highlighting environmental concerns, he said climate change and ecological pressures required a balanced approach that combined sports promotion with sustainability measures.

Reiterating the government's commitment to expanding tourism, Minister Sharma said efforts were underway to diversify destinations and promote year round tourism activities, while strengthening Jammu and Kashmir's position as a premier winter sports hub in the country—(KNO)

ACB books Dy CM's brother

REHAN QAYOOM

Jammu, Feb 25: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday registered a Disproportionate Assets (DA) case against Police Inspector Vijay Singh Choudhary, brother of Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, following a verification conducted on the basis of specific inputs.

According to an ACB statement, the verification revealed that the accused officer, while posted at various places, allegedly amassed assets worth crores of rupees, which were found to be highly disproportionate to his known sources of income.

"It further surfaced that he had raised more than 10 properties, including houses, shops and land measuring around 100 kanals, valued in crores of rupees. Most of these assets were allegedly acquired in the names of his family members, relatives and other persons," the statement reads.

The ACB said that on the basis of the verification, a prima facie case of criminal misconduct was established against Vijay Singh Choudhary under Section 13(1)(b) read with Section 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. Consequently, FIR No. 02/2026 was registered at Police Station ACB Central and investigation was taken up.

Searches at Multiple Locations During the investigation, the ACB



obtained search warrants from the Court of Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Jammu. Thereafter, ACB teams conducted searches at multiple locations linked to the accused.

The searched premises include his residential house at Santokh Vihar, Kaluchak, Jammu; his ancestral house at Nonial, Nowshera in Rajouri district; and business establishments including a stone crusher and a tile factory at Tutte Di Khui, Bajalta, Jammu.

The statement added that additional locations in Jammu were also searched under Section 185

of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) based on further inputs received during the course of investigation.

"During the searches, incriminating documents were recovered and seized. Further investigation in the case is ongoing," the ACB statement said.

Dy CM Calls Action "Unfortunate" Reacting to the raids, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, termed the action "unfortunate" and strongly defended his brother's service record. Talking to reporters in Jammu,

he said the officer had served in sensitive areas such as Thanamandi and Doda and had actively fought against terrorism and crime. "They have done this to an officer who, during his service, had killed terrorists in areas like Thanamandi and Doda. He has always fought against terrorism and crime. Instead of giving him a promotion, they have sent the ACB to his house. This is unfortunate," he said.

The Deputy CM alleged that the timing of the raids was aimed at preventing his brother's elevation in rank. "Today, these people have come to my brother's house to stop his promotion so that he doesn't become a DySP," he said.

Highlighting his family background, he said they belong to a soldier's family and that their father had served in the Army. "His history and complete background are well known to everyone. Throughout his career, that officer has firmly fought against terrorism and criminals. Wherever he was posted, he built a strong reputation. The family standing before you is a soldier's family. Through hard work, we have reached this position," he added.

Meanwhile, the ACB in statement said the case was registered after due verification and that searches were conducted following proper judicial authorization. They added, further investigation is underway to ascertain the full extent of the alleged disproportionate assets—(KNO)

VP's Visit: Traffic police issues advisory

KNO

Srinagar, Feb 25: The authorities have issued a detailed traffic advisory in parts of Srinagar for Thursday in view of the visit of Vice-President C P Radhakrishnan to Kashmir, with restrictions to remain in force from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm.

A copy of the advisory issued by the Srinagar Traffic Police Office states that no motorist shall be allowed to ply towards Nishat, Shalimar, Harwan and adjoining areas via Badyari Chowk and Gupkar during the specified hours. Similarly, no traffic will be permitted from Ram Munshibagh towards Grand Place and shall instead be diverted towards Dalgate-Sangermal-Ikhwan Chowk for their respective destinations.

The advisory further states that no motorist shall be allowed to ply on the Dalgate-Khayam-Khanyar-Rainawari-Saida Kadal-Hazratbal road stretch during the restriction period.

Motorists intending to travel from Harwan, Shalimar, Nishat, Ganderbal and adjoining areas towards Lal Chowk have been advised to adopt the Burzahama-Chandpora-Tailbal-Zakoora-Malbagh-Illahibagh-90 Feet Road route and vice versa.

Likewise, those travelling from Dalgate, Lal Chowk and adjacent areas towards

Harwan, Shalimar and Nishat shall adopt the Sangermal-Ikhwan Chowk-Nowhat-90 Feet-Malbagh road route to reach their destinations.

Motorists heading towards Srinagar Airport from Harwan, Shalimar and Nishat will be allowed to move via Burzahama-Chandpora-Tailbal-Zakoora-Malbagh-Illahibagh-90 Feet Road and vice versa.

Those intending to travel from Pantha-



chowk and Pandrethan towards R.M. Bagh will be allowed to move via Peaks-Nowgam Bypass to reach their destination. Medical emergencies will be allowed after verification, the advisory states.

"In case of any assistance, citizens are requested to contact Traffic Police at the Traffic Police Control Room No. 103," it reads, adding that inconvenience, if any, is regretted—(KNO)

KCC&I hails cabinet nod for Srinagar airport expansion

KNO

Srinagar, Feb 25: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCC&I) has welcomed the Union Cabinet's approval for the major expansion of the Civil Enclave at Srinagar International Airport, terming it a landmark decision for the economic development of Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement, KCC&I President Javid Ahmad Tenga said that the Chamber had taken up the issue of expansion of Srinagar Airport at both the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir levels, noting that the project would significantly strengthen tourism, trade and export infrastructure in the Valley. He added that the approval addresses a key requirement for Kashmir's economy, as improved airport infrastructure will boost tourism, provide exporters with better cargo handling and warehousing facilities, and ensure a smoother and more comfortable travel experience for passengers.

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the development of the Civil Enclave at Srinagar International Airport at an estimated cost of 1,677 crore. The project is expected to enhance passenger handling capacity, modernise aviation

infrastructure and significantly improve air connectivity to and from the Valley.

KCC&I expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for approving the project and for the continued focus on infrastructure-led growth in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Chamber noted that the expansion will lead to improved terminal facilities, reduced congestion, and enhanced safety and convenience, offering passengers a better overall travel experience. It will also strengthen air cargo and logistics capabilities in the region.

The KCC&I President further said that the project will boost investor confidence, generate employment opportunities and provide a major impetus to economic activity in the region. He expressed hope that the project would be implemented in a time-bound manner with adequate provisions for cargo facilities, cold storage and warehousing.

The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry reiterated its commitment to working with all stakeholders to ensure that the benefits of this major infrastructure upgrade translate into sustainable economic growth and improved public services for the people of Jammu and Kashmir—(KNO)

J&K jumps from 17th to 10th in KIWG medal tally

WARIS FAYAZ

Gulmarg, Feb 25: Jammu and Kashmir registered a significant jump in the medal standings at the 6th Khelo India Winter Games 2026 after a strong performance in the Snowboard Giant Slalom event at Gulmarg on Wednesday, climbing from 17th position to 10th place in the overall medal tally.

The turnaround came after J&K rider Zubair Ahmad Lone clinched gold in the men's Snowboard Giant Slalom on Day 3 of competitions, delivering a commanding run to finish with a timing of 01:17.424. The closely fought contest saw Vivek Rana of Army secure silver with 01:17.451, while Kulwinder Sharma, also representing Army, claimed bronze with 01:18.716.

The race witnessed intense competition as athletes navigated the challenging slopes of Kongdoori with sharp carving and technical precision, with margins decided in fractions of a second.

With the latest result, Jammu and Kashmir improved its medal count to four medals, including one gold, one silver and two bronze, pushing the host Union Territory into the top ten of the standings after being placed 17th earlier in the Games.

Army continued to dominate the total medal tally with 23 medals, followed by Himachal Pradesh with 14 medals and Haryana in third position with seven medals. Maharashtra and Ladakh occupied the fourth and fifth spots respectively, while CRPF, Karnataka and Telangana remained among the top contenders.

Ranji Trophy Final: J&K dominates with 527/6

JAHANGEER GANAIE

Srinagar Feb 24: Jammu and Kashmir tightened its grip on the Ranji Trophy final against Karnataka, posting a commanding 527/6 at the end of day 2 at the KSCA Hubli Cricket Ground, before rain and bad light brought an early halt to play.

Riding on a strong foundation laid on day 1, J&K batters continued to dominate, with Shubham Pundir leading the charge with a magnificent 121 off 247 balls. His innings, laced with 12 boundaries and two sixes, anchored the side through crucial phases and set the tone for a massive total.

He was well-supported by Yawer Hassan, who compiled a fluent 88 on day one and skipper Paras Dogra, whose composed 70 helped stabilize the innings during a testing middle phase.

Pundir and Samad played false strokes and fell in quick succession. After a brief wobble



triggered by Karnataka's pace spearhead Prasidh Krishna, who picked up three key wickets, J&K regained control through a vital 110-run partnership between Dogra and wicket-keeper Kanhaiya Wadhawan (70). The stand blunted Karnataka's attack and ensured the momentum remained

with J&K.

Further down the order, Sahil Lotra played a crucial unbeaten knock of 57, showing grit and patience under pressure. He was ably supported by Abid Mushtaq, who remained not out on 20, as the duo extended J&K's dominance with an unbroken stand.

Despite disciplined spells from Karnataka bowlers, including Shreyas Gopal and Vidyadhar Patil, the bowling unit struggled to contain the flow of runs on a batting-friendly surface. Karnataka's efforts were further hampered by missed opportunities and the inability to sustain pressure for long periods.

Play was eventually called off early due to fading light, followed by rain, with more than an hour of action lost in the final session.

At stumps, Jammu and Kashmir, in their maiden Ranji Trophy final appearance, found themselves in a commanding position.

With a massive total on the board and wickets in hand, they have firmly pushed Karnataka onto the back foot.

Karnataka will now need an exceptional bowling effort early on day 3 to prevent J&K from piling on an even bigger score, as the latter inch closer to scripting history in the Ranji Trophy final—(KNO)

EDITORIAL

Kashmiri Students In Iran Must Heed CM's Call To Return

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's urgent appeal to Kashmiri students and workers in Iran to return home immediately is a lifeline thrown at a critical moment. His words, a genuine concern and backed by the Ministry of External Affairs' advisory, carry the weight of responsibility and careful thinking. He rightly said that if the situation worsens, evacuation may become difficult. We are aware of how fast geopolitical crises can spiral out of control,

shutting down borders and airspace without any warning. The situation in Iran is clearly dangerous. With rising tensions between the US and Iran, ongoing protests, and a major American military presence building up in the region, the chance to leave safely through regular flights may suddenly disappear. The Indian Embassy's advisory asking all Indian citizens to leave using whatever flights are available leaves no room for doubt. Yet the painful dilemma

facing nearly 2,000 Kashmiri students, most of them studying medicine, is real and heartbreaking. Their exams, including important government-required tests like the basic sciences examination scheduled for March 5, stand between them and years of hard academic work. Missing these exams could delay their graduation by six months, upset their career plans, and cause huge financial and emotional loss. This is where the government's role must go beyond

just giving advice to actively helping. The All India Medical Students Association has rightly appealed to Prime Minister Modi for diplomatic help to talk with Iranian universities about postponing exams or making alternative arrangements. This is a fair and urgent demand. Students are not asking to be rescued from a war zone—at least not yet. They are asking that India use its diplomatic strength to ensure that choosing safety does not mean throwing away their

academic futures. However, the students must realise that their lives are more important than any exam. No degree is worth the risk of being trapped in a place where conflict could break out at any time. Still, the government must meet them halfway by urgently talking with Iranian authorities to get academic adjustments. Let no Kashmiri student ever feel they have to choose between their safety and their dreams.



Budget 2026-27 Series

Tourism And The Architecture Of Growth

Press Information Bureau

Tourism is a key sector of the Indian economy with significant potential for employment generation, foreign exchange earnings, and balanced regional development. Owing to its strong multiplier effect and capacity to create livelihoods across hospitality, transport, handicrafts, and allied services, tourism has been identified as a strategic growth driver in the Union Budget 2026-27. Based on the India Tourism Data Compendium 2025 by the Ministry of Tourism, the sector contributes 5.22% to India's GDP (total impact), with a direct share of 2.72%. It also supports 13.34% of total employment, with a direct employment share of 5.82%, reflecting its strong role in livelihood generation and inclusive development.

Reflecting this economic priority, the Budget proposes a series of targeted interventions to strengthen institutional capacity, enhance service quality, and improve destination competitiveness. Major initiatives include the establishment of a National Institute of Hospitality to address skill gaps and align academic training with industry requirements, as well as a pilot programme to upskill 10,000 tourist guides at iconic destinations through partnerships with premier institutions. These measures are aimed at improving workforce productivity and elevating visitor experiences across key tourism circuits.

The Budget also focuses on destination development and sector modernisation through proposals for heritage and experiential site development, creation of digital knowledge grids for tourism assets, and promotion of nature-based and wildlife tourism. Infrastructure and connectivity enhancements are expected to further integrate remote and emerging destinations into the tourism value chain, thereby supporting local entrepreneurship and regional economies.

Overall, the Union Budget 2026-27 positions tourism as a resilient and high-impact sector within India's economic framework, with a clear focus on job creation, investment stimulation, and sustainable growth across regions.

UNION BUDGET 2026-27 ANNOUNCEMENTS Thematic and Destination-Led Tourism Development

Recognising the growing importance of spiritual tourism and the rich Buddhist heritage of the North-Eastern Region, the Government has announced a new Scheme for Development of Buddhist Circuits in the North-Eastern Region. The initiative aims to strengthen tourism infrastructure at key Buddhist sites and position the region as an important destination on the global Buddhist tourism map.

The scheme will cover the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura, which are home to several historically and spiritually significant Buddhist sites. The key components of the scheme include development and conservation of temples and monasteries, establishment of pilgrimage interpretation centres, improvement of connectivity to important Buddhist sites, and creation of pilgrim amenities and heritage-related infrastructure. The initiative is expected to promote spiritual tourism, attract domestic and international pilgrims, and contribute to tourism-led socio-economic development of the North-Eastern States in a sustainable manner.

The announcement of the new scheme builds upon the experience gained from earlier thematic tourism initiatives of the Ministry of Tourism, particularly the Swadesh Darshan Scheme launched in 2014-15.

It was designed to develop theme-based tourist circuits across the country and it focused on the creation of quality tourism infrastructure at identified destinations to enhance accessibility, visitor amenities and overall tourist experience.

In line with evolving tourism trends and sustainability priorities, the scheme was subsequently revamped as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0), focusing on responsible tourism, conservation of cultural and natural heritage, community participation and improvement of local livelihoods.

As of date, 76 projects have been sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, with a total approved cost of 5,290.33 crore. Of these, 75 have been physically completed, reflecting significant progress in strengthening tourism infrastructure across the country.

Eco-Trails and Connectivity

The Budget emphasised nature-based and sustainable tourism, proposing the development of ecologically sustainable mountain and nature trails in Himachal

**Union Budget 2026-27
Tourism Announcements at a Glance**

- Development of Buddhist Circuits in North East Region.
- Host the first ever Global Big Cat Summit in India
- Setting up a National Institute of Hospitality as a bridge between academia, industry and the Government.
- National Destination Digital Knowledge Grid to digitally document all places of significance.
- Pilot scheme for upskilling 10,000 guides in 20 iconic tourist sites.
- To develop ecologically sustainable Mountain trails, Turtle Trails and Bird watching trails in select states.
- Develop 15 archeological sites into vibrant, experiential cultural destinations.
- Introduced a Scheme to Support States in establishing five Regional Medical Hubs

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Araku Valley in the Eastern Ghats and Podhigai Malai in the Western Ghats. Initiatives such as turtle trails along key nesting sites in the coastal areas of Odisha, Karnataka and Kerala and bird-watching trails along the Pulicat Lake in Andhra Pradesh aim to leverage India's biodiversity and promote eco-tourism.

In addition, expansion of rail and regional connectivity, including high-speed rail and improved access to remote areas, is expected to facilitate tourism mobility and enhance accessibility to emerging and established destinations. These measures are designed to integrate tourism planning with infrastructure development, providing visitors with seamless access while promoting local economic growth and sustainability.

Global Positioning: Big Cat Summit 2026

The Union Budget 2026-27 announced that India will host the first-ever Global Big Cat Summit in 2026, inviting heads of governments and ministers from 95 big cat range countries to deliberate on collective strategies for conservation, habitat protection, scientific collaboration, and sustainable wildlife tourism. This reflects the Government's intent to elevate India's role in eco-tourism and international wildlife cooperation.

India's leadership in this domain is further exemplified by its role in the establishment and operationalisation of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), a treaty-based intergovernmental organisation dedicated to facilitating global cooperation for big cat conservation. The Framework Agreement for IBCA, approved by the Union Cabinet and ratified by multiple countries, formally

brought the body into force with India hosting its headquarters and secretariat, and providing budgetary support to advance its mission.

India is home to five of the world's seven big cat species - tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard and cheetah.

Hosting the first Global Big Cat Summit is expected to further reinforce India's standing in international conservation leadership, promote exchange of best practices, and strengthen collaborations among big cat range countries.

Institutional and Human Capital Reforms

The Budget proposed measures to strengthen institutional capacity and human capital in the tourism and hospitality sector. A major initiative is to upgrade the National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology to a National Institute of Hospitality, aimed at providing high-quality professional education, an industry-aligned curriculum, research opportunities, and international collaboration. The Institute is also expected to function as a bridge between academia, industry and the Government. In addition, a pilot scheme for upskilling 10,000 tourist guides across 20 iconic destinations has been announced. The programme, implemented in collaboration with an Indian Institute of Management, will follow a 12-week hybrid training model combining classroom instruction, field training, and digital modules. This initiative is expected to professionalise guiding services, enhance visitor experience, and support employment generation.

These interventions complement existing Ministry of Tourism initiatives such as Capacity Building for Service Providers (CBSP) and the Incredible India Tourist Facilitator (IITF) programmes, which aim to enhance skills, certification standards, and professionalism in tourism services. Together, these measures aim to create a robust talent pipeline and improve the quality of services across domestic tourist destinations.

Digital and Heritage Infrastructure

To enhance planning, research, promotion, and visitor engagement, the Budget announced the creation of a National Destination Digital Knowledge Grid. This digital platform will document cultural, spiritual, and heritage sites across India, providing resources for researchers, content creators, historians, and tourism. The Grid will support data-driven decision-making, improve destination visibility, and aid heritage management.

The Budget also proposed development of 15 archaeological sites into vibrant experiential cultural destinations, including Lothal, Dholavira, Rakhigarhi, Sarnath, Hastinapur, and Leh Palace. This will involve the creation of curated walkways, interpretation centres, visitor amenities, and heritage conservation infrastructure to provide immersive experiences for tourists.

These initiatives build upon ongoing schemes such as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 and SASCI, which provide financial assistance for tourism infrastructure and heritage development. Complementing the PRASHAD scheme, these measures aim to preserve India's cultural assets while promoting sustainable tourism and local community participation.

Medical Tourism and Wellness Integration

The Union Budget 2026-27 introduced a Scheme to Support States in establishing five Regional Medical Hubs, aimed at promoting India as a global destination for medical and wellness tourism. The hubs will integrate advanced healthcare services, AYUSH centres, and medical value tourism facilitation centres, and infrastructure for diagnostics, post-care and rehabilitation through public-private partnerships, enhancing India's competitiveness in global healthcare travel.

These initiatives build upon the Government's broader efforts to integrate wellness and traditional medicine into tourism, including upgrading the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre in Jamnagar, while strengthening local health and hospitality infrastructure to improve service quality and visitor satisfaction.

Regional Development Push: Purvodaya States

The Union Budget 2026-27, outlined a targeted focus on the Purvodaya states, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, as part of the Government's vision to drive regional development and expand tourism infrastructure. The Budget proposes the creation of five tourism destinations, one in each of the Purvodaya states, under an integrated development framework that also includes the East Coast Industrial Corridor with a well-connected node at Durgapur. Alongside this, provisions for 4,000 electric buses were announced to support improved connectivity, cleaner transport and greater accessibility for travellers across these regions.

The emphasis on Purvodaya reflects a broader strategy to leverage local cultural, natural and heritage assets as part of tourism-led growth, complementing infrastructure expansion and employment generation. By linking tourism development with improved transport connectivity and public services, the initiative aims to position the eastern region as a competitive and attractive destination for both domestic and international visitors.

Conclusion

The Union Budget 2026-27's tourism initiatives present a strategic plan to boost economic growth, employment, and cultural heritage. It combines new schemes with existing programmes to improve infrastructure, heritage conservation, skills, digital systems, and niche tourism segments like spiritual, eco, adventure, and medical tourism.

Focus areas include developing Buddhist Circuits in the North-East, upgrading hospitality, digital knowledge, and heritage sites, demonstrating a commitment to sustainable, destination-focused tourism. These measures integrate with schemes like Swadesh Darshan 2.0, PRASHAD, and capacity-building, ensuring policy coherence and resource efficiency.

Linking infrastructure, community, and culture establishes a solid base for India to become a competitive, inclusive tourism destination. Successful implementation is expected to enhance visitor experience, create jobs, and promote India's cultural and natural heritage globally, making tourism a key driver of socio-economic growth.

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

J&K gets 23 mobile forensic vans: NFSU VC Media delegation from Jammu visits forensic university, ISRO facilities

KT News Desk

Ahmedabad/Jammu, FEBRUARY 25: The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has been provided 23 mobile forensic vans by the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), Gujarat, to strengthen the criminal justice delivery system and enable prompt, on-site scientific investigation at crime scenes. This was stated by the Vice Chancellor of NFSU, Dr. J. M. Vyas during an interaction with the media persons from Jammu and Kashmir who are on a PIB led media tour to the state.

Dr. Vyas, as per PIB statement, said the mobile vans, equipped with advanced forensic tools and gadgets, aim to expedite evidence collection and improve conviction rates. He also highlighted NFSU's role in supporting investigations of complex cases across the country. Dr. Vyas informed that the University houses around nine Centres of Excellence dedicated to addressing diverse domains of physical and digital crimes. He highlighted that NFSU is actively engaged in education, specialized training and advanced research for national as well as international law enforcement agencies. He further stated that the University is playing a leading role in strengthening crime prevention mechanisms through the application of preventive forensics.

Campus Director Prof. S. O. Junare emphasised that forensic science is an applied science integral to modern investigations, including terrorism and cybercrime cases. He noted that



NFSU experts handle several major cases, including cyber frauds, cryptocurrency crimes, data breaches and smart device investigations, and contribute extensively to cases from Jammu and Kashmir.

During the visit, the media delegation toured several state-of-the-art laboratories and Centres of Excellence on the campus, including the Digital Forensics Laboratory, DNA Testing Laboratory, Ballistics Laboratory, and the Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Testing Laboratory. The delegation was apprised of the scientific processes involved in DNA analysis for various types of crimes, testing and identification of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and evaluation of bulletproof gear, wearable protective equipment and specialized vehicles.

The team also visited the Nutritional Supplements Testing Laboratory for sports persons, where experts demonstrated the processes and advanced equipment used

for testing nutritional supplements in accordance with World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) guidelines, in coordination with FSSAI standards. The laboratory also provides certification services following stringent quality checks and compliance protocols.

Established as an Institute of National Importance, NFSU has 14 campuses across India, including one international campus in Uganda. Originally founded in 2009 as Gujarat Forensic Sciences University, it was reconstituted in 2020 as the National Forensic Sciences University. It is the only dedicated forensic sciences university of its kind in the world, committed to advancing forensic education, research and capacity building at the national and global levels.

The media delegation later visited the Space Applications Centre (SAC) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), where the team toured key facilities including the Planetary Immersive Lab (PLASIV Lab) and the Semiconductor Laboratory.

The media persons were apprised of the highly sophisticated semiconductor technology and the controlled environment in which research on semiconductors and their packaging is undertaken for various satellite components.

The Semiconductor Lab has been established with the objective of making India self-reliant in semiconductor packaging technology. The Centre specialises in in-house Low Temperature Co-fired Ceramic (LTCC) foundry technology for developing high-performance miniature components for space applications, including Gallium Nitride (GaN) components and advanced quantum devices.

Addressing the media, Dr. Nilesh Desai, Director, SAC, stated that the primary mandate of the Centre is the creation, design, development and application of diverse payloads for satellites. He also briefed the delegation about upcoming ISRO missions, including Chandrayaan-4, scheduled for launch in 2028 with an orbiter

and lander aimed at collecting lunar soil samples. He further highlighted future missions such as Mission Venus and MOM-II (Mars Orbiter Mission-II).

Dr. Desai informed that SAC is also engaged in training and capacity-building programmes in collaboration with institutions such as the Satish Dhawan Centre for Space and the Central University of Jammu. He apprised the media about the Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO) at Hanle, Ladakh, located at an altitude of 4,500 metres, which is involved in tracking space objects, and about the LAMA project focused on monitoring natural resources and the environment in Ladakh.

Dr. Abha Chhabra, HoD (HRD), ISRO, also addressed the delegation and briefed the media on various ongoing projects of ISRO and SAC.

Earlier, the delegation visited the ISRO Museum, where they were familiarised with different types of satellites developed by ISRO across its 23 centres in India. Through immersive technology and 3D modelling, the media persons were provided insights into images generated by satellites using active and passive sensors for applications such as navigation, disaster management and agriculture.

The visit provided the media representatives with valuable exposure to advanced scientific institutions and enabled them to better understand the technological strides being made in Gujarat. The media tour is aimed to foster greater awareness about important national institutions and developmental initiatives.

DC Ramban reviews anti-drug measures at NCORD meeting



KT News Desk

RAMBAN, FEBRUARY 25: A District-Level Narco Coordination Committee (NCORD) meeting was held here Wednesday to review ongoing anti-narcotics measures and reinforce the same to eliminate the menace of drug abuse from the district.

Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Alyas Khan, as per an official statement, chaired the meeting. He emphasized the need to identify drug abuse hotspots and adopt a coordinated strategy to tackle the menace effectively. He called for innovative interventions and focused analysis to understand the root causes pushing youth towards substance abuse.

Directing strict enforcement, the DC asked the Drug and Food Control authorities to take effective action against perpetrators in close coordination with the Police Department. Tehsildars were directed to submit details of Drug-Free Panchayats for cross-verification and ensure proper surveillance in such areas.

The CEO was directed to activate school-level monitoring Committees at Middle, High and Higher Secondary Schools. Deployment of a counsellor at the Panchayat level was also stressed. The DSWO was asked to intensify awareness and reinforce the same to eliminate the menace of drug abuse from the district.

Reviewing the functioning of the De-addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) at District Hospital, the DC directed the CMO to ensure proper medical care, counselling and follow-up support for rehabilitation and prevention of relapse.

Among others present in the meeting included Superintendent of Police, Arun Gupta; ADC Varunjeet Singh Charak; ADC Sheraz Ahmed; Tehsildar Hqr Reejuta Mahajan; DSWO, CMO, CAO, Drug Control Officer and officers from various enforcement and line departments. Sub-Divisional Magistrates and Tehsildars participated through virtual mode.

DSWO Srinagar organizes Training-cum orientation Programme

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 25: District Social Welfare Office (DSWO) Srinagar successfully organized a Training-cum orientation Programme under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) at Government College for Women, M. A. Road, Srinagar.

The programme, as per an official statement, was conducted with the objective of creating awareness about substance abuse prevention and strengthening to build capacities and enhance institutional mechanisms for early identification, counselling, and rehabilitation of individuals affected by drug abuse. The event witnessed the active participation of Assistant Professors and esteemed members of the college faculty.

During the programme, a medical expert delivered a comprehensive presentation on the harmful effects of drug abuse, early warning signs, preventive strategies, and available de-addiction facilities. The session emphasized the critical role of educational institutions in addressing substance abuse among youth.

A clinical Psychologist from

ATF Psychiatric Hospital, Rainawari also addressed the gathering and highlighted the psychological dimensions of addiction, behavioural indicators, and the importance of timely counselling and psychosocial intervention. The expert elaborated on the Drug De-Addiction Programme framework and discussed strategies for providing emotional and psychological support to vulnerable individuals.

An interactive question and answer session was held during which faculty members actively engaged with the experts, raising important queries regarding identification of at-risk students, referral mechanisms, counselling procedures, and community involvement. The experts provided detailed responses, making the session highly informative and impactful.

The programme concluded with a felicitation segment acknowledging the contributions of the resource persons and appreciating the cooperation of the college administration and faculty for their active support in furthering the objectives of Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan

Sheep Husbandry Dept registers major gains in Shopian

KT News Desk

SHOPIAN, FEBRUARY 25: Sheep Husbandry Department, Shopian has registered remarkable progress during the financial year 2025-26, reinforcing its pivotal role in strengthening the rural economy and ensuring sustainable livelihoods for sheep and goat rearers of the district.

Through targeted investments, scientific interventions, and large-scale service delivery, the department has achieved measurable outcomes across income generation, employment, livestock health, productivity, fodder development, and wool marketing.

A total of 185 income generating sheep units were established under various government schemes with a financial outlay of Rs 165.18 lakh, resulting in direct employment generation for 452 persons and a substantial enhancement in mutton and wool production.

These units were established under the Integrated Sheep Development Scheme, HADP, JKCIIP, RKVY, Tribal Sub Plan, and National Livestock Mission, collectively



strengthening the livestock production base of Shopian.

To promote adoption of scientific sheep husbandry practices, the department conducted 20 awareness, training, exposure, and demonstration programmes under ATMA-SMAE and ASCAD components, benefiting 505 sheep farmers, who were sensitized on improved livestock management, disease control, and productivity enhancement.

Livestock health coverage was implemented on an extensive scale, ensuring disease prevention and public health safety, with 20,785 animals treated during the year. The department provided 3,72,272

lakh dosing and 2,75,328 lakh vaccinations.

Free FMD and PPR vaccinations and provision of medicines to farmers at 50-75% subsidized rates significantly reduced disease incidence and economic losses for farmers during the ongoing year.

Productivity enhancement efforts were further reinforced through the distribution of 116 elite government breeding rams among progressive breeders, contributing to mutton production of 7.59 lakh kilograms and wool production of 2.24 lakh kilograms during the period.

To support sustainable livestock productivity and fodder security, the department distributed 453 fodder seed kits free of cost, comprising 224 kits of Perennial Rye Grass and 229 kits of Perennial Red Clover, strengthening the horti-pastoral system of the district.

Overall, the achievements of the Sheep Husbandry Department, Shopian during 2025-26 clearly demonstrate a result-oriented, farmer-centric, and development-driven approach, reflecting a focused approach towards genetic upgradation, scientific sheep rearing, and long-term productivity improvement in the district.

H&H Dept organizes 2-day Trainee Products' sale at Kashmir Haat



KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 25: Handicrafts & Handloom (H&H) department inaugurated 2-day Trainee Products' Sale at Kashmir Haat here Wednesday.

During the sale, Craft products like hand-knotted woollen carpets, GI-tagged Pashmina shawls and stoles, Crewel curtains, Sozni embroidered shawls, Zari & Aari embroidered suits, tweed cloth, Chain Stitch rugs and cushion covers, tapestry, Gabba and Namda products, papier mâché and willow wicker souvenir and décor items, prepared by trainees of Training Centers across all 10 districts of Kashmir Division are being showcased.

The products available at extremely affordable rates, with pricing calculated only

on the material component used and no labour cost is added, thereby ensuring cost-to-cost availability of authentic handmade crafts to buyers, besides providing platform for trainees to exhibit their skills.

District stalls are expected to record encouraging sales during the current exhibition, with particular interest anticipated in carpets, Pashmina, and other GI tagged crafts. The initiative continues to serve as a vital platform for trainees to gain exposure, besides promoting Kashmir's rich craft heritage.

The sale will continue tomorrow. Pertinently, the last three trainee products' exhibitions together generated a revenue of Rs. 57 lakh, reflecting the overwhelming public response and demand for Kashmir's handmade products.

Capacity building programme for DIPR staff continues at IIMC

KT News Desk

JAMMU, February 26: The Six-day Capacity Building and Skill Enhancement Training programme for officers and officials of DIPR entered third day on Wednesday with second batch receiving training on Print Media Basics and Advanced Print Media Practices.

During the first two days, the first batch was trained in Artificial Intelligence (AI) Fundamentals and Applications, as well as Advanced AI and its Practical Applications.

The programme was inaugurated on February 23, 2026, by Dr. Dilip Kumar, Regional Director, IIMC Jammu, who encouraged participants to achieve the objectives of the training. He highlighted the importance of continuous learning and professional upskilling in today's rapidly evolving media landscape. He expressed confidence that the training sessions would enhance the professional competencies of participants and foster critical thinking, adaptability, and innovation in government



communication practices.

Earlier, Dr. Vinit Kumar Jha Utpal, Coordinator of the DIPR Training Programme, shared details of the programme, including its subjects, modules, and guidelines, with the participants. Prof. Anil Sumitra delivered the introductory lecture and emphasized the crucial role of DIPR officers and officials in the government communication system.

On the first day, Dr. Vinit Kumar Jha Utpal spoke about the changing patterns of

government communication. In the second and third sessions, Shri Bhawani Singh trained participants in fact-checking, digital verification tools, and AI-based multilingual drafting and speechwriting. In the fourth session, Shri Rajeev Kumar conducted a session on AI-enhanced multimedia and visual public relations.

On the second day, Dr. Rajendra P. Misra delivered a lecture on government communication in an AI-driven digital

media ecology. In subsequent sessions, Shri Divyvasu Sharma trained participants in AI-powered crisis communication and guided them in developing AI-based projects. The final session of the day was conducted by Dr. Dilip Kumar, who spoke on AI ethics and cyber safety in government organizations.

On the third day, Divyvasu Sharma conducted a session on content creation and linguistic design using AI tools. In the second and third sessions, Vishav

conducted practical classes on print media basics, layout principles, and mastering QuarkXPress. The final session was conducted by Gulshan Kumar, who trained participants in graphics and image editing basics.

The training programme has been structured into three batches. The first batch underwent training on "AI Fundamentals and Applications" and "Advanced AI & Practical Applications." The second batch, currently undergoing training, is being oriented on "Print Media Basics and Advanced Practices." The third batch will receive training on "Electronic Media Basics and Advanced Practices" on February 27 and March 2, 2026.

The programme will see the participation of around 45 officers and officials of DIPR and aims to strengthen the institutional communication capacity of DIPR personnel by equipping them with contemporary media skills aligned with evolving public information needs and modern governance requirements.

Entrepreneurship awareness programme held at ITI Billawar

KT News Desk

KATHUA, FEBRUARY 25: An Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) was organized at Government ITI Billawar by the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, through MSME-Development and Facilitation Office (DFO) Jammu in collaboration with District Administration Kathua.

The programme, as per an official statement, aimed at motivating unemployed educated youth and PM Vishwakarma artisans to establish enterprises in rural areas and promote self-employment. Over 180 participants, including ITI students and PM Vishwakarma artisans, attended the programme and evinced keen interest in the entrepreneurship and self-employment initiatives.

Young Professional, MSME-DFO Jammu, Shahid Hussain Wani delivered the welcome address and highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship in strengthening the local economy. Assistant Director, MSME-DFO Jammu, Devender Kumar Tyagi (IEDS) apprised the participants about the flagship MSME schemes, detailing

eligibility criteria, benefits and application procedures.

Superintendent ITI Billawar, Jitender Sharma spoke on the practical aspects of entrepreneurship, underscoring the significance of innovation, skill upgradation and proactive approach for successful enterprise development. Representative of District Industries Centre Kathua, Masqueen Babu elaborated on Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) and other UT Government schemes, explaining financial assistance and incentives available to aspiring entrepreneurs.

Representative from Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Dheeraj Handu briefed the participants about the J&K Startup Policy and the support ecosystem including mentorship, funding and incubation facilities. Director, RSETI Kathua, Utpala Sekia along with Faculty Member Neha Salaria conducted sessions on financial literacy and credit linkages, emphasizing the role of financial inclusion in empowering first-generation entrepreneurs.

Red Fort Blast

NIA arrests 2 more terror operatives from Kashmir

11 held so far

KNO Desk

New Delhi, Feb 25: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has apprehended two more terror operatives involved in the Delhi Red Fort bomb blast conspiracy, taking the total number of arrests in the case to eleven.

In a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), a NIA spokesman said: "The duo, identified as Zameer Ahmad Ahangar of Ganderbal (J&K) and Tufail Ahmad Bhat of Srinagar (J&K), were formally arrested by NIA for their active involvement in the conspiracy related to the Delhi blast. The duo had supplied the weapons to the prime accused in the Delhi blast case, investigations by NIA have revealed."

Pertinently, eleven persons were killed and several injured in the blast that shook the national capital on 10th November 2025. The prime accused, Umer Nabi, was also killed in the deadly explosion.

"The NIA, which has been investigating the case



(RC-21/2025/NIA/DLI) with the aim of unveiling the complete conspiracy behind the dastardly terror act, found Zameer Ahmad and Tufail Ahmad to be active over ground workers (OGWs) of the Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind (AGH) terror outfit," the spokesman added.

"Investigations by NIA, which has been working in coordination with J&K Police, Haryana Police and other agencies, have

further revealed that Zameer and Tufail were involved in the blast conspiracy, and were also a part of various other terror conspiracies. They were engaged in the collection of arms and ammunition, intended for use against the Indian State, NIA has further found through extensive investigation and examination of evidence," he said.

"As per the findings of the

national counter-terror agency, the Delhi blast conspiracy was masterminded by Umer, along with other accused - Muzammil Ganai, Shaheen Saeed, Mufti Irfan, Adeel Ahmed Rather, as well as five others who had provided shelter and logistical support to the main conspirators. These nine men were arrested earlier from various locations in J&K and Haryana," the spokesman said. (KNO)

Dir School Edu Kmr reviews post-winter reopening arrangements

Directs intensive field monitoring ahead of full school resumption



KT News Desk

Srinagar, Feb 25: Following the reopening of schools for classes 9th to 12th across the Kashmir Division, the Director of School Education Kashmir, Naseer Ahmad Wani, on Wednesday convened a high-level meeting with all Chief Education Officers (CEOs) of Kashmir division to review ground arrangements and assess the overall situation after the winter break.

During the meeting, the Director undertook a detailed review of basic facilities at the grassroots level and sought comprehensive reports regarding school visits conducted on the first day of reopening. He emphasised the need for effective monitoring and coordination to ensure that all institutions are fully prepared to provide a safe, welcoming, and

academically conducive environment for students.

The Director issued clear directions to ensure that all necessary arrangements are in place for students of classes 1st to 8th, who are scheduled to attend schools on Monday following the winter vacation. He directed all CEOs, Zonal Education Officers (ZEOs), and Cluster Heads to conduct intensive visits to schools on Monday, personally welcome the students, and oversee the arrangements on the ground.

The Director stressed that every school must be covered through field visits and that officers should interact directly with students to understand and address their concerns. He instructed that any issues raised at the institutional level must be resolved promptly to ensure the smooth

commencement of the academic session 2026.

During the meeting, he directed all CEOs to review their respective districts concerning various issues highlighted in the meeting.

On the occasion, the Director of School Education Kashmir stated, "Our collective endeavour must be to ensure that every child returns to a well-prepared, secure, and academically vibrant school environment. Field-level monitoring and timely redressal of issues shall remain our top priority to guarantee a smooth and successful academic session."

Joint Directors of the School Education Department, Chief Accounts Officer, and Additional Secretary, Legal DSEK also attended the meeting and briefed the chair on the progress of ongoing activities.

Mental health not luxury but necessity: Experts

'Prioritise emotional well-being'

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Feb 25: In an increasingly fast-paced and stressful world, mental health experts are urging people to prioritise their emotional well-being alongside physical fitness, emphasising that a balanced lifestyle and positive mindset are essential for a healthy life.

Doctors and mental health specialists, the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) spoke to, said that maintaining good mental health is not a luxury but a necessity, as it directly impacts productivity, relationships, and overall quality of life. "Taking care of your mental

health is just as important as taking care of your physical health," said Dr Naresh Kumar, a psychiatrist based in Jammu. "Ignoring emotional well-being can lead to long-term psychological and even physical complications."

High self-esteem plays a crucial role in dealing with life's challenges, he said, adding that individuals with strong self-belief tend to handle stress and adversity more effectively. "Self-esteem acts as a psychological shield," said Mohammad Hussain Dar, a psychologist. "People who trust their abilities are better equipped to navigate difficult situations and maintain emotional stability."

He highlighted the importance of a healthy diet in maintaining mental well-being. Wholesome,

home-cooked meals are considered among the best options for sustaining both physical and mental health, he added.

Dr Aamir Khan, a nutrition expert, said a balanced diet rich in nutrients supports brain function and mood regulation. He said people should avoid excessive processed foods and consult nutritionists for personalised dietary plans if needed.

Physical activity is another key factor in maintaining a healthy mind. Experts said that regular exercise triggers chemical reactions in the brain that help reduce anxiety and stress.

According to doctors, exercise releases endorphins, which are natural mood lifters. They said even simple activities like walking or light workouts can significantly improve mental health.



While stress is an unavoidable part of life, doctors call for identifying its root causes and learning coping mechanisms.

Understanding the source of stress is the first step towards managing it, they said. Equally important is learning to focus on the present moment instead of worrying about the past or future.

Experts warn that an imbalanced work-life routine can negatively impact mental health. They advise individuals to create boundaries and allocate time for both professional and personal life.

"Sleep deprivation is a major contributor to emotional instability," they added. "Getting around 7-8 hours of sleep is essential for mental recovery and daily functioning."

Maintaining strong personal relationships is also vital. Social connections provide emotional support and help individuals cope with challenges.

"Healthy relationships act as a support system during tough times," they said. "They enrich life and contribute significantly to emotional well-being."

Mental health experts say laughter reduces stress hormones and boosts mood. Simple things like watching a comedy or spending time with friends can make a big difference.

Doctors urge individuals not to hesitate in seeking help when needed.

"It takes courage to ask for help, but it can be life-changing. Whether it's talking to family, friends, or professionals, support is always available," they said. "Small, consistent lifestyle changes can go a long way in building emotional resilience and leading a balanced, fulfilling life." (KNO)

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Vice-President Radhakrishnan

degrees upon graduating students." He said that Lieutenant Governor and KU Chancellor, Manoj Sinha, will preside over the convocation, while Chief Minister and Pro-Chancellor, Omar Abdullah, will attend the event as a guest of honour.

"A total of 59,558 degrees – 44,910 graduates, 13,545 postgraduates, 461 MD/MS, four MCH, 18 MPhil and 620 PhDs – will be conferred at the convocation," said an official.

KU Vice-Chancellor Nilofer Khan said the convocation "celebrates the academic accomplishments of our students and reaffirms our commitment to quality education, research and public engagement."

She added that the presence of the Vice-President of India at the event reflects the growing national recognition of the university's academic and research contributions.

As per details with KNO elaborate and multi-layered security arrangements have been put in place across Srinagar, particularly in and around the Hazratbal-Nishat-Harwan axis.

Senior police and civil administration officers have reviewed the security and logistical preparations to ensure smooth conduct of the event.

Meanwhile, authorities have also issued a detailed traffic advisory for parts of Srinagar tomorrow, with restrictions to remain in force from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM. (KNO)

CM Omar launches

At the same venue, the Chief Minister laid the foundation for two major sewage treatment projects under H&UDD (UEED) to curb pollution in Doodh Ganga – a 14 MLD STP at Aloo-chi-Bagh, Srinagar (5060.47 lakh), and a 6 MLD STP at Mochua, Budgam (6772.32 lakh) to treat dry weather flow from Chadoora to Baghi-i-Mehtar – significantly strengthening wastewater management and environmental protection in the area.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister said that although projects worth nearly 200 crore across five constituencies would ordinarily warrant a large public function, the programme was deliberately kept modest in view of the holy month of Ramadan.

"If we had organised this programme some other time, it would have been garnered huge public participation. But keeping Ramadan in mind, we did not want to cause inconvenience to people, nor delay projects for which

the public has been waiting impatiently," he said.

Highlighting the pressure on the Housing & Urban Development Department and the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, he said drainage, sewerage, roads, parks and development of new colonies fall under their mandate.

"Our two capital cities, Srinagar and Jammu, create the first impression of Jammu and Kashmir. Tourists arrive here first. Millions of residents live here. It is our responsibility to ensure the infrastructure in cities reflects the development of this region."

The Chief Minister stressed that inadequate drainage and sewerage systems often result in waterlogging after even brief rainfall.

"It rains for one hour and the whole city is under water. This must change. Whether through Central schemes, UT Capex, District Capex or new funding schemes like SASCI, our effort is to upgrade Srinagar's infrastructure comprehensively."

Referring to changing climate patterns, he said rainfall distribution has become increasingly erratic.

"We may not see rain for months, and then receive six months' rain in three days. Instead of water percolating into the ground, it flows away, leading to both flooding and water scarcity. We must prepare infrastructure that can withstand changing weather patterns."

Emphasizing water conservation and reuse, he said treated sewage must improve, not degrade, river water quality.

"We must ensure that if treated water enters the river, it improves its quality instead of harming it. Our lakes and canals must regain their former glory."

Recalling Srinagar's historical identity as the "Venice of the East," he added:

"Once, people travelled through our canals by boat. I want to see our water bodies restored to that standard. Water quality must improve, scarcity must reduce."

The Chief Minister also stressed the need to decongest the city through planned housing colonies in peripheral areas.

"There is immense pressure on the inner city because we have not developed sufficient planned colonies. This year, we intend to take up at least one or two major housing projects with proper roads, drainage, water and electricity infrastructure, so that people willingly move towards the outskirts."

Assuring speedy implementation, he said several projects are ready for inauguration or

foundation laying.

"In the next three to three-and-a-half years, when we go back to the people, we want to present a transformed Srinagar – a city with modern infrastructure and renewed character. That is our commitment."

Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLAs Ali Mohammad Dar, Tanvir Sadiq, Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed and Shamima Firdous, Commissioner Secretary Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation Fazlul Haseeb, and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

J&K Govt sets up

coordination. The helpline numbers issued are Hello J&K: 7303620090 and Control Room: 011-24611108, 011-24611210.

The move comes amid growing concerns over the prevailing situation in Iran, prompting advisories for Indian nationals to return home. (KNO)

DGP calls for

strategies and measures to dismantle overall separatist and terror ecosystem in the district. He stressed for actionable intelligence generation by field officers and directed to maintain sustained operational momentum. Highlighting the current security challenges, DGP directed officers to undertake non-traditional, non-conformist and modern tactics to neutralize Pakistani terrorists.

He called for focused approach and renewed efforts against terrorists, their support networks to eliminate terrorism and establishing peace in the district.

To strengthen the overall security grid, the DGP emphasized on maintaining seamless coordination with sister agencies, effective area domination plan and surveillance on traditional terror sympathizers and separatists' network of the district. While reviewing law and order, he stressed on taking preventive measures against miscreants, engaging peace-loving citizens in day-to-day activities of policing and adopting measures to bridge the gap between police and public.

Before the conclusion of the meeting, the DGP urged officers to continue counter terror operations in the area and remain committed to establish long lasting peace and stability in the district.

J&K Police unveil

Kashmir News Observer (KNO) the squad has been deployed for the first time during the ongoing Khelo India Winter Games in Gulmarg, where it is responsible for securing athletes, officials and visitors at elevations reaching nearly 14,000 feet.

A top Police official told KNO that the deployment marks the operational debut of the unit, designed specifically for mountain

CM felicitates winners

innovation and cultural expression," he remarked.

The competitions witnessed enthusiastic participation from both young and seasoned photographers, reflecting the growing interest in nature-based creative pursuits and digital storytelling.

The felicitation ceremony was attended by Advisor to the CM Nasir Aslam Wani, Director Floriculture, Gardens and Parks Kashmir, along with senior officers of the department.

Srinagar Airport

(KNO), called the project a major boost for visitor arrivals. "This airport expansion is a turning point for tourism in Kashmir," said Tawkeer, a Srinagar-based tour operator.

He said better connectivity and modern facilities will encourage more domestic and international travellers to visit the Valley.

Local hoteliers also welcomed the announcement, highlighting that a smooth airport experience forms the first impression tourists get. "This will benefit hotels, guesthouses, and restaurants, while also creating jobs for local staff," said a Srinagar-based hotelier.

Business leaders, including the Travel Agents Association of Kashmir (TAAK), stressed the economic potential of the project.

"Srinagar airport is more than just a travel hub; it is an economic gateway," said Rouf Trambo, President of TAAK. "It will attract investment, boost trade and retail and create employment opportunities across sectors."

Travellers visiting Srinagar praised the move. "A modern terminal with faster check-in and better facilities makes travel easier," said a tourist from Delhi. "It shows that Kashmir is serious about welcoming visitors safely and comfortably."

Local residents also expressed optimism about the indirect benefits. "More tourists mean better income for taxi drivers, shopkeepers and local guides," said Farooq Ahmed, a shopkeeper in Lal Chowk. "This expansion will

help the entire community."

With construction expected to be completed in phases over the coming years, stakeholders are hopeful that the upgraded airport will deliver long-term benefits across tourism, business and employment, marking a new era for aviation in Jammu & Kashmir.

On social media, the airport expansion drew positive reactions from political and official accounts. Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted that the Cabinet approval will boost J&K's economy and strengthen connectivity, while Defence Minister Rajnath Singh described it as a "landmark step" for the region, highlighting improved passenger capacity and modern infrastructure. (KNO)

Day temps remain

Celsius, around 8.1 degrees above normal. In the Jammu region, Jammu city recorded a maximum of 25.5 degrees Celsius, 2.4 degrees above normal. Banihal registered 20.9 degrees Celsius (7.5 degrees above normal), Batote 19.9 degrees Celsius (6.7 degrees above normal), Bhandarwah 19.4 degrees Celsius (5 degrees above normal) and Katra 24.9 degrees Celsius (4 degrees above normal).

In the Ladakh region, Leh recorded a high of 7.2 degrees Celsius, Kargil 9.1 degrees Celsius and Nubra Valley 10.5 degrees Celsius.

The temperatures remained largely similar to the previous day, when most stations across Kashmir had recorded departures of up to 10 degrees above normal.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has forecast generally dry weather across Jammu and Kashmir on February 25 and 26.

Between February 27 and 28, the weather department has predicted partly to generally cloudy skies with light rain or snow at isolated places. March 1 is likely to remain generally dry.

From March 2 to 3, partly to generally cloudy conditions with light rain or snow over higher reaches at isolated scattered places are expected, followed by a dry spell from March 4 to 7. Another spell of partly to generally cloudy weather with light rain or snow in higher reaches at isolated scattered places is likely between March 8 and 10, the Met office said.

The department has advised farmers to continue their agricultural operations and said a further rise of 1 to 2 degrees Celsius in day temperatures at most places is likely over the next two days. (KNO)

Nehru 'redrew' Bharat's borders forever: BJP

PTI

New Delhi, Feb 25: Hitting back at the Congress, the BJP on Wednesday accused India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru of making repeated "territorial compromises" throughout his tenure and "redrawing" Bharat's borders forever.



The BJP's criticism of Nehru comes in the backdrop of the Congress attacking the government over the India-US interim trade deal, calling it a "wholesale surrender" and "betrayal" of national interest.

In a series of posts on X with a "compromised Congress" hashtag, BJP chief spokesperson Anil Baluni said, "Nehru's No.1 duty as first PM: Protect and integrate Bharat's territory."

"Instead all through his reign he did Territorial compromise, 'piece by piece' - Tibet given up. Aksai Chin compromised. Berubari compromised. Punjab villages compromised. Rann of Kutch compromised. Kashmir was nearly compromised in parts," Baluni alleged.

"Repeated compromise. Repeated retreat. This was Nehruvian statesmanship. One man's compromises redraw Bharat's map forever," the BJP MP claimed.

Baluni alleged that Nehru surrendered India's rights in Tibet. "Withdrew all military escorts. Handed over postal, telegraph and phone services to China. Recognised Tibet as China's region. Gave Mao the entire buffer zone for free," he claimed.

"Aksai Chin: China built military road from 1951.

IB chief BN Mullik warned Nehru in 1952 but he ignored completely. Road (construction) finished 1957. In 1959, Nehru told Parliament: 'Ignore these rumours'. 8 years of lies while Indian land was stolen," the BJP leader added.

Citing the Nehru-Noon Agreement on Berubari Union, Baluni alleged that Nehru gifted half of the West Bengal territory to Pakistan without any cabinet approval.

"No cabinet approval. No West Bengal govt consulted. Supreme Court rebuked: 'PM cannot gift Indian land.' Nehru forced the 9th Amendment to legalise his surrender," he charged.

The BJP leader alleged that Nehru announced plebiscite in Kashmir "publicly" without any nod from the Cabinet and gave Pakistan a "permanent diplomatic weapon".

"1962-64: Swaran Singh-Bhutto talks (held under) US/UK pressure. India agreed to cede Poonch and Uri to Pakistan. Planned even more: Turn entire Gurez, Neelam and Kishanganga valleys into international borders," he added. Baluni alleged that

Nehru "gifted" Sarja Majra, Rakh Hardit Singh, Pathanke and parts of Firozpur to Pakistan in 1960.

"1968: Lost Chhad Bet + 300 sq miles in Rann of Kutch via arbitration," he said.

"1962 War: Nehru's insane 'Forward Policy'. He ordered troops to plant posts deep inside Chinese-claimed areas, ZERO supplies, ZERO army consultation. Even put his cousin Gen. BM Kaul in command. Result: Total military collapse and humiliation," he added.

Upping the ante against the deal with the US, Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday alleged that the prime minister approved the trade agreement under external pressure linked to the threat of releasing "Epstein files" and an ongoing criminal case involving industrialist Gautam Adani in the US.

"Narendra Modi is compromised. He has been trapped. He has signed this agreement under pressure. This is not a deal, it is an arrow in the heart of the farmer," the Congress leader charged while addressing an event in Madhya Pradesh.

Public figures holding high constitutional offices cannot target any particular community: SC



PTI

New Delhi, Feb 25: Observing that fraternity serves as a critical element for national unity and social cohesion, the Supreme Court has said public figures holding high constitutional offices cannot target any particular community on the basis of religion, language, caste or region.

The top court said that nobody, including State and non-State actors, can vilify or denigrate any community through speeches, memes, cartoons or visual art.

The observations were made by Justice Ujjal Bhuyan in a separate judgment on a plea challenging release of upcoming Netflix crime thriller 'Ghooskhor Pandat'.

"It is constitutionally impermissible for anybody, be it the State or non-state actors, through any medium, such as, speeches, memes, cartoons, visual arts etc. to vilify and denigrate any community."

"It will be violative of the Constitution to target any particular community on the basis of religion, language, caste or region by whosoever he or she may be. This is particularly true for public figures

occupying high constitutional office who have taken the solemn oath to uphold the Constitution," Justice Bhuyan wrote in a 39-page judgement.

A bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and Bhuyan on February 19 disposed of a plea seeking a stay on the release of the film after taking filmmaker Neeraj Pandey's affidavit on record and said it is expected that there shall be a quietus to this controversy in all respects.

In his judgement, Justice Bhuyan said one of the solemn objectives of the Constitution which finds mention in the Preamble is to promote amongst all the citizens of India fraternity, assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.

"Thus, cultivating a sense of brotherhood and respecting fellow citizens irrespective of caste, religion or language is a constitutional dharma each one of us must follow," the judge wrote.

Justice Bhuyan said liberty of thought and expression is one of the ideals of our Constitution and Article 19(1)(a) confers such a fundamental right on all citizens.

Amit Shah kicks off three-day Bihar tour with Land Ports Authority meeting

PTI

Patna, Feb 25: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the Land Ports Authority of India, a statutory body functioning under the ministry responsible for creating, upgrading, maintaining and managing border infrastructure.

The meeting took place in Kishanganj district of Bihar, where Shah arrived on the first leg of his three-day tour of the Seemanchal region, falling in the state's north-east, bordering Nepal and West Bengal.

He is also likely to hold a meeting with officials of the departments responsible for guarding the porous border with Nepal.

"The Union Home Minister is likely to brief officials on measures needed for putting a check on smuggling of drugs and circulation of counterfeit currency along the Indo-Nepal border," Bihar DGP Vinay Kumar had said on Tuesday.

This is the first Bihar visit of Shah, also widely regarded as the BJP's principal strategist,

who was last seen in the state capital in November, at the swearing-in ceremony of the new Nitish Kumar cabinet after the NDA's landslide victory in assembly polls.

State minister and former Bihar BJP chief Dilip Jaiswal, who hails from Kishanganj, wrote on X: "It is a matter of pride for us that Amit Shah, the Chanakya of Indian politics, has visited our land".

Shah is scheduled to visit the adjoining Araria district on Friday where he will inspect the Indo-Nepal border, interact with officials of Sashastra Seema Bal, and also inaugurate a newly constructed "SSB Bhawan".

He will wind up his Bihar tour on Friday with a visit to Purnea.

"Union Home Minister Amit Shah's tour of Seemanchal is a decisive step in the direction of strengthening national security. It is a strategically important region, by virtue of its proximity to Nepal and Bangladesh and presents challenges with regard to maintaining an intelligence network and demographic balance," state BJP spokesman Prem Ranjan Patel said in a statement.

ED attaches Anil Ambani's 'Abode' worth Rs 3,716 crore



PTI

New Delhi, Feb 25: The Enforcement Directorate attached Reliance Group chairman Anil Ambani's Mumbai house, 'Abode', worth Rs 3,716 crore under the anti-money laundering law, official sources said on Wednesday.

The luxurious house, which is 66-metre high with 17 floors, is located in the Pali Hill area of Mumbai.

A provisional order has been issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to attach the multi-storied

house in the case linked to an alleged bank fraud by his group company Reliance Communications (RCOM), according to the sources.

They said the attached asset's value is Rs 3,716.83 crore.

Ambani, 66, is expected to appear before the federal probe agency here for his second round of questioning. He first deposed before the ED in August 2025 and had his statement recorded under the PMLA.

With the latest order, the total value of the attachment in this case stands at about Rs 15,700 crore.

'NCERT' may remove controversial portion on judiciary from class 8 textbook

PTI

New Delhi, Feb 25: The controversial portions about judicial corruption in NCERT's class 8 textbook could be removed as the government has not taken kindly to the matter, sources said on Wednesday, while the council pulled the book from its website.

A three-judge bench comprising Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justices Joyimalya Bagchi and Vipul M Pancholi

has taken suo motu cognisance of the "objectionable" statements about the judiciary in NCERT textbooks after senior advocate Kapil Sibal, alongside Abhishek Singhvi, mentioned the matter for urgent consideration.

Separately, CJI Kant strongly objected to a chapter on judicial corruption in the NCERT's Class 8 curriculum, saying nobody on earth will be allowed to defame the judiciary and taint its integrity.

The National Council of

Educational Research and Training's (NCERT's) new social science textbooks for Class 8 say corruption, a massive backlog of cases, and the lack of an adequate number of judges are among the challenges faced by the judicial system.

Meanwhile, the NCERT is said to have called an internal meeting to review the recommendations of the subject experts involved in the chapter and the officials who approved it.

NCERT Chairman Dinesh Prasad

Saklani did not respond to calls and messages on the issue. Another top official at the council refused to comment, saying the matter is sub judice now.

The government sources said that while NCERT is an autonomous body, officials responsible for adding chapters should have applied their minds. If the issue of corruption was to be included in the textbook, it should have been related to all three organs -- the executive, judiciary and the legislature, they said.

Atrocities on people from Northeast won't be tolerated: Rijiju, Khandu



PTI

New Delhi, Feb 25: Union minister Kiren Rijiju and Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Wednesday said atrocities on people from the Northeast will not be tolerated and strong action will be taken against those committing any such crime.

Rijiju and Khandu were responding to an incident involving three girls from Arunachal Pradesh who were allegedly subjected to racial slurs by their neighbours in south Delhi's Malviya Nagar area.

The Union minister said he himself as well as his office were in touch with the authorities concerned from the day the incident was reported.

"I personally have spoken to police and following up on the action. Arrest has been made and strong legal action will be initiated. We will teach a lesson to ensure that no one ill treats anyone from the Northeast," he told reporters here.

Khandu said, soon after learning about the matter, he spoke to the Delhi Police Commissioner and sought swift and strict action.

"The CP is personally in touch with me. The accused will be dealt with as per law," the chief minister said, adding "We stand firmly with our three sisters, and their safety, dignity, and justice remain our highest priority."

Rijiju said earlier, there were many incidents

of torture on people from the Northeast and in a few cases, people even died but there was no one to even ask a question.

"But now that situation has changed. We are here to protect our brothers and sisters from the Northeast," he said.

A Delhi court on Wednesday sent the accused couple Ruby Jain and Harsh, who allegedly hurled racial slurs at the Arunachali girls, to 14 days of judicial custody.

The couple were produced before Magistrate Bhanu Pratap Singh, who remanded them in judicial custody till March 11.

They were taken into custody following an investigation into the FIR registered at Malviya Nagar Police Station.

According to police, Ruby Jain allegedly made abusive and derogatory remarks against the three women from Arunachal Pradesh during a row over repair work at their rented accommodation on February 20.

Police have invoked the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act in the FIR against the arrested woman.

They said the case was initially registered under sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, invoking charges of criminal intimidation, insult to the modesty of women, and promoting enmity between groups.

INOX CINEMA
SHIVPORA SRINAGAR

Movies Schedule
Thursday, 26th February

GOAT (U)
ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES - 04:00 PM

DO DEEWANE SEHER MEIN (U/A 13+)
HINDI - 12:30 PM

O'ROMEO (A)
HINDI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES - 02:40 PM, 06:10 PM

ASSI (A)
HINDI - 12:00 PM

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PM Modi receives red carpet welcome as he begins 2-day visit to Israel

PTI

Jerusalem, Feb 25: Prime Minister Narendra Modi landed in Israel on Wednesday to a red-carpet welcome with his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu and wife Sara receiving the Indian leader at the Ben Gurion airport.

It is PM Modi's second visit to Israel in nine years. The India-Israel relationship was elevated to the level of strategic partnership during his first visit to that country in July 2017.

Netanyahu greeted the Indian prime minister with a warm hug, following which Modi was accorded a ceremonial welcome at the airport, located 20 kilometres south-east of Tel Aviv.

The Indian prime minister will address Israel's parliament later in the day and will have a tete-a-tete with Netanyahu. The two leaders will hold wide-ranging talks on Thursday.

In his pre-departure statement, Modi said he was confident that the visit will further consolidate the enduring bonds between India and Israel and set new goals for the strategic partnership.

"India and Israel share a robust and multifaceted strategic partnership that has witnessed remarkable growth and dynamism in recent years," Modi said.

"I look forward to my discussions with Prime Minister Netanyahu aimed at further strengthening our cooperation across various domains, including science and technology, innovation, agriculture, water management, defence and security, trade and investment, as well as people-to-people ties," he said.

Modi said he and Netanyahu will also exchange views on regional and global issues of mutual interest.

"I am confident that my State Visit will further consolidate the enduring bonds between the two countries, set new goals for the strategic partnership, and advance



our shared vision for a resilient, innovative and prosperous future," Modi said.

The prime minister's visit assumed greater significance as it is taking place amid the ongoing tensions in the Middle East, including deteriorating ties between the US and Iran.

There has been an upswing in India-Israel ties in the last few years, including in the areas of defence, scientific research, cyber-security and innovation.

The defence cooperation has emerged as an important pillar of the partnership between the two sides, with Israel supplying a plethora of military platforms and weapon systems to India.

In November last, during the visit of India's defence secretary to Israel, an important agreement on defence cooperation was signed.

As India is looking at developing an indigenous air defence shield called "Sudarshan

Chakra", it is learnt that New Delhi would like to explore the possibility of incorporating certain elements from Israel's Iron Dome all-weather air defence system that can intercept and destroy missiles and artillery shells.

The trade and investment ties between the two sides are also witnessing steady progress.

During the visit to Israel of Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal in November, the term of reference (ToR) for the launch of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations between India and Israel was signed.

In September, the two sides had inked a Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA) to expand economic cooperation.

The people-to-people ties between the two countries are also an important aspect of the overall relations, with over 41,000-strong Indian diaspora playing a key role in the two-way engagement.

Pope Leo will visit 4 African countries as part of his packed 2026 travel plan

AP

Rome, Feb 25: The Vatican on Wednesday announced a busy and lengthy foreign travel schedule for Pope Leo XIV in the first half of 2026, confirming the pontiff will visit Monaco, Spain and four African nations — Algeria, Cameroon, Angola and Equatorial Guinea.

The announcement sets the stage for one of the busiest papal travel schedules in years, since Leo will also be undertaking a grand tour of Italy starting in May that will take him up and down the peninsula in a half-dozen one-day visits.

After Leo's election last May as the first US-born pope, papal travel had largely been on hold. Leo had a packed calendar ministering to the 33 million pilgrims who came to the Vatican during the 2025 Holy Year.

But with the Jubilee now over, the 70-year-old Leo is freer to travel to meet his new flock. He is making similar get-to-know-you visits this Lent by visiting a Roman parish each Sunday.

The former Robert Prevost, who lived for two decades as a missionary in Peru, has said he loves to travel. He was on the road for much of his 12-year stint as Augustinian superior, visiting the order's communities around the world.

He took his first and so far only foreign trip as pope late last year, visiting Türkiye and Lebanon. The



trips fulfilled promises made by Pope Francis that he was unable to complete because of his failing health.

Now looking ahead to his own agenda, Leo will make a one-day visit to Monaco on March 28.

His next trip is a 10-day voyage starting soon after Easter: He will visit Algeria, Cameroon, Angola and Equatorial Guinea from April 13 to April 23. In recent times, only Francis undertook such an arduous and long foreign trip, when he visited Indonesia, Papua

New Guinea, East Timor and Singapore in 2024. The Algeria stop is particularly significant to Leo, given its strong connection to the life and death of St. Augustine of Hippo, the 5th-century inspiration of Leo's religious order.

Francis had largely avoided big, traditionally Catholic European countries during his 12-year pontificate, preferring to visit instead smaller Catholic communities on the peripheries. Leo will spend nearly a week in Spain, from June 6 to June 12.

J&K consolidate to 527/6 as sparks fly post Dogra head-butt

PTI

Hubbali, Feb 25: Skipper Paras Dogra made a gutsy 70 but his intentional head-butting of Karnataka substitute KV Aneesh overshadowed an otherwise solid batting performance from Jammu and Kashmir, who reached 527 for 6 at stumps on the second day of the Ranji Trophy final.

Dogra along with keeper batter Kanhaiya Wadhawan (70), Sahil Lotra (57 batting) all made handsome contributions as it became a real toil for the Karnataka bowlers save Prasidh Krishna (3/90 in 29 overs) didn't make much of an impact.

However it was 21-season Ranji veteran Dogra's boorish behaviour that surprised one and all as he was captured on camera head-butting the silly point fielder Aneesh after getting a streaky boundary when Prasidh had literally squared him up.

It wasn't clear if any of Aneesh's words would have hurt the domestic legend, who confronted Aneesh and butted on Aneesh's helmet prompting his senior teammate Mayank Agarwal to interject and stand between the two.

An animated Agarwal was seen exchanging words with Dogra as on-field umpires Rohan Pandit and Ulhas Gandhe rightly intervened. After some point, even Karnataka skipper Devdutt Padikkal was



seen talking to the umpires, complaining about Dogra.

Since it was an altercation that involved touching of opponents, Dogra should face some sanctions from BCCI match referee Narayan Kutty.

The day started off well for Karnataka as overnight centurion Shubham Pundir (121 off 247 balls) was quickly dismissed.

A flick from southpaw Pundir off medium pacer Vidyadhar Patil (1/104) went straight into substitute Aneesh's hands, ending a fine 124 run-stand. Pundir's innings had 12 fours and two sixes.

Abdul Samad (61), who also had smashed his way to a half-century on opening day, got one from Prasidh that just moved enough from length to take the outside edge.

At 307 for 4, just when Karnataka smelt an opening, veteran Dogra and J&K's find of the season Wadhawan got together to add 110 runs in 32

overs. Prasidh, who was spitting fire with semi-new ball and was bowling quick was hit for some streaky boundaries behind square by Dogra and Wadhawan who found extra pace too hot to handle.

However they showed a lot of temperament in not giving away the wicket to the Indian Test pacer.

They didn't score runs at a breakneck pace but once leg-spinner Shreyas Gopal (1/130 in 33 overs) and left-arm spinner Shikhar Shetty (1/112 in 32 overs) were in operation, the duo didn't have problems farming the strike.

While Dogra's 166 ball knock had eight fours, Wadhawan's 109-ball knock comprised of nine hits to the fence.

Once Wadhawan was caught by KL Rahul in the slips off Shetty, Dogra added another 54 with Lotra who also helped himself to a half-ton.

India needed shakeup, need to rethink about team composition: Shastri

PTI

Chennai, Feb 25: The heavy loss to South Africa in their Super 8 opener was the "shakeup" title favourites India needed going into the business end of the T20 World Cup, said former head coach Ravi Shastri.

India will be desperate to make a strong comeback against Zimbabwe here on Thursday after the heavy 76-run defeat at the hands of South Africa in their Super 8 opener in Ahmedabad on Sunday.

The loss against the Proteas, incidentally, was India's first defeat after 12 successive victories across the last two editions of the T20 World Cup. "You win 12 matches on the trot, there's bound to be an off day. And I'm glad it has come early. It might just be the shakeup India needed," Shastri told on the latest episode of The ICC Review.

"It might also make them rethink their strategy as to the composition of the side going ahead. They would have learned from that



last experience that they're not going to take things for granted because in this Super Eight if you lose one more (match), then you're really putting yourself under serious pressure."

Talking about the team composition for Thursday's crucial match, Shastri advised India to play an extra spinner keeping in mind the spin-friendly Indian conditions.

He is in favour of bringing in vice-captain Axar Patel, who was replaced by Washington Sundar in the last match.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

رَمَضَانَ الْمُبَارَكِ

1447 H / 2026 CE

وقت افطار	انقضاء سحری	رمضان المبارک	تاریخ
06:34 PM	05:31 AM	16	06
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06:38 PM	05:24 AM	22	12
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06:40 PM	05:20 AM	24	14
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06:44 PM	05:14 AM	29	19
06:45 PM	05:12 AM	30	20

وقت افطار	انقضاء سحری	رمضان المبارک	تاریخ
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06:33 PM	05:34 AM	14	04
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DUA FOR SEHRI

وَبَصُومٍ غَدَ نُؤْتِيكَ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ
I intend to keep the fast for tomorrow in the month of Ramadan

DUA FOR IFTAAR

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي لَكَ صُمْتُ وَبِكَ آمَنْتُ [وَعَلَيْكَ تَوَكَّلْتُ] وَعَلَى رِزْقِكَ أَفْطَرْتُ
O Allah! I fasted for You and I believe in You and I put my trust in You and I break my fast with Your sustenance

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