

## Rain, hailstorms wreak havoc across J&K

Man killed in Anantnag, woman dies in Doda | LG Sinha closely monitoring situation | Cloudbursts trigger flash floods in Doda, Kishtwar | Fruit growers report extensive crop losses

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Jun 02: As hailstorms, intense rainfall and gusty winds caused widespread damage to crops and orchards across several parts of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, a man was killed and his wife critically injured after a tree fell on them in South Kashmir's Anantnag district, while a woman died in lightning strike in Doda district.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) an ageing tree collapsed and fell on a couple near the Janglat Mandi-Lal Chowk road in Anantnag amid strong winds. The deceased was identified as Mohammad Rafiq Kujwal of Utross. The condition of his wife remains critical and is undergoing treatment.

A woman identified as Pinki Devi from Khuddhar Doda died after a lightning struck the area



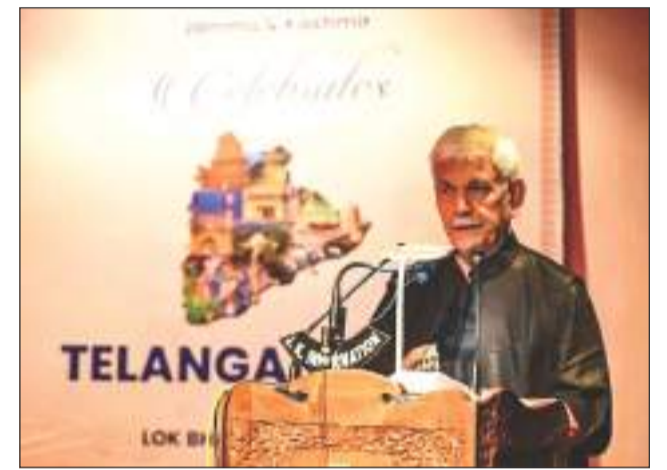
This evening, LG SINHA CLOSELY MONITORING SITUATION Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha is closely monitoring the situation that has arisen due to the flash floods caused by heavy rainfall in Kishtwar and Doda. The Lieutenant Governor

has posted on X: "Spoke with Deputy Commissioners of Kishtwar & Doda regarding the flash floods caused by heavy rainfall. Fortunately, no loss of life or property damage has been reported. Emergency response teams have been directed to remain on high alert and continuously monitor the situation.

I've directed both the DCs of Kishtwar and Doda to swiftly restore roads, highways, and water pipelines. Field staff and specialized medical teams are on high alert, and damage assessments will begin as soon as field verification is complete. My sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Pinki Devi from Khuddhar Doda, who tragically passed away due to a lightning strike. The Deputy Commissioner of Doda has been directed to provide immediate relief and assistance to the family." | More on P6

## Statehood Day of Telangana celebrated in Lok Bhavan

LG Sinha highlights State's rich literary traditions



KT News Desk

Srinagar, June 2: The Statehood Day of Telangana was celebrated in Jammu and Kashmir Lok Bhavan in the presence of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor said that this is a remarkable coincidence that both Jammu and Kashmir and Telangana are considered as sacred lands of Lord Shiva.

He emphasised the rich literary traditions of Telangana

and said the great figures in this field inspired and awakened the society.

"From the 11th-century verses of Malliya Rechanna to the poetic imagination of modern figures such as Atreya and Dasarathi Krishna macharyulu, Telangana's literary tradition has enriched Indian literature. Since ancient times, Kashmir and Telangana are considered as sacred lands of Lord Shiva. He emphasised the rich literary traditions of Telangana and the social | More on P6

## Man dies, wife critical after tree falls in Anantnag

Umair Gul Ganaie

Anantnag, Jun 02: A man died while his wife sustained critical injuries after a huge tree fell on them amid strong winds near the Ganjiwara area of Anantnag town on Tuesday, officials said.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that a large tree was uprooted by strong

winds near Ganjiwara, leading to the disruption of traffic movement on the Lal Chowk-GMC Anantnag road.

He said police and other agencies promptly launched clearance operations, restoring traffic on one side of the road, while efforts were underway to fully reopen the route.

The official said two civilians, identified as Mohammad Rafiq Kujwal and his wife, Marina, residents

of Brariangan, Shangus, were injured in the incident and were immediately shifted to Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag for treatment.

However, Mohammad Rafiq later succumbed to his injuries at the hospital, while his wife remains under treatment in critical condition, he said.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident and initiated further proceedings. (KNO)

## Omar to chair crucial meeting of NC MLAs, MPs today

All eyes on ruling party's stance on statehood

KNO Special Correspondent

Srinagar, Jun 02: All eyes are on the crucial meeting of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah with National Conference MLAs and MPs, and five independent MLAs supporting his government.

Sources told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that all NC MLAs, four MPs, and the five independent MLAs have been invited to the meeting, which will be chaired by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah himself.

The party leadership is tight-lipped about the agenda of the meeting, with sources suggesting that only the Chief Minister is aware of the issues to be discussed.

"Nobody, including ministers, has any idea what will be discussed in the meeting or what agenda will come up," sources said, adding that governance—particularly the functioning of ministers—would be discussed there.

Sources further told KNO that MLAs from Pir Panchal have complained to Chief Minister



Omar Abdullah about bias in the allotment of funds by the Roads & Buildings Ministry under different schemes.

"They have alleged that the Deputy CM's constituency has virtually walked away with all the funds of the R&B Department, while their segments have been allotted peanuts," sources said, adding that they cited allocations made under different schemes by the R&B Department.

The political parties in J&K are keenly watching | More on P6

## LoP accuses CM of reducing governance to loyalty parades

KNO Special Correspondent

Srinagar, Jun 02: Describing the National Conference's June 3 meeting as a floor test, Leader of Opposition Sunil Kumar Sharma on Tuesday said | More on P6

## First batch of 144 Hajj pilgrims arrives

CM receives Hajjis at airport; '40% luggage pending, to reach in 2-3 days'



Naveed UI Haq Ganaie

Srinagar, Jun 02: The first batch of Hajj pilgrims from Jammu & Kashmir arrived at Srinagar International Airport on Tuesday, marking the commencement of the return phase of Hajj-2026 operations.

The inaugural flight carried 144 pilgrims, who were received at the airport by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, his Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam Athar Aamir Khan and other senior civil and police officials.

Speaking to the media, J&K Haj Committee Chief Executive Officer Dr Shujaat Ahmad Qureshi,

as reported by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said all 144 pilgrims scheduled on the first return flight arrived safely in Srinagar.

"The batch included 74 male and 70 female Hajjis," he said, adding that adequate arrangements had been put in place at the airport, including transportation, medical assistance, help desks and distribution of Zamzam water.

Regarding concerns over baggage restrictions, Dr Qureshi said around 40 per cent of the luggage remains pending due to operational limitations and is expected to reach Hajj House within the next two to three days. He advised | More on P6

## CM personally monitoring Hajj pilgrims' luggage issue: Advisor

Naveed UI Haq Ganaie

Budgam, Jun 02: Chief Minister's Advisor, Nasir Aslam Wani on Tuesday said the Jammu and Kashmir government is actively pursuing Hajj pilgrims' luggage issue and has taken up the matter with the Union Civil Aviation Ministry.

Speaking to reporters while welcoming returning Hajj pilgrims at Srinagar Airport, Wani, as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said a portion of the luggage had already arrived with the latest flight, while efforts were continuing to facilitate the return of the remaining baggage, including permitted food items.

He said CM Omar Abdullah has personally taken up the matter with the Union | More on P6

## MEA slams EU-Pak remarks on J&K

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Jun 02: India on Tuesday rejected references to Jammu and Kashmir in a joint statement issued by Pakistan and the European Union, asserting that the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are integral parts of the country and that external parties have no role in matters concerning them.

Responding to media queries on the issue, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said that India "categorically rejects" remarks relating to Jammu and Kashmir contained in the joint press communique issued following talks between Pakistan and the European Union. "We categorically reject such unwarranted references on matters internal to India," Jaiswal said.

He reiterated that the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are an "integral and inalienable" part of India and said those with no locus standi on the issue should refrain from commenting on it.

The reaction came after a joint statement issued following discussions between Pakistan and European Union representatives referred to Jammu and Kashmir while calling for the peaceful resolution



of conflicts through dialogue and diplomacy in line with the principles of the UN Charter.

According to the communique, the Pakistan side briefed the European Union on Jammu and Kashmir, while the EU side shared its views on the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

India has consistently maintained that Jammu and Kashmir is an internal matter and has opposed any third-party involvement in issues related to the region.

New Delhi's position remains that the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, along with Ladakh, is an integral part of India, while areas under Pakistan's control are part of Indian territory under illegal occupation.

The government has repeatedly stated that any outstanding issues with Pakistan can be addressed | More on P6

## Sgr records hottest night of season at 19.2°C

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Jun 02: Srinagar recorded hottest night of the season on Monday as the minimum temperature settled at 19.2 degrees Celsius, several notches above normal for this time of the year.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir witnessed unusually warm night-time conditions.

Weather office stated that Qazigund recorded a minimum temperature of 17.6 degrees Celsius, while Kupwara settled at 15.2 degrees Celsius. Kokernag recorded 16.5 degrees Celsius and Pahalgam 12.4 degrees Celsius.



Gulmarg, the famous ski resort in North Kashmir, recorded a low of 10.5 degrees Celsius, while Sonamarg registered 11.8 Degrees Celsius. Among other stations, Konibal

Pampore recorded 17.2 degrees Celsius, Srinagar Airport 17.4 degrees Celsius, Awantipora 17 degrees Celsius, Bandipora 17.6 degrees Celsius, Shopian 13.2 degrees Celsius, Kulgam 17.6

degrees Celsius, Pulwama 16.5 degrees Celsius and Anantnag 17.5 degrees Celsius. MeT office said both day and night temperatures have remained above | More on P6

## J&K GDCs log over 7% rise in admissions: Govt

20% rise in admissions expected by June-end: Edu Minister

Riyaz Bhat

Srinagar, Jun 02: Authorities on Tuesday said that Government Degree Colleges in Jammu and Kashmir have recorded an increase of more than seven per cent in student enrolment in the first round of admissions compared to previous year.

The government also said that it was expecting a 20% increase in student enrolment by the completion of the admission process.

Taking to the microblogging site X, Education Minister Sakina Itoo as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "This year, due to the decisions taken to ease and simplify the admission process in Govt.



Degree Colleges across J&K, we have witnessed a significant increase in student enrolment, reversing the declining trend in college admissions seen in recent years."

She said, "In the very first round itself, admissions have reached 49,155 compared to 45,920 last year reflecting an

increase of over 7%." The minister further said, "By the completion of the admission process, we expect total admissions to cross 55,000 by the end of June, representing nearly a 20% increase over previous year."

"This encouraging response reflects the | More on P6

## Ensure timely execution of projects, effective public service delivery: Javed Rana

### Reviews developmental issues of Trehgam Constituency

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 2: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, Tuesday chaired a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review developmental issues and ongoing works pertaining to the Assembly Constituency Trehgam represented by MLA Mir Saifullah.

The meeting was convened to assess the progress of various infrastructure and public welfare projects in Trehgam, Kupwara, and to discuss measures for expediting developmental initiatives in the constituency. Detailed deliberations were held on issues related to water supply, road connectivity, public infrastructure and other sectoral requirements raised by the concerned legislator.

During the meeting, the Minister took a comprehensive review of ongoing and proposed works being executed by different departments. He stressed the need for close inter-departmental



coordination to ensure timely completion of projects and prompt resolution of issues affecting the public.

Javed Rana underscored the government's commitment towards balanced and inclusive development, stating that the aspirations and genuine concerns of the people must be addressed in a time-bound manner. He directed the officers to identify bottlenecks hindering the progress of developmental works and take immediate corrective measures for their resolution.

The Minister emphasized that public welfare remains the top

priority of the government and called for greater responsiveness, accountability and efficiency in service delivery. He instructed the concerned departments to maintain regular monitoring of projects and ensure that developmental benefits reach the people at the grassroots level without delay.

MLA Mir Saifullah highlighted several issues and developmental requirements of his constituency and sought early intervention of the concerned departments for their redressal.

The meeting was attended by senior officers of the concerned departments.

## DC Pulwama chairs 33rd NCORD meeting, reviews anti-drug measures



KT NEWS DESK

PULWAMA, JUNE 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom Tuesday chaired the 33rd meeting of the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) at Circuit House Pulwama to review the progress achieved under the ongoing anti-drug campaign and assess the implementation of various measures aimed at curbing drug abuse and illicit cultivation in the district.

At the outset, Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Pulwama presented a detailed overview of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA), highlighting its objectives, key interventions and activities being undertaken under the ongoing 100-day intensive campaign being implemented across the district under the abhiyan. The presentation focused on awareness activities, community participation, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and enforcement measures being carried out by different stakeholder departments.

## DC Srinagar reviews progress under Catch the Rain Programme

KT NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR, JUNE 02: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, Tuesday chaired a meeting here at the Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex to review the progress of Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Abhiyan 2.0 under Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Catch the Rain Campaign in the District.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Rifat Aftab Qureshi, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Joint Commissioner SMC, Suhail Islam, Superintending Engineer Hydraulic, Er Ambreen Anjum, Assistant Commissioner Development, Tariq Ahmad, SDM East, Zubair Ahmad, Executive Engineers of I&FC, Water Works Division, Rural Water Works, UEED, SMC, City Drainage, SMC, LCMA and other concerned.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for effective inter-departmental coordination to achieve the objectives of the campaign. He directed stakeholder Departments to ensure timely completion of ongoing works and stressed the importance of



creating sustainable rain water harvesting systems and ground water recharging systems across the district to augment availability of water.

The DC directed the Jal Shakti Department to continue the geo-tagging of water sources and implementing suitable water conservation interventions. He also emphasized the need to intensify IEC activities across the District to promote awareness on water conservation, sustainable water management and community participation in safeguarding water resources.

## Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan Bandipora witnesses series of awareness programmes

KT NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA, JUNE 02: A series of awareness and outreach programmes were organised across Bandipora district under the ongoing Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA) to spread awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to promote a healthy and drug-free society. At HKM Degree College Bandipora, the NSS Youth Club in collaboration with the Department of Kashmiri organised an Essay Writing Competition on the theme "Ill Effects of Drug Addiction on Youth." The programme was conducted under the supervision of Convener, NCORD Cell, Prof. Irfan Ahmad Wagay.

The competition aimed to create awareness among students regarding the adverse effects of drug addiction on youth, families and society. A large number of students participated enthusiastically and expressed their views through thoughtful and informative essays. The programme encouraged students to reflect upon the importance of leading a healthy and drug-free life and contributed towards the objectives of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.

Meanwhile, under the aegis of the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, the Red Ribbon

Youth Club in collaboration with the NSS Youth Club of HKM Degree College Bandipora organised a rally on drug abuse awareness. Students and faculty members participated enthusiastically in the rally and raised slogans highlighting the harmful effects of substance abuse and the importance of building a drug-free society. The rally aimed to sensitize the youth about the growing menace of drug addiction and encourage them to adopt a healthy and responsible lifestyle. As part of the prelude to the 12th International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026, an Awareness-cum-Yoga Session was organised at Ummar Public Secondary School Malangam. During the session, awareness was imparted regarding the significance of Yog Asanas, pranayama, meditation and Yog Nidra in combating addiction. Subsequently, a yoga session was conducted by Mir Shabreena, Yoga Instructor, AHWC Kehnoosa. Around 200 participants attended the programme. In another programme, a Special Yoga Session-cum-Awareness Programme was conducted at Ummar Public Secondary School Malangam for selected student demonstrators under the vision of Nasha Mukht J&K Abhiyan and the Directorate of Ayush J&K's commitment to preventive healthcare.

## NMBA: Mass awareness, outreach activities in Budgam

KT NEWS DESK

BUDGAM, JUNE 02: As part of the ongoing Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA), a series of awareness, outreach, pledge-taking and enforcement activities were organized across various parts of District Budgam with active participation from government departments, educational institutions and local communities.

Awareness programmes were conducted in several areas of the district to educate people, particularly youth and farmers, about the harmful effects of drug abuse.

Posters carrying anti-drug messages were displayed and distributed among the public, while field-level interactions were held to encourage community participation in the fight against substance abuse and illicit cultivation of narcotic crops.

Inspections and monitoring drives were carried out at various locations to ensure compliance with relevant regulations and to strengthen vigilance against the misuse and illegal movement of narcotic substances.

The Forest Department organized pledge-taking ceremonies, plantation drives and awareness programmes under the NMBA banner. Officials and field staff reaffirmed their commitment towards building a drug-free society and encouraged greater public participation in the campaign. Educational institutions also played an active role in spreading awareness. Various activities, including cultural programmes and anti-drug awareness skits, were organized to sensitize students and the general public about the social, economic and health consequences of drug addiction.

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE SRINAGAR

Subject: Final Answer Key of the written test (OMR - MCQ Based) held on 19.05.2026 & selection/engagement of the candidate as "Data Entry Operator".

Notification No. 17 - EC of 2026.

Dated: 25.05.2026

Whereas, the Government Medical College, Srinagar conducted written test of the candidates for selection/engagement as "Data Entry Operator" on 19.05.2026 in response to Advertisement Notice No.: Micro/HOD/2026/1182-89; Dated: 30.01.2026 under National One Health Programme for Prevention and Control of Zoonosis in the Department of Microbiology, GMC, Srinagar.

Whereas, vide this office Notification No: 15- EC of 2026; Dated: 19.05.2026, the Answer Key framed by the paper-setter was notified as Annexure- "B" for information of all concerned candidates with a provision that if any candidate feels that the key to any question(s) is/are wrong, he/she can submit objection/representation on the prescribed format within two days i.e., upto 21.05.2026 (04:00 PM) along with a sufficient documentary proof/evidence and fee of Rs. 300/- (Three Hundred); and

Whereas, in response to the said notification One (01) representation against One (01) question i.e., Question Number 08 (Eight) was received within the stipulated time frame.

Whereas, the representation so received was referred to the concerned subject expert for the review who held the claim unjustified.

Therefore, the answer key already notified vide this office Notification No. No: 15- EC of 2026; Dated: 19.05.2026, is hereby declared as final and no further claim whatsoever shall henceforth be entertained in this regard.

On the basis of evaluation carried out in accordance with the Final Answer Key, the result/Merit of the written test held on 19.05.2026 for selection/engagement of the candidates as Data Entry Operator is hereby notified as Annexure- "A" to this notification.

Consequent upon above and on the basis of the marks obtained in the written test, the selection/waiting list is given as Annexure- "B" to this notification.

The selected candidate as indicated in the Annexure- "B" to this notification is hereby directed to report to Gazetted Section, Government Medical College, Srinagar along with the following documents within two weeks from the date of issuance of this notification, to enable them to send URL, Login ID and Password to the selected candidate's respective registered mobile number for submission of online form through Employee Verification System (EVS) to the concerned:

Application form (in coloured)

Xerox Copies of all uploaded certificates.

All original certificates for Physical Verification.

However, if the candidate fails to report to the Office of Gazetted Section, Government Medical College, Srinagar within the stipulated time or at the time of physical verification of the aforementioned documents are not found in accordance to the conditions laid down in the advertisement notification, his/her selection shall forfeit without any further notice.

No: GMCS/EC/SeI/DEO/65-70. Dated: 25-05-2026

Prof (Dr) Iffat Hassan Shah Principal/Dean

Annexure "A" to the Notification No. 17-EC of 2026 Dated: 25-05-2026

S. No	Roll No.	Applicant Name	D.O.B	Marks Obtained
1	103193	MR. ABSAR QURESHI	22-04-1998	25
2	103194	MR. MUDASIR RASHID	05-01-1991	Absent
3	103195	MR. NAEEM AHMAD BHAT	01-05-1999	22
4	103196	MS. SAHIBA JAN	03-09-1999	18
5	103197	MR. MOHD LATEEF GANAIE	05-02-1990	Absent
6	103198	MR. SARTAJ AZIZ BHAT	29-03-1991	30
7	103199	MR. KAISER NABI KHAN	08-04-1998	37
8	103200	MS. HUZAIFA JAVID	20-05-2002	41
9	103201	MS. AARIZOO HASSAN	16-02-2001	17
10	103202	MR. SYED MUZAFAR SHAH	28-02-1990	Absent
11	103203	MR. ARSHID FAROOQ WAR	03-08-1998	Absent
12	103204	MR. IRSHAD AHMAD SHAH SYED BUKHARI	26-11-1989	16
13	103205	MR. MOHAMMAD MOIN WANI	18-02-1999	25
14	103206	MR. MEHRAJ UL RAHMAN	07-04-1997	27
15	103207	MR. ZUBAIR MUSHTAQ DAR	29-08-1998	31
16	103208	MR. MUDASIR ALI DAR	21-12-1993	Absent
17	103209	MR. SHARIQ AHMAD PARAY	01-03-1998	30
18	103210	MR. OVAIS BASHIR RISHI	16-03-2003	26
19	103211	MS. UZMA YASEEN	02-09-1994	19
20	103212	MR. MUHAMMAD NAQSHBANDI	27-07-1998	Absent
21	103213	MR. WASEEM AHMAD KHAN	19-03-1990	24
22	103214	MS. FARHANA	16-10-1993	Absent
23	103215	MR. YASIR BASHIR MIR	30-12-1997	Absent
24	103216	MR. MOHAMMAD YUNUS KATARI	10-06-2000	Absent
25	103217	MR. MOHSIN NIYAZ	04-03-1999	29
26	103218	MR. GOWHAR KHURSHID	18-03-1994	19
27	103219	MR. MOHD RAFIQ	05-03-1994	Absent
28	103220	MS. HINA RASHID	20-10-1987	20
29	103221	MR. ASHRAF MANZOOR AHANGER	15-12-1997	14
30	103222	MS. TAMSEEL MAJID KHA	30-11-1992	32
31	103223	MR. MOHD YAQOOB HAJAM	06-06-1989	15
32	103224	MR. JAVID AHMAD HAJAM	12-05-1994	18
33	103225	MR. IQRAH HUSSAIN SHAH	25-12-1999	19
34	103226	MR. ISHFAQ AHMAD BHAT	08-06-1995	Absent

S. No	Roll No.	Applicant Name	D.O.B	Marks Obtained
35	103227	MR. SHEIKH ASHAK HUSSIAN	08-03-1997	27
36	103228	MR. MOHAMMAD AESRAR DAR	24-04-1997	28
37	103229	MS. INSHA RASHID	18-09-1991	19
38	103230	DR. IRFAN AHMAD KHAN	25-03-1988	14
39	103231	MR. GULAM AHMAD PAHLOO	10-11-1996	21
40	103232	MR. FAIZAN RASHID	04-07-2000	28
41	103233	MR. AHSAN UL HAQ BANDAY	12-11-1986	21
42	103234	MS. ANISA	01-01-1994	28
43	103235	MR. ADIL JAVID SHEIKH	27-04-1997	16
44	103236	MR. DANISH BASHIR	02-02-1994	18
45	103237	MS. AZAFAR ISMAIL	15-07-1995	29
46	103238	MS. BISMA HASSAN	05-06-1997	13
47	103239	MR. UMER HUSSAIN PEER	02-03-1994	24
48	103240	MR. MOHD RAFIQ BHAT	05-01-1993	Absent
49	103241	MRS. SUZEENA NAZIR	27-06-1988	Absent
50	103242	MR. SHABIR UR RASHID	12-01-1994	Absent

Annexure - "B" to the Notification No. 1-EC of 2026  
Dated: 25-05-2026

S. No	Roll No.	Applicant Name	D.O.B	Marks Obtained	Status
1	103200	MS. HUZAIFA JAVID	20-05-2002	41	Selected
2	103199	MR. KAISER NABI KHAN	08-04-1998	37	Waiting
3	103222	MS. TAMSEEL MAJID KHAN	30-11-1992	32	Not Selected
4	103207	MR. ZUBAIR MUSHTAQ DAR	29-08-1998	31	Not Selected
5	103198	MR. SARTAJ AZIZ BHAT	29-03-1991	30	Not Selected
6	103209	MR. SHARIQ AHMAD PARAY	01-03-1998	30	Not Selected
7	103217	MS. AZAFAR ISMAIL	15-07-1995	29	Not Selected
8	103214	MR. MOHSIN NIYAZ	04-03-1999	29	Not Selected
9	103224	MS. ANISA	01-01-1994	28	Not Selected
10	103222	MR. MOHAMMAD AEBAR DAR	24-04-1997	28	Not Selected
11	103222	MR. FAZAL RASHID	04-07-2000	28	Not Selected
12	103227	MR. SHEIKH ASHAR HUSSAIN	08-03-1997	27	Not Selected
13	103206	MR. MEHRAJ UL RAHMAN	07-04-1997	27	Not Selected
14	103210	MR. OVAIS BASHIR RISHI	16-03-2003	26	Not Selected
15	103215	MR. ASBAR QURESHI	22-04-1998	25	Not Selected
16	103205	MR. MOHAMMAD MOH WAN	18-02-1999	25	Not Selected
17	103213	MR. WASEEM AHMAD KHAN	19-03-1990	24	Not Selected
18	103220	MR. UMEER HUSSAIN PEER	02-03-1994	24	Not Selected
19	103215	MR. NAEEM AHMAD BHAT	01-05-1999	22	Not Selected
20	103233	MR. ASHAN UL HAD BANDAY	12-11-1986	21	Not Selected
21	103231	MR. GULAM AHMAD PAHLOO	10-11-1996	21	Not Selected
22	103220	MS. HINA RASHID	20-10-1987	20	Not Selected
23	103229	MS. NISHA RASHID	18-09-1991	19	Not Selected
24	103218	MR. GOWHAR KHURSHID	18-03-1994	19	Not Selected
25	103211	MS. UZMA YASEEN	02-09-1994	19	Not Selected
26	103225	MR. JOHAN HUSSAIN SHAH	25-12-1999	19	Not Selected
27	103236	MR. DANISH BASHIR	02-02-1994	18	Not Selected
28	103224	MR. JAVID AHMAD HAJAM	12-05-1994	18	Not Selected
29	103196	MS. SAHIBA JAN	03-09-1999	18	Not Selected
30	103201	MS. AARIZOO HASSAN	16-02-2001	17	Not Selected
31	103204	MR. IRSHAD AHMAD SHAH SYED	26-11-1989	16	Not Selected
32	103235	MR. ADIL JAVID SHEIKH	27-04-1997	16	Not Selected
33	103223	MR. MOHD YAQOOB HAJAM	06-06-1989	15	Not Selected
34	103230	DR. IRFAN AHMAD KHAN	25-03-1988	14	Not Selected
35	103221	MR. ASHRAF MANZOOR AHANGER	15-12-1997	14	Not Selected
36	103238	MS. BISMA HASSAN	05-06-1997	13	Not Selected

DIPK-1745/26 DATED: 02-06-2026

Principal/Dean Govt. Medical College Srinagar

## CM Omar chairs 9th Governing Body meet of RSGC

KT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, June 02: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday chaired the 9th Governing Body Meeting of the Royal Springs Golf Course (RSGC) at SKICC, where a comprehensive review of the functioning, infrastructure, finances and future development plans of the premier golfing destination was undertaken.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani and members of the Governing Body which include Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary Tourism Ashish Chander Verma, Additional Chief Secretary Finance Shailendra Kumar, Commissioner Secretary Planning, Development & Monitoring Alice Vaz, Secretary Royal Springs Golf Course Haris Ahmad Handoo, Director Tourism Kashmir Syed Qamar Sajjad.

Secretary, Royal Springs Golf Course, Haris Ahmad Handoo gave a detailed presentation to the Governing Body, outlining the action taken on decisions made during previous meetings. The presentation also highlighted the Golf Course's financial and operational performance, membership profile, infrastructure requirements, and

proposed strategies for its future development and growth.

The Governing Body reviewed the progress achieved and deliberated on various measures aimed at strengthening the facilities and enhancing the overall functioning of the prestigious Golf Course. The Governing Body discussed several proposals focussing on restoration and renovation of the golf course through engagement of expert consultants, enrolment of new golf playing members, construction of an aesthetically pleasing boundary wall to secure the remaining area of the Golf Course from intrusion of wild animals which is designed in harmony with the natural surroundings, renovation of huts, solarization to promote clean energy and reduce electricity expenditure, renovation and improvement in Club facilities particularly gymnasium, swimming pool, restaurant and revision in rates to boost revenue collection for maintenance of golf course.

The Chief Minister underscored the importance of improving the overall service, other facilities and overall visitor experience at the Golf course. The Chief Minister emphasized the need to adhere to the accepted engineering standards in turf management and ensuring high quality greens, fairways to match global standards.



CM Omar Abdullah emphasized on development and upgradation of Golf Course infrastructure and amenities to enhance its attractiveness for weekend golfers, corporate groups, tourists, and golfing enthusiasts, thereby promoting the facility as a premier golfing and recreational destination.

The meeting also deliberated on proposals relating to employee welfare, service matters, recruitment rules, financial management and institutional strengthening. Various initiatives for improving operational efficiency, enhancing service delivery standards and promoting golf tourism in Jammu and Kashmir were also reviewed. Emphasizing the importance of

viability of the Golf Course while maintaining the exclusivity and quality of its services.

The Chief Minister underscored the immense potential of golf tourism in Jammu & Kashmir and directed RSGC management to formulate a strategy for attracting more national and international tournaments, strengthening promotional efforts and positioning Jammu and Kashmir as a premier golfing destination on the global tourism map.

He further directed that all future development initiatives at the golf course be guided by the principles of environmental sustainability, financial prudence and long-term institutional benefit. He also emphasized the importance of employee welfare, skill upgradation and capacity building for ensuring professional management and efficient service delivery.

The Governing Body reviewed the budget estimates and action plan for the financial year 2026-27 and discussed strategies for enhancing infrastructure, improving visitor facilities and creating additional opportunities for growth of golf tourism in Jammu & Kashmir. The meeting concluded with detailed deliberations on the agenda items and directions for taking forward various proposals in accordance with established procedures.

## MP Khatana holds public outreach programme in Banihal



KT NEWS DESK

Ramban, June 02: Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Ghulam Ali Khatana on Tuesday visited Banihal and convened a public outreach programme to listen and address the grievances and developmental concerns of people from various parts of the Sub-Divisions of Banihal and Ramban.

A large number of residents from across Panchayats, Municipal Committee Banihal and adjoining areas participated in the programme and projected a wide range of public issues and demands.

The MP emphasized the need for proactive, transparent and people-centric governance, particularly in far-flung and underserved areas of district Ramban. He urged officers to view public service as an opportunity to uplift marginalized sections of society and ensure that government welfare schemes reach the poor and deserving without delay.

The MP assured the public of full support from the Union Government in resolving genuine grievances and accelerating developmental initiatives. He stressed that bottlenecks hampering key infrastructure projects must be

Addressing the gathering,

Continued on [www.kashmirthunder.in](http://www.kashmirthunder.in)

## Haj-2027

### Pilgrims asked to keep passports ready with validity till Dec-2027

REHAN QAYOUM MIR

Srinagar, Jun 02: The Haj Committee of India (HCoI) has issued an advisory for intending pilgrims, asking them to keep their passports ready ahead of the official announcement for Haj-2027 (1448 Hijri).

According to a circular issued by the HCoI under the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India, the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has initiated the preparatory process for Haj-2027 by issuing the "Preparation Document for Haj 1448 H" on May 29, 2026.

The circular states that the official Haj announcement for Haj-2027 is expected shortly, and all those planning to perform Haj through the HCoI should ensure their passports meet the prescribed requirements well in advance.

As per the advisory, the passport must be machine-readable and should remain valid at least up to December

31, 2027.

The Haj Committee has advised applicants seeking fresh passports not to leave the "Surname/Last Name" field blank, saying proper documentation and accurate information are necessary for hassle-free Haj travel arrangements.

The circular has been issued by the Chief Executive Officer of Haj Committee of India, Shanavas C. IAS, who also directed all State and Union Territory Haj Committees to give wide publicity to the advisory through appropriate channels so that prospective pilgrims remain adequately informed and prepared.

The advisory comes at a time when the return phase of Haj-2026 operations has begun in Jammu & Kashmir, with the first batch of pilgrims arriving at Srinagar International Airport on Tuesday. Officials said a total of 3,952 pilgrims from Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh are scheduled to return through the Srinagar embarkation point till June 16—(KNO)

## BHAVYA

### CS pushes for investment-ready Industrial Parks



KT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, June 02: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Tuesday reviewed the preparedness of the Industries & Commerce Department for participation in the Government of India's flagship Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana (BHAVYA), a national initiative aimed at developing world-class plug-and-play industrial parks across the country to promote industrial growth, attract investments and generate employment opportunities.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, I&C; Director, Industries, Kashmir/Jammu; MD, SIDCO/SICOP and other concerned officers of the department.

Highlighting the transformative potential of the BHAVYA scheme for Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Secretary directed the Industries & Commerce Department to expedite the process of finalizing the most suitable land parcels in both Jammu and Kashmir divisions for submission under the

scheme.

He observed that the initiative presents a unique opportunity for the Union Territory to establish modern industrial ecosystems capable of attracting large-scale investments, generating employment opportunities and promoting balanced regional economic development.

The Chief Secretary stressed the need for meticulous planning, he called for the preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for each shortlisted land parcel in conformity with the scheme guidelines. He further emphasized that the proposed industrial estates should be developed as fully integrated plug-and-play facilities equipped with all requisite infrastructure, utilities, logistics and support services, enabling industrial units to commence operations immediately upon allotment without facing procedural or infrastructural bottlenecks.

During the meeting, Commissioner Secretary,

Industries & Commerce, Vikramjit Singh, presented a detailed overview of the scheme and the steps being taken by the Department to secure inclusion under the ambitious programme notified by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Elaborating further he stated that the scheme aims to establish 100 plug-and-play industrial parks across the country in a phased manner over six years from 2026-27 to 2031-32, with a total financial outlay of about 33,660 crore. Up to 50 industrial parks will be taken up in the first phase through a challenge-based competitive selection process.

Reviewing the progress made so far, the Chief Secretary was apprised that a land parcel measuring about 725 kanals at Vijaypur in Samba district has been identified as a potential site for development of an industrial park under the scheme. Similarly for Kashmir division,

Continued on [www.kashmirthunder.in](http://www.kashmirthunder.in)

## 'Op Sherwali'

### GOC Mishra reviews hinterland operations in Rajouri



YOGESH

Jammu, Jun 02: General Officer Commanding (GOC), White Knight Corps, Lt Gen P K Mishra on Tuesday visited the general area of Gambhir Mughlan to review the progress of ongoing hinterland operations and assess the prevailing security situation on the ground.

According to the details, the Corps Commander was accompanied by the GOC Counter Insurgency Force (CIF) Romeo.

The Army Commander was briefed on the operational design, current actions being undertaken, and sustenance measures in place as part of 'Operation Sherwali.'

During the visit, senior field commanders apprised him of the evolving

tactical scenario and the challenges associated with operations in the difficult terrain.

The GOC also reviewed the logistics framework supporting troops deployed in the area, ensuring seamless operational readiness and efficiency.

Commending the troops for their resilience, professionalism and meticulous execution of assigned tasks, Lt Gen Mishra lauded their unwavering commitment to achieving operational objectives. He noted that high morale, sustained focus and firm resolve continue to drive the operation forward.

Reaffirming its commitment to maintaining peace and stability, the White Knight Corps stated that it remains mission-ready to address emerging security challenges through sustained operational excellence—(KNO)

## Mehbooba chose power over people, destroyed J&K: Sakina Itoo



REHAN QAYOUM MIR

Srinagar, Jun 02: Minister for Health and Education, Sakina Itoo, on Tuesday accused the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti, of putting power above the interests of the people and blamed her for the crisis Jammu and Kashmir is facing today.

Speaking to reporters here, Itoo said that after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah had tried to bring all political parties of Jammu and Kashmir on one platform.

"If you remember, after 2019 there was PAGD, where Dr Farooq Abdullah tried to gather all political parties of Jammu and Kashmir under one roof to represent the people of J&K and raise their voice," she said.

Itoo alleged that even before the formation of PAGD, the National Conference leadership had offered unconditional support to Mehbooba Mufti after the collapse of the PDP-BJP government in 2018 to prevent the BJP from returning to power in Jammu and Kashmir. "When the BJP withdrew support from her government, Omar Abdullah had offered unconditional support and said the NC did not need any ministry or office, but only wanted to keep the BJP away from Jammu and Kashmir.

Continued on [www.kashmirthunder.in](http://www.kashmirthunder.in)

## PDP Chief urges joint outreach to PM Modi, HM Shah

### Writes to CM Omar, LoP Sunil Sharma, other leaders

KNO

Srinagar, Jun 02: President of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and former J&K Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti has written to a broad spectrum of political and civil society leaders across Jammu and Kashmir, urging them to come together for a joint and coordinated outreach to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

In a statement, the PDP said that Mehbooba Mufti has reached out to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, BJP

Continued on [www.kashmirthunder.in](http://www.kashmirthunder.in)

## IN THE COURT OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS SOPORE

In the case of: Bilal Ahmad Hajam s/o: Abdul Gaffar Hajam R/o: Arampora Sopore.

Versus  
C.E.O Municipal Council Sopore/BDO Sangrama/BDO Sopore

(Registrar of Birth and Death) ...Non Applicant  
NOTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE

Whereas, the above titled case is under process in this court, seeking direction therein to the non-applicant u/s 13(3) of the Registration of Births & Deaths Act, 1969 for registration of Birth event of the applicant's Daughter namely Aayat Bilal D/o: Bilal Ahmad Hajam as 04-06-2014 at Home Arampora Sopore.

Whereas through the medium of this proclamation the public at large is informed that in case any one has any objection for issuance of direction with respect to the registration of aforementioned Birth event he/she shall file the same before this court in person or through counsel within 7 days from the date of the publication of this proclamation. If the date fixed is declared holiday, the matter will be taken on the next working day.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class, Sopore

## IN THE COURT OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS SOPORE

In the case of: Mushtaq Ahmad Kawa s/o: Sonauallah Kawa R/o: Shair colony.

Versus  
C.E.O Municipal Council Sopore/BDO Sangrama/BDO Sopore

(Registrar of Birth and Death) ...Non Applicant  
NOTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE

Whereas, the above titled case is under process in this court, seeking direction therein to the non-applicant u/s 13(3) of the Registration of Births & Deaths Act, 1969 for registration of Birth event of the applicant's Daughter namely Arfat Mushtaq D/o: Mushtaq Ahmad Kawa as 05-08-2018 at Home.

Whereas through the medium of this proclamation the public at large is informed that in case any one has any objection for issuance of direction with respect to the registration of aforementioned Birth event he/she shall file the same before this court in person or through counsel within 7 days from the date of the publication of this proclamation. If the date fixed is declared holiday, the matter will be taken on the next working day.

Executive Magistrate 1st Class, Sopore

## EDITORIAL

### Orchardists Need More Than Sympathy

The repeated hailstorms have crushed the hopes of Kashmir's orchardists. In just two months, hailstorms have damaged fruit orchards in many areas across the Valley. Each storm pushes thousands of families deeper into debt. Each loss makes horticulture a riskier occupation. And each year, the government watches, promises, but delivers little. Horticulture is not a minor sector. It contributes nearly eight per cent to Jammu and

Kashmir's GSDP and supports around 7.5 lakh families directly or indirectly. When orchards are destroyed, it is not just the apple that falls. It is the income of the labourer, the school fee of the child, the EMI of the farmer, and the grocery bill of the family. The repeated weather-related disasters have sparked panic among orchardists, who now wonder if fruit cultivation is worth the risk anymore. The Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers-cum-Dealers Union has

made several reasonable demands: declare the recurring hailstorms a national disaster, implement a crop insurance scheme for horticulture, reintroduce the Market Intervention Scheme, provide a reasonable compensation package, distribute hail-protection nets free of cost, and waive Kisan Credit Card loans for distressed farmers. These are basic safety nets that any responsible government should have in place. The government cannot control the weather.

But it can control its response. A functional crop insurance scheme for horticulture should have been implemented years ago. The Market Intervention Scheme should not have been allowed to lapse. Compensation should reach affected orchardists within weeks, not months or years. Hail-protection nets should be subsidised and made available to every farmer who needs them. The horticulture sector is the backbone of Kashmir's rural economy. If

the backbone is repeatedly broken, the entire body will collapse. The government has spoken about doubling farmers' income. But farmers cannot double their income if their crop is destroyed every other month and no relief reaches them. The Lieutenant Governor and the Chief Minister must intervene immediately. The orchardists need action, compensation, insurance, and a genuine safety net. Their patience is running out. And so is their livelihood.

## India's Insolvency Framework From Financial Distress To Structured Resolution

### Press Information Bureau

After independence, Indian companies operated within structured legal frameworks supporting normal business activities. When financial stress emerged, they relied on multiple legal mechanisms for resolution. These included company law, debt recovery processes and secured creditor frameworks. Each mechanism followed separate forums and procedures. This often-made coordination complex and time-consuming.

To address these challenges, the Government introduced the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016. It consolidated existing laws into a single system. The Code also strengthened creditor participation and aimed to maximise asset value, while balancing the interests of all stakeholders.

As the system evolved, implementation experience highlighted areas for improvement. Refinements were introduced to enhance efficiency and outcomes. This continuous reform process led to the enactment of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2026, marking the next phase of consolidation.

The Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016: India's Principal Insolvency Law

The Pre-IBC Framework and the Need for Reform

Before the enactment of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016, insolvency resolution in India operated through multiple overlapping legal frameworks. Companies facing financial distress were dealt with under different laws such as the Companies Act, the Sick Industrial Companies Act (SICA), debt recovery mechanisms and secured creditor frameworks including SARFAESI. These processes functioned through separate institutions and forums, often resulting in fragmented proceedings and overlapping jurisdiction.

As a result, resolution processes frequently became prolonged and uncertain. Cases remained pending for years while the value of distressed assets continued to deteriorate. Delays weakened the ability of creditors to recover dues and reduced the possibility of reviving viable businesses. The absence of a consolidated and time-bound mechanism also affected overall credit discipline and investor confidence.

Recognising these structural challenges, the Government introduced the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016 as a comprehensive reform.

A Unified and Time-Bound Insolvency Framework

The Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016 established a unified framework for resolving insolvency across companies, partnership firms and individuals. It consolidated multiple insolvency laws into a single structure, creating a more coordinated and predictable resolution process.

A key objective introduced by the Code was the transition from a debtor-controlled system towards a creditor-driven resolution framework. The emphasis moved beyond mere recovery proceedings towards value maximisation, continuation of viable businesses and balanced treatment of stakeholders. The Code sought to ensure that financial distress is addressed at an early stage before prolonged delays erode enterprise value.

At the centre of the framework is the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP), which provides a structured mechanism for resolving corporate insolvency. The Committee of Creditors (CoC), comprising financial creditors, evaluates resolution plans. They then make important commercial decisions regarding the future of the stressed entity.

The Code also introduced a time-bound structure for resolution. The CIRP was designed to be completed within 180 days, extendable up to 330 days in specified circumstances. This timeline-based approach aimed to prevent indefinite delays and preserve the economic value of distressed businesses. If resolution is not achieved within the prescribed framework, the entity moves into liquidation in accordance with the provisions of the Code.

Institutional Structure under the IBC

The effectiveness of the IBC framework

rests on a regulated institutional ecosystem established under the Code. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) functions as the regulatory authority responsible for overseeing insolvency processes, Insolvency Professionals (IPs) and related institutions under the framework. It also frames regulations and standards governing the functioning of the insolvency ecosystem.

Who are Insolvency Professionals (IPs)?

IPs administer the affairs of distressed entities, safeguard assets and facilitate meetings of creditors. They oversee the resolution process in compliance with the Code and applicable regulations. Also, the corporate insolvency matters are adjudicated by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), which acts as the adjudicating authority under the framework. Appeals against its decisions are heard by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT). Together, these institutions create a structured, supervised and legally enforceable mechanism for insolvency resolution in India.

Success of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code

Since its enactment, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 has significantly strengthened India's insolvency and credit ecosystem. The framework improved recovery mechanisms, strengthened creditor discipline and created a more structured resolution process for distressed entities.

Till March 2026, 8,987 CIRPs have been admitted under the Code. 1,419 corporate debtors were resolved through approved resolution plans. While several other cases were closed through settlements, appeals, reviews and withdrawals under section 12A.

As of March 2026, creditors realised approximately 4.32 lakh crore through approved resolution plans under the IBC. Recoveries exceeded 116.85 of liquidation value and more than 94.56% of fair value.

The framework also improved recovery outcomes for the banking sector. The RBI's Report on Trends and Progress of Banking in India for 2024-25 (released on December 29, 2025) highlights that out of a total of 1,04,099 crore recovered by SCBs through various channels, the IBC alone has contributed a significant 54,528 crore, accounting for 52.4% of the total recoveries. This was higher than recoveries through SARFAESI, Debt Recovery Tribunals and Lok Adalats.

An IIM Ahmedabad study reveals strong post-resolution recovery among resolved firms under the IBC. Creditors recovered 32% of admitted claims and 168% of liquidation value. Resolved firms saw 76% sales growth, reached operational break-even by the third year and experienced a 50% rise in employee expenses meaning higher employment. Total assets of the resolved companies grew by 50%, capital expenditure rose 130%, and profitability aligned with industry benchmarks. Market valuations tripled from Rs. 2 lakh crore to Rs. 6 lakh crore for the listed firms, while liquidity improved by 80%. Additionally, an IIM Bangalore study shows a 3% reduction in the cost of debt and improved governance through increased independent directors. Thus, these studies demonstrate that firms undergoing resolution through the IBC process have shown significant improvements in various aspects of their business, including sales, profitability, asset growth, market valuation and liquidity.

Further, the impact of the IBC on credit discipline has also been corroborated by a comprehensive study conducted by IIM Bangalore. The study has analysed data on corporate loan accounts, CIRP, firm-level financial data and NPA data. The study finds that IBC has prompted borrowers to adhere to stipulated loan payment schedules. During the period under review, the study notes a significant reduction in loan accounts deemed 'Overdue', both in terms of the Rupee amount as well as in terms of the number of accounts. Similarly, the yearly proportion of transitions of loan accounts from the 'Overdue' category to the 'Normal' category have increased, supporting the view of an improvement in the credit culture of corporates. Even the average number of days that a loan account stays in 'Overdue' category before transitioning to 'Normal' category has reduced from 248-344 days to 30-87 days. This shows that both debtors

and creditors are trying to resolve the delinquencies at the earliest.

At the same time, operational challenges continued to remain. Average resolution timelines in several cases exceeded the statutory limit of 330 days. Delays in adjudication and prolonged litigation affected value maximisation in some proceedings.

Despite these challenges, the Insolvency Bankruptcy Code is a major structural reform in India's financial and corporate resolution framework. Subsequent amendments, including the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2026, seek to further improve timelines, institutional efficiency and recovery outcomes.

Legislative Progression of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code

The reform leading to the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2026 is built on the evolution of the insolvency framework through a series of legislative amendments.

Key Amendments introduced prior to 2026 included:

- 2018 Amendment: Introduced significant refinements to the resolution framework, including provisions for withdrawal of applications and changes in voting thresholds. It further strengthened creditor participation and modified eligibility criteria under Section 29A of the principal act.

- 2019 Amendment: Improved the insolvency resolution framework by introducing an overall time limit of 330 days for completion of the process.

- 2020 Amendment: Introduced key safeguards, including immunity for corporate debtors after resolution. It also suspended insolvency proceedings for specified defaults in response to COVID-19.

- 2021 Amendment: Introduced the pre-packaged insolvency resolution process for MSMEs, enabling faster debtor-in-possession resolution with creditor supervision and oversight. It also included provisions to improve efficacy and timelines in insolvency proceedings.

Understanding the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2026

The Amendment Act of 2026 builds upon the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 after nearly a decade of implementation experience. It seeks to address procedural delays, litigation arising from legal ambiguities and operational challenges during insolvency resolution and liquidation proceedings.

The Act introduces reforms across different stages of the insolvency process. It strengthens timelines for admission and approval of cases. It expands the role of the CoCs during liquidation. It also clarifies provisions relating to security interests, avoidance transactions and resolution plans.

The amendment introduces safeguards for implementation of approved resolution plans. These include continuity of licences, permits and regulatory approvals in specified cases. It also strengthens provisions relating to fraudulent and wrongful trading.

A key feature of the amendment is the introduction of a creditor-initiated insolvency resolution process for specified categories of corporate debtors. The Act also introduces more structured timelines for liquidation and dissolution proceedings.

Overall, the amendment seeks to make the insolvency framework more time-bound, predictable and resolution-oriented while retaining the core structure of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

Major Changes in the Amendment Act of 2026

Instead of introducing a new framework, the Amendment Act of 2026 addresses gaps that became visible over time in the principal act of 2016. The following major changes includes:

Making the Law Clearer and More Precise

Earlier: Certain terms and concepts under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 were either undefined or open to interpretation. This often resulted in litigation and procedural delays during insolvency proceedings.

Now: The amendment provides specific definitions for terms such as "service provider", "avoidance transaction" and "fraudulent or wrongful trading". A "service provider" has been defined to include insolvency

professionals, insolvency professional agencies, information utilities and other notified persons registered with the IBBI.

The law also clarifies the meaning of "security interest". It states that a security interest will exist only where it arises through an agreement or arrangement between parties. Security interests created merely by operation of law have been excluded from the definition.

The amendment also defines "avoidance transactions". These include transactions where creditors are unfairly preferred, assets are transferred below value, creditors are defrauded or unfair credit arrangements are created. "Fraudulent or wrongful trading" has also been separately defined under section 66 of the Principal Act.

Ensuring Faster Entry into Insolvency Process

Earlier: Although timelines existed for admitting insolvency applications, delays were frequent and often went unexplained. This weakened the time-bound nature of the Code.

Now: The Adjudicating Authority must decide applications within 14 days. If this timeline is not followed, reasons must be formally recorded. This introduces accountability into the system.

Bringing Discipline to Withdrawal of Cases

Earlier: Cases could be withdrawn even at advanced stages of the process. In some instances, this happened after significant time leading to wastage of effort already invested.

Now: Withdrawal is now restricted. It cannot occur before the CoC is constituted. It is also barred after resolution plans are invited. This prevents disruption at critical stages. The change brings stability and protects stakeholder interests throughout the process.

Strengthening the Moratorium Protection

Earlier: There were gaps in how the moratorium operated, particularly in cases involving guarantees. Creditors could sometimes initiate parallel actions through indirect routes.

Now: The amendment clarifies that the moratorium also applies to such situations. This ensures that guarantees cannot be used to bypass the insolvency process. The company undergoing resolution is given a more secure environment, free from parallel recovery proceedings.

Improving Process Efficiency and Access to Information

Earlier: Delays in appointing resolution professionals and lack of cooperation from key stakeholders often slowed down the process. In many cases, crucial information was not readily available.

Now: The amendment simplifies the appointment process for resolution professionals, reducing initial delays. It expands the obligation to cooperate, requiring employees, promoters, and other associated persons to assist throughout the process. With faster appointments and improved information access, the resolution process becomes more competent and less reliant on voluntary cooperation.

Advancing the Role of Creditors Across All Stages

Earlier: The CoCs played a central role during resolution, but its influence diminished significantly once the liquidation phase commenced. This led to a disconnect in decision-making across stages.

Now: The amendment extends the role of creditors into the liquidation stage. They are empowered to supervise the conduct of liquidation and even replace the liquidator where necessary. Creditors remain in control throughout the lifecycle of the insolvency process. This continuity improves oversight and ensures that decisions remain aligned with recovery objectives.

Ensuring Accountability for Past Transactions

Earlier: Transactions involving unfair transfers of assets, preferential treatment to certain creditors or fraudulent conduct were often examined separately from the main insolvency process. This created uncertainty regarding continuation of such proceedings after resolution or liquidation.

Now: The amendment clarifies that proceedings relating to avoidance transactions

and fraudulent or wrongful trading can continue even after completion of the insolvency resolution or liquidation process.

The law also allows creditors, members or partners to approach the Adjudicating Authority if such transactions are not reported by the resolution professional or liquidator.

Expanding the Asset Base for Resolution

Earlier: The resolution process largely focused on the assets of the corporate debtor. This limits the recovery in cases where such assets were insufficient.

Now: The amendment allows assets of guarantors to be included in the resolution process, subject to approval by creditors and certain conditions. By widening the pool of assets, the chances of recovery improve, especially in complex financial structures involving guarantors.

Ensuring Fair Treatment of All Creditors

Earlier: Dissenting creditors often felt that resolution plans did not treat them fairly, leading to disputes and litigation.

Now: The law now clearly provides that dissenting creditors will receive at least the lower of the liquidation value or the amount receivable under the resolution plan if proceeds of such plan are distributed as per the priority waterfall under Section 53. This brings greater fairness and reduces conflicts, making resolution plans more acceptable to all parties.

Making Resolution Plans More Practical and Enforceable

Earlier: Even after approval, resolution plans faced challenges and issues related to licences, regulatory approvals, and past liabilities which created uncertainty.

Now: The amendment allows phased approval of plans, protects licences and regulatory permissions, and clarifies how past claims are treated. Resolution plans become more workable in real situations, increasing the likelihood of successful revival of businesses.

Providing Flexibility Before Liquidation

Earlier: Once the process moved towards liquidation, there was limited scope to reconsider resolution, even if new possibilities emerged.

Now: The amendment allows one-time restoration of the resolution process within defined timelines before liquidation is finalised. Viable businesses get an additional opportunity for revival, preventing premature liquidation.

Making Liquidation More Structured and Time-Bound

Earlier: Liquidation proceedings often lacked clear timelines and consistent oversight, leading to prolonged closure processes.

Now: The amendment introduces structured timelines, clearer roles, and improved supervision during liquidation. Even when resolution fails, the exit process becomes faster and more orderly.

Introducing a New Creditor-Led Insolvency Process

Earlier: All insolvency processes required formal admission by the adjudicating authority, which could add to delays at the initial stage.

Now: A new mechanism allows creditors to initiate insolvency directly, subject to defined approval thresholds and procedural safeguards. The process is also time-bound. This introduces flexibility and reduces dependency on formal admission stages, making the system more responsive.

Towards A Stronger Insolvency Framework

Over the past decade, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 has reshaped India's insolvency resolution framework. It introduced a more structured and creditor-driven approach towards financial distress. The framework also evolved through implementation experience, judicial interpretation and legislative reforms.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2026 represents the next stage of this evolution. The amendment seeks to improve procedural certainty and strengthen timelines. It also aims to enhance the effectiveness of insolvency resolution and liquidation proceedings. Together, these reforms support a more efficient and predictable insolvency framework in India.

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

## Comprehensive, transparent transfer policy likely to be finalised shortly: Sakeena Itoo

All J&K Lecturers Association calls on Education Minister

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JUNE 02: A delegation of All J&K Lecturers' Association called on Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo at Civil Secretariat here Tuesday and submitted a detailed representation highlighting several long-pending issues affecting the Lecturer fraternity across Jammu and Kashmir.

During the interaction, the delegation, as per an official statement apprised the Minister about prolonged stagnation faced by lecturers due to the non-implementation of the Assured Career Progression (ACP) Scheme, delay in finalization of Gazetted Recruitment Rules, regular Annual Transfer Drive as well as large number of vacancies in the School Education Department adversely affecting academic functioning in Higher Secondary Schools.

The delegation urged the Minister to expedite the implementation of ACP, which has remained pending from a long time, as well as redressal of



other genuine issues.

Interacting with the delegation, the Minister gave them a patient hearing and acknowledged the genuineness, legitimacy and importance of the issues projected by the

Association. She assured the delegation that the Government is committed to addressing the concerns of the teaching community.

The Minister also assured them that the department is

working on a comprehensive and transparent Transfer Policy, which is likely to be finalized shortly.

Special Secretary SED, Ghulam Rasool Mir was also present during the interaction.

## Commissioner SMC reviews progress of AMRUT 2.0 Water Infrastructure projects

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, JUNE 02: Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb, on Tuesday conducted a comprehensive inspection of key water supply infrastructure projects being executed under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme AMRUT 2.0, reviewing the progress of works aimed at strengthening and modernizing Srinagar's urban water distribution network.

During the inspection, the Commissioner, as per an official statement, visited the under-construction Overhead Water Tanks (OHTs) at Jenab Sahib, Soura and Behrar Baghwanpora, Lal Bazar, where he assessed the pace of execution, quality standards, and overall physical progress of the projects. He reviewed the status of ongoing civil works and held detailed discussions with engineers and project officials regarding project timelines and implementation challenges.

Emphasizing the strategic importance of the projects, Haseeb stated that the new water storage infrastructure will substantially improve the city's water supply system by enhancing storage capacity, strengthening distribution



efficiency, and ensuring a more dependable supply of potable water to residents of the beneficiary areas.

The Commissioner directed the executing agencies to accelerate the pace of work and ensure completion of all components within the prescribed timelines without compromising quality. He stressed that timely delivery of public infrastructure projects remains a priority and called for strict adherence to technical specifications and approved project standards.

While interacting with field engineers and officials, Haseeb underscored the need for robust supervision, regular monitoring, and close inter-departmental coordination to ensure smooth execution of works. He instructed the concerned officers to proactively resolve any bottlenecks and maintain

sustained momentum to avoid delays in project completion.

Reaffirming SMC's commitment to strengthening urban infrastructure under AMRUT 2.0, the Commissioner observed that the scheme is contributing significantly to the development of resilient civic infrastructure and the enhancement of essential public services. He noted that the ongoing investments in water supply infrastructure are expected to deliver long-term benefits by improving service delivery, supporting future urban growth, and enhancing the overall quality of life for citizens.

The inspection was attended by the Joint Commissioner (Works), SMC, Executive Engineers of the Public Health Engineering Department, and other senior officials associated with the implementation of AMRUT 2.0 projects.

## Doda gears up to host 2-day Lavender Festival 2026

KT News Desk

DODA, JUNE 02: Deputy Commissioner Doda Krishan Lal along with Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu Dr. Zabeer Ahmed Tuesday chaired a meeting to review arrangements for 2-day Lavender Festival 2026 scheduled to be held on June 6 and 7 at Government Degree College (GDC) Bhaderwah.

Experts, scientists, aroma industry professionals and stakeholders, as per an official statement, from across the country would participate in the festival and share valuable knowledge with farmers and visitors. The event being held on the College Campus would also witness active participation from students.

Bhaderwah has been hosting the event since 2022 for it being the birthplace of the Lavender Mission in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Doda, Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhaderwah, ASP Headquarters, Programme Officer ICDS, Superintending Engineer Jal Shakti Department, Principal GDC Bhaderwah, Divisional Forest Officer Bhaderwah, Chief Planning Officer, Chief Executive Officer Bhaderwah Development Authority, Joint Director Education, district officers and representatives from line departments.

Reviewing the preparations, the Deputy Commissioner directed all

concerned departments to ensure the timely completion of arrangements and work in close coordination for the successful conduct of the festival. Agriculture, Horticulture, Floriculture and other allied departments were asked to actively participate in the festival and set up stalls showcasing respective schemes, innovations and services.

The meeting finalized arrangements related to sanitation, water and power supply, medical facilities, transportation, security and safety measures. The DC directed the stakeholder departments to formulate meticulous plans to complete the arrangements well in advance. The ADC Bhaderwah was designated as the Nodal Officer for overall coordination and management of the festival.

The Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation, highlighting the potential of lavender cultivation in transforming the rural economy of the district.

He noted that the lavender farmers of Doda have played a vital role in promoting aromatic crop cultivation and strengthening rural livelihoods. He expressed hope that the lavender sector would continue to boost the district's economy and create new opportunities for entrepreneurship and employment.

A short documentary highlighting the success stories and achievements of previous Lavender Festivals was also screened.

## NC will never compromise on people's rights, interests, aspirations: Tanvir Sadiq

KT News Desk

Srinagar, June 02: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Chief Spokesperson and Zadibal MLA Tanvir Sadiq Tuesday chaired a crucial meeting of party office-bearers and grassroots functionaries at Bachi Darwaza, Makhdoom Sahib. The meeting witnessed an extensive review of pressing public issues, developmental priorities, civic grievances, organisational affairs, and the party's ongoing outreach initiatives.

Addressing the gathering, Tanvir, as per a party statement, reaffirmed that the National Conference remains steadfastly committed to its people-centric political philosophy, working tirelessly at every level to safeguard public interests and address the aspirations of the masses. He asserted that the Omar Abdullah-led government has, within a short span of time, embarked on a transformative governance agenda focused on transparency, accountability, and inclusive development.

He highlighted that the government is vigorously pursuing infrastructure modernization, strengthening public service delivery mechanisms, expanding employment opportunities for youth, revitalizing the health and education sectors and implementing targeted interventions aimed at alleviating the hardships faced by common citizens.

Launching a sharp attack on the opposition, Sadiq said that certain political parties, particularly elements within the BJP,



have been rattled by the growing popularity, credibility, and performance of the National Conference government. Unable to counter its achievements, they have resorted to misinformation campaigns, baseless allegations, and politically motivated propaganda. He maintained that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are politically conscious and fully capable of distinguishing facts from orchestrated political theatrics designed to divert attention from substantive public concerns.

He further stated that some BJP leaders are visibly uncomfortable because the National Conference government has emerged as a resolute defender of the rights, identity, dignity, and constitutional interests of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Unlike those who seek to impose anti-people and anti-Kashmir policies, he said, the present government continues to articulate and uphold the aspirations and sentiments of the people with conviction and courage.

Recalling the political developments of the past, Sadiq said that certain parties, particularly the PDP, compromised public trust for the sake of political power, resulting in far-reaching political, social, and economic

consequences for Jammu and Kashmir. He alleged that the PDP facilitated the BJP's political agenda in the region, weakening democratic institutions, undermining public confidence, and pushing people towards uncertainty and distress.

However, he asserted that the National Conference remains unwavering in its commitment to thwarting any agenda that seeks to undermine the interests and aspirations of Jammu and Kashmir.

He emphasized that every policy decision, developmental initiative, and governance measure undertaken by the present government is guided by the aspirations, sentiments, and welfare of the people, and this people-first approach will continue to remain the cornerstone of governance.

On the occasion, as part of his sustained welfare outreach programme, Tanvir Sadiq presented a three wheel scooter to an individual from New Colony, Zadibal. He described support for specially-abled persons, orphans, widows, and economically disadvantaged families as a collective social responsibility and a moral imperative.

He assured that humanitarian and welfare initiatives across the Zadibal constituency would be further intensified in the coming months. He revealed that a portion of his salary is regularly dedicated towards supporting deserving individuals through educational assistance, essential household support, and the provision of assistive devices, emphasizing that service to humanity remains the highest form of public service.

## NMBA: Peer selection, pledge ceremonies held across Bandipora

KT News Desk

BANDIPORA, JUNE 02: Various educational institutions across district Bandipora on Tuesday organised peer selection programmes, pledge ceremonies and awareness activities under the ongoing Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) to promote anti-drug awareness and student leadership.

At Government High School Naidkhai, a peer selection programme titled "Leaders" was organised under NMBA to identify responsible students who would promote anti-drug awareness among their peers. Similar awareness activities were conducted at High School Koragbal and High School Ketson, where students participated in programmes highlighting the harmful effects of substance abuse and the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

At HSS Quilmuqam, a Peer Selection, Leader Selection and Pledge Taking Ceremony was organised in which students and staff members

actively participated. The selected peer leaders pledged to uphold the values of leadership, responsibility, discipline and teamwork.

Meanwhile, under the 100-days Anti-Drug Campaign, HSS Gadakhud organised a peer leader selection programme through a voting process. Selected student leaders were entrusted with promoting anti-drug awareness and discouraging substance abuse within and outside the institution.

A pledge ceremony, as per an official statement, against substance abuse was also organised at HSS Chuntimulla, while HSS Nowgam conducted a Peer Selection-Leaders programme under NMBA.

The programmes witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and staff members, reflecting the continued commitment of educational institutions towards creating awareness and strengthening preventive outreach under the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan.

## Mass awareness activities conducted across Shopian

KT News Desk

SHOPIAN, JUNE 02: As part of the ongoing 100 Day Nasha Mukh Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan (NMJKA), a series of awareness and outreach activities were conducted across various educational institutions, business establishments, workplaces, and public spaces in Shopian district to spread awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to promote a healthy, addiction-free society.

The awareness programmes witnessed active participation from students, teachers, shopkeepers, cold store workers, employees, and members of the local community.

During the activities, participants, as per an official statement, were sensitized about the social, economic, and health-related consequences of substance abuse and were encouraged to play an active role in preventing drug addiction within their families and communities.

## 130 JJM schemes coming up in Kishtwar

KT News Desk

KISHTWAR, JUNE 02: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma Tuesday chaired a meeting to review and assess the progress of work on 130 schemes being executed under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the district.

At the outset, the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Hydraulic Division Rohit Wadera briefed the meeting on the current status of the ongoing works.

Reviewing the scheme-wise progress, the Deputy Commissioner, as per an official statement, directed the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Kishtwar, to complete the RPWSS ID creation within three days. He also set a target for the completion of 53 Water Supply Schemes (WSSs) by March 2027, while instructing the department to rectify the targeted completion dates of the remaining 31 Water Supply Schemes.

The Deputy Commissioner further directed the Department to complete Jal Aankalan and Har Ghar Jal Certification for all completed schemes.



The meeting was informed that among the proposed projects 4 water supply schemes are being developed on the mandal gravity model. The DC directed the Department to obtain technical sanction for laying the Mandal Gravity to complete these schemes without delay.

To strengthen the water distribution network, he instructed the department to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the replacement of the worn-out and exposed pipe network with a new underground pipeline system and to rectify deficiencies in the existing infrastructure.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed the Executive Engineer to ensure the immediate uploading of the bid for the approved procurement of a

water tanker.

Further, he instructed the department to compile a report on issues hindering the execution of proposed JJM works so that necessary interventions are made to resolve the same and facilitate hassle-free and timely completion of all schemes.

The Deputy Commissioner reiterated the importance of adhering to timelines and ensuring the quality execution of works to achieve the objectives of the Jal Jeevan Mission and provide safe drinking water to every household in the district.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Vinod Kumar Behnal, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Rohit Wadera, PM JJM Er. Fayaz Mehta, AEEs, JEs, besides other concerned staff from the Jal Shakti Department and DPMU.

## DC reviews status of Telecom Services in Ramban

KT News Desk

RAMBAN, JUNE 02: Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan Tuesday chaired a meeting of the District Level Telecom Committee to review the status of telecom services and signal coverage scenario in the district. The meeting focused on ensuring seamless and reliable connectivity in the district, particularly in remote areas and along the National Highway, in view of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY)-2026.

The meeting was attended by SSP Arun Gupta; Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak; Assistant Commissioner Revenue Shokat Hayat Mattoo; Divisional Engineer BSNL Luxmi Narayan Saini; Dy. SP Police Telecom Mushtaq; Tehsildar Headquarters Reejuta Mahajan; Divisional Forest Officers, Executive Engineer PWD (R&B), representatives from Army and other concerned officers.

Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Tehsildars, departmental officers and representatives of private telecom companies participated virtually.

Reviewing the progress of ongoing telecom infrastructure projects, the Deputy Commissioner directed BSNL and private telecom service providers to expedite execution of projects for providing signal coverage in all identified shadow areas, including tourist destinations and local religious pilgrimage routes identified by the District Administration in coordination with Police, Army and other departments.

The DC emphasized the need to strengthen connectivity services ahead of SANJY-2026, particularly along the NH-44 stretch from Nashri to Banihal, as well as at vulnerable and strategically important locations and potential religious and public gathering sites. He further instructed telecom operators to reassess the coverage range of existing towers to maximize service outreach and improve network availability.

## Secretary DLSA Budgam conducts inspection visit to Legal Aid Clinic Soibugh Daharmunah

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, JUNE 02: As part of the calendar of activities, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Budgam conducted an inspection visit to the Legal Aid Clinic at Soibugh Daharmunah, Budgam.

The inspection, as per an official statement, was carried out under the supervision of O.P. Bhagat, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Budgam.

The primary objective of the visit was to assess the functioning of the Legal Aid Clinic, evaluate the accessibility of legal aid services to the public, and review the availability of infrastructure and furniture at the clinic.

During the inspection, the Secretary interacted with the Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) posted at the clinic and inquired

about the number of aid seekers visiting the centre, the nature of grievances brought before them, and the assistance and remedies being provided. She also reviewed the infrastructure and facilities available at the clinic for the effective discharge of duties.

The Secretary emphasized the crucial role of PLVs in ensuring access to justice and advised them to continue discharging their responsibilities with dedication and commitment for the welfare of the general public and legal aid seekers in particular.

Upon reviewing the overall functioning of the Legal Aid Clinic, the Secretary expressed satisfaction with its performance and appreciated the efforts of the PLVs in providing legal assistance and awareness to the community.

## First-of-its-kind Advanced School of Antenna 2026 concludes at KU

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Jun 02: A first-of-its-kind three-day Advanced School of Antenna (ASA) 2026 concluded at the University of Kashmir (KU). The programme was organised by KU in collaboration with the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, IEEE AP-S/CRFID Delhi Chapter and IEEE AP-S/MTT-S, Kolkata Chapter, on the theme "Antennas in Biomedical and Biotelemetry Devices."

The three-day programme aimed to promote knowledge exchange and advance research at the intersection of antenna engineering and healthcare technologies by bringing together leading experts, researchers, faculty members and students from across the country.

Speaking at the valedictory session, Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, congratulated the organisers for bringing the prestigious international programme to the University and highlighted the growing importance of interdisciplinary research in addressing contemporary healthcare and technological challenges.

"ASA 2026 provided an excellent platform for researchers,

faculty members and students to engage with leading experts and emerging innovations in antenna technologies and biomedical applications," she said.

Dean, School of Engineering KU, Prof. Mohammad Tariq Bandy, and Incharge Director, NIT Srinagar, Prof. Roohie Naaz, emphasized the importance of collaborative research and academic partnerships in advancing emerging technologies and fostering innovation-driven learning.

Head, Department of Electronics & Instrumentation Technology, KU, Dr. Farooq Ahmad Khanday, said that the event created valuable opportunities for participants to interact with internationally renowned experts and gain insights into contemporary developments in antenna design and biomedical applications.

Prof. Omar Ramahi, University of Waterloo, Canada, and Prof. Mahesh Abegaonkar, IIT Delhi and Chairman, IEEE AP-S Delhi Chapter, spoke on the recent advances in antenna technologies and stressed on the need for sustained research efforts to address emerging challenges in biomedical and wireless communication systems.

Earlier, in his welcome

address, Organising Secretary Dr. Javid Ahmad Sheikh, faculty at the Department of Electronics & Instrumentation Technology, KU, outlined the objectives of the programme and highlighted its focus on bridging fundamental research with real-world healthcare applications.

The three-day programme featured keynote lectures, technical sessions and expert discussions on various dimensions of antenna engineering, biomedical devices, biotelemetry systems and emerging wireless technologies.

The proceedings of the valedictory session were conducted by Organising Secretary Dr. Javid Ahmad Sheikh.

Earlier the inaugural session, held at the Ibn-e-Khaldun Auditorium, was attended by Dean Academic Affairs KU, Prof. Shariefuddin Pirzada; Registrar KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal; Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar; Prof. Omar Ramahi, University of Waterloo, Canada; Prof. Mahesh Abegaonkar, Chairman, IEEE AP-S Delhi Chapter; Dean, School of Engineering KU, Prof. Mohammad Tariq Bandy; besides heads of departments, faculty members, researchers and students from KU and NIT Srinagar.

## Baramulla Blue beats Baramulla Red 1-0 to win SPANDAN League 2026

Commissioner Secretary YSS Dr. Shahid Choudhary graces grand finale

KT News Desk

Baramulla, Jun 02: Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary on Tuesday graced the Grand Finale of North Kashmir Football Championship-SPANDAN League 2026.

The Championship concluded on a high note at the Showkat Ali Stadium here, with Baramulla Blue defeating Baramulla Red 1-0 in a closely contested final to emerge as champions of the senior division.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner Secretary appreciated the efforts of the organizers and congratulated the participating teams for displaying remarkable sportsmanship and competitive spirit throughout the tournament. He highlighted that this championship provided a valuable platform for young footballers to showcase their talent while promoting sports culture, teamwork, and healthy competition among the youth of North Kashmir.

The Championship was organized by 112 Naga Battalion,



BSF Baramulla, in collaboration with the Sports Authority of India (SAI) under the Khelo India initiative, and witnessed participation from eight teams from across North Kashmir. A total of 32 matches were played during the tournament, showcasing exceptional football talent and sportsmanship. The league jerseys and

trophies were unveiled by Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha during a ceremony held at Uri on May 12, 2026.

At the conclusion of the event, the Commissioner Secretary felicitated the winning team, runners-up, officials, and organizers with trophies, jerseys, and mementos. Cash prizes were also distributed among the winning

teams in recognition of their outstanding performances.

Deputy Commissioner Baramulla SF Hamid; DIG BSF D.S. Sindhu; SSP Baramulla Gurinder Pal Singh; Commandant, 112 Naga Battalion, Nakul Vaid; senior officers from the civil administration, police, and BSF were also present on the occasion.

## British Sikh MPs defend kirpan as UK Parliament debates murder

PTI

London, Jun 02 Britain's Sikh lawmakers on Tuesday defended the ceremonial knife, the kirpan, during a Parliament debate following the conviction of a British Sikh man who had presented his murder weapon as a religious item in court.

Vickram Digwa, 23, was sentenced to life imprisonment on Monday after being found guilty of the murder of 18-year-old Henry Nowak, who was caught on police body-worn camera footage being handcuffed in his final moments over racism allegations.

Prime Minister Keir Starmer said he "felt sick" watching the "harrowing" footage but appealed against it being "whipped up" to create divisions within British society.

"There are clearly serious questions that need to be

addressed, not least how accusations of racism informed the decision-making in this case," Starmer said in a statement from 10 Downing Street.

As the incident from December last year in Southampton caused an uproar, UK Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood made a statement in the House of Commons to reiterate that the wider Sikh community must not be condemned for an individual's "heinous crime".

"There have been calls to limit the right of Sikhs to carry their ceremonial knife, the kirpan, one of the five holy items in their faith," said Mahmood, referencing some far-right groups calling for a ban.

The minister referenced the UK's Offensive Weapons Act of 2019, which "clarified and strengthened existing legal protections in relation to long kirpans."

"This included extending defences, so that kirpans can be lawfully possessed for religious reasons and used in religious and ceremonial contexts. But let me be clear, carrying a knife for the purpose of religious observance is one thing, using it as so tragically occurred in this case is quite another. It is a vile act, a crime of the utmost severity, and it will be met with the severest punishment," she said.

The Home Secretary went on to assert that the murder must not be allowed to turn communities against one another.

"We do not believe in collective punishment in this country. Instead, we stand together against an act of pure evil. We condemn those who committed this heinous crime, not all those who share their faith or their ethnicity," she said.

British Sikh members of

Parliament were among those who made interventions during the heated Commons debate, with Labour MP Tanmanjeet Singh Dhese condemning Reform UK and Restore Britain parties for "scapegoating and throwing under the bus an entire community based on the actions of one violent murderer".

"What's very galling is that the likes of Reform, Restore and the far-right decided to politicise people's pain, attacking the Sikh community for wearing the kirpan and wanting it banned, even though the kirpan was not used in this violent attack," said Dhese.

He referenced the history of thousands of Sikh soldiers bravely fighting alongside British soldiers in both World Wars while "wearing their turban and their kirpan", as he called on Mahmood to reassure the community of its right to "freely and peacefully practise their faith".

## Two drug peddlers arrested in Anantnag, Ganderbal: Police

KNO

Srinagar, Jun 02: Continuing its intensified campaign against drug trafficking under the Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, J&K Police achieved significant success in separate anti-narcotics operations conducted in Anantnag and Ganderbal districts, leading to the arrest of two drug peddlers and recovery of contraband substances.

According to a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), in Anantnag, a police party from Police Station Mattan established a naka at Mattan Morh, Kehribal, on the Mattan-Kehribal Road. During checking, a suspicious individual approaching from Mattan towards Kehribal attempted to flee upon noticing the police presence.

Acting swiftly, the police personnel chased and apprehended him on the spot.

During search, approximately 06 grams of heroin-like substance, 11,700 in cash, one mobile phone, and a wallet were recovered from his possession. The accused has been identified as Umar Nabi Khan son of Ghulam Nabi Khan resident of Ranbirpora, Kehribal. In this regard, FIR No. 62/2026 has been registered at Police Station Mattan, and further investigation is underway to ascertain the source and intended destination of the contraband.

Meanwhile, in Ganderbal, police personnel from Police Station Gund, during a surprise naka checking operation at Baghpati Surfraw, intercepted a youth moving suspiciously from Surfraw

towards Ganiwan. During search, charas-like substance was recovered from his possession. The accused, identified as Abid Ahmad Lone son of Javid Ahmad Lone resident of Surfraw, was arrested on the spot. Accordingly, FIR No. 16/2026 under relevant provisions of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Gund, and investigation into the case has been initiated.

J&K Police remains steadfast in its zero-tolerance approach against drug trafficking and substance abuse. The public is urged to continue extending support by sharing information regarding drug-related activities in their respective areas. Active community participation remains crucial in safeguarding society, particularly the youth, from the menace of narcotics.

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Rain, hailstorms

CLOUDBURSTS HIT DODA, KISHTWAR

Reports aid that a cloudburst in Bandekhara Nalla near Thathri town in Doda district triggered flash floods, with debris entering parts of the local market area, officials said. No casualties were reported.

Two separate cloudbursts were also reported from the Ghan and Machipal areas of Kishtwar district. Authorities said there was no loss of life or damage to property in either incident, and the situation remained under control.

INCLEMENT WEATHER DISRUPTS NORMAL LIFE

Meanwhile, the inclement weather conditions disrupted normal life in several parts of Kashmir as hailstorms accompanied by heavy showers battered agricultural areas, raising concerns among farmers over extensive damage to standing crops, vegetables and fruit orchards.

Severe hailstorms struck parts of Shopian and Pulwama districts on Friday, affecting areas including Uthmullah, Rahmo, Sindo Shirmal, Balpora, Memandar, Shamshipora and Ramnagri. Similar weather activity was also reported from Kupwara district in north Kashmir.

Fresh hailstorms were reported on Tuesday from Aripal in Tral, adjoining areas of Awantipora, Kakapora in Pulwama district and several locations in Ganderbal district, residents said.

The successive spells of hail and rain have caused damage to crops in various parts of the Valley, particularly in fruit-growing regions.

Expressing concern over the losses, Bandipora MLA Nizamuddin Bhat urged the government to undertake an immediate assessment of the damage and provide relief to affected farmers.

Bhat said the latest hailstorm had devastated crops, vegetables and fruit orchards in several villages of Bandipora and other parts of Kashmir, leaving farmers in distress.

According to the legislator, Bonakoot village in Bandipora was among the worst-hit areas, with reports of substantial losses to crops and orchards.

AFTER WARM DAY RAINS LASH KASHMIR

The precipitation followed an unusually warm day in Kashmir. According to the India Meteorological Department, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 30.7 degrees Celsius, four degrees above normal, while the

city registered a minimum temperature of 19.2 degrees Celsius, the highest night temperature of the season so far.

Qazigund recorded a maximum of 29 degrees Celsius, Kokernag 29.4 degrees Celsius and Kupwara 27.8 degrees Celsius. Jammu city recorded a maximum temperature of 37.7 degrees Celsius.

MeT office advised residents in vulnerable areas to remain alert in view of the possibility of further rain, thunderstorms and localised flash floods. (KNO)

### Statehood Day of

reforms," the LG said.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor paid tributes to the brave freedom fighters and tribal leaders Ramji Gond, Komaram Bheem, and Alluri Sitarama Raju. He said the farmers, soldiers, scientists, entrepreneurs, poets, and artists of the Telangana region have made immense contributions to the nation-building.

"As every citizen contributes to our shared progress, let us pledge to draw strength from our diversity, celebrate our rich culture and march together towards a prosperous future," Sinha said.

### MEA slams

only through bilateral engagement and without third-party mediation. (KNO)

### First batch of 144

pilgrims who are required to collect their luggage from Hajj House to carry the identity cards issued by the Haj Committee to facilitate smooth and hassle-free collection.

Meanwhile, returning pilgrims expressed satisfaction over the overall arrangements while highlighting some challenges faced during the journey.

One of the pilgrims said that baggage-related issues had caused concern among the pilgrims, but the matter was addressed promptly.

"We faced an issue regarding luggage yesterday, and CM Omar Abdullah has solved it. The arrangements there were very good. We are thankful to the government," he said.

Another pilgrim said some difficulties were faced with accommodation and baggage handling during the pilgrimage.

"We faced accommodation problems and luggage issues with the airlines, but somehow we managed them. Overall, the experience

was good. The government should make more efforts to ensure greater convenience and a seamless experience for pilgrims in the future," the pilgrim said.

DC Budgam said the arrival process has formally begun with the landing of the first flight carrying 144 pilgrims.

"Today, the first flight landed at Srinagar Airport, and 144 Hajj pilgrims arrived. The Chief Minister also came here to receive them. The arrival process has started today, and we have received feedback from the pilgrims as well," he said.

Khan said all departments, including the Haj Committee, civil administration and airport authorities, are working in coordination to ensure smooth arrivals.

"Every department, including the Haj Committee, civil administration and airport authorities, is trying to make arrangements hassle-free and convenient for pilgrims so that no pilgrim faces any difficulty. Proper help desks have also been established to facilitate smooth arrivals," the DC added.

Notably, the return operations for Hajj pilgrims from Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh will continue till June 16. A total of 3,952 pilgrims is scheduled to return through the Srinagar Embarkation Point during the ongoing arrival phase. (KNO)

### CM personally monitoring

Minister for Civil Aviation and is closely monitoring the issue to ensure that the concerns of pilgrims are addressed at the earliest.

"The government is committed to facilitating the smooth return of pilgrims and their belongings," Wani said, expressing hope that the pending baggage would arrive shortly.

Responding to questions about a meeting convened by the Chief Minister, Wani described it as a "routine political consultation".

He said the meeting was an internal party exercise involving its legislators and associates, adding that alliance partners were not required to be invited to every party-level meeting.

Rejecting reports of any differences within the ruling alliance, the CM's Advisor said there was nothing unusual about the meeting and maintained that broader consultations among alliance partners would take place whenever necessary. (KNO)

### Omar to chair crucial

the outcome of the meeting particularly NC's stance on the issue of statehood.

The development assumes added significance in light of remarks made by Omar Abdullah last month. Addressing a public gathering in Tangmarg on May 6, the Chief Minister had hinted that he had much to say on certain critical issues but was deliberately exercising restraint.

"I want to burst like a cloudburst," Omar had remarked. (KNO)

### LoP accuses CM

that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's paranoia over losing power has reduced governance to loyalty parades.

Talking to news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Sharma said that Omar Abdullah is fearful of losing power and is compelling his MLAs to participate in weekly loyalty parades.

"This meeting is nothing more than a floor test. Omar Abdullah has started a weekly ritual of floor tests to check the loyalty of his MLAs. The first such test was conducted in the name of the Provincial Working Committee meeting, the second was a dinner hosted by the Deputy Chief Minister, and the third is tomorrow's meeting of the Chief Minister with MLAs," he said.

On criticism by the National Conference over his statement that Omar Abdullah would not resign even if relegated to the position of Chief Executive Councillor of a Hill Council, Sharma said that he stands by every word, adding that the past conduct of the Chief Minister proves he would not quit even as Sarpanch or Panch so long as the cavalcade of vehicles and VIP protocol remains intact.

"Is it not a fact that Omar Abdullah repeatedly said from 2020 to 2024 that he would not humiliate himself by entering the legislature of a Union Territory? Is he not the same man who stated in 2024 that he would not sit outside the waiting room of the LG and ask him to sign files? What made him change his mind? Let me tell the people of Kashmir: the Abdullah family has only one ideology—power," he said. (KNO)

### J&K GDCs log over

success of our efforts to make higher education more accessible, transparent and student-friendly across Jammu & Kashmir. We remain committed to ensuring that every aspiring

student gets an opportunity to pursue quality higher education," Itoo posted on social media.

As already reported by KNO in March-2026, the government degree colleges in Jammu and Kashmir were facing a dismal student enrolment.

At that time, Government Degree College Baghi Dilawar Khan and Government Degree College Chattisinghpura had no active student enrolment.

GDC Chattisinghpura and GDC Baghi Dilawar Khan were placed under the charge of Government Degree College, Anantnag and S.P. College, Srinagar, respectively, for administrative oversight.

The concerned minister had informed that less than 30 students were enrolled in each of the 13 colleges of Jammu and Kashmir.

The government figures had revealed that at least five colleges of Jammu and Kashmir were functioning with an enrolment of less than twenty students in 2025 and eight colleges were functioning with less than 30 students respectively.

The figures further reveal that in 14 colleges in Jammu and Kashmir, fewer than 50 students were enrolled in each college.

Furthermore, 24 government colleges were having less than 100 students enrolled in each college.

The government figures also reveal that in 13 colleges of Jammu and Kashmir, only 100-300 students were enrolled in each college.

Pertinently, the Higher Education Department earlier this year had decided to discontinue Common University Entrance Test (CUET) based admission for Undergraduate (UG) admissions for the academic session 2026-27 in all Government Degree Colleges (GDCs) of J&K.

The department had further decided to revert to a merit-based system on Class 12 scores.

In the previous academic session, the department had exempted 64 Government Degree Colleges from making admissions through CUET score for academic session 2024-25 in wake of low CUET based admissions in many degree colleges of Jammu and Kashmir. (KNO)

### Sgr records hottest

normal in several parts of Kashmir in recent days. (KNO)

## SC denies bail to accused in drugs case, says people dealing with narcotics should be dealt with firm hand

PTI

New Delhi, Jun 2: People dealing with drugs will have to be dealt with a very firm hand as they are destroying the lives of youths of this country generation after generation, the Supreme Court said on Tuesday.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sheel Nagu and V Mohana dismissed the bail plea of an accused who was arrested in June 2022 in a case registered under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

"People dealing with drugs will have to be dealt with a very firm hand. They are destroying the lives of youths of this country generation after generation," Justice Nath observed while dismissing the plea.

The accused had moved the apex court challenging a February this year order of the Madras High Court.

The high court, which had refused to grant him bail in the case, had noted that it was his sixth successive bail application. According to the prosecution, on June 11, 2022, the petitioner and two others were standing with a bag and on seeing the police, they tried to escape from the spot.

It was alleged that 21 MDMA-ecstasy tablets weighing around 10.15 grams were found in the bag. The prosecution



said that based on the confession of the petitioner and another accused, the third accused who ran away from the spot was also arrested.

Before the high court, the petitioner's counsel had contended that the alleged contraband seized from him on June 11, 2022 was produced before the special court at Chennai only on July 5, 2022 and till then, the police had kept the same in their custody without any approval from the trial court concerned. His counsel had argued that though the high court in

November 2024 had directed the trial court to complete the trial within six months, the trial was not yet concluded and the co-accused were already granted bail.

The counsel representing the state had argued before the high court that three accused were involved in the case and 10.15 grams of MDMA-ecstasy tablets allegedly seized from the petitioner falls under commercial quantity.

The high court had dismissed the bail plea.

## PM Modi greets people of Telangana on statehood day



PTI

New Delhi, Jun 2: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday greeted the people of Telangana on the occasion of the state's formation day and said the central government is committed to supporting its growth and realising the dream of a developed India.

Telangana formation day, also known as statehood day, is celebrated to mark its carving out of Andhra Pradesh on this day in 2014, as 29th state of India.

"Greetings to the people of Telangana on the special occasion of Telangana Statehood Day," Modi said in a post on X.

The prime minister said that the people of Telangana are known for their spirit of innovation and enterprise and the state is known for its glorious culture and history...one of courage and determination.

"The Central Government is committed to supporting Telangana's growth trajectory in realising our dream of a Viksit Bharat. Praying for the good health and success of the people of the State," he said.

## South African Dy President meets VP Radhakrishnan

Discusses trade, skills, defence, Global South issues

PTI

New Delhi, Jun 2: Deputy President of South Africa Shipokosa Paulus Mashatile on Tuesday met Vice President C P Radhakrishnan here during his official visit to India as the two leaders discussed trade, skills development, defence and other issues.

The South African deputy president was accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising senior ministers and government officials. During the meeting, the two leaders held comprehensive discussions aimed at strengthening the longstanding partnership between India and South Africa, the Vice President secretariat said.

Key areas of focus included trade, investment, defence cooperation, skills development, and enhancing people-to-people exchanges.

The leaders also exchanged views on issues concerning the Global South and discussed expanding cooperation through multilateral platforms such as BRICS, G20, IBSA, and IORA. Both sides emphasised the importance of unlocking the full potential of bilateral economic relations and creating a favourable environment for businesses and investors.

Vice President Radhakrishnan highlighted the proposed India-Southern African Customs Union (SACU) Preferential Trade Agreement and expressed hope for the early commencement and



successful conclusion of negotiations. Defence cooperation also featured prominently in the discussions. The leaders welcomed the growing collaboration between the two countries and expressed optimism about future editions of the IBSAMAR Naval Exercise, involving India, Brazil, and South Africa.

The vice president thanked South Africa for its support to India's Project Cheetah through the transfer of cheetahs. Citing the programme's encouraging progress, including successful breeding in the wild, he sought continued South African cooperation in the conservation initiative.

Radhakrishnan also invited South Africa to consider joining India-led global initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, and the International Big Cat Alliance, noting their shared objectives of sustainable development and environmental protection.

## TMC heading for split similar to those seen in Maharashtra, claims WB minister



PTI

Kolkata, Jun 2: West Bengal minister Tapas Roy on Tuesday claimed that the opposition TMC was heading towards a split similar to the ones witnessed in Maharashtra.

Speaking to reporters outside the assembly, Roy claimed the TMC had accommodated people with

little political background and that internal contradictions were now surfacing.

Asserting that the TMC was undergoing an inevitable process of fragmentation, the BJP MLA of Maniktal claimed it would eventually disappear from the state's political landscape.

"There is growing dissatisfaction among many leaders and legislators. The developments indicate that the party is heading towards a split, a situation similar to what happened in Maharashtra," claimed the veteran leader, who switched over to the BJP from the TMC in 2024.

Earlier, senior TMC MLA Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay asserted that the majority of the party legislators would remain with supreme Mamata Banerjee, and the old guards would continue to retain control of the organisation.

He alleged that attempts were being made by the ruling dispensation to engineer defections and destabilise the opposition, but maintained that the TMC was united.

Expelled TMC MLA Ritabrata Banerjee, who is believed to be the leader of the rebel camp, claimed that the party has been "hijacked by I-PAC and no longer belongs to Mamata Banerjee".

Banerjee made the comment outside the assembly, with his visit to the House when it is not in session fuelling further speculations.

## SSB launches initiative for edu support, holistic dev of personnel's wards

PTI

New Delhi, Jun 2: The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to provide educational support and holistic development opportunities to the children of its personnel, particularly martyrs and serving staff, an official statement said.

The SSB, one of the five Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) under the Union home ministry, is responsible for guarding India's borders with Nepal and Bhutan, spanning about 2,400 km.

The initiative seeks to facilitate access to quality and affordable education while creating avenues for skill development, innovation, research, internships, entrepreneurship support, career counselling and placement assistance for the wards of force personnel.

The force has forged such MOUs with other educational institutions over the last few years as part of its welfare measures for the troops, the statement said.

SSB Director General Sanjay Singhal said the



force has always accorded the highest priority to the welfare of its personnel and their families.

Noting that SSB personnel serve the nation under challenging conditions along the borders, he said ensuring quality education and a secure future for their children was a "moral responsibility" of the force.

Under the agreement, 10 fully free seats will be provided at a school for the wards of SSB martyrs, with only mess charges applicable. In addition, up to 60 per cent fee concession will be extended to 250 eligible wards of SSB personnel. The MoU

also provides a 40 per cent fee concession on 50 seats under a public outreach programme.

In the higher education segment, five full tuition-waiver seats at GITAM University will be offered to the wards of SSB martyrs, while 100 wards of SSB personnel will be eligible for a 20 per cent concession in tuition fees.

The agreement goes beyond fee concessions and is designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills and opportunities required to compete effectively at national and global levels, the statement said.

## Gold rebounds Rs 1,050 on firm global cues; silver rises Rs 1,300



PTI

New Delhi, Jun 2: Gold prices rebounded by Rs 1,050 to Rs 1.61 lakh per 10 grams in the national capital on Tuesday amid a firm trend in the global markets and a weak US dollar.

According to the All India Sarafa Association, the yellow metal of 99.9 per cent purity appreciated by Rs 1,050 to Rs 1,61,450 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes) from Monday's closing level of Rs 1,60,400 per 10 grams. Silver prices also advanced by Rs 1,300 to Rs 2,71,000 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes).

The white metal had settled at Rs 2,69,700 per kg in the previous session.

In the international markets, spot gold gained 1 per cent to USD 4,528.75 per ounce, while silver rose 2 per cent to USD 76.29 per ounce.

Gold remained steady on Tuesday, with spot gold trading above the key level of USD 4,500 per ounce in the overseas trade. Prices fluctuated within a range as investors sought greater clarity on geopolitical developments and upcoming US economic data. Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

## Rabri bungalow row Not a monarchy; mother wants one house, son desires another: Bihar CM

PTI

Sheikhpura (Bihar), Jun 2: Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary on Tuesday took a veiled dig at the RJD, the main opposition party in the state, which has been indignant over the allotment of the bungalow occupied by former CM Rabri Devi to a minister.

Choudhary referred to the tiff without mentioning the opposition party or its leaders by name and remarked, "It is not a monarchy... The mother wants one house, and the son desires another."

The CM was addressing a gathering at Sahyog camp, recently launched by the state government to ensure prompt resolution of people's grievances concerning different departments, in Sheikhpura.

Notably, Rabri Devi has been living at 10, Circular Road, refusing to shift to 39, Hardinge Road allotted to her in her capacity as the leader of the opposition in state legislative

council. Her son Tejashwi Yadav, the leader of the opposition in the state assembly, is the occupant of 1, Polo Road.

Choudhary, who had been a deputy CM for two years before becoming the first BJP leader to head a government in Bihar, claimed, "I have never lived in a government bungalow for the last several years. I have been living in my private house."

The CM claimed he agreed to start working from 1, Anney Marg, the official residence of the chief minister which his government has rechristened as Lok Sevak Bhavan, only upon the insistence of his predecessor Nitish Kumar who gave up the top post to enter Rajya Sabha.

"Nitish Kumar ji set an example by taking no time in vacating his official residence. And I must say that the day my leaders tell me to step down, I will pack my bags and leave, without batting an eyelid," Choudhary said.

## Stock markets decline in early trade on global geopolitical concerns, FII selling

Sensex drops 296 points

PTI

Mumbai, Jun 2: Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty declined in early trade on Tuesday as investors remained concerned over the US-Iran situation, with diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis encountering repeated setbacks.

Persistent foreign fund outflows also hit markets' sentiment.

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 296.19 points to 73,971.30 in early deals. The 50-share NSE Nifty dropped 103.30 points to 23,272.25.

From the 30-Sensex firms, Bajaj Finance, Eternal, Bajaj Finserv, Power Grid, Larsen & Toubro and NTPC were among the biggest



laggards.

Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services, Tech Mahindra, HCL Tech, Asian Paints and Mahindra & Mahindra were the gainers.

In Asian markets, South Korea's benchmark Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225 index and Shanghai's SSE Composite index quoted lower, while Hong Kong's Hang

Seng index traded higher.

US markets ended in positive territory on Monday.

"The US-Iran situation remains unresolved, with diplomatic efforts encountering repeated setbacks and no definitive breakthrough yet emerging. The prolonged tensions in the Middle East have kept global risk appetite

restrained, prompting investors to adopt a more defensive stance amid concerns over regional stability and the broader implications for energy markets," Ponnudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth-tech firm, said.

US President Donald Trump said he persuaded Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to call off the strike on Beirut, following which the Israeli leader "turned his troops around".

Trump made the announcement on Truth Social on Monday evening amid reports that the conversation between the two leaders was "heated" and the US president telling Netanyahu that he would have been in prison but for his intervention.

## Chinese nationals stayed in MP hotel for month

PTI

Ratlam (MP), Jun 2: Police have registered a case after the owner of a hotel and its manager in Ratlam city of Madhya Pradesh allegedly failed to register the month-long stay of four Chinese nationals on the relevant online portal as required by law, officials said on Tuesday.

City Superintendent of Police (CSP) Ajay Sarwan said that four Chinese nationals had stayed in a hotel between December 17, 2025, and January 20 of this year.

He said the foreigners had come to India on business visas and were staying in Ratlam for machinery-related work. Citing the investigation, Sarwan said the hotel management failed to register the details regarding the stay of the foreigners on the online portal as required by law, nor did they inform the local police.

He said that after receiving information based on visa records, Ratlam Police investigated the matter and, upon confirmation of the foreign nationals' stay at the hotel, legal action was taken.

## UN weather agency warns strong El Nino could bring extreme temps until at least November

REUTERS

Geneva, Jun 2: The United Nations weather agency forecast on Tuesday a moderate or possibly strong El Nino that could drive up global temperatures and increase the risk of extreme weather until at least November.

El Nino is a periodic warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean, which typically lasts between nine and 12 months, according to the World Meteorological Organization.

The World Meteorological Organization said there is an 80 per cent chance that an El Nino event develops between June and August, and a 90 per cent chance it will last until at least November. The statement is the clearest signal yet of the likelihood.

"We need to prepare for a potentially strong El Nino event - which will exacerbate drought and heavy rainfall and increase the risk of heatwaves both on land and in the ocean," said WMO Secretary-General Celeste Saulo.

The weather pattern is known to disrupt regional climates, potentially bringing warmer temperatures across the globe, while increasing rainfall to southern South America, the southern United States, parts of



the Horn of Africa and central Asia. It can also cause drought in Australia, central America, Indonesia, and sections of southern Asia, and lead to the formation of hurricanes in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean, the WMO said.

The most recent El Nino, in 2023 to 24, contributed to making 2024 the hottest year on record, Saulo added.

"The risks are enormous" Each El Nino is different, and its effects vary around the world - making it hard to predict how this one will behave.

Typically, regions including

southern South America and parts of Central Asia get more rain in an El Nino, while Central America and Australia dry out. The phenomenon also intensifies heatwaves, including in regions far from the Pacific, such as Europe.

These effects can have disastrous consequences for food production, industries and human life.

In April to May 2024, floods in Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil killed more than 180 people and displaced 600,000. Scientists said both climate change and El Nino strengthened the rains that

triggered the disaster.

Francisco Aquino, head of the University of Rio Grande do Sul's climate centre, said a strong El Nino this year risked causing a similar disaster.

"When you have an El Nino over what climate change already brought, the risks are enormous," Aquino told Reuters. "A strong El Nino can lead to the exact same scenario we saw then, because the world keeps getting warmer, and the temperature in the ocean keeps rising."

Climate change is also compounding the impact of El Ninos in southern Africa. There, the weather pattern reduces rainfall during the rainy season, limiting hydropower generation and cutting crop yields.

"Climate change will make that below-normal rainfall more intense, so it will last longer or have less rainfall... and that, of course, will affect agriculture, especially the rain-fed farmers in the region," said Izidine Pinto, a Senior Climate Researcher at the Netherlands Meteorological Institute.

Antonio Navarra, head of Italy's Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change, said stronger Pacific cyclones were another impact governments should prepare for.

## Indian national anthem in Greece: Atiqa Mir races to most dominant win of her career

PTI

Thessaloniki (Greece), Jun 2: Eleven-year-old Atiqa Mir reinforced her status as India's leading racer on the world stage with the most dominant performance of her career in Round 2 of the Champions of the Future Academy Program, making a clean sweep of qualifying, heat races and the finals here.

Atiqa, the first Indian to be supported by the Formula 1 Academy, set the benchmark in a highly competitive field in the OK-NJ category (age 12-14). It is remarkable what she has managed to achieve in her first season in this category, giving the more experienced drivers (mostly male) a hard time on the track.

Be it the qualifying, heats or the two finals, Atiqa was in a league of her own throughout the weekend. With her sensational show, she became only the third driver to in the series' history to sweep the qualifying, heats and finals.

While she led with admirable poise and calm on track all through the week, the little girl in her understandably got emotional when the Indian national anthem as she stood atop the podium. Atiqa is aiming to



become the first female in Formula 1 since the early 1990s. She won Round 2.2 by a more than 2.6 seconds, a massive margin in motorsport considering all 25 drivers were running on the same equipment.

Born in Mumbai with family roots in Jammu and Kashmir, Atiqa bagged the pole position in qualifying with a record time of 56.77, almost three tenths ahead of the second place driver, demonstrating skill well beyond her age and experience.

In Heat Race 1, Atiqa dominated the race from start to finish. In Heat Race 2, she bossed the field again, winning by more than a second ahead of her nearest competitor, putting her in P1 grid position for the final.

In the gruelling 15 lap final, Atiqa took control of the race at the start and demonstrated a racing masterclass, pulling away to a 3.9 seconds advantage in merely eight laps.

"It is such a difficult and physical track and I managed to win all the races. I was very emotional when the National Anthem played and there is no better feeling for me than that," said Atiqa.

A day earlier in Round 2.1, Atiqa had qualified fourth due to setup issues but she still finished P2 and P1 in the two heat races.

Atiqa's father Asif Mir, a former Formula Asia vice-champion, was a happy man after a special weekend.

## China owns more than 11,000 German-developed patents, IW study shows

REUTERS

Berlin, Jun 2: China has taken ownership of more than 11,300 patents developed in Germany over the past two decades, according to a study by the German Economic Institute (IW) commissioned by the Bertelsmann Foundation. Nearly one in three inventions developed in Germany is owned by a foreign entity. Of those, almost a third are held by US owners and about 11 percent by Swiss owners, the study showed on Tuesday.

The shift is especially pronounced in mechanical engineering, where patent applications rose to 4,300 in 2022 from 3,300 in 2000.



The study said China had been particularly active in acquiring technologies in the sector "German companies also hold patents abroad. That is part of normal competition," IW expert Oliver

Koppel said.

But he said Beijing directed Western acquisitions strategically while keeping its own market relatively closed to foreign investors.

"That is an imbalance," Koppel said, adding that Europe must examine more closely where strategically relevant technologies are migrating.

Germany's domestic innovative strength is weakening due to insufficient investment in research and development, IW said.

Germany ranked third worldwide in R&D spending in 2000, when its outlays were twice as high as China's, but it had slipped to sixth place by 2021.

## Israel kills 8 in southern Lebanon, a day after Trump said Israel, Hezbollah to de-escalate

AP

Beirut, Jun 2: Israeli drone strikes on southern Lebanon on Tuesday killed eight people, including a father and his son and daughter, a day after US President Donald Trump said Israel and Hezbollah agreed to dial back fighting.

Israel threatened on Monday to strike Beirut's southern suburbs, causing panic in the Lebanese capital as thousands fled to safer areas and Hezbollah fired rockets at northern Israel.

Israeli forces recently made their deepest incursion into Lebanon in 26 years, but Beirut has been mostly spared over the past six weeks, apart from two targeted attacks on the city's southern suburbs in May. Trump later announced



after a call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and communicating with the Lebanese militant group through mediators that "there will be no Troops going to Beirut". Lebanon's State-run National News Agency reported Tuesday that an Israeli

drone strike hit a car on the road linking the southern town of Marjayoun with the city of Nabatiyeh, killing James Karim, a dentist from the nearby Christian town of Qlayaa, along with his daughter and son. The Lebanese army said two soldiers were lightly wounded when a separate drone targeted them on a road outside the city.

A drone strike on the village of Jibchit killed two Syrians who worked at a plant nursery, the agency reported, while another on the nearby village of Toul killed two people. A third strike hit a car near the village of Harouf, killing one person.

NNA also reported that an Israeli airstrike on Monday killed six in the southern village of Marwanieh.

## Seamers Auqib, Prince among 6 picked as net bowlers ahead of Afghanistan Test



PTI

Mullanpur, Jun 2: Jammu and Kashmir seamer Auqib Nabi Dar, whose non-selection in the Indian Test squad invited widespread criticism, has been summoned by the team management along with five others to bowl in the nets ahead of the one-off Test against Afghanistan starting June 6.

Besides Auqib, wiry UP leg-spinner Zeeshan Ansari, who plays for Sunrisers Hyderabad in the IPL, has also been asked to bowl in the nets as the Afghanistan team is expected to have a few wrist spinners. The other players called to bowl in the camp are left-arm wrist spinner Shivang Kumar, left-arm pacer Gurjapneet Singh, find of IPL Prince Yadav, and off-spinner Saransh Jain.

"Gurjapneet Singh, Auqib Nabi, Prince Yadav, Saransh Jain, Zeeshan Ansari and Shivang Kumar have joined

the Indian squad as net bowlers to assist the team in the build up to the Test," a BCCI release stated.

"Yes Auqib Nabi has been asked to join the India nets. It is not just Auqib but there are six others, who have also been called to join the India nets. Due to extreme weather conditions, the two premier fast bowlers Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna can't go flat out in the nets after a gruelling three games in seven days with travel. The batters would need adequate practice," a BCCI source privy to the development told PTI.

Both Siraj and Prasidh played Qualifier 1, 2 and final in a space of five days including travelling to Dharamsala, Chandigarh and Ahmedabad respectively. Auqib, who got 60 wickets to become highest wicket-taker while guiding Jammu and Kashmir to Ranji Trophy triumph, was piped by gangly Punjab pacerman Gurnoor Brar in the Indian

team. The J&K medium pacer's omission had caused a furore with former India skipper and ex-chairman of selection committee Dilip Vengsarkar questioning the sanctity of Ranji Trophy if performances in the tournament weren't rewarded. It is understood that Auqib hasn't yet been included in the 15-member squad but he is among the stand-bys.

Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna and Gurnoor Brar are three pacers in the 15 and only if one of the three has a niggles, will Auqib be included in the 15. The Indian team will have its first practice session on Tuesday afternoon but all the players, who were part of the IPL final, are unlikely to train on the opening day.

For the record, seven Gujarat Titans players (skipper Shubman Gill, B Sai Sudharsan, Gurnoor Brar, Prasidh Krishna, Mohammed Siraj, Manav Suthar and Washington Sundar) are part of Test squad.

# Movies List

Wednesday, 3rd June

**BHOOTH BANGLA** (U/A16+)  
Hindi - 11:45 AM, 03:00 PM

**PATI PATNI AUR WOHO DO** (U/A16+)  
Hindi - 04:30 PM

**CHAND MERA DIL** (U/A16+)  
HINDI - 10:55 AM, 01:45 PM, 07:00 PM

**OBSESSION** (A)  
ENGLISH - 11:30 AM, 02:15 PM, 06:15 PM

**DHURANDHAR: THE REVENGE** (A)  
HINDI - 05:00 PM

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