



Maharaja Ranbir Singh bestowed J&K with new vision: LG Sinha

Says nation indebted to him for reforms, building vibrant culture, forging robust & thriving region

KNO Desk

Jammu, Mar 16: Asserting that Maharaja Ranbir Singh did not merely rule Jammu and Kashmir but he bestowed it a new vision, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that nation is indebted to him for his reforms.

Addressing the unveiling ceremony of the bust of Maharaja Ranbir Singh at the Central Sanskrit University, Jammu Kot Bhalwal and renaming of the University's Jammu Campus as 'Shri Maharaja Ranbir Singh Campus,' LG Sinha, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "The nation owes Shri Maharaja Ranbir Singh Ji a profound debt for his reforms, building vibrant culture and forging a robust and thriving Jammu Kashmir."

"He (Maharaja Ranbir Singh) saw Jammu Kashmir as a living entity—not mere land, but a vibrant structure where culture breathed life and reforms channeled energy. For him, its soul resided not just in mountains and rivers, but in intellectual and spiritual values," the



Lieutenant Governor said.

LG Sinha said that Maharaja Ranbir Singh did not merely rule Jammu Kashmir but he bestowed it a new vision, restructuring it, illuminated it with knowledge, adorned it with cultural abundance, and left a legacy for generations which is rich on material, intellectual, and spiritual planes.

"Renaming of Central Sanskrit University's Jammu Campus proves that the consciousness Shri Maharaja Ranbir Singh Ji ignited continues, 150 years on, to

guide Jammu and Kashmir's society," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He observed that the youth must lead the path of principles, building a safer and prosperous Jammu Kashmir.

"Our Youth now bear the duty to embrace his expansive, humane values and contribute to nation-building. As today's Jammu Kashmir embodies Shri Maharaja Ranbir Singh Ji's foresight, this campus must reflect his ideals," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He emphasised on building a society technologically potent yet humanely sensitive.

LG Sinha called upon the youth to enrich not just India but global intellectual and moral consciousness.

"India, driven by human welfare, remains committed to world peace and shared prosperity. The time has come for India to reclaim its place, guiding a challenge-ridden world. We must steadfastly prepare our youth to forge a formidable India—one that shall knit

nations in unbreakable unity, kindling in them the noble pursuit of universal peace and human welfare," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He said that ancient India's journey was never one-sided: one hand held science, the other culture.

"We emphasized personalities blending Brahmagupta's intellect and Buddha's wisdom. This campus must nurture such souls," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also assured financial assistance for establishment of Gurukul, Sanskrit Pathshala, or Ved Pathshala in the region.

Dr Karan Singh, former Union Minister; Padma Shri Prof. Vishwamurti Shastri; Prof. Shrinivasa Varakhedhi, Vice Chancellor, Central Sanskrit University, Jammu; Dr Kamal Kishor Mishra, Department of Sanskrit University of Calcutta; Prof. R.G. Murali Krishna, Registrar, Central Sanskrit University, Jammu; Prof. Satish Kumar Kapoor, Director, HoDs and faculty of the university, senior officials, prominent citizens and students in large number were present. (KNO)

Remain vigilant against hoarding, black-marketing: CM to officers

Asks administration to keep public regularly informed | Reviews stock position of LPG, petrol, essential commodities

**RK News Service**

Srinagar, Mar 16: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday directed the officers to remain vigilant and proactive to ensure that no artificial scarcity, hoarding or black marketing is allowed to take place in any district.

The CM chaired a high-level meeting to review the stock position of essential commodities and petroleum products in Jammu and Kashmir in view of the upcoming festivals of Eid and Navratras and the prevailing geopolitical situation in West Asia. The meeting was attended by Ministers Sakina Itoo and Satish Sharma, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Principal Secretary Home, Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer

Affairs, Commissioner Secretary Information, heads of departments, Deputy Commissioners of all districts, Director Information, Executive Director Indian oil Corporation Ltd Ashutosh Gupta, representatives of oil companies, and other concerned officers. The outstation officers attended the meeting through online mode.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister reviewed the availability and supply position of petroleum products, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and other essential commodities across Jammu & Kashmir.

Addressing the officers, the Chief Minister said, "I think the administration as a whole is well aware of the situation and also on top of things. I would just like to reiterate that while the Food and Supplies Department does its work, this must be | [More on P6](#)

21-day fuel stock in J&K, kerosene supply temporarily resumed: Minister Sharma

Warns of licence cancellation for hoarders, urges people to avoid panic buying

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Mar 16: Jammu and Kashmir has sufficient stocks of fuel and essential commodities to last around 21 days, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Satish Sharma said on Monday. He added that kerosene distribution, which was suspended after J&K was declared kerosene-free, had been temporarily resumed, with around 2.5 litres to be provided per family amid the ongoing geopolitical crisis.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the Tulip Show inauguration by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in Srinagar, Sharma said the administration is closely monitoring the supply chain and will take strict action against those indulging in black-marketing.

"We have sufficient stock for around 21 days. Some people have been found involved in black-marketing, and whoever is found guilty, whether it is a petrol pump or a gas agency, their licence will be cancelled," the minister said, as reported by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).



Sharma said that although Jammu and Kashmir had earlier become a kerosene-free region, the government has decided to reintroduce kerosene distribution as a temporary relief measure during the current situation. "We were a kerosene-free state, but we have started kerosene distribution again. This will provide significant support to people," he said.

The minister said the government's priority is to ensure the uninterrupted availability of essential commodities and prevent inconvenience to the public. "We are servants of the people. Anyone involved in adulteration, | [More on P6](#)

Shab-e-Qadr observed with fervour

Hazratbal witnesses largest congregation | Devotees spend night in prayers | Shrines, mosques reverberate with supplications

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Mar 16: Shab-e-Qadr (Lailatul Qadr), one of the holiest nights in Islam, was observed with religious fervour across Jammu and Kashmir on Monday.

According to details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), devotees spent the night in prayers, remembrance of Allah and recitation of the Holy Quran at masjids and shrines across the region.

The revered Hazratbal shrine in Srinagar witnessed the largest congregation of worshippers, as devotees from different parts of the Valley gathered there to observe the sacred night.

Shab-e-Qadr, also known as the "Night of Power," falls during the last ten days of the holy month of Ramadan and holds immense spiritual significance



for Muslims.

The Holy Quran describes the night as "better than a thousand months," making worship and prayers on this night highly rewarding.

Besides Hazratbal, large congregations were held at Makhdoom Sahib shrine,

Khanqah-e-Moula, Asar-e-Sharif Soura and other prominent religious places, where special night-long prayers and religious gatherings were held. Religious scholars urged people to utilize the blessed night in prayers, repentance and charity, | [More on P6](#)

LG, CM greet people on Shab-e-Qadr

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Mar 16: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah have extended heartfelt greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, on the sacred occasion of

Shab-e-Qadr (Lailat-ul-Qadr). In a message, the Lieutenant Governor said: "On the auspicious occasion of Shab-e-Qadr, I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all. This holy night epitomizes the virtues of selfless service, compassion, and | [More on P6](#)

CM Omar throws open Asia's largest tulip garden

'Hope spring brings revival for tourism sector' | Nearly 18 lakh blooms of 70+ varieties on display

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Mar 16: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday inaugurated the Tulip Festival-2026 and formally threw open the iconic Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden at foothills of Zabarwan mountain range here.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) the garden has been adorned with around 18 lakh tulips representing more than 70 vibrant varieties, creating a breathtaking floral display expected to attract thousands of tourists



and locals during the blooming period.

In addition to tulips nearly one lakh other bulbous flowers

including daffodils, hyacinths, muscari and ranunculus have been planted across the terraced landscape to enhance the garden's beauty and diversity.

The formal opening of the Asia's largest Tulip Garden, overlooking the beautiful Dal Lake, for visitors marked the arrival of spring in Kashmir and the beginning of the tourism season.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Omar expressed hope that the onset of spring would usher in renewed optimism and growth for Jammu and Kashmir, particularly for the tourism | [More on P6](#)

Tourists spellbound by blooming colours at Tulip Garden

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Tourists thronged the Tulip Garden here on Monday as it opened for visitors, with many left mesmerised by the vibrant display of colours spread across the sprawling garden.

The garden, known as the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden, is showcasing more than 1.8 million tulips from over 70-75 varieties this year, creating a spectacular floral landscape that drew large crowds on the opening day. Tourists from different parts of the

country were seen strolling through the terraced garden, clicking photographs and admiring the colourful blooms. Many described the experience as "breathtaking" and said the vast stretch of flowers made the visit memorable. "It is absolutely | [More on P6](#)

Snowfall continues in upper reaches

Plains get rain, several roads shut

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Mar 16: Several upper reaches of Kashmir received fresh snowfall, while plains witnessed rainfall for the second consecutive day on Monday, leading to slippery road conditions and temporary suspension of traffic on some key routes, officials said.

According to the details available with the news agency Kashmir News Observer (KNO) fresh snowfall was reported from multiple high-altitude areas across North and Central Kashmir, including Gurez Valley and other upper reaches of Bandipora district, Gulmarg in Baramulla, Kupwara, Handwara, and Pahalgam in South Kashmir, officials said.

Snowfall was also recorded at mountain passes and tourist destinations, affecting road connectivity and movement in



several areas.

The plains of the Valley, including Srinagar city, experienced intermittent rainfall during the day, bringing down temperatures and adding to the chill in the region.

Officials said snowfall in the upper reaches of Bandipora, Gurez, Kupwara, Handwara, Baramulla and Pahalgam led to slippery conditions on several roads, while higher passes witnessed fresh accumulation of snow.

Due to the fresh snowfall and slippery road conditions,

authorities suspended vehicular movement on some key routes, including the Bandipora-Gurez road and the Mughal Road, which connects Kashmir with the Pir Panjal region.

Traffic on the Srinagar-Kargil highway was also affected after snowfall at the Zojila Pass made the road unsafe for travel, officials said.

They said road clearance operations are being carried out by the Border Roads Organisation and other agencies wherever required.

Meanwhile, | [More on P6](#)

Javid Dar calls for research-based practices to boost horticulture sector



KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, MARCH 16: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Co-operative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, Monday visited the Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Horticulture at Zawaora to review its functioning and assess the technological interventions being adopted to enhance the horticultural crop productivity in the Kashmir Valley.

The Minister, as per an official statement, took stock of the facilities available at the centre and enquired about the modern technologies and innovative practices being implemented to improve the crop yield and quality. He emphasized the importance of adopting advanced horticultural techniques

and strengthening research-based practices to support the farmers and boost the horticulture sector.

Highlighting the significance of traditional horticultural crops of the Valley, Javid Ahmad Dar stressed that special attention must be given to preserving and promoting indigenous varieties of walnuts and almonds. He noted that these crops possess strong potential in the face of changing climatic conditions and can play a vital role in strengthening the region's horticultural economy.

The Minister also directed the department to ensure wider dissemination of high-quality planting material and modern horticultural practices among the farmers so that they can benefit from improved productivity and better market opportunities.

Director Horticulture Kashmir,

Vikas Anand, briefed the Minister about the initiatives undertaken by the department to promote fruit cultivation and strengthen horticulture infrastructure in the region. He informed that the Centre of Excellence at Zawaora is providing high-quality varieties of walnuts, almonds and other fruit plants to the growers, aimed at enhancing the productivity and maintaining superior quality standards.

The Minister appreciated the efforts of the department and reiterated the government's commitment towards supporting the farmers and expanding the horticulture sector through innovation, research and improved planting material.

MLA Lal Chowk Sheikh Ahsan Ahmed and MLA Chanapora Mush-taq Guroo accompanied the Minister during the visit.

CS reviews youth sports initiatives, stresses wider participation across J&K

Over 35 lakh youth already engaged in sports activities this year

KT NEWS DESK

JAMMU, MARCH 16: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Monday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the performance of the Youth Services & Sports Department and the Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council, with a special focus on expanding youth engagement in sports and creative activities across all districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting, as per an official statement, was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services & Sports; Director General, Youth Services & Sports; Secretary, Sports Council and other senior officers of the Department.

The Chief Secretary took a detailed review of the initiatives undertaken by the department and the Sports Council to strengthen the sports ecosystem across the UT through grassroots competitions, talent identification programmes, national-level sporting events and digital youth engagement platforms.

The Chief Secretary maintained that sports and creative arts play a crucial role in shaping the character of young people by instilling discipline, teamwork, perseverance and a sense of responsibility. He observed that active participation in sports as well as creative pursuits such as art, music and cultural activities helps channel the energy of youth in a constructive direction while nurturing confidence and leadership qualities, competitive spirit in them.

He noted that in the present context, when drug abuse has emerged as a serious concern affecting sections of youth in Jammu and Kashmir, promoting sports and creative engagement becomes even more important. He said that such platforms provide a positive environment and meaningful opportunities that keep young people productively engaged and away from harmful influences. He stressed that sustained investment in sports and creative initiatives at the grassroots level can equip youth with valuable life lessons, strengthen their resilience and guide them towards a disciplined, healthy and prosperous future.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner Secretary Youth Services & Sports, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary presented a detailed overview of the department's initiatives aimed at expanding youth participation in sporting activities while simultaneously strengthening sports infrastructure across districts so that



young talent can access quality training facilities closer to their homes.

He stated that the department remains committed to providing year-round opportunities for youth to participate in sporting as well as creative activities. Efforts are also underway to bring national and international sporting events to Jammu and Kashmir, which not only help nurture local talent but also generate enthusiasm among sports lovers by providing opportunities to witness leading athletes performing in the Union Territory.

The Commissioner Secretary took this opportunity to inform that the first-ever Draft Youth Policy for Jammu and Kashmir has been prepared to provide a strategic roadmap for youth empowerment, leadership development and sports promotion. Sports-based interventions are also being integrated into the Nasha Mukta J&K campaign through themed tournaments, youth ambassadors, awareness drives and training of coaches to identify early signs of substance abuse among youth, he added.

Presenting the performance of the Directorate of Youth Services & Sports, Director General YS&S, Anuradha Gupta informed the meeting that mass participation programmes launched by the department have witnessed an overwhelming response from youth across Jammu and Kashmir. She informed that the flagship grassroots sports league "Leagues of Classics - Enjoy the Game 1.0" has already engaged more than 2.23 lakh youth as of March 13, 2026 in sports such as cricket, football and volleyball at zonal and district levels, with participation expected to reach around 2.53 lakh by April 2026.

To promote winter sports among youth in mountainous regions of the Union Territory, snow skiing training programmes were organised during January-February 2026 at Gulmarg, Gurez Valley, Bhaderwah and Son-amarg. These programmes engaged

young participants in the Under-14, Under-17 and Under-19 categories, providing them with exposure to winter sports and professional training.

The meeting also reviewed the successful organisation of "SRIJAN - The Making of a Legacy," the first national-level sports conference hosted by the Directorate of Sports earlier this year. The conference brought together sports administrators, policymakers and experts from across the country to deliberate on strategies for strengthening grassroots sports ecosystems.

The meeting was further informed that online engagement initiatives conducted through the MyBharat portal have significantly expanded outreach among young people. The number of registered youth on the portal increased from 3.21 lakh in December 2025 to more than 7.10 lakh by March 2026, reflecting growing participation in online fitness challenges, quizzes and sports awareness programmes. Additionally, the department has uploaded over 10,000 youth engagement activities on the Youth Engagement and Empowerment Portal (YEEP), placing it among the leading departments in the Union Territory in terms of youth outreach and activity reporting.

The Chief Secretary was also apprised of the extensive calendar of sports and youth activities planned in the coming months. These include inter-school, district and UT-level competitions in 36 sports disciplines recognised by the School Games Federation of India for the U-14, U-17 and U-19 categories, organisation of "Leagues of Classics - Enjoy the Game 2.0" across all 20 districts, and "Aarohan 2026 - Viksit J&K Young Leaders' Dialogue and National Youth Festival" scheduled to be held at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre in Srinagar with participation of around 1,400 youth from across the country.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT DISTRICT JAIL BARAMULLA

Retender Corrigendum

Sanction is hereby accorded for the retendering of the e-nit No. 01 of 2026 dated 24-02-2026 due to the poor response received to the above said e-nit. The extended dates are given as under:

| Sl No. | Particulars | Date |
|--------|--|------------|
| 01 | Extended Last date of submission of tender | 25-03-2026 |
| 02 | Date of opening of tender | 27-03-2026 |

Superintendent District Jail Baramulla

No. DJBK/Acctts/ DIPK-11950/25
Dated: 16-03-2026 DATED: 16-03-2026

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION KRALPORA

Short Term E tendering NIT No 82/RnB/Kralpora of 2025-26 Dated:- 14-03-2026

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor Jammu & Kashmir (UT), e-tenders are being invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K UT Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works

| | Name of Work | Adv. Cost (In Lacs) | Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rupees) | Earnest Money Deposit | Time of completion | Date and time of opening | Class of Contractor | Major Head |
|----|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Balance works of Construction of building for Elementary Building less School Pny at PS Gasla Naka Dardpora and PS Chapran Kachama | 7.84 | 300/- | 15680 | 15 days | 24-03-2026 (Noon) | Cee/Dee | Samagra Shiksha PAB 2021-22 |

Position of AAA/ TS : Accorded
Position of funds:- Available
No: Div-KR/PS/2553-67
Date: 14-03-2026

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates tabulated below:

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Date of Issue of Tender Notice | 16.03.2026 |
| 2 | Period of downloading of bidding documents | 16.03.2026 (9:00 AM) to 23.03.2026 (6:00PM) |
| 3 | Bid submission Start Date | 16.03.2026 (9:00 AM) |
| 4 | Bid Submission End Date | 23.03.2026 (6:00PM) |
| 5 | Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) | 24.03.2026 (12:00 Noon) In the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Kralpora. |

Upload/Disclose the bank account number which is linked with the GSTIN along with proof. No payments shall be released by the department to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder.

2. Bids must be accompanied with Cost of Tender Document in the shape of Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Kralpora (tender inviting authority). Treasury Challan must be written boldly and clearly with Name of Work, Name of the Contractor along with Contact No, NIT No and Serial No of Work on NIT (if any).

1. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Kralpora. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% of the allotted Cost in the form of CDR/FDR at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the allotted cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

4. In case of abnormally low bid price the Circular instructions issued by the Finance Department vide No FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 dated 08-08-2025 regarding seeking of additional performance security from the selected bidder for quoting ALB are as follows:

a. Where the bid price is below 10% but not below 20% of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee/Security percentage shall be incremented by 0.1% for every percentage of bid price below 10% of the project cost put to bid starting at 11% with the additional bid performance guarantee being 0.1% and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on bid price.

b. Where the bid price is below 20% or more below of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee percentage shall be incremented by 0.2% for every percentage of bid price below 20% of the project cost put to bid in addition to 1% of the bid price and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on bid price.

c. The additional performance guarantee percentage shall be rounded off to the next lower percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of the bid price is below 0.5% or next higher percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of the bid price is 0.5% or more.

d. The additional performance security shall be treated as part of the performance security and shall be released after successful completion of DLP.

1. a. The bidders shall ensure that their bids shall be accepted only if their registrations cards are uploaded on <https://jkwtdoms.jk.gov.in> portal in active Tab. as per circular instructions issued by Development Commissioner works vide No.PW/DCW/DB/668-72 DT.10-06-2022.

b. The GST-3B for last Quarter (Quarterly return) and Previous month for (Monthly return) Should be uploaded, irrespective of date of Tender.

c. 1st lowest bidder will submit the CDR/FDR within two days after opening of Tender failing which 2nd lowest will be approached. Besides 1st lowest will be debarred from participating in tendering process for one year in this division.

d. Manual offers delivered by post/fax or in person, or offers sent by e-mail or telex shall not be accepted against electronic tenders, even if such offers are received in time. All such offers shall be considered as invalid offers and shall be rejected summarily, without any consideration.

e. In case the L-1 fails deposit the requisite document, the action against the L-1 as per PWD rules leading to blacklisting of contractor shall be initiated.

f. On Opening of financial bid the L1 has to produce the Original CDR/FDR pledge to the opening Authority before allotting the work along with Cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan.

g. Upload Valid Registration CARD /Renewal, PAN Card, GST Certificate and latest GST clearance ending previous Month.

h. It is mandatory for all bidders participating to submit all documents in terms of soft copies in E-tendering website and no documents in terms of Hard Copies shall be entertained. However, lowest bidder will be called for submission of CDR/FDR as well as Treasury Challan and CDR/FDR of the other participating tenderers/ bidders will be released only after surrender of Treasury Challan after the AOC is completed or bid validity period, whichever is earlier as per the GFR Rules.

i. Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared 1st Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.

j. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

k. The bidders are advised to get the genuineness of their enlistment cards from the issuing authorities. This is mandatory and bids are liable to be rejected in absence of the Genuineness of enlistment card

l. The contractor may purchase required material of quality and specifications prescribed, to be certified by Engineer in-charge

m. The steel/Key construction material shall be allowed only of approved brand by the government.

n. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of technical Bids.

o. After the Technical Evaluation of the bids, the bidders are required to submit their objections if any within 2 days, after that no claim/representation shall be entertained and it shall be deemed that there are no objections with regard to the Evaluation of the bids.

5. The tenderers are directed to submit their tender online. In case the last date of opening of Tenders happens to be a holiday/hartal the same shall be opened on the next working day.

6. The proportion of the aggregates as specified is complied with.

f. Conducting of mandatory quality control tests for various components of the advertised work like thickness tests, tests for impact value, stripping, flakiness, gradations of aggregates, determination of Binder content in bituminous mix, tests for density and other tests as prescribed in I.R.C.:SP:20 as per frequency recommended therein, during and after execution of the work will be sole responsibility of the contractor as well as the Correctness of the test results whether performed in his laboratory or elsewhere.

g. The location of the Hot mix plant of adequate capacity and capable of yielding a mix of proper and uniform quality from which bituminous macadam is to be transported to the site in clean insulated vehicles/Tippers shall be so placed that the manufacturing laying/spreading and rolling temperatures are within the specified limits as laid down in I.R.C. R.C.:SP:20.

h. The spreading of mix, compaction and quality control during these operations shall be done as per prescribed norms of I.R.C.

i. The longitudinal profile of the finished surface shall be tested with a straight edge and the Transverse profile with a comb template. Any irregularity greater than 6mm shall be rectified.

j. The defects noticed in the work during execution of DLP shall be corrected by the contractor within the length of time specified by the Engineer. If the contractor does not correct the defects pertaining to DLP to the satisfaction of the Engineer within the time specified, the Engineer will assess the cost of having the defects corrected and contractor will pay this amount on correction of defects.

k. Geotagged Photographs Minimum 03 sets (01 set Comprising of Photograph before, during and after execution of work) of size 26 cm x21 cm to be provided by the successful bidder/Contractor whenever asked by the department.

DIPK-11925/25
DATED: 16-03-2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Kralpora

From Iran to Nowhere: The agonising wait of 70 students

● Flight cancelled

● Border blockades

● Parents seek Govt action

JAHANGEER GANAIE

Srinagar, Mar 16: Indian students fleeing Iran are facing a chaotic homeward journey, with nearly 70 stranded at Dubai airport after flight cancellations, and another group blocked at the Azerbaijan border for two days running.

Parents are accusing the government of failing to facilitate even the basic logistics of their return despite leaving families to bear all expenses.

At Dubai International Airport, flights were temporarily cancelled earlier on Monday, leaving around 70 Indian students waiting anxiously for hours. According to the latest update shared with them, boarding was expected to begin around 4:20 pm Dubai time, bringing some relief to the stranded group. According to details, a separate group of students attempting to cross into Azerbaijan from neighbouring regions has been stuck at the border crossing for two days. Around 100 Indian students from Islamic Azad University and other



institutions managed to cross the border two days ago, but since then, authorities have barred further movement, leaving many stranded near the crossing point. The Azerbaijan blockade has caused financial damage. Several students had booked air tickets, costing over Rs 60,000 each, expecting to fly out via Azerbaijan, but were unable to use them when the border closed. With no clarity on when they will be allowed to cross, many cannot even reschedule their flights.

"We were expecting the government to evacuate our children studying in Iran, but they failed to do so. We have had to bear all expenses on our own, but the government is failing in even facilitating their return," a parent said, urging the Government of India to take up the matter with neighbouring countries to ensure students could reach safely. More than 50 Indian students safely arrived in New Delhi on Sunday, though several expressed frustration that the government had not arranged direct evacuation

flights from Armenia to Delhi as they had hoped.

To facilitate onward travel, buses arranged by the Jammu and Kashmir State Road Transport Corporation (JKSRTC) were stationed outside the airport under the supervision of the J&K government. However, only six students opted to use the service. The majority arranged their own travel. Some boarded private buses to Kool Kars Bus Terminal, others booked domestic flights to reach their hometowns more quickly.

The All India Medical Students Association (AIMSA) said it was maintaining regular contact with stranded students and coordinating with authorities to ensure those stuck at transit points received necessary support.

With the Azerbaijan border still shut and flight disruptions continuing at Dubai, the situation remained fluid, with many students hoping travel restrictions would ease and smoother arrangements would be made for their safe return.—(KNO)

CS launches digital platforms for Urban Local Bodies

KT NEWS DESK

Jammu, Mar 16: In a major step towards digital transformation of urban governance in Jammu & Kashmir, the Chief Secretary on Monday inaugurated two key digital platforms developed by the Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) aimed at enhancing transparency, efficiency and ease of doing business across Urban Local Bodies in the Union Territory.

The platforms launched include the Auto Scrutiny-based Building Permission and Change of Land Use (CLU) Portal integrated with GIS-based Master Plans using AutoDCR technology, and the Unified Web Portal of the Housing & Urban Development Department, J&K.

The launch event was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department; Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation; Vice Chairman, Jammu Development Authority; Special Secretary, H&UDD; Director, Urban Local Bodies, Jammu; Chief Town Planner, Jammu; Chief Architect, J&K; Chief Information Security Officer, H&UDD, and other senior officers.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary emphasized that these initiatives mark an important milestone in the digital transformation of urban governance in Jammu & Kashmir, enabling faster service delivery, im-



proved regulatory compliance and greater citizen engagement.

He observed that the integration of automation, GIS technology and digital financial systems would help build a more efficient, transparent and citizen-centric urban administration across the Union Territory.

The Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, Mandeep Kaur termed the Auto Scrutiny-based Building Permission and CLU Portal a landmark reform in the building approval process. She described it as a first-of-its-kind initiative in the country which brings together automation, spatial intelligence and regulatory compliance on a single digital interface.

She added that the system leverages Auto-DCR technology to automatically scrutinize Auto-CAD drawings submitted by

applicants and instantly verify compliance with the provisions of the J&K Unified Building By-Laws (UBBL), 2021, including its amendments and Master Plan regulations.

Integrated directly with the GIS-based Master Plans of Urban Local Bodies, the portal automatically fetches land-use details of every plot, thereby eliminating manual errors and ensuring complete zoning compliance from the initial stage of application submission, she added.

The digital platform also provides automated scrutiny of building plans, algorithm-based randomization and auto-escalation of applications to ensure adherence to regulatory timelines. In addition, it functions as a single-window system for submission and processing of No Ob-

jection Certificates (NOCs) for multiple departments, significantly reducing delays and procedural bottlenecks.

The portal is also designed to empower technical professionals including architects, draftsmen and engineers by enabling their participation in the approval ecosystem through structured digital workflows. The initiative is expected to significantly improve the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) in the urban sector while enhancing transparency and accountability in building permission processes across the Union Territory.

On the occasion, the Chief Secretary also launched the Unified Web Portal of the Housing & Urban Development Department, developed under the National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM) of the Ministry of Housing and Ur-

ban Affairs, Government of India.

The unified portal serves as a single digital gateway for accessing information, services and digital platforms related to urban governance in Jammu & Kashmir. It integrates multiple digital initiatives of the department, including systems developed under the UPYOG (Urban Platform for Delivery of Online Governance) framework. The portal also showcases the upcoming Mobile-Based Revenue Collection System for Urban Local Bodies, which will facilitate QR code-based digital payments for various municipal services such as sanitation charges, water tanker services, trade licenses and other municipal dues.

The system will support payments through UPI, Bharat Bill-Pay, digital wallets and other online payment gateways, ensuring fully transparent and cashless transactions. It will also generate automated digital receipts, enable real-time revenue monitoring through dashboards and integrate seamlessly with the Finance and Accounting Module for automatic accounting entries.

The newly launched digital platforms are expected to play a pivotal role in empowering citizens, streamlining regulatory processes and accelerating urban development across the Union Territory, in line with the vision of "Empowering Citizens, Enabling Governance, Transforming Urban Life across J&K."

CM's Advisor meets delegations, individuals at Raabita Office

KT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Mar 16: Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani on Monday met several delegations and individuals at the Chief Minister's Public Outreach Office, Raabita, and listened to the issues and demands raised by them.

A delegation of the J&K Graduate Engineers Association called on the Advisor and apprised him of various issues concerning graduate engineers. The delegation sought consideration of their demands related to professional matters.

Another delegation comprising parents of students studying in Iran met the Advisor and expressed concern regarding the safety and evacuation of their wards in view of the prevailing situation in the region.

The Advisor assured the delegation that the government is closely monitoring the situation and that necessary steps will be taken to facilitate the safe evacuation of the students.

A delegation of the Private Schools Association also called on the Advisor and raised issues related to the functioning of private educational institutions.

Several individuals from different areas also met Advisor Wani and brought to his notice issues concerning development works and other local matters in their respective areas.

The Advisor gave a patient hearing to all the delegations and individuals and assured them that their genuine concerns would be examined and taken up with the concerned departments for appropriate action.

2 killed, 28 injured in Akhnoor accident

YOGESH KUMAR

Jammu, Mar 16: Two persons were killed and 28 others injured after a speeding passenger bus collided with a Scorpio vehicle in the Akhnoor area of Jammu district on Monday, officials said.

An official told the news agency Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the bus (No. JK02CL-5466) which was travelling from Jourian to Akhnoor with several passengers on board, reportedly hit a Mahindra Scorpio bearing no. JK02DL-8417 near Kot Garhi village in Akhnoor. Following the collision, the driver lost control and the bus overturned on the road. The official identified deceased as Vijay Kumar of Kolkata presently working at a jewellers shop in Jourian, and Rajni, wife of Joginder Lal, of Pahriwala Khour.

Locals, along with police and rescue teams, rushed to the spot and shifted the injured to nearby hospitals for treatment.

As per reports, 20 injured were referred to Government Medical

College and Hospital, Jammu while eight were under treatment at Sub District Hospital, Akhnoor.

Those injured in the accident include Sarishta Devi (60) of Jhiri Kalyanpur; Romesh Chander (55) of Rakh Muthi Jourian; Shivani Sharma (24) of Rakh Muthi; Jatru (80); Nir-mala Devi (70) of Bakshi Nagar, Jammu; Krishan Lal (62) of Gurha Brahmana; Babita Devi (45) of Dub Karamdin Kana Chak; Ashu Devi (36) of Barola Mairamandhrian; Sudesh Kumari (60) of Barola; Sonia Devi (23) of Jourian; Rameshwar Sharma (75) of Bakshi Nagar, Jammu; Anju Bala; Rubina (15) of Jourian Taroti; Rakesh Kumari (51) of Jourian; Sonia Devi of Sohla; Akshay Kumar (7) of Pahriwala; Sunita of Taroti Jourian; Janvi Devi (8) of Taroti; Arya Pawa (5) of Taroti; Parshotam Lal of Jourian; Anil Kumar (24) of Naiwalla; Babita Sharma (34) of Mallah Dhok Khalsa; Nanu Sharma (4) of Mallah Dhok Khalsa; Sachin Sharma (24) of Jadh; Kuldeep Singh (60)

Continued on www.kashmirthunder.in

Akshay reviews JLNM Hospital, UPHC S.R. Gunj health infra projects



KT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Mar 16: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo on Monday inspected the progress of ongoing health infrastructure upgradation works at JLNM Hospital Rainawari and reviewed development works at Urban Primary Health Centre S.R. Gunj in the Shahr-e-Khaas area of the city. The DC was accompanied by Chief Planning Officer Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Superintendent Engineer R&B, Shabir Ahmad, Chief Medical Officer Dr Tahir Sajad, Medical Superintendent JLNM Hospital Dr Tariq, Zonal Medical Officer SR Gunj, Dr Shafiqat, Executive Engineers R&B, Arif Hazari and other concerned officers. During the visit to JLNM Hospital, the Deputy Commissioner conducted an on-site inspection of several key projects including the construction of a 100-bedded additional

Health (DIPH) Laboratory and a biomedical waste shed.

While reviewing the construction of the additional hospital block, the DC directed the executing agency to accelerate the pace of work and ensure timely completion of the project aimed at significantly enhancing patient care services at the hospital.

He also inspected the construction of the District Integrated Public Health Laboratory being established under the PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission. The facility is expected to strengthen disease surveillance and public health response mechanisms in the district.

The DC instructed the concerned agency to expedite the remaining work and make the laboratory operational at the earliest.

Continued on www.kashmirthunder.in

Dy CM lays foundation stone for Nowshera PMGSY roads

KT NEWS DESK

Rajouri, Mar 16: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary on Monday laid the foundation stone for two important road projects under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana aimed at strengthening the rural connectivity in Nowshera division.

The projects included construction and maintenance of 1021 Link Road from Helipad Ground Jhanghar to Ashok Gate Sarya via Purkhali in Block Qjla Darhal, with a length of 4.0 km and sanctioned cost of Rs. 1001.92 lakh and L024 Chowki to Kanara East via Nalli Mohalla (Link Road) in Block Nowshera, having a length of 2.50 km with a sanctioned cost of Rs. 565.20 lakh. These projects are expected to significantly improve the connectivity and facilitate smoother transportation for the local population.

The Deputy Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for construction of an Irrigation Guest House at Rajal, Nowshera, which will strengthen the infrastructure of the irrigation department and facilitate better field supervision and departmental functioning in the area.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the government is committed to strengthen rural infrastructure and ensure that development reaches every corner of the Union Territory. He emphasized that better road connectivity will enhance access to essential services, markets and educational institutions for residents



of remote areas.

Later, the Deputy Chief Minister convened public outreach camps at the foundation stone laid sites, where he interacted with the local residents and listened to their grievances.

Several issues were projected by the public, including unscheduled power cuts, scarcity of drinking water in Chowki, up-

gradation of GMS Sarya and GMS Jhanghar and speedy implementation of schemes under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

The Deputy Chief Minister assured the public that their genuine concerns would be taken up with the concerned departments for early redress.

Continued on www.kashmirthunder.in

EDITORIAL

Lt Governor Is Delivering Justice, Restoring Dignity

The scene at Lok Bhavan Auditorium in Srinagar was a profound act of national healing. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, by handing over appointment letters to 49 families, delivered something far more valuable than employment: acknowledgement, dignity, and the restoration of faith in a system that had rendered these families invisible for decades. The stories emerging from this event are heartbreaking. An elderly woman from Kupwara, whose family members were killed years ago, spoke of surviving

while loved ones were taken, of nobody asking about their suffering. Gulzar Ahmad, who lost his brother in 1992, described over thirty years of invisible pain. Ashiq Hussain Naik from Anantnag recounted decades of knocking on doors, writing letters, and feeling abandoned. These are not isolated narratives. They represent hundreds of families across Jammu and Kashmir who have carried the double burden of grief and neglect—mourning their loved ones while battling an unresponsive system. The Lieutenant Governor's

assertion that the administration's campaign has provided these families with "support, courage, and renewed self-belief" is a lived reality. With approximately 400 appointment letters handed over to terror victims' families to date, this is a systematic redressal. The commitment to reopen pending cases for investigation and liberate lands forcibly seized from affected families demonstrates that justice must be comprehensive—not just employment but property rights, not just economic support but legal vindication.

The pledge to develop a robust rehabilitation framework for those scarred by terror—victims who have lost eyesight or live with severe disabilities—extends this commitment to the most vulnerable. The promise of housing outlines a timeline for healing that leaves no family behind. Most significantly, this initiative restores faith in government institutions. When Ashiq Naik describes the Lieutenant Governor looking into his eyes as a gesture that "gave us courage", when Gulzar Ahmad speaks of feeling "that someone truly sees us,

hears us, and cares about our pain", they articulate the deepest need of every citizen—to be recognised by the state, to matter, to not be forgotten. In a region where alienation has often been exploited by divisive forces, such gestures are not just compassionate but strategic. They demonstrate that the government is not an abstract entity but a living presence that can acknowledge pain, deliver justice, and walk alongside its citizens. This is governance at its most human, and it deserves every recognition.

'Epic Fury' – The Men Of MAGA Might Be The Most Emotional US Leaders Ever

Natalie Kon-yu, Emily Booth, Michael Burke, Tom Clark

In 2016 and again in 2024, Donald Trump ran against two supremely qualified presidential candidates, who both lost. Both had decades of service to government and high-ranking jobs within Democratic administrations. Both were women.

Hillary Clinton and Kamala Harris' losses have prompted a thousand think pieces on whether or not the United States is ready to elect a female president. The old adage, dating back to the Cold War, is that women are too emotional to be trusted with the nuclear button.

But the men in the current White House might be the most emotional leadership group the US has ever had. And while their outbursts often seem spontaneous and even silly, we should take them seriously.

War and fury
Trump chronicler Michael Wolff shared his belief this week that "nothing" Trump says is ever "related to meaning" but it's "all related to what he is feeling" – which, he says, informs Trump's behaviour around the Iran war. The Daily Beast, which reported Wolff's comments, approached the White House for comment.

Communications director Steven Cheung responded by calling Wolff "a lying sack of s—t" who has "been proven to be a fraud". (Wolff has been criticised for his casual approach to fact-checking, including in his Trump biography.) Cheung continued:

He routinely fabricates stories originating from his sick and warped imagination, only possible because he has a severe and debilitating case of Trump Derangement Syndrome that has rotted his peanut-sized brain.

This in itself is unusually emotional (and colloquial) language for an official White House communication, but is not surprising in the era of Trump 2.0.

From "I HATE TAYLOR SWIFT!" to the president's many legal suits against those who have wronged him and his apparent need for his name to be on buildings – including the former Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts – big feelings are on full display in the era of Donald Trump.

Those big feelings are also reflected in the Trump administration's policies. What is ICE but an agency dedicated to the irrational fear of foreigners? Greed, envy, anger, lust, fear: they are all on constant display in Trump's White House. They come from his chief of staff Stephen Miller, former DOGE head Elon Musk, Hegseth and Vice President JD Vance.

Even the name for the current war on Iran, Operation Epic Fury, is emotional. Compare it to the names of the initial wars on Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom) and Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom).

This comes after Trump renamed the Department of Defense to the Department of War last year, to make it sound more aggressive. "Maximum lethality, not tepid legality," Hegseth said of the change, which is reflected in his language about Iran this week:

Death and destruction from the sky all day long [...] This was never meant to be a fair fight, and it is not a fair fight. We are punching them while they're down, which is exactly how it should be.

Fear, anger and MAGA
Sociology professor Thomas Henricks explains how fear, a negative emotion "that feels bad to possess", is often converted to anger, "an emotion that restores agency, direction, and self-esteem".

Sociologist Arlie Russell Hochschild has long focused her research on feelings. She was studying MAGA supporters before they had a name. For her latest book, she looked at how shame and pride motivated this cohort in Kentucky. Many of those she spoke to "saw Trump as a bully – but a bully who stood up for them, against what they perceived as urban liberal elites".

Giving loyalty to a dynamic leader, writes Henricks, can seem "the surest route to regaining" personal power that feels like it is



"slipping away".
English professor Lauren Berlant believes Trump supporters are attracted to the president's performance of freedom, through saying whatever he feels. When expression is policed in the name of civil rights and feminism, she observes, it rejects "what feels like people's spontaneous, ingrained responses".

But the "Trump Emotion Machine" delivers "feeling ok" and "acting free". It means "being ok with one's internal noise, and saying it, and demanding that it matter".

Gender and emotion
For centuries, political philosophy has noted that much social power is "affective", relating to moods, feelings and attitudes. Whatever you think of Trump, his policy and style make him exactly the kind of case study political affect theorists have been waiting for.

He is the most conspicuous proponent yet of what we call aesthetarchy – or rule by feelings.

Many feminists and other writers have critiqued the gendered inequity of displays of emotion. Explaining the politics of sex roles, feminist philosopher Marilyn Frye says we all internalise and monitor ourselves to adapt to outside expectations – or "the needs and tastes and tyrannies of others".

For example, "women's cramped postures and attenuated strides and men's restraint of emotional self-expression (except for anger)".

The crying man was once mocked as womanly and the athletic or politically powerful woman was seen as manly. Both transgressions maintain positive valuations of the masculine and negative valuations of the feminine. Sex roles were once a stronger form of control than they are now.

Yet in MAGA, we have something different happening.

Tantrums and explosions: MAGA men
Hegseth has been criticised, even ridiculed by some media outlets, for his emotional outbursts in media briefings. A Pentagon briefing on US strikes on Iran last June, during which he lashed out at reporters, was labelled a "tantrum" by The Daily Beast.

Miller, too, has been criticised for on-air "temper tantrums". Insiders revealed his daily conference calls "routinely descend into

him loudly berating staff and launching into full-on meltdowns".

Vance, who made headlines for leading a verbal attack on Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky at the White House last year, wrote in his memoir about his struggles to control his anger: "Even at my best, I'm a delayed explosion".

It is hard to imagine Democrat women getting away with such behaviour. Just this week, Fox News titled an article: "Hillary Clinton storms out of Epstein deposition after House lawmaker leaks photo from inside." It described a "stunning moment" when Clinton was made aware of the fact that Colorado congresswoman Lauren Boebert violated House rules by taking and sending a photo of her during her deposition.

In 1983, Andrea Dworkin published Right-Wing Women, a confronting study of Republican women's active participation in conservative politics in the US. She proposed that right-wing activist women submit to men and the patriarchy in exchange for structure to their lives: shelter, safety, rules and love from men.

As these rewards are conditional on their ongoing obedience to men, right-wing activist women become not just complicit, but enthusiastic perpetrators of violence and discrimination against other women.

What motivates the trade? Fear of vulnerability to men and male violence, which they believe naturally finds a target in "an independent woman".

The "hates" Dworkin documents are just as relevant now, more than 40 years later: anti-abortion, antisemitism, homophobia, anti-feminism, disregard for female poverty, and more. The tirades of White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt against diversity, equity and inclusion are prime examples of a woman attacking feminine solidarity to strengthen her quest for power.

MAGA women can be emotional – but we only see them unleashing emotions that serve the needs of the most powerful men.

Instead of embodying soft emotions such as empathy, care and kindness (like New Zealand's former prime minister Jacinda Ardern), the women of MAGA strive to be as tough as the men in their administration.

Look at Kristi Noem, who was secretary

of homeland security – until she was ousted last week. A new book reports Trump saw Noem's pre-election admission of shooting her own dog as a reason to appoint her to implement his mass-deportation agenda.

And she did play this hard-nosed role. She responded to the murders of mother Renee Nicole Good and intensive care nurse Alex Pretti by ICE agents by saying the victims were involved in "domestic terrorism".

MAGA women often nod to conventional femininity with their hyper-feminine looks. Both Noem and Leavitt have been described as having what commentators dub "Mar-a-Lago Face". This "caricature of femininity", often achieved through surgery, Botox or fillers, not only signals wealth, but is a form of submission.

"The unspoken message Mar-a-Lago face gives to men in power," HuffPost reporter Brittany Wong suggests, "is that the woman is willing to tear into their flesh and change their entire individual appearance to gain approval." (Admittedly, a few men, such as Matt Gaetz, have also been accused of having Mar-a-Lago face: a masculine, rather than feminine, caricature.)

Yet, as we have seen, power for MAGA women is always conditional. Noem's "toughness" was not enough to save her. Many possible reasons have been cited for Noem's firing, including the US\$220 million advertising campaign for ICE featuring her on horseback, and alleged misuse of public funds.

But she is not the first administration official to be accused of such things – or incompetence. Remember when Hegseth accidentally sent a top-secret group chat detailing an upcoming US strike to a journalist? He still has his job.

Macho sensitivity
Men's anger, lust or avarice has often been rationalised as acceptable or inevitable on a gendered basis. Women's emotional outbursts were long labelled hysterical.

But on Truth Social, X and other MAGA forums, emotional outbursts no longer need rational underpinning to be positively valued. They can be seen as perfectly masculine. As Berlant says, unleashed emotion by MAGA types on social media is seen as anti-political-correctness: "being ok with one's internal noise, and saying it, and demanding that

it matter".
Trump's actions, such as his threat to sue comedian Trevor Noah for a joke at the Grammys, are seen as another example of strongly anti-woke, pro-white leadership, rather than thin-skinned emotional hysteria. So is Trump calling Robert De Niro "another sick and demented person with, I believe, an extremely low IQ" last month, in response to the actor calling him an "idiot".

Behind the machismo there is a strange vulnerability, a heightened sensitivity to the slightest criticism or perceived threat to the white, male order.

Last month, Daily Show host Jon Stewart pointed out the hypocrisy, after MAGA complaints about Bad Bunny performing in Spanish at the Super Bowl. "When did the right become such fucking pussies?" he said. "Remember 2017? Remember what you hated about liberals? Perpetually offended, safe spaces, censoring free speech, culture of victimhood. Remind you of anyone?"

In some ways, perhaps this public outpouring of emotion from the predominantly white men in Trump's government should not be surprising. A former high-school acquaintance of Miller told Vanity Fair that, even as a student, he was "all about this victimhood idea, that he was this lonely soldier crusading".

The rise of the alt-right, which contributed to Trump's arrival in office, coalesced through movements such as GamerGate: the online social harassment campaign against female video-game journalists by predominantly white men on 4chan, who felt both victimised and infuriated by calls for more inclusive casts in video games.

Stewing in the same digital sewers were the incels: single men who consider themselves hard-done by women who have not deigned to have sex with them. The number of lives this cohort has claimed through violent attacks is comparable to those killed by Islamic State terrorists in the same period. They are particularly known for their appetite for violence.

These acts are, in part, fuelled by the irreconcilable shame and humiliation they feel at the wounding of their masculinity, along with a desire for retribution against women and any men who provoke their jealousy.

Trump's administration, and indeed his own emotionally volatile behaviour, validates these hurt feelings through his slashing of funding support for diversity and inclusion initiatives, and violent roundups of people deemed "un-American" – even some US citizens. In this way, the current administration is a GamerGate fantasy brought to life.

Power through feeling
Political philosophy tells us social power often manifests primarily through aesthetics, or how things feel, rather than logic. The rise of totalitarianism in Europe during the 1920s and '30s motivated many journalists and commentators to pay close attention to this problem. Much of the work was published after 1945, some of it posthumously, by well-known writers such as Hannah Arendt, George Orwell, Primo Levi and Simone Weil.

Emotions – particularly anger and fear – are classic tools used by authoritarian leaders. But anger can work the other way, too. Political science professor Bryn Rosenfeld argues it can power action against repressive regimes, fuelling resistance and encouraging risk.

Either way, Trump's electoral success and political power – helped by his supporters' deep emotional identification with him – show that the philosophers are onto something important.

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Govt monitoring supply of essentials across J&K: Satish Sharma

Warns of strict action against hoarding, black marketing

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, MARCH 16: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, IT, Youth Services & Sports, Science and Technology, Satish Sharma, Monday said that the government is closely monitoring the situation to ensure that the supply of essential commodities across Jammu and Kashmir remains smooth and uninterrupted despite global disturbances.

Addressing the media, the Minister, as per an official statement, said that the impact of the prevailing international situation is being felt across the world as well as in Jammu and Kashmir. However, he assured the people that the administration is taking all necessary measures to safeguard the interests of the public and prevent any disruption in availability of essential commodities.

Issuing a stern warning to those attempting to exploit the situation, the Minister said strict action will be taken against anyone involved in black marketing, hoarding or creating artificial scarcity of essential commodities.

"Whether it is an LPG distributor, a petrol pump owner or any dealer of essential commodities, if anyone is found indulging in such illegal activities, they will be blacklisted and made an example of. The government will not tolerate any attempt to exploit the public during such circumstances," maintained the Minister.

Satish Sharma informed that he is personally monitoring the situation on an hourly basis and recently participated in a high-level meeting chaired by the Chief Minister to review the preparedness of various departments.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister directed the



departments including Civil Supplies and Legal Metrology to maintain strict oversight to ensure smooth supply and prevent irregularities.

The Minister said that more than 20 teams led by the Legal Metrology Department have been deployed across the districts to monitor the situation round the clock and ensure that consumers do not face any inconvenience.

Highlighting the steps being taken to augment the supply, Sharma said that the government has written to the Union Minister seeking enhancement of LPG commercial quota supply to meet the growing demand from commercial establishments such as hotels and restaurants.

"The tourism season has begun, Ramadan is underway and Navratri is approaching. After a challenging period of several months, Jammu and Kashmir is gradually returning to normalcy. We expect record tourism this season and it is our responsibility to ensure that all sectors, including the hospitality industry, receive adequate support," he said.

Satish Sharma added that tourism bookings for the coming weeks are already encouraging and expressed confidence that the Union Territory will witness an all-time high influx of tourists this season. "While some forces try to destabilize peace, the people of Jammu and Kashmir

"Whether it is an LPG distributor, a petrol pump owner or any dealer of essential commodities, if anyone is found indulging in such illegal activities, they will be blacklisted and made an example of."

continue to strengthen the economy through tourism and development," he remarked.

The Minister also informed that hospitals and educational institutions will continue to receive 100 percent supply of LPG to ensure uninterrupted services.

Providing an update on the supply chain, Sharma said that vessels carrying LPG are already enroute and expected to reach the ports soon, which will further stabilize the supply situation.

He also announced that the government has decided to provide 2.5 litre of kerosene oil per family under the AAY category as a relief measure. He explained that although Jammu and Kashmir had earlier been declared a kerosene-free region, the sudden surge in demand for alternative cooking options has necessitated it.

The Minister said that the

J&K administration has requested the Government of India to enhance kerosene allocation and provide additional support to the Union Territory so that other categories are also covered during the current circumstances.

Satish Sharma also urged the public to remain calm and avoid panic buying, stating that unnecessary stockpiling only creates artificial shortages and benefits unscrupulous elements.

"We appeal to the public not to fall prey to rumors. Some mischievous elements try to spread panic during such situations for personal gain. The government is fully prepared and there is no need for the people to panic," he said.

To counter misinformation, the Minister said that the department has coordinated with the Directorate of Information, district administrations and other stakeholders to launch awareness campaigns and ensure that accurate information reaches the public.

He further informed that district-level task forces have been constituted and vehicles have been deployed to maintain real-time monitoring of supply and distribution.

The Minister reiterated that any complaint regarding irregularities will be addressed promptly and strict action will follow in case of violations.

"As the Chief Minister has said, this situation may continue for a few weeks. Therefore, we are working on a war footing to ensure that the people of Jammu and Kashmir face no inconvenience on this account," he added.

The Minister appealed to the citizens to cooperate with the administration and maintain patience, emphasizing that unity, compassion and responsible behaviour will help overcome the present challenges.

Rana inaugurates water release into Ranbir Canal



KT News Desk

AKHNOOR, MARCH 16: Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana, Monday inaugurated the release of water supply into the main Ranbir Canal at its intake structure near Steel Bridge in Akhnoor, ensuring the timely availability of irrigation water for agricultural purposes across the canal's command areas.

Among those present on the occasion were MLA Akhnoor Mohan Lal, MLA Nagrota Devyani Rana, Chief Engineer I&FC Jammu Manoj Gupta and other senior officers of the Irrigation and Flood Control (I & FC) Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister, as per an official statement, said that the Ranbir Canal plays a vital role in supporting agriculture in the command area, providing irrigation to vast tracts of farmland from Akhnoor to R. S. Pura. He assured the farming community that adequate water supply would be maintained during the forthcoming irrigation season to meet the agricultural requirements.

The Minister also highlighted that the mandatory desilting of canals had been carried out in advance to enhance the discharge capacity of the canal system and ensure that irrigation water reaches even the villages located at the tail end of the network.

The Minister personally oversaw the preparatory works, directing the department to complete them efficiently.

Pertinently, the annual desilting of the canal network is a planned maintenance exercise aimed at restoring the canal system to its original design

capacity by removal of accumulated silt, weeds and other obstructions from the canal bed and banks.

This ensures smooth and efficient flow of irrigation water across the distribution network, including remote and tail-end areas that often face supply constraints.

The officials informed that the desilting works are being undertaken during the canal closure period from January to March, when irrigation demand is at its lowest, thereby minimising disruption to agricultural activities while preparing the canal network for the upcoming crop cycle.

Notably, for the past three consecutive years, the Irrigation and Flood Control Department has succeeded in completing the desilting works within two months instead of the earlier three-month schedule.

As a result, the canal is now being recharged in March, nearly a month earlier than the previous practice of reopening around April 13.

Commending the efforts of the department, the Minister praised the officers and field staff of I & FC for their dedication in completing the desilting works ahead of schedule. He directed that any remaining works be completed at the earliest to ensure uninterrupted irrigation during the upcoming agricultural season.

Rana further stated that several new projects are in the pipeline to strengthen the flood protection infrastructure across the region, aimed at safeguarding the lives, agricultural land and public property from potential flood risks.

J&K identifies 35,000 manuscripts as National Survey gets underway



KT News Desk

JAMMU, MARCH 16: The Department of Archives, Archaeology & Museums in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA), Regional Centre J&K, Monday organised a 3 day workshop-Training program on 'GYAN BHARATAM MISSION' and launch of National Survey of Manuscripts at Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Canal Road Jammu.

Principal Secretary, Culture Department, Brij Mohan Sharma, as per an official statement, highlighted various aspects of implementation of the central sponsored flagship programme besides importance of this awareness cum training programme regarding survey and conservation of manuscripts.

The Principal Secretary said that this Government of India's flagship programme was launched by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi in September 2025 at an International Conference in Delhi. The program aims to identify, catalogue and digitize approximately one crore manuscripts across the country and conserve them using scientific technology, making the documents accessible in the public domain for scholars worldwide.

He observed that around 35,000 manuscripts have been identified in Jammu and Kashmir, with cataloguing complete. Besides, digitization is underway at private institutions and Kashmir University's Persian Department, accelerated by a Government of India cluster centre.

Director, Archives, Archeology and Museum, Kuldeep Krishan Sidha highlighted the objectives of launching of Gyan Bharatam and National Manuscripts Survey. He also

elucidated the key activities including conservation, capacity building, technology and digitization, linguistic and translation, research, publication and awareness. He highlighted various other aspects regarding National Manuscripts Survey, scope of the Survey, organisational support, survey execution process, role of responsibility, ethical guidelines, monitoring and other important aspects of the programme.

Dr Jahagir Iqbal, HOD and Cluster Head Gyan Bharatam Mission, Department of Persian, Kashmir University, gave comprehensive detail about the roadmap to the concerned officers and participants about how to collect the information about Manuscripts and its conservation during surveys in their respective areas.

Coordinator, Regional Cluster Centre, Gyan Bharatam Shashvat Art Gallery, Museum and Manuscript Library, Upper Bazar Jammu, Dr Suresh Abrol, also spoke and encouraged the participants about the working in the field of survey and conservation, documentation and digitization of Manuscripts under Gyan Bharatam Mission.

Professor and Head (Conservation), IGNCA, Professor Achal Pandya, also gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding how to collect manuscripts and its conservation and gave awareness on other aspects of the survey program. The participants raised and highlighted queries about different aspects of the survey program. Among others, Assistant Professor Dr Satyender Kumari, IGNCA; Project Managers, IGNCA, Jitendra Chauhan and Dr Nitin Kumar; Deputy Director, Archive, Archaeology and Museum, Dr Sangeeta Sharma besides senior officers of concerned departments and other stakeholders were present in the program.

J&K Govt rolls out PM-RAHAT scheme to save road accident victims

KT News Desk

JAMMU, MARCH 16: The Jammu and Kashmir government has launched the PM-Road Accident Victims Hospitalization and Assured Treatment (PM-RAHAT) Scheme, aiming to provide timely medical aid to the road accident victims.

According to an official communique received in this regard from Transport Department, the initiative, as per an official statement, ensures cashless treatment up to Rs 1.5 lakh per victim in over 140 designated hospitals during the critical "Golden Hour", covering up to 7 days from the accident date, thereby ensuring immediate medical care and significantly improving the chances of survival. All the concerned departments including the Transport, Health, Police and district administration shall

work in close coordination for effective implementation of the scheme besides ensuring prompt response in case of road accidents.

The government has urged the public to report road accidents to the nearest police station or control room, helping the victims reach the designated hospitals quickly so that timely treatment can be provided under the scheme. The good Samaritans, a Rah-Veer, assisting the accident victims will receive 25,000 and a Certificate of Appreciation. In case more than one person assists in rescuing the victim, the award amount shall be shared equally among them. In addition, 10 National Level Awards of Rs 1,00,000 each will be given annually to the most deserving Rah-Veers. The scheme will facilitate immediate medical care to the road accident victims and improve their chances of survival.

Over 150 passengers evacuated from snowbound Sinthan Top

DC Kishtwar leads swift rescue operation

KT News Desk

KISHTWAR, MARCH 16: In a swift and coordinated rescue operation, the District Administration Kishtwar, spearheaded by the Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma successfully evacuated more than 150 passengers stranded at Sinthan Top after heavy snowfall disrupted traffic and left several vehicles trapped on the route. Acting promptly, the Deputy Commissioner, as per an official statement, rushed to the spot along with SSP Naresh Singh and the Commanding Officer, 11 Rashtriya Rifles, to personally supervise the rescue efforts. The Deputy

Commissioner issued necessary directions to the concerned departments and rescue teams to ensure the safe evacuation of the stranded passengers. More than 25 vehicles carrying over 150 passengers were reportedly stuck at the high-altitude pass due to sudden heavy snowfall and slippery road conditions. After a coordinated rescue operation, all stranded passengers were safely and securely evacuated from the area.

The rescue operation consisted of officials from district administration, police and security forces, whose timely intervention helped avert any major emergency in the snowbound region.

Sagar inaugurates advanced Catarhex 3 Phaco Emulsification Unit at Gousia Hospital, Khanyar



KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, 16 MAR: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference General Secretary and MLA Khanyar, Haji Ali Mohammad Sagar, on Monday inaugurated the state-of-the-art Catarhex 3 Phaco Emulsification Unit at Gousia Hospital in Khanyar. MLA Hazratbal Salman Ali Sagar was also present on the occasion.

The Catarhex 3 Phaco Emulsification Unit, a latest Swiss-made system widely used worldwide for cataract surgery, has been installed at a cost of Rs 63 lakh. The advanced technology enhances surgical precision and allows cataract procedures to be performed through extremely small incisions of 2 mm or less, enabling faster recovery and significantly improved post-operative visual outcomes for patients.

Speaking on the occasion, Sagar, as per a party statement, said that the installation of this modern equipment will substantially strengthen eye-care services at Gousia Hospital and benefit a large number of patients requiring cataract treatment.

He also lauded the efforts of the government led by Omar Abdullah for taking concrete steps to improve healthcare infrastructure across Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized that the government is giving special focus to strengthening the health and education sectors to ensure better public services and improve the quality of life for the people.

Medical staff, hospital administration and local residents were present on the occasion and welcomed the installation of the advanced cataract surgery system, which is expected to significantly enhance the quality.

Efficiency and accessibility of ophthalmic care in the region.

DC Budgam calls for coordinated measures for environment protection

Reviews dev, CDF, DMRRR progress

KT News Desk

Budgam, Mar 16: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan on Monday chaired a meeting of the District Environmental Plan Committee to review the implementation of various environmental measures across the district.

During the meeting, the DC directed all departments to ensure strict prohibition of polythene usage and emphasized the importance of waste segregation and disposal at designated composite sites.

He instructed municipal authorities and rural development department to ensure that no waste accumulates in front of educational institutions, hospitals, public places and along roads.

Furthermore, proper disposal of biomedical waste was stressed to maintain public health and sanitation.

To enhance environmental hygiene, Municipalities, Jal Shakti, Irrigation & Flood Control Departments were directed to undertake massive cleaning drives of nallahs and water channels in both urban and rural areas to prevent blockages and maintain ecological balance.

The DC also called for the



installation of dustbins at key locations to facilitate proper waste disposal. Various other environment measures were also discussed for implementation by the concerned departments including the construction of effluent, solid and plastic waste treatment plants across the district.

Besides, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mehraj ud din Shah; GM, DIC Budgam; CEO, CMO, DPO, CHO, CAO, DFO, ACP, ARTO, and other concerned were present in the meeting.

Meanwhile, DC Budgam chaired a review meeting at conference hall of DC office Complex Budgam, to assess the progress of developmental works being executed under the District Capex Budget 2025-26,

Constituency Development Fund (CDF), and DMRRR (Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Restoration) (UT Capex) 2025.

The meeting was attended by key officers and sectoral heads who reviewed physical and financial progress, discussed bottlenecks, and examined the status of works under execution across various departments.

The DC directed officers to ensure 100% utilization of available funds, timely completion of ongoing projects in the District.

He instructed the RDD and other departments to speed up execution and complete all tendering and allotment within the prescribed time frame.

Emphasising transparency, quality, and adherence to

timelines, the DC said that effective resource utilization and strict monitoring are vital for the timely creation of public assets.

He also directed departments lagging behind to expedite works, focus on people-centric projects, and ensure third-party quality checks for accountability.

A block-wise review of CDF works was also conducted with respective BDOs, along with an assessment of financial and physical progress under the Capex Budget.

The DC added that no compromise on quality will be tolerated and directed all executing agencies to complete all pending projects within set timelines. He also directed the concerned officers to ensure timely Completion of works under the Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Restoration (DMRRR) sector with focus on strengthening disaster preparedness, mitigation measures, and restoration of essential infrastructure in vulnerable areas of the district.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director Planning Javid Ahmad Najar; CEO, ACD, ACP, Executive Engineers from PWD, Jal Shakti, KPDC, all BDOs and officers from Agriculture, Education, Youth Services & Sports, Health, and other departments.

Delegations call on LG Manoj Sinha



KT News Desk

Jammu, Mar 16: A delegation of Bharatiya Jain Sanghatna, J&K, led by its President Sandeep Jain, called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday.

Dr Abhijeet Jasrotia, BJP Spokesperson, J&K also called on the Lieutenant Governor. A delegation of Shri Mata Vaishno

Devi Ji Pracheen Marg Shrines Sanstha, led by its President Shri Harbans Lal also called on the Lieutenant Governor.

The members of the organization extended an invitation to the LG for the 'Pratham Puja' of the 24th Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Pracheen Marg Pavitra Chhari Yatra 2026, to be organized on March 22, 2026.

Dr Ritu Singh, Chairperson, Raghunath Jee Jammu Aarti Sanstha, called on LG Manoj Sinha. She briefed the Lieutenant Governor on the 'Nari Shakti Aarti', a grand spiritual initiative by Jammu Aarti Sanstha set to commence at Shri Raghunath Ji Temple, Jammu during the auspicious occasion of Navratri.

Arrangements for religious festivities reviewed at Ganderbal

KT News Desk

Ganderbal, Mar 16: To review preparations for the upcoming religious occasions of Shab-e-Qadr, Eid-ul-Fitr, Navroz, Navratri and Ramnavmi, the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Ganderbal, Syed Fahim Bihazi on Monday chaired a meeting of officers, here.

The meeting focused on ensuring coordinated and efficient arrangements for the smooth observance of these religious occasions across the district.

The ADC emphasized that all departments must work in close coordination and ensure that necessary facilities are put in place well in advance on the auspicious occasions of Shab-e-Qadr, Eid-ul-Fitr, Navroz, Navratri and Ramnavmi.

He directed the concerned departments to ensure proper arrangements for traffic regulation, parking, sanitation, street lighting, drinking water, power supply and healthcare services, particularly at major mosques, shrines, temples and other places of large gatherings.

Reviewing the preparedness

of various departments, the ADC stressed uninterrupted power supply during the auspicious days and asked the concerned authorities to ensure adequate drinking water availability. Deployment of water tankers at prominent religious places was also directed to facilitate devotees.

Municipal Authorities and Rural Development Department were instructed to maintain cleanliness across the district including at congregation sites, Mosques, Shrines and Temples and ensure proper functioning of street lights at key locations. Municipal Council Ganderbal was also directed to place mobile convenience at appropriate place near Eidgah Ganderbal to facilitate public.

For smooth traffic management, the ADC directed the Traffic Police and ARTO to ensure availability of transportation to ferry devotees to religious places including Hazratbal, Jinab Sahib Saura besides others and prepare a comprehensive traffic and route plan, ensure proper regulation of vehicular movement.

They were also directed to arrange transport facilities from

Wandhama Transit Camp to Kheerbhawani Temple for the convenience of devotees during Navratri and Ramnavmi.

The Health Department was asked to establish first aid and medical camps equipped with staff, ambulances and essential medicines at main congregation places and major Shrines besides temples. The Fire and Emergency Services were directed to remain on alert and ensure round-the-clock readiness.

The ADC stressed all concerned officers to work with added zeal and utmost coordination for the seamless and hassle-free culmination of large congregations of Shab-e-Qadr, Eid-ul-Fitr, Navroz, Navratri and Ramnavmi across the district.

To prevent black marketing and hoarding, the ADC instructed enforcement teams to intensify market inspections and take strict action against violators, hoarders, while ensuring availability of quality, essential commodities.

The ADC urged all officers to work with added dedication and synergy to ensure smooth, peaceful and hassle-free observance of these important religious occasions across the district.

DC Kulgam chairs District Road Safety Committee meeting

KT News Desk

Kulgam, Mar 16: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam on Monday chaired a meeting of the District Road Safety Committee at the DC Office, Kulgam, to finalize the district Road Safety Plan and review measures aimed at improving road safety across the district.

During the meeting, the DC emphasized the urgent on-boarding of District Hospital, Sub-District Hospitals (SDHs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) on the e-DAR portal to

ensure timely reporting and management of road accident cases. He also stressed the effective implementation of the PM RAHAT scheme to facilitate prompt assistance to accident victims.

The DC issued strict directions to the concerned departments for the implementation of the norms and guidelines of the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety (SCCoRS) and the Road Safety Policy 2025.

He called for coordinated efforts among all stakeholders to strengthen road safety mechanisms in the district.



Special focus was laid on engineering-based remedial measures, including the identification and rectification of accident-prone black spots on major roads. The DC directed the concerned departments to accelerate the installation of crash barriers and road safety

signages at vulnerable locations to minimize accidents and enhance commuter safety.

The meeting also reviewed the overall road safety scenario in the district and discussed strategies to ensure better traffic management, awareness generation and strict enforcement of road safety regulations.

Among others, the meeting was attended by ADC, SE, R&B; Joint Director Planning, Additional SP, ACR, Executive Engineer, R&B, PMGSY, ARTO, CMO and other officers from Police, R&B, Transport and Traffic.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Remain vigilant against

complemented and supplemented in the districts."

He directed all Deputy Commissioners to maintain strict oversight at the district level to ensure smooth supply and fair distribution of essential commodities. "Ensuring that there is no hoarding, artificial scarcity or black-market conditions created will require strong oversight at the district level. Since all districts and Deputy Commissioners are connected to this meeting, please take these instructions on board," he said.

Omar further stressed that the administration must remain alert as the duration of the current crisis remains uncertain. "We don't know how long this will last. It could last a couple of days, it could last a few weeks. Let us assume it may last longer than we are comfortable with. Therefore, the alert that we are on must continue to ensure that no artificial scarcity or blackmarketing situations are created," he said.

He also directed the Information Department to keep the public regularly informed about the stock position and supply of essential commodities to prevent rumours and panic buying. "Ensure that the Information Department keeps people informed on a regular basis so that we keep reassuring people about our strong position and the available supplies. By detailing the steps taken and the stock position, we can ensure that elements trying to misuse the situation are not able to do so," the Chief Minister said.

The Chief Minister also directed the administration to maintain constant vigil over the availability of commercial LPG, particularly in view of the ongoing Navratras, the upcoming Eid and the beginning of the tourist season. He called for taking inputs from stakeholders such as restaurateurs and hoteliers before any rationalisation of commercial LPG supply is undertaken in view of tourist inflow expected and festive seasons ahead.

Earlier during the meeting, Minister Satish Sharma, who holds the portfolio of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, shared inputs and drew attention to certain elements that may attempt to exploit the prevailing situation. He assured the meeting that any unscrupulous elements trying to take advantage of the circumstances would be dealt with strictly and made an example of.

Similarly, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo stressed that Deputy Commissioners must ensure that no violations such as black marketing, hoarding or profiteering occur in their respective districts. He directed them to extend all possible support to the Legal Metrology and Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs departments to ensure effective monitoring and

enforcement during the current situation.

Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Saurabh Bhagat gave a detailed presentation on the supply and stock position of petroleum products and LPG in Jammu and Kashmir.

The presentation highlighted that despite the global disruptions affecting the stock position of petroleum products and LPG in Jammu and Kashmir remains stable.

The meeting was informed that adequate reserves of petrol, diesel and LPG are available across storage facilities and distributorships in J&K.

To ensure sustained availability and prevent misuse, several regulatory measures have been implemented.

The meeting was also informed that the Delivery Authentication Code (DAC) system has been introduced to ensure that LPG cylinders are delivered only to genuine consumers. Oil marketing companies have also launched an e-KYC campaign to verify customer authenticity and identify inactive or duplicate LPG connections.

Regarding non-domestic LPG supplies, a temporary cap of 20 percent of the average monthly consumption has been placed, while ensuring uninterrupted supply to essential institutions such as hospitals and educational establishments.

The presentation further informed that the Government of India has provided an ad-hoc allocation of 468 kilolitres of PDS Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for cooking and lighting purposes, primarily targeting vulnerable groups including Antyodaya Anna Yojana families.

Rs 364 crore spent

infrastructure across constituencies. It is worth mentioning that the Lok Sabha elections in Jammu & Kashmir were conducted in five phases between April 19 and May 20. Four months later, the Assembly elections were held in three phases from September 18 to October 1. (KNO)

Shab-e-Qadr observed

stressing that it is a night of forgiveness and divine mercy.

"This is the most blessed night of Ramadan. People spend the entire night in prayers, seeking forgiveness and blessings from Allah," said a local cleric in Srinagar.

Devotees said the night holds deep spiritual value and offers an opportunity for reflection and supplication. "We pray for peace, prosperity and the well-being of our families and society," said Mohammad Ashraf, a devotee at Hazratbal shrine.

Meanwhile, authorities had made elaborate arrangements to facilitate the devotees. Traffic police had issued advisories to regulate

vehicular movement around Hazratbal and other major shrines, while additional public transport services were arranged to ferry worshippers.

Officials said arrangements regarding lighting, water supply, sanitation and security were also been put in place to ensure the smooth observance of the sacred night.

Meanwhile, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, Valley's chief religious cleric took to X and shared: "On the most sacred night of 'Laylatul Qadr', when prayers and supplications resound in mosques seeking Allah's mercy and forgiveness, the central Jama Masjid Srinagar of Kashmir has once again been closed upon worshippers, and I have been placed under house arrest."

Notably, every year, Shab-e-Qadr draws an ocean of worshippers to mosques and shrines across Jammu and Kashmir, with devotees spending the entire night engaged in supplications, recitation of the Quran and voluntary prayers in the hope of attaining Allah's mercy and forgiveness. (KNO)

LG, CM greet people

divine grace. May the Almighty accept our prayers on this blessed night, and continue to guide us on the path of love, unity, and communal harmony."

In his message, the Chief Minister highlighted the immense spiritual significance of the blessed night, which falls in the last ten days of the holy month of Ramadan and is regarded as a night of divine mercy, forgiveness and countless blessings.

He said that Shab-e-Qadr offers an opportunity for believers to engage in prayers, seek forgiveness and strengthen their commitment to the values of compassion, humility and service to humanity.

The Chief Minister expressed hope that the prayers offered on this sacred night would bring peace, prosperity and harmony to Jammu and Kashmir and the entire country.

He urged people to remember the underprivileged and those in need, and to continue upholding the spirit of unity, brotherhood and mutual respect that forms the essence of the holy month.

The Chief Minister prayed for the well-being of the people and wished that the blessings of this holy night bring peace, happiness and progress to every household.

21-day fuel stock

hoarding or creating artificial scarcity will face strict action, no matter how influential they are," he said.

Later, in a video message, Satish Sharma said the government is monitoring the situation on an hourly basis and has deployed multiple enforcement teams across districts to prevent hoarding and artificial shortages of LPG,

petrol and other essential commodities.

He warned that LPG distributors, petrol pump owners or traders found violating rules will face blacklisting and cancellation of licences.

Sharma appealed to the public to avoid panic buying, assuring that the government has adequate domestic supplies and is coordinating with the Government of India to enhance LPG allocation for the region.

He added that the government has also decided to provide around 2.5 litres of kerosene per family as a temporary relief measure to support households during the ongoing crisis.

Highlighting the tourism potential of Kashmir, the minister said the government led by CM Abdullah is committed to development and strengthening the tourism sector.

Calling Kashmir the "Switzerland of India", he expressed hope that the region will witness record tourist footfall this year, particularly with the opening of Asia's largest tulip garden in Srinagar.

"We hope tourists will arrive in record numbers and there will be no inconvenience to them. Our focus remains prosperity and progress," the minister said. (KNO)

CM Omar throws

sector which remains a major driver of the region's economy.

Quoting the popular Kashmiri saying "Wande chalyie, sheen galieye, yei bahar" meaning the snow melts, flowers bloom and spring arrives, CM Omar said the change in season brings fresh hope for the people associated with tourism and allied sectors.

He noted that the Tulip Festival has emerged as one of the Valley's most prominent tourism events, providing an ideal platform to showcase the breathtaking natural beauty, cultural richness and hospitality of Kashmir to visitors from across the country and abroad.

The Chief Minister said that the Floriculture Department has introduced new terraces and redesigned flower beds this year to further enhance the experience of visitors.

He also appreciated the efforts of officers and gardeners of the Floriculture Department for preparing the garden in time for the festival and said their hard work deserves recognition.

"We will have many opportunities to talk about politics, but today the focus should remain on the Tulip Garden and the dedication of the gardeners who made this possible," he said.

CM Omar further said that the government is exploring possibilities to develop local tulip rootstock in coordination with Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir in order to gradually reduce dependence on imported bulbs in the coming years.

During the event, the Chief Minister also released a tourism promotional song titled

'Wadi-e-Sumbul', inaugurated a souvenir point set up by the Floriculture Department and inspected exhibition stalls of handicrafts and handloom products.

Several ministers, legislators and senior officials attended the inaugural ceremony of the festival, which is expected to draw a large number of tourists, photographers and nature lovers to the Valley during the ongoing spring season.

Notably, the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden also recognized as Asia's largest tulip garden remains one of Kashmir's most sought-after spring attractions and a major highlight of the Valley's tourism calendar. (KNO)

Tourists spellbound

beautiful. We have seen tulips in pictures, but seeing millions of them blooming together is a different experience altogether," Riya Sharma, a tourist from Mumbai, told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

Another visitor, Rahul Mehta from Delhi, said the garden looked like a "carpet of colours." "Every row has a different shade. You just keep walking, and the colours keep changing. It is one of the most beautiful sights we've seen," he said.

Tourists expressed hope that the bloom would last longer so that more visitors could witness the spectacle. "This is our first visit to Kashmir, and the tulip garden has made it even more special. It feels like walking through a painting," said a tourist from Gujarat.

Officials said the tulip bloom marks the beginning of the spring tourism season in Kashmir and is expected to attract a large number of visitors in the coming weeks. (KNO)

Snowfall continues

the Meteorological Department said the weather conditions are expected to remain erratic for the next few days.

According to the MeT forecast, intermittent light to moderate rain in plains and snowfall in higher reaches is likely at several places across Jammu and Kashmir till March 20.

On March 17, the weather is expected to remain partly cloudy with the possibility of brief spells of light rain or snowfall at isolated higher-altitude locations, officials said.

Between March 18 and 20, the region may witness generally cloudy skies with intermittent light to moderate rain or snowfall at many places, mainly during night and morning hours. The MeT department has advised travellers and transporters to plan their journeys carefully, particularly while moving through high-altitude areas and mountain passes.

Farmers have also been advised to suspend farm operations till March 20 in view of the expected adverse weather conditions, officials added. (KNO)

West Asia conflict

Indian airlines cancelled 4,335 flights, foreign carriers 1,187 flights: Govt in RS



PTI

New Delhi, Mar 16: Union Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu on Monday informed the Rajya Sabha that Indian airlines have cancelled 4,335 flights and foreign carriers 1,187 flights so far in the wake of the West Asia conflict.

The escalating conflict involving the US, Israel and Iran has significantly disrupted flight operations due to airspace closures in the West Asia region.

Replying to a supplementary query during Question Hour, the minister asserted that the safety of airline operations is the topmost priority. "Regarding

the cancellations that have happened because of airspace closure in West Asia, almost till now, in a cumulative, Indian carriers have cancelled up to 4,335 flights, and foreign carriers have cancelled up to 1,187 flights," Naidu said.

Stating that the safety of the operations is the topmost priority during this crisis, the minister said there is no reason for us to operate in this area when the airspace itself is closed.

Naidu said the aviation ministry and the DGCA (Directorate General of Civil Aviation) are in constant communication with the regulators in those specific countries. "Whenever there

was a slot available for us to operate, we have operated. And I can tell you that almost 2,19,780 people have travelled during this crisis time also," the minister said.

Naidu said his department and the DGCA have ensured safe operations in collaboration with the authorities there.

"And right now, there are still some airspace which is still closed, and we are trying to do our best to facilitate for them. But first and foremost, the airspace has to be open. It has to be safe to travel. Only then we can have the regular travel take place," the minister said.

EC removes top administrative, police brass in Mamata administration ahead of Bengal polls

PTI

Kolkata/New Delhi, Mar 16: In a move, unprecedented in West Bengal's administrative history, the Election Commission removed the state's bureaucratic and police top brass, including the chief secretary and the DGP, in the run-up to the assembly polls.

The decision for the shake-up was taken hours after the announcement of the assembly poll schedule on Sunday.

While the commission's first order, issued late Sunday evening, resulted in the removal of the state's two top bureaucrats, Chief Secretary Nandini Chakravorty and Home Secretary Jagdish Prasad Meena, a subsequent order, dated March 16, removed the state's DGP Peeyush Pandey and Kolkata CP Supratim Sarkar, who were among four top IPS officers in Bengal replaced ahead of the elections. The commission appointed Dushyant Nariyal, an IAS officer of the 1993 batch and additional chief secretary of the state's North Bengal Development department, as the state's chief secretary.

The poll panel ordered the appointment of Sanghamitra Ghosh, a 1997-batch IAS officer and secretary of the Women and Child Development department, as West Bengal's home secretary.

The EC appointed senior IPS officer Siddh Nath Gupta, a 1992 batch IPS officer, as the director



general of police, and brought in Ajay Kumar Nand (IPS-1996) as the new commissioner of Kolkata Police. Nand served as ADG (Counter Insurgency Force) prior to this posting.

The commission also replaced ADG (law and order) Vineet Goyal with Ajay Mukund Ranade (IPS-1995) and appointed Natarajan Ramesh Babu, a senior IPS officer of the 1991 batch, as DG (correctional services), in place of Siddh Nath Gupta, who held that position prior to the transfers.

The poll panel said its directions are to be implemented with immediate effect, and

asked for a report of the joining of all the officers in their respective offices by 3 pm on Monday.

"...the officers transferred out shall not be posted in any election-related posts till the completion of elections," the communications, signed by commission secretary Sujet Kr Mishra, said. "Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, in his press conference on Sunday, had assured that elections in West Bengal would be violence-free and peaceful. In pursuance of this objective, the ECI has transferred senior police officials of West Bengal, including the DGP and the Kolkata

Police commissioner," a senior Election Commission official told PTI.

It bears recall that during the commission's full bench visit to Kolkata last week to review poll preparedness of the state, Kumar had, as per media reports, reprimanded Goyal and questioned the absence of a Narcotics Advisory Committee in Bengal.

Kumar said the commission has instructed officers in the state to enforce the rule of law strictly without fear or favour.

"We have reviewed the law and order condition in the state and the entire government, led by its chief secretary, the DGP, the CPs and SPs, has assured the commission that the election will remain free of violence and intimidation," the CEC had said.

Kumar was unambiguous on the operational boundaries within which the commission expected the state officials to work during the poll process.

"All officials must work within the purview of law, constitutional provisions and EC's instructions. Any slackness in that regard will result in strict disciplinary action," he said.

The reshuffle was enforced in the wake of the Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress dispensation's constant criticism of the poll body over the ongoing SIR exercise in the state.

The assembly polls will be held in the state on April 23 and 29, and votes will be counted on May 4.

Rajya Sabha to observe holiday on March 19-20; to sit on March 28-29

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 16: The Rajya Sabha will function on the weekend on March 28-29 as the government has accepted the request of some members not to hold sittings on March 19-20 on account of festivals, Chairman C P Radhakrishnan informed members on Monday.

During a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee held on March 11, 2026, certain members had suggested that in view of several festivals such as Navaratri, Gudipadwa, Ramadan etc, starting from March 19, it



would be inappropriate to hold sittings of the House.

"I wish to inform the members that the request made in this regard has been considered favourably by the government. Accordingly, the sittings of the Council scheduled for Thursday, 19 March 2026, and Friday, 20 March 2026, stands cancelled.

"However, in order to make up for the time so lost, the Council will instead sit on Saturday, 28 March 2026, and Sunday, 29 March 2026. Members may kindly take note of the same," the Rajya Sabha Chairman said.

SC to hear PIL seeking 4-year LL.B instead of 5-yr course after Class 12

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 16: The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear in April a PIL seeking the establishment of a Legal Education Commission to reform the legal education system and provide for a four-year LL.B instead of five-year course after Class 12.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi took note of the submissions made by



advocate and PIL petitioner Ashwini Upadhyay, who sought the constitution of a commission of

eminent jurists to review and frame the syllabus for legal studies in India.

Upadhyay, in a PIL filed through lawyer Ashwani Dubey, said that in several countries LL.B course after Class 12 is four years and here, it spans for five years sans practical knowledge.

Upadhyay said the commission should comprise leading jurists and experts who could review the existing framework of legal education and design a more effective curriculum.

Govt to soon come out with revamped Stand-Up India scheme: FM

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 16: The government will soon come out with a modified Stand-Up India scheme to provide better benefits to SC/ST and women entrepreneurs looking to set up new projects, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday.

Launched in 2016, the Stand-Up India scheme aimed to empower Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and women entrepreneurs by facilitating bank loans for setting up new enterprises. The scheme expired on March 31, 2025.

Replying to a supplementary question in the Lok Sabha, the Minister said the modified scheme will incorporate lessons learnt in implementation of the original Stand-Up India scheme.

"With studies done by Niti Aayog and others, this scheme is being redrafted and sooner the Cabinet will



be given a proposal with which we will launch a new scheme to continue with this Stand-Up which benefited SC/ST and women all over the country," Sitharaman said.

The scheme provided loans between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 crore at the lowest applicable rate of the bank for that category, with a repayment period of 7 years with a maximum moratorium of up to 18 months.

On whether the government is planning to

increase the loan amount, Sitharaman said. "We are looking at various options for the new scheme." To another question why only greenfield projects were being given loans under the Stand-Up India scheme, she said there are several other loan options available to businesses through PM Mudra scheme or SIDBI financing. Besides, there is Startup India scheme, which is for innovative ideas and largely restricted to urban areas.

Over 13,000 teaching posts vacant in KVVs, Navodaya schools: Edu ministry

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 16: Over 13,000 teaching positions are vacant in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVVs) and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) across the country, the Ministry of Education informed the Lok Sabha on Monday.

The information was shared by Union Minister of State for Education Jayant Chaudhary in response to a written question.

"A total of 8,618 and 5,083 teaching

posts are lying vacant in KVVs and JNVs, respectively. Vacancies keep on arising due to opening of new schools, retirement, resignation, promotion of employees, transfer, employees going on lien to another department and upgradation of schools," Chaudhary said.

"Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and efforts are made to fill up the vacancies as per the provisions of the relevant recruitment rules of KVVs and NVs," he added.

INOX LIVE A MOVIE

Movies SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, 17 MARCH

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>DHURANDHAR (A) HINDI - 02:40 PM</p> | <p>O'ROMEO (A) HINDI - 11:00 AM, 06:45 PM</p> |
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US officials predict quick end to Iran war, Tehran says it can outlast foes

REUTERS

(Dubai/Jerusalem/Palm Beach (Florida), Mar 16: U.S. officials responding to economic uncertainty over high oil prices predicted on Sunday that the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran would end within weeks and that a drop in energy costs would follow, despite Iran's assertion that it remains "stable and strong" and ready to defend itself.

U.S. President Donald Trump threatened more strikes on Iran's main oil export hub Kharg Island over the weekend and said he was not ready to reach a deal to end the war which has shut off the vital Strait of Hormuz and shaken up global energy markets.

The Trump administration plans to announce as early as this week that multiple countries have agreed to form a coalition to escort ships through the narrow waterway but they are still discussing whether those operations would begin before or after hostilities end, the Wall Street Journal reported, citing unnamed U.S. officials. The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trump, who on Friday said the U.S. Navy would "soon" start escorting oil tankers, has said Iran wants to negotiate, but Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi on Sunday disputed that claim.

"We have never asked for a ceasefire, and we have never asked even for negotiations," Araqchi told CBS'

"Face the Nation" program. "We are ready to defend ourselves for as long as it takes."

With crude oil prices hovering around \$100 a barrel, Trump administration officials insisted that all signs point to a relatively quick end to the conflict.

"This conflict will certainly come to the end in the next few weeks — could be sooner than that ... and we'll see a rebound in supplies and a pushing down of prices after that," U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright told ABC's "This Week" program.

Meanwhile, Araqchi sought to project an image of strength.

"It's not a war of survival. We are stable and strong enough," Araqchi told CBS. "We don't see any reason why we should talk with Americans, because we were talking with them when they decided to attack us, and that was for the second time."

With the war entering its third week, Trump said on Saturday that U.S. strikes had "totally demolished" much of Kharg Island and warned of more, telling NBC News on Saturday, "We may hit it a few more times just for fun."

The comments marked a sharp escalation from Trump, who had previously said the U.S. was targeting only military sites on Kharg, and dealt a blow to diplomatic efforts to end a war that has spread across the Middle East and killed more than 2,000 people, most in Iran and Lebanon.

Washington has brushed aside



attempts by Middle Eastern allies to open talks, three sources told Reuters, and Iran's Revolutionary Guards said on Sunday they had fired more missiles at Israel and three U.S. bases in the region.

But Israel and Lebanon are expected to hold talks in coming days aimed at securing a ceasefire that would see Iran-backed Hezbollah disarmed, two Israeli officials said. Lebanon was sucked into the war when Hezbollah opened fire at Israel, saying it was to avenge the killing of Iran's

supreme leader, and Israel has responded with a fierce offensive.

WAR, ENERGY CRISIS LOOK SET TO PERSIST

With global air transport heavily disrupted and no clear end in sight, Iran's ability to choke off traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, the conduit for a fifth of global oil and liquefied natural gas, has emerged as a decisive threat to the global economy.

Although some Iranian vessels have continued to pass, the passage has been effectively closed for most

of the world's shipping since the United States and Israel attacked Iran on February 28 at the start of an intensive bombing campaign that has hit thousands of targets across the country. The International Energy Agency on Sunday said oil from its emergency reserves will begin flowing to global markets soon, with member countries pledging to make available 411.9 million barrels.

Trump on Saturday called on China, France, Japan, South Korea, Britain and other countries impacted by the choking off of oil supplies through the Strait of Hormuz to join efforts to reopen shipping lanes.

On Sunday, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer spoke to Trump about the need to reopen the Strait, a Downing Street spokeswoman said.

The Financial Times reported that European Union foreign ministers would discuss expanding the EU's regional Aspidos naval mission, which protects shipping against Houthi attacks in the Red Sea, to include the Strait of Hormuz. German Foreign Minister Johann Wadepuhl said he was skeptical about such a move.

French President Emmanuel Macron said in a post on X that in a call with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian he had urged the restoration of freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and an immediate end to attacks against countries in the region, whether directly or through proxies.

Athlete first governance to guide future of Indian sport: IOA president



PTI

New Delhi, Mar 16: Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president PT Usha says India's sports administration must be guided by policies that place athletes at the centre of decision-making.

Speaking on Day 3 of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Sports Journalism Federation of India's (SJFI) Annual Convention, Usha said ensuring the preparation, welfare and development of athletes must remain the highest priority for administrators and sporting bodies.

"Athlete-first governance must guide the future of Indian sport. Their preparation, welfare and development must remain our highest priority," Usha said while addressing members of the sports media fraternity on Sunday.

Reflecting on India's evolving sporting landscape, Usha said the country currently stands at a significant moment in its sporting journey, with improved infrastructure, better scientific training and stronger institutional support helping athletes compete confidently on the global stage.

"Over the past decade, we have witnessed a transformation in the way sport is supported and celebrated in our country.

EU weighs action to keep Strait of Hormuz open



AP

Brussels, Mar 16: The European Union said on Monday it will consider how to help keep the Strait of Hormuz open as energy and commodity prices rise in the third week of war between Iran, Israel and the United States.

"It is in our interest to keep the Strait of Hormuz open, and that's why we are also discussing what we can do in this regard from the European side," said Kaja Kallas, the EU's foreign policy chief, ahead of a meeting of the 27-nation bloc's foreign ministers in Brussels on Monday.

US President Donald Trump has asked allies - including France, China, Japan, South Korea and Britain - to help secure the strait for global shipping.

Kallas said the EU could expand its Aspidos naval mission to protect shipping in the Red Sea up into the Persian Gulf, or it could form a "coalition of the willing" with member nations contributing military capacity on an ad hoc basis. The war

in Iran, sparked on Feb. 28, airstrikes by Israel and the US, has driven up energy prices worldwide, with Brent crude up more than 40 per cent. But the conflict has also disrupted the wider global supply chain beyond oil, affecting everything from pharmaceuticals from India, semiconductors from Asia and oil-derived products like fertilisers that come from the Middle East.

Cargo ships are stuck in the Gulf or making a much longer detour around the southern tip of Africa. Planes carrying air cargo out of the Middle East are grounded. And the longer the war drags on, the more likely it is that there will be shortages and price increases on a wide range of goods.

France has said it is working with countries - President Emmanuel Macron mentioned partners in Europe, India and Asia - on a possible international mission to escort ships through the strait, but has stressed it must be when "the circumstances permit," when fighting has subsided.

Picked Ishan for WC on gut feeling, sensed his X-factor, says skipper Surya

PTI

New Delhi, Mar 16: India skipper Suryakumar Yadav says he brought power-hitter Ishan Kishan into the T20 World Cup winning team purely on gut feeling, because he felt the Bihar batsman had the X-factor that could turn around matches.

In a podcast interview with PTI Videos on Sunday, Suryakumar was asked if he is a data-driven captain or gut-feel skipper, and what made him pick Kishan over Jitesh Sharma.

"It was completely on gut, little bit on data. It (the decision) was very harsh on Jitesh Sharma at that time because he was playing with the team for over an year. And he was playing, had he not been playing then the story would have been different," he said.

Suryakumar, who led India to the T20 World Cup victory on March 8, spoke at length about his career, the future of Indian cricket, and his relationship with head

coach Gautam Gambhir and the squad. He pointed out that his own batting is driven largely by reaction and instincts.

"I was also very sad when we had to pick Ishan over Jitesh. But we needed an opener who could fire at the top, so someone had to miss out."

He revealed how Kishan came into the squad: Suryakumar called the 27-year-old and asked "Chhotu, World Cup jitayega?" (Will you get us the World Cup?). Kishan responded "Bharosa karogey?" (Do you trust me?) to which Suryakumar said "Chal kiya" (Done).

"And the way he played was amazing ... I always knew that he can be the X-factor because he has no baggage," Suryakumar recalled. He added that Kishan was going through a bad patch, having been out of the team for a while. To stay in the game, he travelled all over India and played minor matches, even practice games, to keep himself in the reckoning.

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DUA FOR SEHRI

وَبِصَوْمٍ غَدٍ نُوَيْتُ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ
I intend to keep the fast for tomorrow in the month of Ramadan

DUA FOR IFTAAR

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

Kashmir Thunder

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