



Academic activities resume in all educational institutions of Kashmir

Classes up to 8 resume after two months

Riyaz Bhat

Srinagar, Mar 09: All educational institutions in Kashmir valley resumed academic activities on Monday.

As per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the schools upto 8th standard in Kashmir region reopened nearly after more than two months of winter vacation.

However, the reopening of the establishments upto 8th standard was delayed by a week as the government had ordered closure of all schools, colleges and universities as a precautionary measure in the region amid tension in Middle East.

Following the killing of Supreme leader of Iran Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in joint US-Israeli strikes, a widespread protest had erupted across Jammu and Kashmir.

Pertinently, schools from 9th to 12th standard reopened on February-23 in Kashmir division and winter zones of Jammu



Pic: Jahangir Shah (KNO/KT)

division following a winter break of over 70 days.

The government had ordered the students of 9th class and onwards to observe the winter vacations from December-11-2025 to February-22-2026.

On November-25, School Education Department (SED) had announced winter break in a phased manner for Kashmir division and winter zones of

Jammu division.

SED in an order had said that the vacations for Pre-primary (Balvatika) classes shall commence from November-26 to February-28-2026.

In case of middle classes upto 8th standard, the department had said that the vacations shall be observed from December-01 to February-28.

It also said that the

winter break for 9th to 12th standard shall commence from December-11 to February-22.

SED had ordered the teaching faculty to remain available for any academic activity during the vacation period.

The Teaching staff was ordered to report back to their respective schools on February-20-2026 for making arrangements regarding opening of schools.

Earlier on February-16, Colleges in Kashmir valley resumed activities following a 52 days of winter vacations.

The Jammu and Kashmir Higher Education Department on December-23-2025 had announced 52-days winter vacation for degree colleges falling in the winter zones of Kashmir division.

The government had said that the degree colleges in the Kashmir Division and those in the winter zone of Jammu Division shall observe winter vacations from December-24-2025 to February-14-2026. (KNO)

CM Omar hosts dinner to honour J&K's Ranji Trophy Champions

Players presented with ₹2 crore award



KT News Desk

Jammu, Mar 09: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday hosted a dinner in honour of the Jammu & Kashmir Ranji Trophy champion team, celebrating their remarkable achievement.

The team was warmly received by the Chief Minister in the presence of his Cabinet colleagues and senior officers. On the occasion, the players were also presented with an award money of ₹2 crore in recognition of their outstanding performance.

President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, Mithun Manhas, was also present at the event.

Congratulating the players, the Chief Minister lauded their dedication and perseverance, saying their achievement has | [More on P6](#)

Panchayat electoral roll revision to begin this month

Final rolls expected by May; Urban local body rolls only after SIR

KNO Special Correspondent

Srinagar, Mar 09: J&K's State Election Commissioner, Shantmanu, on Monday directed officials to gear up for the revision of Panchayat electoral rolls in Jammu and Kashmir. The exercise is likely to begin in the fourth week of this month.

Sources told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that Shantmanu chaired a high-level meeting today to review preparations for the revision of electoral rolls in the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by both divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners, the commissioners of Srinagar

Municipal Corporation and Jammu Municipal Corporation, as well as officials from the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department.

During the meeting, the SEC instructed officials to remain prepared for the upcoming revision of the Panchayat electoral rolls across the Union Territory.

"The exercise is likely to begin in the fourth week of this month with the unveiling of draft electoral rolls," sources said, adding that the process is expected to be completed by the first or second week of May with the publication of final electoral rolls.

According to officials, the electoral roll | [More on P6](#)

Srinagar Master Plan-2035 amendments await cabinet approval

Draft memo circulated among depts, HODs of H&UD for comments, concurrence

KNO Special Correspondent

Srinagar, Mar 09: The amendments to the Srinagar Master Plan-2035 are awaiting cabinet approval.

Documents accessed by news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) reveal that the Srinagar Development Authority (SDA) approved a short-term review of the Master Plan during its 82nd meeting.

Later, the committee constituted by the SDA for this task was restructured to include representatives from the Srinagar Municipal Corporation and the Lakes & Conservation Management Authority.

After examining objections and suggestions received from



public, the committee prepared a comprehensive report containing its findings and recommendations. The draft proposal submitted

by the committee was presented in a meeting held on January 01, 2025, under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary. Subsequently, | [More on P6](#)

Rain, snow likely in Kashmir till tomorrow

Day temp to drop

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Mar 09: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday forecast cloudy weather with light rain and snowfall in higher reaches of Kashmir over the next few days, with a noticeable drop in day temperatures across the Valley.

According to the Meteorological Centre Srinagar, Kashmir is expected to remain generally cloudy on March 9 with light rain in the plains and light snowfall over the higher reaches at scattered places.

The weather department, as reported by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said that from March 10 to 11,

the region is likely to witness generally cloudy conditions with light to moderate rain in the plains and snowfall over higher reaches at many places.

It said a few higher altitude areas of Kupwara, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Anantnag, and Kishtwar may receive moderate snowfall during this period.

The Met department said weather conditions are expected to improve from March 12 to 15 with generally dry weather and occasional cloudiness. However, brief spells of light rain or snow may occur at isolated places during this period.

It added that from March 16 to 18, the weather is likely to remain generally cloudy with light rain or snowfall over higher reaches at isolated to scattered places. | [More on P6](#)

'Centre provided assistance worth hundreds of crores for tourism projects in J&K'

Raja Syed Rather

Srinagar, Mar 09: The Union Ministry of Tourism on Monday informed the Lok Sabha that development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, while the Centre provides financial assistance under various schemes.

Replying to an unstarred question raised by MP Abdul Rashid Sheikh, Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said that the Government of India supports tourism infrastructure development through schemes such



as Swadesh Darshan, Swadesh Darshan 2.0, Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD) and PRASHAD.

He said the assistance is provided to States and UTs based on project proposals received from them, subject to scheme

guidelines, government directions, availability of funds and priority considerations.

The minister also informed the House that under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) – Development of | [More on P6](#)

India issues critical travel advisory for nationals in Iran

'Don't approach land borders without our guidance'

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Mar 09: The Embassy of India in Tehran has issued an important advisory for Indian nationals currently residing in Iran, urging them not to approach any of the country's land borders for travel outside Iran without prior coordination with the mission.

In the advisory accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the embassy said any movement toward land border points should be undertaken only after obtaining explicit guidance from the embassy. The



advisory comes amid growing concerns among Indian citizens, including a significant number of students, about travel arrangements and safety in the region. The embassy | [More on P6](#)

Soldier goes missing in Sunderbani

KNO Desk

Jammu, Mar 09: A soldier went missing during a river crossing training exercise in the Sunderbani area of Rajouri district on Monday, officials said.

In a post on X, the White Knight Corps, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said that Sepoy Akshit Sharma was reported missing at around 12 pm during a river crossing training exercise conducted in the general area of Sunderbani.

The Army said extensive search operations have been launched, with all available resources of the Indian Army and civil agencies pressed into service to trace the missing soldier. (KNO)

Census 2027 to cover 6,462 villages, 78 towns across J&K in two phases

Self-enumeration window to open May 17; snow-bound areas get Oct 2026 start

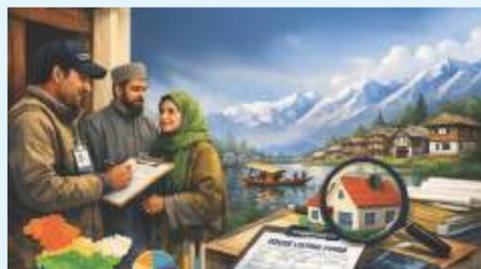
KT News Desk

Jammu, Mar 09: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, in presence of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, Mritunjay Kumar Narayan, on Monday chaired a high-level sensitisation session to review and strengthen preparations for the upcoming Census, 2027 which will be conducted digitally for the first time across the country.

The session was attended by Administrative Secretaries of various departments, senior officers of the Union Territory

administration, Divisional and District administration officers and representatives of multiple government departments.

Addressing the officers, the Chief Secretary emphasised the need for coordinated and proactive preparations for the smooth conduct of the census operations. He stated that the meeting had clearly delineated the roles and responsibilities of each department and called upon all departments and field functionaries to extend full support to the census machinery so that the exercise



is carried out in a systematic, transparent and efficient manner.

He also underscored the importance of public awareness and outreach, stressing

that citizens must be encouraged to actively participate in the census process and provide accurate information. He observed that a successful census depends on the cooperation of both the administration and the public, and all stakeholders must work together to ensure the credibility and completeness of the data collected during this mega UT wide programme.

Speaking on the occasion, the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, Mritunjay Kumar Narayan expressed | [More on P6](#)

Preparations reviewed for Census 2027

KT News Desk

Jammu, Mar 09: Registrar General and Census Commissioner, Government of India, Mritunjay Kumar Narayan on Monday reviewed preparations for the upcoming Census 2027 during his exclusive visit to the Directorate of Census Operations Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh at Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

The visit was focused on preparation and readiness

of the Directorate of Census for conducting the processes and training workshops in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh for smooth conduct of the Census of India 2027.

Director Census Operations, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh, Amit Sharma, apprised the Registrar General and Commissioner Census, India of the working and functioning of the office.

Mritunjay Kumar Narayan interacted | [More on P6](#)

Sakeena Itoo directs strict quality checks on medicines

Reviews functioning of JKMSCL, orders constant monitoring of drug supplies in hospitals

KT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, MARCH 09: Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo on Monday emphasized on stricter quality checks and greater accountability in the procurement and supply of medicines and medical equipments for Health facilities across Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that patient safety remains government's top priority.



maintained.

While reviewing quality control measures and other protocols, the Minister instructed the MD to maintain constant check on the quality of medicines and equipments procured by the Corporation. "Tighten quality control protocols at every stage, from procurement and testing to storage and final distribution", she said.

The Minister further instructed the corporation to ensure that only certified, safe and standard-compliant medicines and equipment reach government hospitals, warning that any negligence in quality verification will invite strict action. "Conduct regular quality audits, enhanced laboratory testing and strict vendor scrutiny so that suppliers adhere fully to prescribed standards and contractual obligations", the Minister maintained.

While reviewing procurement procedures, supply chain management, inventory status, vendor performance and existing quality testing mechanisms of the corporation, the Minister directed the MD to take action against firms/vendors delaying supply of essential drugs or medical equipment. She also sought a detailed report from the Corporation on action taken since 2021 against ill-performing firms/vendors.

Emphasising on timely availability of life saving drugs, the Minister delved on the Corporation to follow protocol of prominent medical

institutions regarding Cancer medicines. She directed all medical Superintendents and hospital administrators to submit life saving drug requirements as per that protocol.

Highlighting the challenges faced by healthcare institutions in far-flung and rural areas, the Minister instructed JKMSCL to improve supply chain coordination and maintain adequate buffer stocks of essential medicines and life-saving equipment so that hospital faces no shortages.

She also directed the corporation to strengthen grievance redressal mechanisms and ensure immediate response to complaints from healthcare institutions regarding supply delays or quality issues. Reaffirming the government's commitment to strengthening healthcare services in Jammu and Kashmir, the Minister said that accessibility, affordability and quality of medicines and medical equipments remain at the core priorities of present Omar Abdullah led Government.

During the meeting, MD JKMSCL gave a detailed presentation on the functioning of Corporation. Regarding quality testing, he informed the Minister that during year 2024-25, 3390 medicine samples were tested, out of which 32 were declared Not of Standard Quality (NoSQ). In 2025-26, he informed that out of 2806 tested samples, 65 were declared NoSQ with reports of 361 samples still pending.

SMC Commissioner reviews preparedness for Swachh Survekshan 2025-26

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, MARCH 09: Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb, chaired a high-level review meeting to assess the preparedness and ongoing initiatives being undertaken by the Corporation under Swachh Survekshan 2025-26, the nationwide cleanliness assessment programme.

During the meeting, the Commissioner, as per an official statement, undertook a comprehensive review of sanitation measures being implemented across the city and directed officials to further strengthen cleanliness standards in accordance with the parameters laid down under Swachh Survekshan. He emphasized the need for strict adherence to efficient door-to-door waste collection, segregation of waste at source, and scientific processing and disposal of municipal waste.

Stressing the importance of

sustained and coordinated efforts, the Commissioner instructed the concerned officers to intensify monitoring of sanitation services and ensure visible improvements in cleanliness across public spaces, markets, residential localities, and other key areas of the city.

The Commissioner also highlighted the critical role of citizen participation in achieving the objectives of Swachh Survekshan and directed officials to strengthen public awareness and outreach initiatives aimed at encouraging community involvement in sanitation and waste management practices.

Reaffirming the commitment of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation towards making Srinagar a cleaner,

greener, and more sustainable city, the Commissioner urged officers to work with dedication, efficiency, and accountability to achieve improved outcomes in the national cleanliness



survey. The meeting was attended by Joint Commissioners SMC and other senior officers of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

DC Ganderbal reviews digitization progress of revenue records

KT NEWS DESK

GANDERBAL, MARCH 09: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore Monday chaired a meeting of revenue officers to review the progress of digitization of revenue records in the district.

During the meeting, the DC, as per an official statement, sought a detailed tehsil-wise report regarding the status of digitization including entry of backlog mutations as well as resolution of grievances received during public reading of Jamabandis in various villages. Stressing the need for expediting the process, he directed the officers to ensure timely

and accurate completion of the exercise.

The DC instructed the Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR) to ensure strict monitoring of the progress and ensure daily reporting of targets achieved across the district.

The DC also reviewed the status of pending public grievances related to revenue matters and emphasized that these cases should be disposed-off promptly to provide timely resolutions of the grievances raised during public hearings.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Tehsildars, Naib Tehsildars, Patwaris and other concerned revenue officials.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
IRRIGATION DIVISION PULWAMA.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
E- NIT NO. (22) OF 2025-26 (e-Tendering)

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K U.T, e-Tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. for the following works.

S. No.	Name of work	Adv. Cost in Lakhs	Cost of Tender Doc. in Rs.	Earnest Money (Rs)	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Head of Account
	Removal of unhygienic material from Koll canal from RD 0 to 900 mts.	3.56	400	7120	10 days	DEE	2701 M&R
	Widening and deepening & resectioning of Gulzarpora minor, Detour minor & Baighpora minor.	1.96	200	3920	10 days	DEE	2702 M&R
	Desilting of Padgampora main canal from RD 1260 (from minor gate) to RD 1700mts.	1.49	200	2980	10 days	DEE	2702 M&R
	Widening and Deepening of Bujibagh main canal from RD 0 to onwards.	2.00	200	4000	10 days	DEE	2702 M&R

Position of Funds: Budgetary Provision.
Position of AAA: Accorded vide Superintending Engineer, Hydraulic circle Pulwama's order No. SE/HYD/SPN/DB/60 of 03/2025-26 dated: 07-03-2026 and SE/HYD/SPN/DB/61 of 03/2025-26 dated: 07-03-2026.
Position of T/S: Sanctioned

The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, set of terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

01	Date of issue of Tender Notice	07-03-2026 (06:00 pm)
02	Date of start of downloading	07-03-2026 (06:00 pm)
03	Bid submission start date Technical/ Financial.	07-03-2026 (06:00 pm)
04	Bid submission end date	13-03-2026 (06:00 pm)
05	Date & Time of opening of Bids (online)	14-03-2026 (10:00 am)

Terms and Conditions: -

- Bids must be accompanied with proof of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury receipt/e-challan under (MH: 0702-PWD Remittance) in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Pulwama (tender inviting authority), and Earnest Money/Bid Security in shape of CDR/ FDR from any schedule or nationalized bank pledged to Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Pulwama (Tender Receiving Authority).
- The date and time of opening of Technical Bids shall be notified on departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial Bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Pulwama (Tender Receiving Authority).
- The bid for the work shall remain valid for period of 90 days from the date of opening of bid.
- Bidders are advised to use the (My Documents) area in their user on www.jktenders.gov.in portal to store, the required documents as given below:
 - GST, Adhaar Card, 16- Digit Bank Account No. GST linked and PAN No.
 - Registration card with the latest renewal.
 - Treasury challan (0702)
 - Scanned copy of EMD.
 - Card verification letter.
 - Registered mobile number and E-mail ID in the shape of Bidders address form.
 - BOQ.
 - Acknowledgment/ certificate w.r.t. filing of GST returns of previous quarter.
 - Acknowledgment/ certificate w.r.t. filing of Income Tax returns of Previous financial year.
- The successful bidder is bound to register himself with Assistant Labour Commissioner, Pulwama for CESS Registration after issuance of allotment and District Mineral Officer Pulwama for obtaining Royalty Clearance certificate in case of works involving consumption of minor minerals.
 - The earnest money shall be forfeited if:
 - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms and conditions of the bid.
 - Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 07 Days after fixation of contract.

All other terms & conditions shall be the same as laid down in the PWD Form 25 (Double Agreement Form).

No.: PID/CS/ 4679-89
Dated: 07/03/2026

sd/
Executive Engineer
Irrigation Division Pulwama

DIPK-11692/25
DATED: 09-03-2026

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL SHOPIAN

Subject: Tender for supply and installation of LED Flood lights at MC Shopian .

TENDER NOTICE.
E - NIT No: MCS/SL/ 02 OF 2026.
Dated: 07.03.2026.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, term e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited from the interested persons / parties for tender for Supply and installation of at least 100-Watt LED Flood lights (35 No.) with all allied accessories at MC Shopian.

S.NO	Product	Remarks
01	Minimum 100-watt LED Flood Lights with all Allied Accessories.	35 Number

The details of the work is as under and the successful highest bidder is bound to install as per the same items.

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	07.03.2026
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 07.03.2026 to 13.03.2026
3	Bid submission Start Date	07.03.2026 from 11:00 AM
4	Bid submission End Date	13.03.2026 upto 02.00 PM
5	Date & Time of opening of Bids (Online)	13.03.2026 at 04.00 PM in the office of the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian.
6	Submission of CDR.	The bidder shall be bound to accompany his bids offers with Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs. 5000/- amount drawn from any Nationalized bank, pledged to the Accounts Officer, Municipal Council Shopian, (without which offers shall be liable for rejection)

- Bids must be accompanied with the cost of tender document in shape of Bank Challan / Receipt (Credited to A/c No. 001804010000611 JRY maintained with Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch: Shopian Main Branch in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian amounting to Rs. 200/- (Two Hundred Only) and Bid securing declaration as per format Annexure - 1, below on stamp paper duly attested by Notary in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian, failing which tender will be rejected.
- The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.in. The bids of the responsive bidders shall be opened online on the same website in the office of the Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian.
- The bids for the tender shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- BID SECURITY.**
 - Bid Security Declaration: The bid security declaration shall be submitted as per the Format Annexure - 2 (format for the bid security declaration).
 - Any bid not accompanied by the Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) and BID security declaration shall be summarily rejected by the Authority as non responsive

Instructions to the 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 to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get „Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt/challan in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Council Shopian and bid securing declaration must be uploaded with the bid.
- The Bidder must have to upload (soft copies) of the following documents (Photostat/Original should be clearly seen in all respect with Ink Signed and Seal):-
 - Valid original Bank Challan/Receipt
 - Call Deposit Receipt (CDR)
 - BID Securing Declaration on stamp paper duly attested by Notary.
 - Valid GSTIN/ PAN Card No.
 - The Bidder should upload the Tender Document form attached below (Not Mandatory).
 - Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including
 - BID Securing Declaration and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document (s) which has /have not been uploaded shall not be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
 - The Highest Bidder will have to submit hard copies of all documents uploaded on e-tending portal before issuance of Allotment.

No:MCS/SL/2026/1040-43 Dated: 07.03.2026.

DIPK-NB-3541/25
DATED: 09-03-2026

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Shopian.

Iftar buffets gain popularity during Ramadhan

REHAN QAYOOM MIR

Srinagar, Mar 09: With only the last ten days of Ramadhan remaining, eateries across Kashmir are witnessing a surge in demand for special Iftar plates and buffet-style meals, making evenings increasingly busy at food outlets across the Valley.

From busy street stalls to upscale restaurants, food outlets have introduced a variety of Ramadhan-specific menus featuring traditional Kashmiri delicacies to attract customers looking to break their fast outside their homes.

As reported by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), many

restaurants in Srinagar and other districts have begun offering curated Iftar platters that include a mix of local favourites such as kebabs, dates, refreshing drinks and dishes inspired by the famed Kashmiri wazwan.

The initiative, according to restaurant owners, has received an encouraging response from families and groups of friends who prefer communal dining during the holy month.

Residents say the growing trend reflects a changing Ramadhan culture in the Valley, where social gatherings around food have become more common. "People now like to explore different Iftar options and spend time

with relatives and friends at restaurants," said a Srinagar resident.

The trend is not limited to the summer capital alone. Restaurants and cafe owners in districts such as Baramulla, Sopore, and Shopian have also introduced combo Iftar deals featuring desserts, snacks and main courses, attracting a steady rush during evening hours.

However, some residents have raised concerns over rising food prices during Ramadhan, saying that the cost of a basic Iftar meal has increased compared to previous years. They urged authorities to keep a check on pricing to ensure affordability for the public—(KNO)



CS chairs meet on AI expansion in governance

Engages key stakeholders to chart future roadmap

KT NEWS DESK

Jammu, Mar 09: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo on Monday held detailed deliberations with stakeholders on the adoption and expansion of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in governance and delivery of public services across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting besides the concerned Administrative Secretaries was attended by the Director, Indian Institute of Technology Jammu, CEO, India AI Mission; Special Director General, Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N), and other concerned officers of the Union Territory.

The meeting held detailed discussions on the potential of AI-based interventions in a range of citizen-centric governance sectors and explored ways to establish a robust institutional and technological framework for accelerating such initiatives in the UT. Participants deliberated on how advanced technologies could improve administrative efficiency, decision-making and accessibility of government services for citizens.

Speaking during the meeting, the Chief Secretary emphasized that Artificial Intelligence offers enormous potential to transform governance and enhance the quality and reach



of public services across Jammu and Kashmir. He urged all departments to proactively identify areas where AI-driven solutions could improve efficiency, transparency and outcomes in their respective sectors.

He stressed the importance of strong coordination between the UT administration, the Union Ministry concerned, IIT Jammu, BISAG-N and other technical institutions to ensure timely and effective implementation of all these AI-enabled initiatives.

To provide strategic direction and oversight, the Chief Secretary proposed the constitution of a high-level Steering Committee to be chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary, Public Works Department. The committee would include representatives from IIT Jammu, BISAG-N with Secretary Information Technology

and Inspector General of Police Jammu being the members of this committee and would guide the implementation of AI projects while addressing operational bottlenecks.

The Chief Secretary also directed the Information Technology Department to establish a dedicated anchoring mechanism within the department to coordinate AI-related initiatives with different departments. He stressed the need for identifying and deploying specialized human resources to support this institutional framework and ensure effective on-ground implementation.

Highlighting the importance of capacity building, he underscored the need for earlier establishment of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Emerging Technologies in Jammu

and Kashmir and setting up Data Innovation Labs in skill development institutions. He maintained that such facilities would play a key role in preparing the region for future technological challenges and creating a skilled workforce in data science and AI-related domains.

The Chief Secretary further called upon the School Education Department to explore the possibility of introducing basic introductory courses on Artificial Intelligence at the secondary school level. He also suggested that AI-related skill programmes could be incorporated under Mission YUVA to enable youth to acquire emerging technology skills and improve their employment prospects.

Continued on www.kashmirthunder.in

From The Parliament

'Ladakh records dip in tourist footfall last year'

RAJA SYED RATHER

Srinagar, Mar 09: The Government of India on Monday informed the Lok Sabha that tourist arrivals in the Union Territory of Ladakh declined significantly in 2025, particularly in Kargil, where the number of visitors dropped by over 70 percent compared to the previous year.

Replying to an unstarred question, Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said that domestic tourist arrivals in Leh decreased from 2,92,836 in 2024 to 2,12,799 in 2025, registering a decline of 27.3 percent. In Kargil, domestic tourist arrivals dropped sharply from 3,20,432 in 2024 to 93,389 in 2025,

marking a 70.9 percent decline, he said.

The Minister further said that foreign tourist arrivals also witnessed a fall, with Leh receiving 34,915 visitors in 2024 compared to 29,049 in 2025, while Kargil recorded 4,215 foreign tourists in 2024 and 3,072 in 2025.

He said that the UT Administration of Ladakh has issued a notification enabling banks to extend relief measures to borrowers affected by disturbances, including those associated with the tourism sector. A committee comprising State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank and Jammu and Kashmir Bank has finalized a rehabilitation package for affected borrowers.

The relief measures

include extension of repayment periods, restructuring of loans, conversion of interest accrued during moratorium into funded interest term loans and provision of additional credit facilities to support affected stakeholders, the Minister said.

He added that the Government has also approved the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan, under which development of 1,000 homestays is planned to improve the socio-economic condition of tribal communities, including in Ladakh. The Centre has also announced collateral-free institutional credit through the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana to support setting up of homestays across the country—(KNO)

Two NSTIs operational in J&K: Centre

UMAISER GUL

Srinagar, Mar 09: The Government of India on Monday informed the Lok Sabha that thirty-three National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs) and five extension centers are currently functioning across the country.

Replying to a starred question in the House, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Jayant Chaudhary said that the institutes operate under the Directorate General of Training to provide advanced technical and vocational training to instructors for developing skilled manpower for industry.

As per the official data, Jammu and Kashmir currently has two NSTI facilities, including the National Skill Training

Institute for Women in Jammu and an NSTI Extension Centre in Srinagar, aimed at enhancing skill development opportunities in the Union Territory.

The Minister also informed that the Centre is working to strengthen skill infrastructure under the Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM SETU) scheme, which has an approved financial outlay of 60,000 crore, including contributions from the Centre, states and industry partners.

The scheme also focuses on capacity augmentation of select NSTIs and establishing Centres of Excellence for skilling in collaboration with industry and global partners, the government said—(KNO)

BJP driving Assam's growth under PM Modi: LoP Sharma

KNO

Srinagar/Assam, Mar 09: BJP leader and Assam election co-incharge Sunil Sharma said Assam is witnessing a new era of connectivity and development as the party pushes ahead with major road, bridge, and highway projects across the state.

These initiatives aim to strengthen infrastructure, improve trade and transport and connect remote areas to urban centers.

Addressing a large gathering in West Karbi

Anglong, LoP Sharma credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership for positioning Assam as a key hub of growth in Northeast India, saying the projects are transforming the state's economic landscape while opening new opportunities for citizens and businesses alike. He highlighted the Modi government's focus on infrastructure, including highways, bridges, railways and industrial projects, which are creating opportunities for youth, farmers and entrepreneurs.

Sharma also praised

welfare schemes in housing, healthcare, agriculture and skill development, which have brought dignity and economic empowerment to millions of families.

"BJP believes in inclusive development, reaching the last person in the queue," Sharma said, stressing transparency, accountability, and nation-building.

He expressed confidence that strong public support and the dedication of BJP workers will continue driving Assam's prosperity, in line with the national vision of a "Viksit Bharat."—(KNO)



NC MPs, Mehbooba visit Iranian Embassy, offer condolences

KT NEWS DESK

New Delhi, Mar 09: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference MPs Chowdry Mohammad Ramzan, Sajjad Ahmed Kichloo and Gurwinder Singh Oberoi on Monday visited the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in New Delhi and signed the condolence book on the martyrdom of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of Iran.

During their visit, the MPs met the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to India, Dr. Mohammad Fathali and expressed deep anguish and profound sorrow over the tragic assassination of the revered leader. They conveyed their heartfelt condolences to the Government and people of Iran on behalf of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, Farooq Abdullah, and the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Omar Abdullah.

On the occasion, the Members of Parliament also raised the issue of Kashmiri students currently stranded in Iran and emphasized the

need to ensure their safety and facilitate their safe and early return. They noted that the families of these students are deeply concerned and hopeful that necessary steps will be taken to bring them back home safely.

The MPs also strongly condemned the unilateral and barbaric attack carried out by the United States and Israel on a sovereign nation, stating that such actions are in clear violation of international law and pose a serious threat to peace and stability in the region.

They prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and expressed hope for lasting peace, stability, and harmony in the region.

In the meantime, Peoples Democratic Party Chief Mehbooba Mufti on X said, "Visited the Iranian Cultural Centre & Embassy in Delhi to offer my deepest condolences to the people of Iran in these difficult times & paid my tributes to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on his martyrdom. Also took up the issue of Kashmiri students stranded in Iran with the Hon'ble Ambassador."

Continued on www.kashmirthunder.in

J&K generates 665 Mn litres of sewage daily: GoI



REHAN QAYOOM MIR

Srinagar, Mar 09: The Government of India on Monday informed the Lok Sabha that Jammu and Kashmir generates around 665 million litres per day (MLD) of sewage, while the installed sewage treatment capacity in the Union Territory stands at 218 MLD.

In a written reply to an unstarred question, Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Kirti Vardhan Singh said that the operational sewage treatment capacity in J&K is about 93 MLD, while the actual utilisation of installed capacity is around 49 MLD.

The data, based on the "National Inventory of Sewage Treatment Plants in India-2021" prepared by the Central Pollution Control Board, highlights the gap between sewage generation and treatment capacity across several states and Union Territories, including J&K.

The government said steps are being taken to strengthen sewage treatment infrastructure through schemes such as the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Smart Cities Mission, aimed at improving sewage treatment, recycling and reuse of treated water in urban areas—(KNO)

EDITORIAL

T20 World Cup Victory Reflects India's Sporting Renaissance

The image of 'Men in Blue' lifting the T20 World Cup trophy in Ahmedabad is the result of years of careful planning and effort that have turned India into a global force in cricket. By becoming the first men's team to win back-to-back T20 World Cups and the first to win the trophy on home soil, Team India has written its name in history forever. This win is the outcome of steady

investment in sports and the development of young players from the ground up. The government's strong support for creating the right environment for sports has paid off in many ways beyond this single achievement. Programmes like Khelo India, which find and nurture young talent from even the most remote corners of the country, along with world-class training facilities, have

built a solid foundation for success. This victory shows the deep pool of talent India has among its youth in many fields. That talent has been carefully found, trained, and given the right platforms to shine. The Prime Minister's vision of making sports an important part of national life has turned into real policies that support athletes from their early years all the way to the international

stage. The 96-run win over New Zealand showed everything that makes this Indian team special—brilliant batting, deadly accurate bowling, and the kind of confidence that comes from knowing the whole country is cheering for them. When fans celebrated across the country, they were celebrating more than just a cricket match. They were celebrating an India that wins, an India that

believes, and an India that keeps proving itself on the world stage. The chants of "India, India" echoing through city streets were the sound of a nation united in pride. This third title is a powerful statement. India is no longer just a country that loves cricket. It is now a country that dominates cricket. And with the foundation firmly in place, this may only be the beginning of a golden era.

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana PMBJP: Advancing Affordable And Equitable Healthcare

Over 18,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras supply quality generic medicines at 50-80% lower prices

Press Information Bureau

In recent years, India has undertaken sustained policy measures to enhance the affordability and accessibility of healthcare. Since medicines constitute a significant share of household out-of-pocket expenditure, ensuring their availability at reasonable prices is critical to financial protection and equitable access. Branded (generic) medicines are often sold at significantly higher prices than their unbranded generic equivalents, even though they have the same therapeutic value. Addressing this disparity requires consistent policy intervention to reduce treatment costs and safeguard access to essential medicines, particularly for economically vulnerable populations.

A significant initiative in this direction was the launch of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP). The scheme seeks to provide quality-assured generic medicines at significantly lower prices through an expanding network of dedicated Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAKs) across the country, thereby strengthening the affordability and access to generic pharmaceuticals.

Jan Aushadhi Saptah 2026 was launched as a nationwide outreach initiative to promote awareness of affordable, quality generic medicines, culminating in the observance of the 8th Jan Aushadhi Diwas on 7 March. As part of the week-long programme, health check-up camps were organised from 1 to 5 March 2026 at over 250 locations across the country by the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Aligned with this year's theme, "Janaushadhi Sasti Bhi, Bharosemand Bhi, Sehat Ki Baat, Bachat Ke Saath," the initiative combines on-site diagnostic services with public engagement activities to enhance awareness about the availability of affordable, quality-assured generic medicines at JAKs.

Quality Assurance of Medicines under PMBJP Medicines supplied under PMBJP are procured exclusively from manufacturers compliant with the World Health Organization's Good Manufacturing Practices (WHO-GMP), thereby ensuring adherence to internationally recognised quality standards. Each batch undergoes rigorous testing at laboratories accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL). Distribution to Jan Aushadhi Kendras is undertaken only after the medicines conform to prescribed quality parameters.

Widening the Footprint of Affordable Medicines Across India

Under the scheme, over 18,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAKs) are operational. The scheme's product portfolio includes 2,110 medicines, 315 surgical items, medical consumables, and devices

spanning 29 therapeutic categories, including anti-infectives, anti-diabetics, cardiovascular drugs, anti-cancer medications, and gastrointestinal treatments. On average, about 10 to 12 lakh persons visit these Kendras daily and avail quality medicines at affordable prices across the country, including in rural and remote areas.

Notably, the maximum retail prices (MRPs) of medicines available under the PMBJP are generally 50-80% lower than those of comparable branded medicines, significantly reducing rural households' healthcare expenditure. By June 2025, Jan Aushadhi medicines with an aggregate MRP value of 7,700 crore have been sold, generating estimated savings of approximately 38,000 crore for citizens relative to equivalent branded alternatives.

Franchise-Based Expansion of the Janaushadhi Kendras (JAKs)

The Government has set a target to open 25,000 JAKs under the scheme by March 2027. To achieve this target, a franchise-based model has been adopted. Online applications are invited from individual entrepreneurs, non-governmental organisations, societies, trusts, firms, and private entities through the official portal of the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), www.janaushadhi.gov.in. This inclusive framework supports the establishment of JAKs across urban, rural, and remote areas, including blocks and tehsils, helping to ensure wider access to affordable, quality-assured generic medicines for all.

Citizen-Centric Initiative: Janaushadhi Suvidha Sanitary Napkin

The PMBJP has introduced several citizen-centric initiatives to improve accessibility, affordability, and awareness in healthcare delivery. The Janaushadhi Suvidha Oxo-biodegradable Sanitary Napkins is one key initiative, introduced in 2019, to enhance affordable access to menstrual hygiene products for women across India. Priced at a highly subsidized rate of ₹1 per pad, the initiative aims to reduce financial barriers to safe menstrual practices. The napkins incorporate an Oxo-biodegradable additive that facilitates degradation upon exposure to oxygen after disposal, supporting environmentally responsible consumption.

Aligned with the principles of hygiene, health, and accessibility, the initiative particularly benefits economically vulnerable women. By 31 January 2026, more than 100 crore Suvidha sanitary pads have been sold under the scheme. Of these, over 22.50 crore pads were sold during FY 2025-26 alone, up to 31 January 2026. Currently, over 18,000 JAKs nationwide distribute Suvidha napkins, thereby expanding access to safe and hygienic menstrual products.

Digital-Enabled initiative: Jan Aushadhi Sugam Mobile Application

The "Jan Aushadhi Sugam" mobile application was launched in 2019 to strengthen accessibility, transparency, and user convenience. The application serves as a digital interface that enables citizens to access information on generic medicines and related services in a streamlined manner.

Key features include:

Geolocation-enabled identification of the nearest JAK through Google Maps integration.

Search functionality for generic medicines along with real-time availability status, and

Comparative analysis of maximum retail prices (MRPs) between Jan Aushadhi generics and branded alternatives, highlighting potential cost savings.

The Jan Aushadhi Sugam App is available free of charge on both Android and iOS platforms via the Google Play Store and Apple App Store. The application represents a significant digital governance intervention aimed at expanding access to affordable medicines and promoting informed adoption of quality generic drugs nationwide.

Strengthening Last-Mile Healthcare Access through Strategic JAK Expansion

The scheme not only focuses on expanding the network of Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAKs) but also emphasizes ensuring their operational stability and long-term sustainability. In this regard, several strategic measures have been undertaken to reinforce the viability and effectiveness of JAKs:

Expansion of Product Basket: The range of medicines is continually expanding to cover a wide spectrum of chronic and acute conditions, ensuring broader patient access. In addition, nutraceutical products such as protein powders, malt-based food supplements, and glucometers have been introduced to diversify offerings and improve store viability.

Integration with Public Health Infrastructure: State Health Departments and other authorities are encouraged to facilitate the opening of JAKs within government hospitals by providing rent-free premises, thereby increasing accessibility and footfall.

Performance-Linked Stocking Norms: A minimum stocking requirement mandates that Kendras maintain at least 200 fast-moving medicines to qualify for incentives, ensuring consistent availability of essential drugs.

Cooperative Sector Participation: Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) can leverage their widespread rural network of over 13 crores small and marginal farmers and their existing infrastructure, such as land, buildings, and storage facilities, to establish and operate Jan Aushadhi Kendras. This allows them to serve as affordable medicine hubs in remote areas where access to such medicine is limited. Established trust in PACS and its relationship with rural populations further helps ensure the success of these Kendras.

JAKs at Railways Stations

Under the scheme, a total of 116 JAKs have been established at railway stations across the country as of 31 January 2026. This initiative seeks to enhance accessibility by ensuring the availability of quality, affordable medicines to the public, including migrant workers and low-income travelers, at the railway station. Their presence at high-footfall transit hubs enhances last-mile accessibility and promotes timely access to essential medicines at reduced prices.

Institutional and Regulatory Requirements for Establishing a PMBJK Outlet

Individuals holding a D. Pharma or B. Pharma qualification, as well as individuals/organizations employing a qualified pharmacist, are eligible to establish a JAKs. The principal eligibility criteria and procedural requirements for applying and setting up such an outlet are as follows:

Minimum space: 120 square feet.

Pharmacist registration: The pharmacist must be registered with the State Pharmacy Council in the State in which they practice.

Category-specific documentation: Submission of a suitable certificate/proof issued by the concerned authority for applicants belonging to the Divyangjan, SC, or ST category.

Promoting Inclusive Entrepreneurship through Financial Incentives

Under the PMBJK, a structured incentive approach supports the financial viability and operational sustainability for Kendra operators. Operators receive a 20% trade margin on the MRP of each drug (excluding taxes). They are also eligible for performance-linked monthly incentives up to a prescribed limit. In addition, a one-time special incentive is provided to Women, Divyangjan, SC/ST entrepreneurs, and those opening Kendras in aspirational and geographically disadvantaged regions. Therefore, the incentives encourage inclusive participation in expanding access to affordable medicines.

Special Incentives

Special incentives shall be granted for PMBJK opened by women entrepreneurs, Divyang, Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), and any entrepreneur opening a Jan Aushadhi Kendra in aspirational districts (backward districts) as notified by the NITI Aayog & in Himalayan, Island territories, and North-Eastern States. An amount of Rs. 2.00 lakhs in addition to normal incentives as applicable is to be given to the above-mentioned entrepreneurs as mentioned below:

1.50 lakh reimbursement of furniture and fixtures

0.50 lakh as reimbursement for Computer, internet, printer, scanner, etc.

This will be a one-time grant for the opening of a new PMBJK, subject to the submission of original bills and restricted to the actual expenditure

Your Brain, On Legos

How you play with Legos matters more than you may realize

Christine Ma-Kellams

When announcements of the newly built Lego Galaxy, a space-themed destination within Legoland, splashed across my screens this past week, I was faced with the age-old parental dilemma: to go or not to go with my kiddo? As with most parenting decisions, this involved a fairly elaborate cost-benefit analysis: on one side of the equation, how much fun they'd have and what benefits they'd draw; on the other, how much I'd enjoy the process.

I have to confess: as a bit of an old soul, I've never been the theme-park type, even as a kid. Since childhood, I've long nursed an allergic aversion to long lines, prolonged sun exposure, and activities that could end in vertigo. But since becoming a parent, I've often made an exception for Legoland because my boys seem to enjoy it more than any other. Having gone to parks as varied as Tokyo Disneyland and Stockholm's Tivoli Gröna Lund, both my kids have done enough and are not easily impressed

by artifacts designed for their entertainment. But their long-standing love of Legos has made the eponymous amusement park something of a pilgrimage site we return to time and again.

In the end, we did make the trek to Lego Galaxy—on a weekday, no less. As an educator myself (not to mention lifelong nerd), I didn't take missing school lightly. But I figured that because playing with Legos is spectacularly good for learning, the tradeoff was well worth it.

After all, studies have highlighted many of the cognitive benefits of such kinds of play. Some of these are obvious and predictable: Legos—and construction toys more broadly—help promote visuospatial reasoning, especially mental rotation and folding. Even more compellingly, playing with Lego in preschool may even predict better math performance on standardized tests in middle and high school.

But Not All Lego Play Is Equally Beneficial Curiously, not all forms of Lego-playing are created equal. Some work has shown that having

ill-defined problems or end-goals (rather than well-defined ones) can lead to greater creativity. In one study, participants were either asked to put together a Lego kit (with clear instructions and a target build) or simply build something. Researchers found that those in the undefined group (who were given no parameters for what to build) were more creative, showing more originality and novel forms of thinking.

To the credit of Legoland designers, this is exactly what visitors like my family got to do in much of the park, especially in Lego Galaxy. The Galacticoaster, for example, allows for kids (and parents like me) to custom-build their spaceship before riding it, a manifestation of open-ended problem-solving in the form of a family-friendly roller coaster. This is in addition to all the spots in the park where you can already build whatever you want.

Gender and Legos: A Surprising Finding Walking around Lego Galaxy with my child, I couldn't help but feel wistful. Growing up, I never got to play with Legos myself (and have

the underdeveloped mental rotation skills to go along with it). Maybe it had something to do with being a first-generation immigrant whose parents were unfamiliar with the franchise; maybe I was too obsessed with Barbies to make room for construction toys. But seeing the girls of all ages in the park dressed as astronauts to celebrate the new space-themed land, it seemed to be proof that whatever Lego was doing, it was working, and confirming research showing that if anything, Legos treat girls as developmentally equal to (or more advanced than) boys, at least based on analysis of the core assembly activity involved in Lego Friends sets (aimed towards girls) versus non-Friends sets.

The clinical psychologist Kay Redfield Jamison famously said that play wasn't a luxury; it was a necessity. I'd go one step further and say that what you play with, and how, matters too. As all the research on Legos demonstrates, the proof is in the build.

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Source: Psychology Today

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

Rana emphasises efficient fund utilisation, timely work completion

Reviews development projects in Baramulla district

KT News Desk

JAMMU, MARCH 09: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, Monday virtually reviewed the progress on development projects besides assessing implementation of government schemes in Baramulla district.

During the meeting, the Minister, as per an official statement, conducted a detailed review of the progress achieved under several flagship schemes and development initiatives. These included Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Irrigation and Flood Control projects, CAMPA, Tribal Affairs schemes, Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), NABARD, District Capex and various Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

The meeting was attended by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chairman of the Pollution Control Committee, Director Tribal Affairs Department, Director Finance Tribal Affairs Department and other senior officers.

Legislators from various

constituencies of the district, District Development Commissioner Baramulla and all district officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

The Minister emphasised that holistic and balanced development of every region remains the top priority of the current dispensation. He reaffirmed that the government under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is committed to accelerate infrastructure development and welfare initiatives to ensure timely and efficient delivery of services to the people.

Rana stressed the need for greater accountability and coordination among the government officers to ensure effective implementation of developmental programmes, improved monitoring of public services and prompt resolution of issues affecting different constituencies of the district.

Highlighting the importance of optimal utilisation of resources, the Minister directed the concerned departments to ensure that allocated funds are utilised effectively and do not



lapse, so that developmental works directly benefit the public. He also expressed concern over the apprehensions raised by MLAs regarding the possible lapse of funds and directed the Deputy Commissioner to work closely with the Legislators and concerned departments to ensure timely utilisation of allocated resources.

Addressing administrative challenges faced by the public in Baramulla, the Minister asked the Deputy Commissioner to conduct a comprehensive exercise and

submit a proposal for easing administrative hurdles arising from jurisdictional issues, so that appropriate corrective measures can be taken.

While expressing satisfaction over the overall progress achieved on various developmental works, the Minister noted that certain projects are still pending and require expedited execution. He urged the officers to adopt a proactive and result-oriented work culture to ensure timely completion of development projects.

During the meeting,

Legislators from different constituencies raised several issues concerning infrastructure development and public services.

MLA Baramulla, Javed Hassan Beigh, raised key issues including decongestion of Old Town Baramulla, establishment of a multi-level car parking facility, implementation of the water supply scheme under AMRUT 2.0 for Baramulla town, beautification and upgradation of the National Highway stretch from Delina to Khanpora and approval of the Sheeri-Shranz via Kawhar

(Defence Road) project.

MLA Uri, Dr. Sajad Shafi Uri, highlighted the need for upgradation of existing power feeders and establishment of receiving stations at Nambal, Trikanjan and Bijhama. He also raised the issue of upgradation of the 33 KV Uri power line besides sanctioning of a Forest Guest House and a PHE Inspection Hut at Uri.

MLA Pattan, Javid Riyaz, sought implementation of the AMRUT water supply scheme for Pattan town, upgradation of Community Health Centre (CHC) Pattan to Sub-District Hospital (SDH) and establishment of a New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC) at Nihalpora along with an Urban Health Centre in Pattan town.

He further requested for construction of Mini Secretariat and residential complex for government offices in Pattan town and development of a mini parking complex.

MLA Gulmarg, Farooq Ahmad Shah, raised issues including construction of a multi-level car parking facility, water reservoir at Tangmarg, phased completion of the mini-secretariat at Tangmarg,

development of an indoor stadium at Wussan, implementation of water supply schemes for Utikoo and Wussan and widening and upgradation of the Goigam-Pinjoora road.

MLA Sopore, Irshad Rasool Kar, demanded upgradation of SDH Sopore to a District Hospital, strengthening of Nahre-Zangeer canal and execution of special water supply schemes for Adipora, Sharkvara Sopore Rural, Check Nowpora and Wular Stage I & II.

MLA Wagoora-Kreeri, Irfan Hafiz Lone, raised issues related to restoration of canals, upgradation of health facilities, filling of vacancies in government departments, and construction and improvement of roads in his constituency.

Responding to the concerns raised, the Minister assured the MLAs that the issues highlighted during the meeting are under consideration of the government and will be addressed in a time-bound manner. He reiterated that all matters concerning the public welfare will receive due priority and necessary action will be taken to resolve them in the larger interest of the people.

Tanvir Sadiq visits Zadibal, reviews ration, civic supplies



KT News Desk

Srinagar, 09 Mar: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Chief Spokesperson and MLA Zadibal Tanvir Sadiq visited Zadibal areas to review the availability of ration and other basic civic amenities and ration during the ongoing holy month of Ramadan.

During the visit, Sadiq, as per a party statement, made brief stopovers at various places and interacted with local residents and took stock of essential supplies and services to ensure that people are not facing any inconvenience during the fasting month.

He directed the concerned officials to maintain adequate supply of ration and ensure that all essential civic facilities remain available to the public.

The MLA also visited Naushehra to meet families affected by a recent fire incident in which several houses and a mosque suffered damages. Expressing solidarity with the affected families, Sadiq assured them of all possible support and assistance.

He emphasized that every effort will be made to provide relief to the fire victims and ensure that their concerns are addressed on priority.

High Court holds Full Court Reference to condole Justice Jhanji's demise

KT News Desk

JAMMU, MARCH 09: A Full Court Reference was held Monday in the Courtroom of the Chief Justice at Jammu Wing of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh to condole the demise of Justice V. K. Jhanji, Former Judge/Acting Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, who passed away on 23rd February, 2026.

The Full Court Reference was convened in accordance with the long-standing conventions and institutional traditions of the High Court.

The Reference was attended by all the Judges of the High Court with the Judges from the Jammu Wing joined the Reference physically, while those present in the Srinagar Wing joined through virtual mode.

The proceedings were also attended by family members of Justice V. K. Jhanji, former Chief Justices and former Judges of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh; Senior Additional Advocate General; Deputy Solicitors General of India at Jammu and Srinagar;



President, Jammu & Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu; Senior Advocates; Principal District and Sessions Judge, Jammu; Judicial Officers and officers of the Registry. Besides, officers and officials and Advocates of the High Court from the Srinagar Wing joined the proceedings through virtual mode.

On the occasion, the Senior Additional Advocate General and the President, Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu, in their condolence addresses, remembered the distinguished judicial career and invaluable contribution of late Justice V.K. Jhanji to the administration of justice. They prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

Chief Justice of the High

Court of J&K and Ladakh, Arun Palli, in his condolence address, recalled the remarkable judicial career of Justice V. K. Jhanji and observed that his profound knowledge of law and commitment to justice has left a lasting impression on the legal fraternity. He recalled the justice jhanji's capacity to decide the complex legal issues.

The Chief Justice, on behalf of all the Judges of the High Court, placed on record collective respect and gratitude for the life and service of Justice Jhanji. The proceedings concluded with observance of a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the departed soul and the Court work was suspended for the rest of the day.

The proceedings were conducted by M.K Sharma, Registrar General.

Shilp Guru & National Award, Pension Scheme

Textiles Ministry invites application from artisans

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, MARCH 09 - The Union Ministry of Textiles has invited applications from registered artisans and craftsmen for National Handicrafts Awards (Shilp Guru & National Award) for the Award Year 2025 and Pension Scheme 2025-26, under its premier National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP) and Handicrafts Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

In a press statement issued here Monday, a spokesman of the Handicrafts and Handloom Department, Kashmir, as per an official statement, stated that the office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, has invited applications from registered artisans for Handicrafts Award 2025 under HSC for Srinagar, Budgam and Ganderbal districts, the last date of which has been fixed for March 31, 2026. "We urge the artisans to apply in online mode along with self-attested copies of documents including 02 recent passport size photographs, Adhaar, Artisan & PAN Cards, Award &

Character Certificate, photograph of Award Entry, history of craft, his Brief Note along with videos and affidavit in a pen-drive," he said, adding that the copies of the notification, along with enclosures, are available on the department's official social media handles.

Similarly for Pension Scheme under the aegis of 'Financial Support Scheme to Artisans in Indigent Circumstances', the spokesman stated that the office of DC (Handicrafts), Government of India, has fixed April 02, 2026 as the last date of submission of forms in online mode from eligible artisans of Srinagar, Budgam and Ganderbal districts. "The documents to be affixed with online form include 02 recent passport size photographs, Adhaar, Artisan and PAN cards, Awards certificate, if any, Income Certificate, Caste and Disability Certificate, Age Certificate and affidavit along with Bank Mandate form," he added.

The artisans have been further advised to submit their online applications complete in all respects at www.indian.handicrafts.gov.in

DC Budgam visits district hospital, inspects blood bank, oxygen plant

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, MARCH 9: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Monday conducted an extensive visit to District Hospital (DH) Budgam to inspect its functioning, assess ongoing infrastructure development projects, and review the progress of critical facilities aimed at improving healthcare services in the district.

During the visit, the DC, as per an official statement, inspected the upgraded Blood Bank, which has been expanded to a second storey. He was apprised that all necessary machinery and equipment for conducting blood tests and storage of blood, including advanced diagnostic tools, have been installed.

The DC emphasised the importance of ensuring that the Blood Bank operates efficiently to meet the critical healthcare needs of the residents.

He also reviewed the functioning of the Oxygen Plant at DH Budgam and interacted with the staff to assess its operational readiness. He directed the concerned authorities to ensure uninterrupted oxygen supply to cater to emergency



requirements and patient care.

During his visit, the DC interacted with hospital staff and enquired about the availability of healthcare services, infrastructure, and maintenance. He also interacted with the patients and attendants. He stressed the need for cleanliness and sanitation in and around the hospital premises and called for maintaining a patient-friendly environment.

Later, the DC visited the under-construction 125-Bedded new District Hospital and 100-Bedded Critical Care Unit at Reshipora Budgam.

During the inspection, the DC reviewed various components of

the under-construction health infrastructure and took stock of the pace and quality of the work.

He was informed that the structural skeleton of the building has been completed and the structural steel truss work is about 95 percent complete. Overall, nearly 65 percent of the project has been physically completed so far. The project is expected to be completed by March 2027, while the target for substantial completion is December 2026.

The DC directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of work while ensuring quality standards and compliance with accessibility norms so that the

facility benefits patients and attendants once completed.

During the visit, the DC stated that the District Administration will conduct weekly monitoring of the construction works to ensure that the new hospital is completed within the stipulated timeframe and dedicated to the public at the earliest.

He also remarked that the new District Hospital is a long-standing requirement of the people of Budgam as the existing hospital lacks adequate space to cater to the growing healthcare needs of the district. He said the new facility will significantly strengthen healthcare infrastructure and improve patient care services in the district.

The DC reiterated that the District Administration remains committed to improving healthcare delivery and directed all concerned departments to ensure the timely completion of the ongoing projects.

Senior officials including the Chief Planning Officer Budgam, Chief Medical Officer Budgam, Executive Engineer R&B Budgam, Tehsildar Budgam and representatives from executing agencies accompanied the DC during the inspection.

RIDF Sector: DC Kulgam reviews NABARD projects

KT News Desk

KULGAM, MARCH 09: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam Monday chaired a workshop cum review meeting of NABARD projects, funded under Rural Infrastructure Infrastructure Fund (RIDF) in the district.

The programme was attended by JDP, Malik Suhail; ACR, Riyaz Ahmad Shah; ACD, Bilal Ahmad Kamgar; ADDM NABARD, District Sectoral Officers and Executive Engineers of R&B, Jal Shakti, IFC, KPDC.

The workshop aimed at sensitizing all the development departments of the district regarding the submission of projects by various departments under various sectors.

Giving a detailed presentation, DDM NABARD, Rouf Zargar outlining the operational guidelines, funding modalities, and strategic priorities of the RIDF scheme.

The presentation highlighted the 39 eligible activities categorized under three broad sectors, Agriculture and related sectors including minor irrigation, watershed development, cold storage, and flood protection,



the Social Sector (covering rural drinking water, public health institutions, and anganwadi centers), and Rural Connectivity (focusing on the construction of rural roads and bridges). Presentation also covered the Information regarding DPR formulation, fund flow process and operational process involved in sanctioning the projects.

The DC was informed that a total of 112 projects with total outlay of Rs 349.63 Crore was sanctioned by NABARD in district since the inception out of which there are currently

22 ongoing projects with total outlay of Rs 106.12 Cr, under different sectors. The DC undertook the detailed component wise review of each project, discussing the physical and financial progress of works.

He laid emphasis on the Executive Engineers to complete the projects under timelines fixed by NABARD. Executing agencies were instructed to speed up the slow moving projects and expedite submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs) and PCRs for completed projects.

India says no to IEA's call to release strategic oil reserves

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 09: India will not join the International Energy Agency (IEA) initiative to release strategic oil reserves as part of an effort to cool oil prices, top government sources said.

India, the world's third-largest oil-importing and consuming nation, has 5.33 million tonnes of underground strategic reserves. But they are only 80 per cent filled currently.

G7 nations are due to discuss the possible release of oil reserves to calm markets that have seen crude prices jump to close to USD 120 per barrel, the highest in four years, on the widening West Asia conflict.

"The crisis (that led to a rise in prices) is not our creation. Those responsible have to deal with it and create situations to ease (prices)," the source said, ruling out releasing Indian reserves.

The reserves that India holds are to be used in situations of disruption in supplies.

"Ours is a India first policy," the source said.

India is not a full member of IEA and does not have an obligation to follow dictates of the international body. India is an associate member of IEA.

IEA executive director Fatih Birol is due to speak to Indian authorities on the issue. In 2021, New Delhi joined efforts led by the US and released 5 million barrels of oil from its strategic petroleum reserves (SPRs).

Sources said India has no plans to restrict its fuel exports as it has 'reasonably' comfortable stocks of petrol, diesel and ATF.

I-T dept detects hidden sales worth Rs 408 crore by restaurants in countrywide operation

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 09: The Income Tax Department has detected under-reporting of sales worth Rs 408 crore after it conducted a nationwide survey of restaurants on charges of tax evasion, the CBDT said on Monday.

After visiting business premises of restaurants on Sunday, the taxman is now sending emails and messages to 63,000 such outlets, "requesting" them to update their income tax returns (ITRs) by March 31, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said in a statement.

The action is part of the NUDGE -- Non-Intrusive Usage of Data to Guide and Enable -- campaign.

"A nationwide survey was conducted on 62 restaurants across 46 cities in 22 states. On a preliminary basis, the exercise revealed suppression of sales amounting to around Rs 408 crore," the CBDT said.

The cities where the survey was undertaken include Delhi, Shimla, Murthal (Harayana), Gurugram, Guwahati, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Siliguri, Godhra, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Kollam, Kochi, Madurai, Coimbatore, Raipur, Bhopal, Indore, Ajmer, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Ludhiana, Koderma, Patna, Cuttack and Puri, among others, according to I-T department officials.

The statement said that a probe into these findings is underway.

The CBDT said the investigation began after the taxman initiated a probe in November 2025 covering the food and beverage sector.

"During the exercise, it was found



that several restaurants were engaged in deletion of bulk bills and other modifications to suppress the actual sales," it said.

Advanced analytics of transactional data from about 1.77 lakh restaurants was carried out through AI tools. This data was compared with the turnover reported by these outlets, leading to the identification of "large-scale" under-reporting of income, the CBDT said.

In some cases, the recorded sales were not fully reflected in financial accounts or tax filings, and certain transactions were excluded from reported sales, it said.

Officials told PTI that the probe began after the department's investigation wing in Hyderabad recently surveyed the premises of a local company that creates restaurant billing software.

It was discovered that certain hotels and restaurants were allegedly manipulating the software to under-report their income, they said.

Untreated sewage, detergents behind recurring toxic froth in Yamuna: Govt tells RS

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 09: Untreated or partially treated sewage containing detergents is a key reason behind the recurring toxic froth in the Yamuna river, the Rajya Sabha was informed on Monday.

Replying to a question, Minister of State for Jal Shakti Raj Bhushan Choudhary said, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) carried out monitoring on river Yamuna at Kalindi Kunj, downstream of Okhla barrage in view of the froth/foam formation in river Yamuna in the year 2022-2024.

"The causal link for the froth formation is due to the sudden fall of water from the barrage agitation of foaming agents present in the wastewater forming foam which floats on the surface of river Yamuna," he said.

"Surfactants in detergents are the main foaming agents present in the untreated sewage or partially treated sewage," the minister said.

He said that the 'Study on Yamuna Frothing in Delhi', conducted by Department of Environment, Government of NCT of Delhi through The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), found that the trigger of the event is mainly the poor water quality of the river, which results from various factors such as effluent containing high ammonia and phosphate, released from anionic surfactants.

The government said the main reasons for pollution in the Yamuna in Delhi include discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage into river Yamuna, absence of



common effluent treatment plants (CETPs) in some approved industrial areas and delay in completion of new projects and rehabilitation and upgrade of sewage treatment projects.

As informed by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPC), the gap in sewage treatment in June 2025 was 645.55 million litres per day (MLD), the minister said.

Under the Namami Gange Programme in the state of Delhi, a total of 11 projects have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs 2,506 crores for the creation of 1,273 million litres per day (MLD) of sewage treatment capacity, he said.

Out of these, nine projects, with

a combined treatment capacity of 1,268 MLD, have been completed, he added.

As per the Delhi Jal Board (DJB), 37 sewage treatment plants (STPs) are operational in Delhi. Out of these, 28 STPs, with a combined treatment capacity of 3,338 MLD, have been upgraded to meet the latest CPCB/DPC standards, while the remaining nine are functioning on old norms and design parameters, the minister added.

Thirteen CETPs have been provided with a capacity of 212.3 MLD, for the treatment of waste water generated from industrial areas to control water pollution from industries in Delhi, the minister noted.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

CM Omar hosts

brought immense pride to Jammu & Kashmir. He wished them continued success and encouraged them to keep striving for excellence and making the region proud on the national stage.

Among those present on the occasion were Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary; Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Ahmad Rana, Javid Ahmed Dar and Satish Sharma; Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo; Commissioner Secretary Youth Services & Sports Shahid Iqbal Choudhary; Director General Youth Services & Sports, JKCA administrators and members, Secretary Sports Panchayat and other senior officials.

Panchayat electoral

for Urban Local Bodies will be available only after the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is completed in J&K.

"The electoral roll of assembly polls is used for municipal polls. No revision of electoral rolls for assembly polls has been undertaken since 2021. So, new electoral roll of Assembly is expected to be available only after the SIR exercise," they added.

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise is expected to begin in April, as the Election Commission of India (ECI) pointed out in a communicate to the Chief Electoral Officers of States and Union Territories.

It is worth to mention here that the term of the first two tiers of the Panchayati Raj system-Panchayats and Block Development Councils-ended on January 9, 2024, while the tenure of the third tier-District Development Councils-concluded on February 24, 2026. The tenure of elected Urban Local Bodies came to an end in October-November 2023. (KNO)

Srinagar Master

on June 17, 2025, another committee was constituted to examine the feasibility of Town Planning Scheme (TPS) areas and to identify any TPS area(s), if necessary, for the removal of preconditions related to issuing building permissions in such areas.

The committee was also tasked with examining directions and orders issued by the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Based on the Court's orders regarding buffer zones of Dal and Nigeen lakes, the committee was asked to propose amendments to the Srinagar Master Plan-2035 and incorporate the directions accordingly.

As per a document, the committee headed by the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir submitted its report to the Administrative Department.

"The Department has examined the recommendations of both committees," the document read.

After examining the recommendations, the Housing & Urban Development Department circulated a cabinet note among all the administrative departments and Heads of Departments of Housing & Urban Development for seeking their comments, views, and concurrence, which are being compiled for submission to the Council of Ministers for consideration and approval.

"Once the proposal seeking amendments to the Srinagar Master Plan-2035 is approved by the Council of Ministers, necessary modifications will be made to the Master Plan and the same will be notified under the relevant provisions of the J&K Development Act, 1970, and the Rules framed thereunder," the document states. (KNO)

Rain, snow likely

The department has issued an advisory warning of temporary traffic disruption over higher reaches and important mountain passes

in parts of Kupwara, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Anantnag and Kishtwar due to snowfall.

Farmers have been advised to suspend farm operations between March 10 and 12.

The MeT department further said that day temperatures are expected to fall by four to six degrees Celsius at many places after March 9 and may remain below normal till March 12.

There is also a possibility of thunder and gusty winds with speeds of 30-40 kmph at a few places between March 9 and 11, it added.

Meanwhile, the minimum temperature in Srinagar was recorded at 3.3 degrees Celsius, while Gulmarg recorded minus 4 degrees Celsius, the MeT department said. (KNO)

India issues critical

cautioned that individuals attempting to leave Iran through land borders without proper coordination may face serious difficulties.

"Indian nationals are hereby advised not to approach any of the land borders of Iran for travel outside the country without prior coordination with the Embassy. Any movement towards land border points should be undertaken only after obtaining explicit guidance from the Embassy," the advisory reads.

Officials further warned that the embassy may not be able to assist individuals who leave Iranian territory but fail to gain entry into a third country.

"It may please be noted that the Embassy will not be in a position to extend assistance once individuals have exited Iranian territory and are unable to enter the third country concerned," the advisory stated.

The development assumes significance as several Indian nationals, including students studying in Iranian universities, have been exploring options to travel through neighbouring countries by land routes. Authorities have urged them to remain in contact with the embassy and follow official instructions to avoid complications.

The embassy reiterated that it remains available to guide and assist Indian nationals through its emergency helplines. Citizens requiring urgent assistance have been asked to contact the following numbers: Mobile: +98 912 810 9115, +98 912 810 9102, +98 912 810 9109, +98 993 217 9359, and email: cons.tehran@mea.gov.in

Officials have advised Indian nationals to stay updated through official communications and avoid taking independent travel decisions, especially involving land border crossings, without consulting the embassy. (KNO)

Indian students

near their accommodation amid escalating tensions.

As per the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), students from Urmia University of Medical Sciences, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran University of Medical Sciences in Qom, Kerman University, Shiraz University and Isfahan University of Medical Sciences have all reported being in contact with the Indian Embassy in Tehran seeking help.

Students at Urmia said they had submitted their details to the embassy for evacuation, but were told that the only route out was through Armenia, and that they would have to bear their own onward travel expenses from there to India.

"Most of us are students and cannot afford such costly arrangements," a Kashmiri student at Urmia University said.

Many students have been accommodated by the embassy in a hotel near the Fatima Masumeh Shrine area in Qom. However, students say that the location has become alarming.

"On the night of March 8, we heard two to

three loud blasts near our hotel. Some buildings within nearly 200 metres of our accommodation were reportedly targeted. We are extremely frightened. Many students were crying and calling their families," a student said.

"We are living in constant fear. Whenever we hear a loud sound, we rush towards basements or safe corners. Our families are extremely worried, and we request the Government of India to evacuate us as soon as possible," another student said.

Students from Kerman, however, said embassy officials had informed them that the area was considered safe and that there was no relocation plan in place.

"Officials told us that the area is safe and there is no relocation plan for now. But we are seeing reports of attacks in nearby places, which have created panic among students," a Kerman student said.

Students at Shiraz and Isfahan universities reported receiving similar responses from authorities despite reports of attacks in surrounding areas. Many have begun shifting to basements and safer corners of their buildings whenever they hear sounds of explosions.

Parents of the affected students in Jammu and Kashmir have urged the Government of India to act immediately.

"Our children are calling us, crying and saying that blasts are happening near their accommodation. We are extremely worried and unable to sleep at night. The government must immediately evacuate them," a parent from Pulwama said.

Another parent alleged the official response had been slow. "It appears that the Indian government is not taking the situation seriously. Our children are stranded in a conflict zone. The government should arrange special flights and bring them back safely," the parent said.

Dr Mohammad Momin Khan, National Representative of the All India Medical Students Association (AIMSA), said distress calls from students across Iran were increasing rapidly.

"We are receiving nearly 500 distress calls daily from students across Iran. Many of them are frightened and requesting immediate evacuation. We are in constant contact with them and are also conveying their concerns to the concerned authorities," Dr Khan said. He urged the Government of India to take urgent steps for safe evacuation. (KNO)

'Centre provided

Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale, projects have been sanctioned across the country in the financial year 2024-25 with the aim of comprehensive development, branding and global promotion of iconic tourist destinations.

According to the details placed before the House, several tourism projects have been sanctioned earlier for Jammu and Kashmir under the Swadesh Darshan Himalayan Circuit (2016-17).

These include development of the Jammu-Srinagar-Pahalgam-Bhagwati Nagar-Anantnag-Salamabad-Uri-Kargil-Leh circuit with an allocation of 77.33 crore.

Similarly, development of tourist facilities at Jammu-Rajouri-Shopian-Pulwama was sanctioned at a cost of 81.60 crore, while another project for construction of tourism assets destroyed in the 2014 floods under the PM Development Package was approved with an allocation of 90.43 crore.

The Centre also sanctioned 91.99 crore for development of tourist facilities at Mantalai and Sudhmahadev and 86.39 crore for tourism infrastructure across Anantnag-Pulwama-Kishtwar-Pahalgam-Zanskar-Padum-Daksum-Ranjit Sagor Dam.

Another project for development of tourist facilities in

Gulmarg-Baramulla-Kupwara-Kargil-Leh was sanctioned at a cost of 91.84 crore.

For Ladakh, the government sanctioned projects including development of Juley Leh Biodiversity Park experience in Leh with a cost of 23.17 crore and Exploring LOC and Hundarman Village Experience in Kargil with an allocation of 11.91 crore.

The Minister said the detailed list of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan, Swadesh Darshan 2.0, CBDD, SASCI and PRASHAD schemes, including those in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, has been annexed with the reply. (KNO)

Census 2027 to

satisfaction over the level of preparedness and the comprehensive sensitisation carried out for officers at different levels of the administration in Jammu and Kashmir. He observed that the discussions and briefings held during the session had instilled confidence that the census operations in both phases would be completed diligently and within the prescribed timelines.

Highlighting the significance of the census exercise, he said that census data plays a pivotal role in determining the share of states and Union Territories in various Finance Commission allocations and government development programmes. He noted that the census serves as the foundational dataset guiding policy planning and development initiatives for the next decade.

He urged officers and field functionaries to exercise utmost diligence while collecting information, stressing that the quality and reliability of census data are critical for ensuring evidence-based planning and objective policy outcomes. He also emphasised the importance of rigorous training for field staff engaged in the exercise, noting that a clear understanding of procedures and digital tools would ensure smooth and efficient operations on the ground.

During the session, Director Census Operations for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Amit Sharma delivered a detailed presentation outlining the strategy, methodology, administrative arrangements and digital systems planned for conducting the census operations in the Union Territory.

He informed that the Census of India 2027 will be conducted in two phases across the country. The first phase will comprise the House Listing Operations (HLO), followed by the second phase of Population Enumeration.

To effectively manage the massive scale of the enumeration process, he apprised that a structured hierarchy of trainers had been envisaged by the Department. This includes a core team of National Trainers and Master Trainers who will subsequently train 614 Field Trainers. These trainers will further impart training to approximately 30,871 Enumerators and Supervisors at the Charge level across the Union Territory.

The field functionaries are scheduled to undergo specialised three-day training programmes between May 7 and May 25, 2026, equipping them with the required skills and operational knowledge before the commencement of fieldwork.

As per the operational plan, Phase-I (Houselisting and Housing Census) will begin with a 15-day self-enumeration window from May 17 to May 31, 2026, allowing citizens to submit their details digitally. This will be followed by 30 days of house-to-house enumeration throughout June 2026. The phase will focus on documenting housing conditions, household amenities and related infrastructure, which will form the statistical framework for the subsequent population enumeration phase.

Considering the unique geographic and climatic conditions of Jammu and Kashmir,

Phase-II (Population Enumeration) will commence in September 2026 for snow-bound areas and in February 2027 for non-snowbound regions. This phase will collect detailed data on demographic, socio-economic and cultural characteristics of the population.

Recognising the crucial role of grassroots personnel in the census exercise, the Government has sanctioned an honorarium of 25,000 each for Enumerators and Supervisors, including 9,000 for the Houselisting phase and 16,000 for the Population Enumeration phase.

The Director further informed that the Census Reference Date has been fixed as March 1, 2027 for most areas, while October 1, 2026 will serve as the reference date for snow-bound regions.

The upcoming census will capture comprehensive information related to housing conditions, household amenities, assets, demographic characteristics, language, literacy, education, economic activity, migration patterns and other socio-economic indicators. Such data forms the backbone for policy formulation, planning and development programmes at the national, state and local levels.

A major highlight of the upcoming census will be digital data collection through a dedicated mobile application specifically developed for census operations. The application will be available on both Android and iOS platforms and will support multiple regional languages, including Hindi, English and Urdu in Jammu and Kashmir.

The application will also function in offline mode, enabling enumerators to collect data in areas with limited or no internet connectivity, while internet access will only be required for device registration and uploading of the collected data.

It was also highlighted that census data serves as the primary basis for delimitation and reservation of constituencies for Parliament, Legislative Assemblies, Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies, besides being extensively used by government agencies, researchers and development institutions.

Providing details of the administrative framework for census operations in the Union Territory, the Director Census Operations informed that the exercise will cover 20 districts, 207 tehsils, 6,242 villages and 78 towns, in addition to two Municipal Corporations.

He added that only enumerators registered on the Census Management and Monitoring System (CMMS) will be authorised to collect and upload data. The information will subsequently be verified by supervisors through the system to ensure accuracy, transparency and authenticity of the data collected during the enumeration process.

Preparations reviewed

with the senior officials and staff of the Directorate office and enquired about their roles and functions. He emphasized the significance of conducting the process of Census with utmost focus, vigilance and diligence with meticulous planning and robust mechanisms in place. He also highlighted the importance of training of field officials who will visit each district during the Census 2027.

Discussion was held on the workshops for awareness and publicity of Census for connecting the general masses with the national exercise that becomes the basis of several development and social planning at the National level. Earlier, the Registrar General and Census Commissioner inaugurated Census e-library, medical room and canteen facility for the welfare of Census employees.

Several officers and officials of the Directorate of Census Operations Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh, staff were present during the visit.

Taranjit Singh Sandhu to take oath as Delhi's 23rd LG tomorrow: Officials

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 09: Delhi's Lieutenant Governor designate Taranjit Singh Sandhu is scheduled to take oath of the office in a ceremony at Lok Niwas on March 11, officials said on Monday.

Sandhu, an experienced former diplomat will be administered oath as the national capital's 23rd LG by the Delhi High Court chief justice.

The ceremony scheduled to be held at 1.30 pm on Wednesday, they said.

His predecessor Vinai Kumar Saxena has been appointed as the Lt Governor of Ladakh.

Preparations were underway for the oath ceremony at Lok Niwas (formerly Raj Niwas). Saxena is scheduled to take oath as Ladakh LG on Friday, officials said, adding that he was in the process of moving out. Earlier in the day, the new LG visited Lok Niwas and met Saxena, they said.

Sandhu, a 1988-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, was one of the most experienced Indian diplomats on United States affairs. He served in the Indian Mission in Washington DC multiple times.

He was India's ambassador to the United States from February 2020 to January 2024. Previously, he served as the deputy chief of mission at the embassy in Washington from July 2013 to January 2017 and as the first secretary (political) from 1997 to 2000, with the responsibility to liaise with the US Congress. The 63-year-old former diplomat had also been at the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations from July 2005 to February 2009.

He unsuccessfully contested Lok Sabha polls in 2024 on the BJP ticket from Amritsar constituency in Punjab.

PM Modi speaks to Nepal leaders Rabi Lamichhane, Balendra Shah



PTI

New Delhi, Mar 09: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday spoke to leaders of the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) of Nepal Rabi Lamichhane and Balendra Shah and congratulated them for their election victory and conveyed India's commitment to work with them for mutual prosperity, progress and well-being of the two countries.

In his telephonic conversations with the two leaders of Nepal, PM Modi said he was confident that with the joint endeavours, India-Nepal relations will scale new heights in the coming years.

"Had warm telephone conversations with Mr. Rabi Lamichhane, Chairman of the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) and Mr. Balendra Shah, Senior

Leader of the RSP," he said in a post on 'X'.

The prime minister said he congratulated both leaders on their electoral victories and RSP's resounding success in the Nepal elections.

"Conveyed my best wishes for their forthcoming new Government and India's commitment to work with them for mutual prosperity, progress and well-being of our two countries," he said.

The House of Representatives (HoR) in Nepal has a total of 275 seats. While 165 members are elected through the First Past The Post (FPTT) or direct voting system, 110 members are elected through proportional representation.

In the general elections, so far, the results for Nepal's 161 of the 165 seats have been declared

under direct voting. The outcome on the remaining four seats is expected to be declared soon.

Under proportionate voting, the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) has secured 4049,604 votes, followed by the NC at 13,60,281, the CPN-UML 1150,679, the NCP 591,940, the Shram Sanskriti Party 291,965, the Janata Samajwadi Party 1,16,463 and the Rastriya Parivartan Party 276,931.

With more than 40 lakh votes under the proportional representation system, the RSP is expected to secure at least 40 additional seats, taking its tally to around 164 seats in the 275-member House of Representatives, which is well above the 138 needed for a simple majority, political observers said.

Hundreds affected by water contamination in three states: Govt

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 09: Incidents of drinking water contamination have been reported from Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh, with hundreds of people falling ill, the Rajya Sabha was told on Monday.

In a written reply to a question, Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu said in Uttar Pradesh, complaints of contaminated water were received from Sector Delta-1 and Sector Alpha-2 in Greater Noida, where leakages in water connections were detected and rectified.

In Haryana's Gurugram, an incident was reported in a private colony in Sector 70-70A in December last year, he said, adding that an enquiry later found the water storage tanks

of individual house owners were unclean. The tanks were cleaned and the issue was resolved.

According to the Madhya Pradesh government, incidents of vomiting and diarrhoea were reported on December 28 last year in the Bhagirathpura area in Indore, Sahu said.

He said 22 deaths were reported due to acute diarrhoeal disease in the locality, while a total of 459 people were hospitalised.

In Andhra Pradesh, cases of gastroenteritis and diarrhoea were reported in early 2026 in certain localities of the Srikakulam Municipal Corporation. The outbreak remained confined to a few wards and authorities took immediate remedial measures in coordination with the district administration and the health department.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR (UT) OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SERICULTURE OFFICER SERICULTURE DEV. DEPARTMENT SHEHIKPORA BUDGAM NEAR MIRGANT COLONY

No.DSO/Bud/Estt/2025-26/275-280

Dated: 09-03-2026

AUCTION NOTICE

Sericulture Development Department has to put on auction sixty two (62) numbers of Green Standing Mulberry Trees weighing approximately 315 to 359 Qtls from Mouchu Bridge to Rawalpura Bridge . The auction will be conducted on 16-03-2026 at 12.00 Noon. The initial bid will start from Rs. 168500/=. The participants in the bid shall have to deposit Rs. 169001= as security deposit in the form of cash. The successful bidder has to pay the whole amount immediately after the conclusion of bid and has to remove/lift the mulberry wood within three days from the date of auction.

DIPK-11682/25
Dated: 09-03-2026

District Sericulture Officer Budgam

SC asks HCs to fix timelines for trial courts for concluding hearing in acid attack cases

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 09: The Supreme Court on Monday asked all the high courts to fix timelines for trial courts to ensure expeditious conclusion of acid attack cases in the country.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalaya Bagchi took note of the status reports filed by several high courts on pendency and the present status of acid attack cases, and said a more proactive approach was needed.

The CJ asked the high courts to entrust the task of monitoring the trials in acid attack cases to the high court judges who are the administrative in-charge of the trial courts.

The top court granted last opportunity to all the states to follow its



adequate compensation to the victims of acid attacks.

The bench also asked Shaheen Malik about the status of her personal acid attack case.

She said the accused was acquitted by the Rohini trial court and an appeal against the acquittal was filed in the Delhi High Court.

Malik urged the CJ to ask senior advocate Siddharth Luthra to fight her legal battle in the high court.

"At the outset, we request senior advocate Siddharth Luthra to represent the appellant in the Delhi High Court as pro bono free legal aid counsel," the bench ordered.

The senior advocate agreed and offered his services and assured the CJ that he will represent her in the high court.

directions issued from time to time on a PIL filed by Haryana-based Shaheen Malik, who herself is an acid attack survivor.

The CJ asked the states to urgently deal with the aspect of payment of

MOVIES WATCHLIST

Tuesday, 10th March

THE BRIDE
ENGLISH ATMOS WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
11:45 AM

O'ROMEO (A)
HINDI - 02:30 PM, 06:00 PM

CALL 95416 13868 FOR ASSISTANCE WITH TICKETS

TICKETS AT: www.bookmyshow.com | www.inoxmovies.com
Paytm, Innox App, or directly from the booking counter at the cinema.

GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION, KHOJA BAGH, BARAMULLA.

Email ID: amitabhman.721013@jk.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. MIDB/32 OF 2025-26 Dated: 09/03/2026
Tender ID No. 2026_IFC_305693_1

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of J&K UT, Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Baramulla, invites tenders on item rate basis by e-tendering mode for the following items of work from the reputed manufacturers /contractors/fabricators/firms having relevant experience. The bidding process shall be completed online in two covers viz Cover '1st' -Tender fee and Earnest Money details. Deposit, fulfillment of prequalification criteria, technical specifications and acceptance to terms and conditions of the tender. Cover '2nd' - Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No.	Particulars of the work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (In Rs. Lacs)	Cost of document/ tender fee (In Rs.)	Earnest money (In Rs.)	Validity of Rates
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 100HP FASD starter modular type along with cable for connecting motor with starter at LIS Vighal 1 st .	MID Baramulla	Rs. 1.978	Rs. 200.00	3956/-	90 days
2	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 100HP FASD starter modular type along with cable for connecting motor with starter at LIS Achabal 1 st .		Rs. 2.097	Rs. 200.00	4194/-	
3	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 75 HP FASD starter modular type along with cable for connecting motor with starter at LIS Cheki Harwan of MISD Pattan.		Rs. 1.349	Rs. 200.00	2698/-	
4	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 75 HP FASD starter modular type along with cable for connecting motor with starter at LI/DWS Gadkach of MISD Pattan.		Rs. 1.349	Rs. 200.00	2698/-	

Position of funds: Awaited
Head of Account: District Capex Budget 4702.
AAA: Order No: 589-DDC of 2026 Dated: 28-02-2026
TS: Accorded
Key/critical Dates:

Date of Hosting in Website/ Publish date		09/03/2026 (1600Hrs)	
Document download/sale start date		09/03/2026 (1600 Hrs.)	
Bid submission start date	09/03/2026 (1600Hrs)	Bid submission end date	30/03/2026 (1600 Hrs)
Bid opening date		31 /03/2026 (1400 Hrs.)	

1. Bid documents can be assessed at and downloaded from the websites www.ifckashmir.com / <http://jktenders.gov.in>
2. The Bids shall be deposited on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>
3. The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
4. The bids received shall be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Baramulla on the date given above; the bids shall be evaluated online thereafter.
5. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 5 & 6 of the table above payable at Baramulla.
 - a. Bid Security to be pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Baramulla Bid Security will have to be in form of CDR/FDR of any scheduled Bank and shall have to be valid for one year or more after last date of receipt of Bid.
 - b. The cost of downloaded tender documents should be in form of DD/Treasury challan (MH 2702)/GR in favor of Executive Engineer MID Baramulla payable at Baramulla.
6. The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of DD, Earnest money in shape of CDR / FDR must be delivered to the office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Baramulla as and when demanded.
7. The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.
8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
9. Queries by email if any should be made at amitabhman.721013@jk.gov.in

No: MIDB/4021-26
Date: 09/03/2026

DIPK-11724/25 Dated: 09-03-2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Mech. Irr. Division Baramulla

US begins large military drill with South Korea while waging war in Middle East

AP

Seoul, Mar 09: The United States began a large military exercise with South Korea involving thousands of troops Monday while also waging an escalating war in the Middle East.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff has said about 18,000 Korean troops will take part in Freedom Shield, which runs through March 19. US Forces Korea hasn't confirmed the number of American troops participating in the training in South Korea. The allies' combined exercise comes amid South Korean media speculation that Washington is relocating some assets from South Korea to support fighting against Iran.

US Forces Korea said last week it would not comment on specific movements of military assets for security reasons. South Korean officials also declined to comment on the reports that some US Patriot anti-missile systems and other equipment were being moved to the Middle East, but they said there would be no meaningful impact on the allies' combined defense posture. Freedom Shield may trigger an irritated response from North Korea, which has long described the allies' joint exercises as invasion rehearsals and used them as a pretext to ramp up its own military demonstrations and weapons tests. The allies say the drills are defensive in nature.

North Korea has suspended all meaningful dialogue with Washington and Seoul following the 2019 collapse of a summit between leader Kim Jong Un and US President Donald Trump during his first term. Tensions rose in recent years as Kim



used Russia's invasion of Ukraine as a window to accelerate the development of his nuclear arsenal and increase his leverage by aligning militarily with Moscow, which has received thousands of North Korean troops and large weapons shipments to help fuel its warfighting.

The allies' drills follow a major political conference in Pyongyang last month, where Kim confirmed his hard-line view of "enemy" Seoul but left the door open to talks with Washington, calling on the United States to drop its demand for North Korea's denuclearization as a precondition for dialogue. Freedom Shield is one of two annual "command post" exercises conducted by the allies; the other is Ulchi Freedom Shield, held in August. The drills are largely computer-simulated and designed to test the allies' joint operational capabilities while

incorporating evolving war scenarios and security challenges. As usual, the March drill will be accompanied by a field training program, called Warrior Shield, but the number of field exercises during the Freedom Shield period has declined to 22 compared to last year's 51.

While US and South Korean militaries say field exercises are often spread out throughout the year, there's speculation that the allies are seeking to tone down the spring drills to create conditions for dialogue with North Korea. Liberal South Korean President Lee Jae Myung has expressed a desire for diplomacy, and some of his top officials have voiced hope that Trump's expected visit to China in late March or April could possibly create an opening with Pyongyang.

China says opposes any targeting of new Iran leader

AFP

Beijing, Mar 09: China said Monday that Iran's decision to name Mojtaba Khamenei as its new supreme leader following the killing of his father was a domestic matter, and it opposed any attempt to target him.

Israel's military has threatened to target any successor to former supreme leader Ali Khamenei, who was killed over a week ago in a first wave of US and Israeli strikes on Iran.

China's foreign ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun told reporters on Monday that Iran's decision to appoint the younger Khamenei was "based on its constitution."

"China opposes interference in other countries' internal affairs under any pretext, and Iran's sovereignty, security, and territorial integrity should be respected," he said when asked about the threats against the new leader.

Israel and the United States have continued in recent days to pound Iran, which has retaliated by launching waves of missile and drone attacks on Israel and Gulf neighbors hosting US forces.



Putin offers 'unwavering support' to new Iran supreme leader

AFP

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday pledged "unwavering support" to Iran's new supreme leader, Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei, appointed after his father and predecessor was

killed in US-Israeli strikes.

"I would like to reaffirm our unwavering support for Tehran and solidarity with our Iranian friends," Putin said in a message to Khamenei, adding that "Russia has been and will remain a reliable partner" to Iran.



Former Pak players hail India's process driven structure for World Cup success

PTI

Karachi, Mar 09: India's historic second successive World T20 Cup title has earned appreciation and grudging praise from former Pakistan stalwarts, players and critics.

Former Test captain and batting great Javed Miandad said any team that could get 250-plus totals in the semi-final and final deserved to be champions.

India posted a mammoth 255 for five in the final against New Zealand and won by handsome 96-run margin on Sunday night in Ahmedabad.

"Their team (India) is now reaping the benefits of a strong process-driven cricket structure," Miandad said.

"If you look at the talent they are producing now, it is because of their strong structure. They are not short on batters, spinners or fast bowlers and their young players are result-driven and have game awareness," he added.

The former great noted that when there is a winning culture and mentality established in a team's dressing room, it always leads to title wins which is why India also won the Champions Trophy last year.

"We had this environment in our dressing room once and we won frequently," he said.

Former captain Rashid Latif said India's triumph didn't come as a surprise because their players had now become accustomed



to performing under pressure.

"When you regularly reach finals of big events players also get accustomed to winning," he said.

He also said that continuity and stability in the Indian cricket team was also an essential reason for their success unlike Pakistan where frequent changes and impatience has caused a host of problems.

Cricket host, analyst and writer, Dr Nauman Niaz said that India's dominant show in the final was an eye opener as to how well their players executed their roles and how well they had adapted to the changes in modern day T20 cricket. "Their success is based around a perfect blend of young brave players and seniors coming through when most required like Jasprit Bumrah, Axar Patel and Hardik Pandya did in the final," Niaz said.

Former Test pacer Sikander Bakht said until the prevailing culture of likes, dislikes and making incorrect selection and captaincy calls doesn't end, the Pakistan team

would continue to struggle against big teams in big events.

"We must stop finding excuses for our failures and take the right decisions."

Former Test batsman and chief selector Muhammad Wasim, who was until last year the head coach of the Pakistan women's team, said until everyone in Pakistan accepted India's superiority as a team nothing will change.

"We generally try to find faults and float conspiracy theories whenever we lose to India or they do well in big events. We need to stop that and accept their team is a top side and we must try to improve ourselves by learning from our mistakes," Wasim said.

Former head coach Mohsin Khan said that because the Indian cricket board was paying so much attention to red ball and Test cricket, they are producing players who come through the grind.

"Plus, I don't see any insecurity among the Indian players. Maybe because financially their Board looks after them very well," Khan said.

Sanju Samson says he approached T20 World Cup with new game plan after failures

PTI

Thiruvananthapuram, Mar 09: Star batsman Sanju Samson, who helped India lift the T20 World Cup, on Monday said he approached the tournament with a different game plan that helped him regain form. He was speaking to reporters after returning to Thiruvananthapuram following India's World Cup triumph.

Samson, who won the 'Man of the Tournament' award for his performance in cricket T20 World Cup, received a grand welcome at the airport, where he was greeted by Kerala Education Minister V Sivankutty upon arrival in the evening. Hundreds of cricket fans gathered

outside the airport, raising slogans in support of the Kerala cricketer.

Speaking about the change in his batting approach, Samson said with a smile that earlier he had tried to attack every ball and often got out.

"I tried to hit every ball, but it did not work. Then I had to learn from those failures. In the five-match series, I tried to increase my strike rate, but it didn't work. Then I prepared with a different game plan for the World Cup," he said.

Asked about his post-match revelation that he had spoken to Sachin Tendulkar to revive his form, Samson said it was a feeling he could not describe.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

رمضان المبارك

1447 H / 2026 CE

وقت افطار	اعتتام سحری	رمضان المبارک	تاریخ
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06:45 PM	05:12 AM	30	20

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06:33 PM	05:33 AM	15	05

DUA FOR SEHRI

وَيَصُومُ عِدَّ تَوَيْتٍ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ
I intend to keep the fast for tomorrow in the month of Ramadan

DUA FOR IFTAR

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