



Two labourers killed in Kulgam terror attack

LG Sinha condemns; CM Omar announces Rs 10 lakh ex-gratia from CMRF in addition to Rs 6 lakh district relief; Chhattisgarh CM announces Rs 20 lakh aid for each family

Umaisar Gull Ganie

Kulgam, Aug 01: Two migrant labourers from Chhattisgarh were killed after terrorists opened fire at a brick kiln in Kelam village in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Friday evening.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that both the workers sustained critical injuries in the attack. One of them, identified as Deepak Ratray, died on the spot, while the other, Bhupendra Bhaina, was shifted to Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag before being referred to SKIMS Soura for advanced treatment. "Bhaina succumbed to his injuries during treatment at SKIMS taking the death toll in the



attack to two," he added.

Both the deceased were from Chhattisgarh and were working at the brick kiln in Kulgam.

Soon after the attack, Police, Army and CRPF personnel rushed to the area and launched a cordon-and-search operation. Security has

also been heightened across Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of the incident.

The attack comes less than 10 days after terrorists shot dead a policeman in Lal Chowk area of Anantnag town.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha

condemned the attack, saying he had spoken to Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat and other senior security officials following the incident. In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor said he had directed security forces to intensify operations and eliminate the terrorists responsible for the attack. He also said the area had been cordoned off and a search operation launched to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah strongly condemned the killing of the two labourers and announced an ex-gratia relief of Rs 10 lakh each from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) for the next of kin of the deceased.

The Chief Minister said the assistance | [More on P6](#)

Review SoPs established to protect labourers from outside J&K: LG Sinha directs DCs, SSPs

Chairs high-level security review meeting, calls for high-impact anti-terror operations

Discusses security arrangements for ongoing Amarnath Yatra

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 01: A day after two Chattisgarh labourers were killed in a terror attack at Kelam, Kulgam in South Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday directed all the Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendents of Police (SSPs) to conduct a comprehensive review of the Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) established to protect labourers from outside Jammu Kashmir.

Chairing a high-level security review meeting here, LG Sinha according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "We must intensify precise, high-impact anti-terror operations



to neutralise the terrorists."

The meeting was attended by Atal Dullo, Chief Secretary; Nalin Prabhat, DGP; Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary Home Department; S.J.M.Gillani, Special DG Coordination PHQ; Nitish Kumar, ADGP, CID; M Raju, Commissioner/Secretary, GAD; IGPs; Divisional Commissioners; SSPs, Deputy Commissioners and other senior officials.

Besides directing the DCs and SSPs to conduct a comprehensive review of the SoPs established to protect laborers from outside Jammu Kashmir, LG Sinha also directed that the employers must ensure all workers from other states and UTs of the country are provided insurance and that their details are registered with local police and district authorities. He instructed the authorities to ensure | [More on P6](#)

Murder of humanity, no words enough to condemn: LoP Sharma

Calls for dismantling entire terror ecosystem



Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 01: Leader of Opposition and BJP leader Sunil Sharma on Saturday termed the killing of two migrant labourers in Kulgam as 'murder of humanity,' saying no words were enough to condemn the gruesome terror attack.

He also accused Pakistan-backed terrorists of targeting innocent

civilians. He urged security forces to dismantle the entire terror ecosystem operating in Jammu and Kashmir. Talking to reporters after meeting the bereaved family, Sharma, as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said, "The incident that took place in Kulgam's Killam area is extremely painful and heartbreaking. These labourers had come | [More on P6](#)



NC Chief Spokesperson condemns 'cowardly' attack

'No religion permits killing innocents'

Rehan Qayoom Mir

National Conference (NC) chief spokesperson and Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Zaidal, Tanvir Sadiq, on Saturday condemned the killing of two migrant labourers in the Kulgam terror attack, terming the targeting of innocent | [More on P6](#)

LG Sinha hands over appointment letters to families of J&K Police Martyrs



KT News Desk

Srinagar, Aug 01: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday reaffirmed the government's support to families of J&K Police martyrs by handing over appointment letters on compassionate grounds. During ceremonies at Lok Bhavan, he addressed the families of two fallen officers, emphasizing appreciation and assistance.

First, the LG handed over an appointment letter to Absar Ashiq Qureshi, son of Martyr Head Constable Ashiq Hussain Qureshi, who lost his life during the July 22, 2026 terror attack in

Anantnag. Family members were present during the event, and the LG paid tribute to the brave officer, assuring all possible support. He had previously visited the family in Lalpora, Beerwah, Budgam, last week.

In a similar gesture, the LG handed over an appointment letter to Inshah Nazir, wife of Martyr Inspector Masroor Ali Wani, honoring his sacrifice and promising support from the administration.

The ceremonies highlight the government's commitment to honoring the sacrifices of police personnel and supporting their families in their times of need.

JKPSC Submits 67th Annual Report to LG Sinha

Highlights 1,152 selections, 29 DPC meetings

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Aug 01: In compliance with Article 323(2) of the Constitution of India, Jammu & Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC) on Saturday submitted its 67th Annual Report for the year 2025-26 to the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, at Lok Bhavan Srinagar. The delegation of the Members of the Commission - Dr Rajiv Singh and Asaf Mehmood Sagar; Secretary, Bashir Ahmad Dar, was led by Chairman JKPSC, Shri Arun Kumar Choudhary.

The comprehensive report highlights a year marked by significant administrative reforms, accelerated selection timelines, and robust recruitment drives across key administrative and judicial cadres in the Union Territory.

The Lieutenant Governor commended the JKPSC's commitment to fairness and speed, while upholding meritocracy and integrity throughout the recruitment



drive.

Arun Kumar Choudhary, Chairman JKPSC briefed the Lieutenant Governor on the structural and technological interventions aimed at enhancing efficiency and transparency.

The report outlines the achievement of the Commission, constitutional provisions, selections made, Departmental Promotion Committee meetings held, and promotions effected and the recruitment rules of the departments approved.

In 2025-26, the Public Service Commission has made (1152) selections against

(1263) posts referred to it. The selections include the selection for Jammu Kashmir Administrative Service, Jammu Kashmir Police Service and Jammu Kashmir Account Service among others. The Commission also made the selections against (39) posts of Junior Judge in the Subordinate Judiciary. In addition, the faculty posts in the various Medical Colleges, Degree Colleges and other Gazetted level posts of various departments were filled up. Similarly, the Commission held (29) Departmental Promotion Committee meetings and | [More on P6](#)

Jmu-Sgr highway reopens after two-day closure, traffic resumes

LMVs released from both Udhampur, Qazigund

HMVs from Kashmir allowed towards Jammu

KNO Correspondent

Srinagar, Aug 01: Traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, the only all-weather road link connecting Kashmir with the rest of the country, resumed on Saturday afternoon after remaining suspended for two days due to restoration work and inclement weather.

Officials told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the repair work on the single carriageway near Dewal Bridge in the Samroli area of Udhampur district continued amid heavy rainfall. "Fresh

incidents of shooting stones and mudslides were also reported in the Ramban and Banihal sectors, while the road surface had become slushy and slippery. Due to these reasons traffic was halted as a precautionary measure," they said.

"Following continuous efforts by the NHAI, Traffic Police and other agencies, the affected stretch was made motorable, following which vehicular movement was restored in a phased manner," an official said, adding, "Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) were released simultaneously from Udhampur | [More on P6](#)

Special train to run between Budgam, Katra

Naveed Ul Haq Ganaie

As the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway remains closed due to adverse weather conditions, Northern Railway on Saturday announced special train service between Budgam and Katra to facilitate the movement of stranded passengers. According to a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), | [More on P6](#)

7-yr-old boy dies after struck by rolling boulder

KNO Correspondent

Handwara, Aug 01: A seven-year-old nursery student was killed after being struck by a boulder that rolled down from a nearby hillside during a mudslide near his school in the Mawer area of Handwara on Saturday, officials said.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the incident occurred during the lunch break when, amid a mudslide, a boulder rolled down from the adjacent hillside and struck the child outside the school premises.

He said the boy was immediately shifted to the Primary Health Centre (PHC) Qalamabad, where doctors declared him brought dead.

The deceased was later identified as Rehan Ahmad (7), son of Reyaz Ahmad Dar, a resident of Khudi, Mawer | [More on P6](#)

Heavy rain triggers flooding in Shopian; cloudburst hits Kishtwar, Ladakh's Minamarg

NH-244 closed; rescue, restoration underway; schools shut in Ramban, Kishtwar

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Aug 01: Heavy rainfall triggered flooding in parts of south Kashmir's Shopian district on Saturday, inundating several houses and a school, while a cloudburst in Kishtwar district damaged shops, vehicles and other property, forcing the closure of a key highway stretch, officials said.

Rainwater entered several houses in Pahlipora village of Shopian after incessant rainfall, disrupting normal life and prompting an emergency response by the police, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and the district administration, they said.

Rescue teams were rushed to the affected locality and launched evacuation and



relief operations.

"Efforts are underway to drain the accumulated water, shift vulnerable families to safer locations wherever required and assess the extent of the damage," an official told the news agency—Kashmir

News Observer (KNO).

Several residential houses and a school were affected by the flooding, officials said, adding that there were no reports of any casualties.

Meanwhile, a cloudburst struck Chatroo market in

Representation Photo

Kishtwar district at around 2:30 am, triggering a flash flood that swept through the area.

The flash flood washed away several vehicles, while mud and debris entered shops and other commercial establishments, causing extensive damage to property and disrupting normal business activities, officials said.

No loss of life or injuries were reported in the incident, they added.

Following the cloudburst, officials of the district administration, police and other concerned departments rushed to the spot and launched restoration work, including the clearance of debris and assessment of the damage.

As a precautionary measure, the Chatroo-Kishtwar stretch

of National Highway-244 was closed to vehicular traffic. Authorities advised commuters to avoid travel on the route until normal traffic is restored and urged people to stay away from streams, nullahs and other vulnerable locations in view of the continuing wet weather.

Amid the prevailing weather conditions, the district administrations in Ramban and Kishtwar ordered the closure of all government and private schools for the day.

The Chief Education Officer (CEO), Ramban, directed all educational institutions in the district to remain closed on Saturday and instructed heads of schools to conduct online classes to minimise academic disruption.

A similar order was issued by the CEO, | [More on P6](#)

EOW Kashmir chargesheets two in Rs 3.11 cr Co-op Bank embezzlement case

Srinagar, Aug 01: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) Kashmir on Saturday said it has filed a chargesheet against two accused in connection with the alleged embezzlement of around Rs 3.11 crore from the Central Co-operative Bank's Langate branch.

In a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), a spokesperson said the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) Kashmir of the Crime Branch, J&K, has filed a chargesheet in FIR No. 25/2016 under Sections 420, 468, 471 and 120-B RPC before the Court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Handwara, for offences related to cheating, forgery, use of forged documents and criminal conspiracy.

He said the investigation was initiated on the basis of a written communication from the then Registrar, Co-operative Societies, J&K, alleging | [More on P6](#)

Director Sainik Welfare conducts interactive outreach session for Ex-Servicemen in Gurez

KT News Desk

BANDIPORA, AUGUST 01: The Director, Sainik Welfare Department, J&K, conducted an Ex-Servicemen (ESM) Outreach Programme on Saturday at the remote border area of Gurez in Bandipora district.

The programme, as per an official statement, witnessed enthusiastic participation from Ex-Servicemen and widows of Ex-Servicemen.

Addressing the gathering, the Director highlighted the Department's three key focus areas viz. healthcare and medical initiatives for Ex-Servicemen, employment and self-employment opportunities for Ex-Servicemen and their wards, and educational incentives for the children of Ex-Servicemen.

He urged eligible Ex-Servicemen aspiring to secure Government jobs under the 6% reservation quota for Ex-Servicemen in Jammu & Kashmir to prepare themselves adequately and obtain the required qualifying marks to improve their chances of selection.

Encouraging entrepreneurship, the Director advised Ex-Servicemen interested in self-employment to approach the Department for guidance on various Government schemes and skill development programmes.

He particularly encouraged them to explore opportunities in agriculture and tourism sectors with significant growth potential in the Gurez region.

The Director informed the participants that the Department will be proposing several new welfare initiatives during the forthcoming meeting of the State Managing Committee on the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund. The proposed initiatives are aimed at strengthening medical assistance, re-employment support, self-employment promotion, and educational incentives for the Ex-Servicemen community and their dependents.

He also apprised the gathering that the Department is actively pursuing the establishment of a Zila Sainik Welfare Office (ZSWO) at Bandipora to improve accessibility of welfare services for Ex-Servicemen residing in the district. During the interaction, the Director patiently listened to the issues and suggestions raised by the participants and assured them that the Department would examine their concerns and take appropriate action wherever feasible. Highlighting the Department's efforts to improve outreach, the Director announced the launch of an E-Outreach Initiative to complement the existing physical outreach programmes conducted by Zila Sainik Welfare Offices.

Div Com Kashmir reviews progress on Compassionate Appointment Cases, SVAMITA, AgriStack

Instructs DCs to expedite disposal of all pending cases

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 01: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, Saturday chaired a meeting of Deputy Commissioners (DCs) to review the progress of compassionate appointment cases, pending SVAMITA matters under MAPS 1.0, implementation of AgriStack, and the locking of Jamabandies across the Kashmir Division.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner, as per an official statement, conducted a district-wise review of the progress achieved under each initiative and emphasized the need for timely completion of all pending tasks. He directed the Deputy Commissioners to ensure that the prescribed targets are achieved within the stipulated timelines through close monitoring and coordinated efforts.

Reviewing the status of compassionate appointment cases, the Divisional Commissioner instructed the DCs to expedite the disposal of all pending cases in accordance with the established norms and procedures.

The Divisional



Commissioner also directed the Deputy Commissioners to furnish details of encroachments on public land and public spaces by religious structures within the next two days to facilitate further action.

To prevent the dissemination of misinformation and

fake news on social media platforms, the Divisional Commissioner instructed all Deputy Commissioners to ensure strict adherence by media channels & users to the advisories issued by the Information Department and take punitive action incase of noncompliance.

CCRUM Organises ‘Uttar Samvad-2026’ Official Language Conference-cum-Workshop in Srinagar

KT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, August 1: The Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, organised the second Official Language Conference-cum-Workshop, "Uttar Samvad-2026," in hybrid mode at the Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine (RRIUM), Srinagar, Saturday. The programme was organised to promote the progressive use of Hindi in official work and to strengthen awareness of the Official Language Policy among officers and employees.

The inaugural session, as per a PIB statement, was graced by Sagar Hanuman Singh, IPos, Chief Postmaster General, Jammu & Kashmir Circle, and Chairman, Nagar Rajbhasha Karyanvayan Samiti (NARAKAS), as the Chief Guest. Dr. Younis Iftikhar Munshi, Deputy Director General, CCRUM, attended as the Guest of Honour, while Dr. N. Zaheer Ahmed, Director General, CCRUM, presided over the programme virtually.

Welcoming the participants, Shri Mayank Tiwari, Administrative Officer and Programme Coordinator,



highlighted the initiatives undertaken by the Council Headquarters to promote the use of Hindi in official correspondence and administration. Addressing the gathering, Shri Sagar Hanuman Singh described Hindi as a unifying force that connects India administratively, culturally and emotionally. He emphasised that language is an integral part of national identity and called for collective efforts to further strengthen the use of Hindi in official functioning while preserving India's rich linguistic diversity.

In his virtual address, Dr. N. Zaheer Ahmed said that following

the successful organisation of Dakshin Samvad-2025 in Chennai, the Council was pleased to host Uttar Samvad-2026 in Srinagar. He expressed satisfaction over the progress made in implementing the Official Language Policy across CCRUM institutions and reaffirmed the Council's commitment to achieving its Official Language targets in accordance with the guidelines of the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Younis Iftikhar Munshi highlighted the constitutional significance of Hindi as the Official Language and stressed the need to promote Hindi alongside other Indian languages in day-to-day government functioning. He called upon officers and employees to increase the use of Hindi in official correspondence and administrative work.

The workshop featured technical sessions by experts on the Official Language Policy, implementation of Hindi in government offices, parliamentary inspection procedures, and practical aspects of official communication. Participants also attended motivational lectures, a poetry recital and a cultural programme presented by students of the institute.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER/ DESIGNATED OFFICER, FOOD SAFETY FOOD & DRUGS ADMINISTRATION, ANANTNAG

Subject: Prohibition on sale of "Desi Ghee" marketed under the Brand Name Apna Dairy Milk (Batch No. DM 06).

ORDER

Whereas, the Food Safety Officer, Shangus, procured a sample of "Desi Ghee" sold in the market under the brand name Apna Dairy Milk (Batch No. DM 06), Packed by M/S: Jai Maa Laxmi Enterprises Mandi Dabwali (Haryana).

Whereas, the Food Analyst, National Food Laboratory, Ghaziabad, vide Report No. JK- 350/Jul/26/367, dated 13- 07- 2026, has declared the sample as "UNSAFE" on the following grounds:

- The sample shows presence of beta- sitosterol test positive.
- The Reichert- Meissl Value, Polenske Value and Saponification Value are below the minimum prescribed limits.
- The B.R. Reading at (40°{\circ}C) and Iodine Value are above the maximum prescribed limits.
- In the fatty acid profile, the values of C4:0, C6:0, C8:0, C10:0, C12:0, C14:0 and C18:0 are below the minimum prescribed limits, whereas the values of C16:0, C18:1 and C18:2 are above the maximum prescribed limits.

Whereas, consumption of the above said ghee is liable to be prohibited under Regulation 2.3.7 of the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations, 2011 as it may pose a threat to the health of consumers.

Whereas, manufacture and sale of unsafe food, as defined under Section 3(1)(zz)(iv)(xi) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, is prohibited.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 36(3)(b) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and in the interest of public health, I, Sheikh Zameer Ahmad, Designated Officer, Food Safety, Anantnag, hereby prohibit the sale of the aforesaid food product within the territorial jurisdiction of District Anantnag with immediate effect and until further orders.

No:- DO/ANG/2026/ 1996- 1990 Dated: 29/07/2026

DIPK-4018/26
Dated: 01-08-2026

Designated Officer
Assistant Commissioner
Food Safety, Anantnag

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CIVIL SECRETARIAT, J&K

Subject: Selection of candidates for the post of Lecturer in Mathematics in School Education Department.

NOTICE

In pursuance of the recommendations received from the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission,

Solina, Srinagar, for appointment as Lecturer in Mathematics in the School Education Department vide Letter No. PSC/DR-/Mathematics/SED/2024 (7856309) dated 16.07.2026, the following candidates are hereby directed to submit their valid E-Mail ID and Mobile Number in the School Education Department, (Gazetted Section) Civil Secretariat, Srinagar, in person or on E-Mail ID: school-edu@jk.gov.in within a period of fifteen (15) days positively, for uploading their verification rolls on the Employees Verification System (EVS):

S.No	Full Name	Father/Husband Name	Address
1.	ZAHID BASHIR	BASHIRAHMADMONGA	55ZEHANPORABONIYAR MONGA
2.	SALEEM KHAN	AHMAD GHAMADKHAN	00037 HARIPORA
3.	TAHIR SHAMSHER	LATE GHQADIRKHAN	HARRANBUDGAM NEAR JIO TOWER HALMATPORA KUPWARA
4.	MOHD YOUSUF MIR	ABRASHIDMIR	JAMMUANDKASHMIR NADIGAM NARBAL BUDGAM.
5.	ABRAHAHMAD	LATEABDULGANI	1KCOHANIDANMUGHAL
6.	IRFAN AHMAD	MOHDIQBALSKEIKH	MOHALLA RAINAWARI 17 KHAN MOHALLA SHEIKH
7.	SAQIB MUBARAK	MUBARAK AHMAD	KACHWARIKHANSAHIB 152SONIGAMKULGAM EITOO
8.	ISHFAQ NAZIR	NAZIR AHMAD	75 HERPORA TARIGAM NANGROO KULGAM
9.	PARVEIZ NAZIR	NAZIRAHMADLONE	48RASRAIPORAPATTAN LONE
10.	TAWHEEDA AKHTER	GHHMOHDBHAT	183NOONMAYARIPORA YARIPORA
11.	MOHMMAD WANI	SHAFI BASHIRAHMADWANI	50-00013811
12.	DILAWAR JUNEED	GULAMAHMADMIR	MALLAPORAGANDERBAL 80PINJURASHOPIAN MIR
13.	MAJID HAMID DAR	HAMIDULLAH DAR	KAPOORA ASHMIJI KULGAM
14.	LONE SETH AB AHAD	LONE MOHALLA RUNGWAR JAHANZAIB	VILLAGE ALOOSA ALOOSA
15.	MUDASSIR AHMAD	MOHD YOUSUF MIR	13 HERPORA RATNIPORA MIR
16.	SUBZAR AHMAD	MOHD AKBAR BEIG	61 JADIPORA KULGAM BEIG
17.	YASIR AHMAD Rather	ALI MOHAMMAD RATHER	114 CHITHI BANDI RATHER BANDIPORA
18.	RAHUL KUMAR	SUBASH CHANDER	165 SEC 4 SHARIKAVIHAR LOWER ROOPNAGAR
19.	RAVINDER SINGH	JAMEET SINGH	R/O TRERU P/O TRERU TEHSIL TARYATH DISTRICT RAJOURI
20.	KULSOOMA	ABDUL RASHID SHIEKH	00000450 RASHID CHEWASUMBAL
21.	AAQIB ALTAF	ALTAF HUSSAIN WANI	002 MOMIN ABAD BUGAM
22.	JAVID AHMAD	AB REHMAN RATHER	21 DOONIGUND TRAL RATHER
23.	MUDASIR AHMAD	BASHIR AHMAD BHAT	76 BHAT MOHALLA BHAT BATAPORA FRISAL
24.	TARIQ AHMAD Dar	NAZIR AHMAD DAR	47 SHARATPORA SHOPIAN
26.	JASIFA FAYAZ	FAYAZ AHMAD ITOO	BIDDER HAYATPORA BIDDER HAYATPORA KOKERNAG
27.	SHARWAN KUMAR	SATISH KUMAR	32 SHIROTI SAROOR DRABSHALLA
27.	KULJEET SINGH	BHART SINGH	106 NATNA DRAMAN RAJGARH
28.	AVINASH Lakhnotra	FAQIR CHAND	0 GURHA BRAHMANA LAKHNOTRA BANTALAB MOHALLA MALHOTRA WARD NO 65
29.	JOGINDER PAUL	ROMESH CHANDER	WARD NO. 4 KHANPUR MARHEEN
30.	RAKESH KUMAR	HANS RAJ	VILL DABOH DABOH SAMBA
31.	MUKESH DIGRA	RATTAN LAL	52 CHAK LALA BISHNAH
32.	MOHD AKRAM	MASOOD MOHD	PALOURA NEAR SOAP FACTORY JAMMU
33.	SHAHID AHMED	MOHD RASHID	R/O FATEHPUR FATEHPUR MANDI
34.	MOHD RASHID	LAL DIN	25 BACHIANWALI HAVELI
35.	MOHD QASIM	SAGEER AHMED	05 R/O PRORI GUJJARAN P/O PANIHAD KOTERANKA
36.	SHABANA AZMI	YOUSAF HUSSAIN	WARD NO. 05 VILLAGE BARI BARIBRAHMANA
37.	MANGAL SINGH	KARAM CHAND	019 DUGGAN BANI
38.	SHAHOOOR KHAN	MOHD KHURSHID KHAN	VILLAGE BHATA DHURIAN P/O SURANKOTE MENDHAR
39.	MOHD TASEEN	MUNIR HUSSAIN	112 SAJATHANA MANDI
40.	SABIHA BAKHTAWAR	ABDUL RASHID	16 MOHALLA PURANI POONCH NEAR BATARHAVELI
41.	RUHKSAR MOHABBAT	MOHABBAT HUSSAIN	VILLAGE DHARAMSAL KHARI HAVELI
42.	KAJAL SHARMA44	SUBASH CHANDER	54 VILLAGE NONIAL DISTRICT RAJOURI TEH NOSHERA
43.	AMAN MANHAS	YASH KARAN SINGH	VILL. SARWALPARGWAL SARWALPARGWAL
44.	ANIL SINGH	BABU SINGH	111 BANDWAL JOURIAN AKHNOOR
45.	HEENA SAINI	RAJ KUMAR SAINI	1 VILLSHIBU CHACK BISHNAH
46.	FIRDOSE AHMAD SHEERGOJRI	AB RAHIM SHEERGOJRI	159 MITRIGAM
47.	IFTIKHAR BASHIR GOJRI	BASHIR AHMAD GOJRI	08 LARIGANAPORARA SRIPORA QAZIABAD
48.	FAIZAN AHMAD ZARGAR	SHOWKAT AHMAD ZARGAR	H.NO. 153 SOURA
49.	SAMIR AHMAD WAGAY	AB KARIM WAGAY	63 WOYENIMAM SAHIB BARBUGH
50.	NUSRAT AHMED DAR	GULAM NABI DAR	193 MATIPORA ANANTNAG
51.	RAJAT SINGH	VIJAY SINGH	NA HARSATH GHAGWAL
52.	SAHIL SHARMA	KHERATI LAL	VILLAGE RADYAL POST OFFICE NARANGHAGWAL
53.	BILAL AHMAD BHAT	GH NABI BHAT	64 KHASIPORA SHOPIAN
54.	MANAN BHAT	BASHIR AHMAD BHAT	49 NAINA SHAHQORA LITTER

Note: The column of First name, Middle name, last name and surname needs to be filled up as per the name of the applicant and in case of absence of any title, the same shall be left blank instead of writing NA.

Deepika Sharma (JKAS)

Under Secretary to the Government, School Education Department

Dated 31 .07.2026

DIPK-3980/26
Dated: 01-08-2026

SMC’s response reduced waterlogging across Sgr: Commissioner

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 01: Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) Commissioner Faz Lul Haseeb on Saturday said the civic body’s strengthened response mechanism has significantly reduced waterlogging across Srinagar despite continuous rainfall, while sharing that 13 next of kin of deceased employees have been appointed under the SRO-43/Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme (RAS). Talking to reporters here Haseeb said the appointments were made after all required government approvals. “Under the SRO-43/RAS scheme, the next of kin of employees who die while in service are appointed to government jobs. In the Municipal Corporation, 13 people have been given appointment letters after completing all due procedures and obtaining government approvals. We handed over the appointment letters individually today and also briefed them about the next steps and the training they will undergo,” he said.

Replying to a question on waterlogging in Srinagar following recent heavy rainfall, the Commissioner said the first spell of rain had overwhelmed the city’s drainage capacity, leading to flooding at some



locations. “The last time it rained, there was a sudden burst of rainfall which exceeded our drainage capacity. There was waterlogging at some locations and people said there was a delayed response. After that, we strengthened our response mechanism. There was continuous rainfall for four to five days till July 24 and it rained again last night and the day before, but waterlogging was witnessed only at very minimal

locations,” he said.

Calling waterlogging a multi-dimensional challenge, Haseeb said the corporation was working on all aspects simultaneously.

“Waterlogging is a multifaceted issue. Sometimes it is a drainage capacity issue, sometimes desilting is required and sometimes engineering interventions are needed. We are working on all these things simultaneously,”

he said. The Commissioner said the SMC control room was functioning round the clock while dedicated manpower, machinery and mobile dewatering teams had been deployed across the city.

“We have deployed a dedicated fleet of men, material and machinery across Srinagar. Our mobile dewatering teams have been divided into six teams and deployed across six zones of the city. This has significantly improved our response time. When I reviewed the situation with my team this morning after last night’s heavy rainfall, there were very few such locations with waterlogging,” he said. Highlighting the improvement over the previous spell of rain, Haseeb said major city areas that had witnessed severe waterlogging earlier remained largely unaffected this time.

“Compared to the situation 10 days ago, there has been a significant improvement. Even after the recent heavy rainfall, areas like Lal Chowk, MA Road, TRC, Nallahmar Road and Eidgah, which had witnessed severe waterlogging and criticism earlier, remained largely free of waterlogging. There are still some issues in low-lying areas, but we are working on those as well,” he added.—(KNO)

J&K JDU President, PAG call on LG Sinha

Mourning held for Uttam Singh at Lok Bhavan



KT News Desk

Srinagar, Aug 01: Jay Prakash Narayan Singh, Principal Accountant General (PAG) for (Audit) Jammu Kashmir on Saturday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and submitted the Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the period ended March 2023 (Report No 03 of 2026), Composite Audit Report – Civil and Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs).

The report has been presented to the Lieutenant

Governor for tabling in the Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and officers and staff of Lok Bhavan on Saturday condoled the sad demise of Uttam Singh.

Uttam Singh was a casual labourer with the Urban Forestry Department Jammu, who was deputed at Lok Bhavan.

The Lieutenant Governor conveyed his deepest condolences to the bereaved family members. He prayed

for the eternal peace to the departed soul and strength for the family in this difficult hour.

A two-minute silence was also observed in memory of the deceased.

In the meantime, a delegation of Janata Dal United (JDU) led by its J&K President G.M. Shaheen, called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and projected various important matters pertaining to promotion of tourism sector, upgradation of roads and other issues of public importance.

SMC takes over J&K’s first mechanised abattoir project

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 01: The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has taken over the construction of Jammu and Kashmir’s first modern mechanised abattoir at Allochi Bagh, reviving the long-delayed project aimed at introducing scientific and hygienic slaughtering practices in the Valley.

An official said that the project, designed to process 5,000 sheep and goats a day, has been floated under the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode and is expected to be completed within two years.

The project will replace conventional slaughtering methods with a modern, hygienic and environmentally sustainable system that meets national and international standards.

“The mechanised abattoir will improve hygiene, food safety and environmental management while ensuring scientific processing of livestock,” the official said.

The project has witnessed repeated delays since its inception. It was initially assigned to the J&K Projects Construction Corporation (JKPCC), where preliminary civil works, including foundation work, had begun. However, construction came to a halt after the financial closure of JKPCC in August 2023.

The project was later transferred to the Roads and Buildings (R&B) Department, but saw little physical progress, the official said, adding that the delay also came under judicial scrutiny through a Public Interest Litigation related to slaughterhouse infrastructure.

Following a comprehensive review, the SMC decided to execute the project through its own Works Division. A revised Detailed Project Report (DPR), incorporating modern technology and infrastructure, received administrative approval in March 2025, paving the way for fresh execution.

According to officials, the facility will include fully mechanised slaughtering lines, scientifically designed lairage areas, carcass dressing units, chilling and cold storage facilities and by-product processing units.

It will also feature an advanced bio-digestion system integrated with a modern Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) for scientific waste disposal and recycling of treated wastewater for non-potable use.

The mechanised abattoir is expected to improve public health and sanitation, enhance meat quality, strengthen the livestock sector, and generate direct and indirect employment during both the construction and operational phases, the official said—(KNO)

KVFGDU urges J&K MPs to raise NH-44 crisis in Parliament

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Aug 01: The Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers-cum-Dealers Union (KVFGDU) has appealed to Members of Parliament from Jammu and Kashmir to take up the issue of frequent disruptions on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway (NH-44) during the ongoing Parliament session, warning that prolonged delays in transporting perishable fruits could inflict severe financial losses on growers already reeling from weather-related damage earlier this year.

Addressing Lok Sabha MPs Mian Altaf Ahmad Larvi and Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, and Rajya Sabha MP Choudhary Mohammad Ramzan, the Union urged them to raise a calling attention motion or parliamentary question seeking immediate intervention by the Centre for ensuring smooth and uninterrupted movement of fruit-laden trucks on the highway.

The growers said the harvesting of pears, early apple varieties and plums is currently in full swing across the Valley, with around 100 to 120 trucks carrying fresh produce leaving Kashmir every day for different markets across the country.

They said these fruits have a very short shelf life and require immediate transportation to ensure they reach markets in good condition. Even minor delays, they added, reduce the quality of the produce, resulting in lower prices and substantial financial losses for growers.



The Union pointed out that the horticulture sector had already suffered extensive damage during April and May this year due to repeated hailstorms and strong winds that affected orchards across several districts.

“Fresh fruits such as pear, Babagoshia, plum and early apple varieties are highly perishable and need to be transported on a war footing. Every additional day spent on the highway reduces their market value and increases the burden on growers who have already suffered heavy losses because of adverse weather,” the representation stated. The growers described the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway (NH-44) as the lifeline of Kashmir’s horticulture industry, saying it remains the only dependable route for transporting fresh fruits and vegetables to markets outside the Valley.

They said large fruit consignments are transported mainly in 10-wheel, 12-wheel and 16-wheel trucks, which cannot effectively use the

Mughal Road as an alternative because of operational limitations for heavy vehicles and large-scale commercial transport.

While the administration has advised transporters to use the Mughal Road whenever NH-44 is disrupted, the Union said the route is not suitable for handling the volume of fruit transportation during the peak marketing season.

Highlighting the economic significance of horticulture, the growers said the sector contributes nearly Rs 12,000 crore annually to the economy of Jammu and Kashmir and supports the livelihood of more than seven lakh families directly or indirectly.

The representation also expressed concern over the present traffic management system on NH-44, where one-way traffic movement and restrictions imposed due to highway maintenance and the ongoing Amarnath Yatra have significantly slowed the movement of fruit-laden vehicles. According to the

Union, trucks carrying fresh produce that earlier reached major markets within a day are now taking three to four days to complete the journey, adversely affecting fruit quality and returns to growers.

The growers said delays on the highway have become a recurring issue during every fruit season and stressed that maintenance work should be planned in a manner that does not disrupt the transportation of perishable produce.

They called for better coordination among traffic authorities, the National Highways Authority, district administrations and other concerned agencies to ensure timely movement of fruit-laden vehicles and provide transporters with real-time updates on road conditions.

Seeking immediate intervention, the Union urged the MPs to impress upon the Government of India to expedite repair and restoration works on NH-44 and ensure that the highway remains fit for two-way traffic so that uninterrupted transportation of Kashmir’s fruit to markets across the country can be ensured during the peak harvesting season.

“The uninterrupted movement of fruit-laden trucks is vital for safeguarding the livelihood of lakhs of growers and preserving the reputation of Kashmir’s horticulture industry. We request our elected representatives to raise this matter in Parliament and seek urgent action from the concerned authorities,” the Union said—(KNO)

Owais Yaqoob faces Bulgarian Brawler in BRAVE CF 107



Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Aug 01: Jammu and Kashmir’s rising Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) sensation Owais Yaqoob is all set to take on the toughest challenge of his professional career when he locks horns with undefeated Bulgarian fighter Delyan Georgiev at BRAVE Combat Federation 107 in Burgas, Bulgaria, on Saturday night.

The highly anticipated 68-kilogram catchweight contest at Arena Burgas will see the Pulwama-born fighter test himself against one of Europe’s most promising prospects. Georgiev heads into the fight with an unbeaten 3-0 professional record and is a two-time IMMAF World Champion, making the clash one of the most significant bouts of Yaqoob’s career.

Hailing from Murran village in south Kashmir’s Pulwama district, Owais has emerged as one of India’s brightest MMA talents through years of dedication, discipline and hard work. After beginning his journey from the Valley, he steadily climbed the ranks with impressive performances on the domestic and international circuit.

The 27-year-old enters the contest with an impressive professional record of 5-1 and is currently riding a five-fight winning streak. His aggressive fighting style and ability to finish opponents early have earned him widespread recognition, including several first-round stoppage victories under the BRAVE Combat Federation banner.

Yaqoob’s remarkable performances also earned him the prestigious BRAVE CF Breakout Fighter of the Year 2025 award, firmly establishing him as one of India’s fastest-rising mixed martial artists.

The bout also features a fascinating contest between two of the world’s leading MMA training systems. Georgiev trains with Team Topuria, home to UFC featherweight champion Ilia Topuria, while Owais sharpens his skills with Team Khabib at the renowned American Kickboxing Academy, training under the system developed by former UFC lightweight champion Khabib Nurmagomedov.

Speaking ahead of the fight, Owais expressed confidence in his preparation and said he is determined to deliver his best performance inside the cage. “I have prepared extremely hard for this fight and every training session has been focused on this moment. I will give my hundred percent inside the cage and my aim is to dominate the fight. Representing Jammu and Kashmir and India on an international platform is a matter of immense pride, and I hope to make everyone back home proud,” he said.

A victory over Georgiev would be one of the biggest wins by an Indian fighter in recent years and would significantly boost Owais’ standing in the international MMA circuit, opening the door to bigger opportunities in BRAVE Combat Federation and beyond—(KNO)

Army to vacate 150 Kanal land for JU expansion Gets over 2,000 Kanal at Nagrota

Yogesh

Jammu, Aug 01: In a significant development for the University of Jammu’s (JU) long-pending expansion plans, the Army will vacate nearly 150 Kanals of prime land at Bahuwali Rakh in Jammu city, while receiving over 2,000 kanals of land at Nagrota Military Station under a land exchange approved by the Government of India.

The Ministry of Defence has cleared the transfer of 147 kanals and 11 marlas of land, presently under Army occupation, to the J&K Government for public infrastructure, paving the way for the university’s future expansion.

In return, the Army will receive 2,124 kanals and 17 marlas of land at Nagrota Military Station. Of this, 2,062 kanals and 17 marlas fall under Tehsil Nagrota within the jurisdiction of the Defence Estates Office (DEO), Udhampur, while the remaining 62 kanals are located in Tehsil Jammu under DEO Jammu. According to an official communication issued by the Ministry of Defence to the Chief of Army Staff and the Director General Defence Estates, the Bahuwali Rakh land will be handed over only after the J&K Government formally transfers the Nagrota land to the Ministry of Defence. The order also states that the UT Government will bear



the cost of reconstructing any Defence assets affected by the land exchange, in line with the decision taken during the Civil-Military Liaison Conference held on September 29, 2015.

The Defence Estates Offices at

Jammu and Udhampur have been directed to complete the required formalities to implement the exchange.

The transfer is expected to provide a major boost to the University of Jammu, which has long sought

possession of the adjoining land to meet its expanding academic and infrastructure requirements. Pertinently, the issue dates back to 1973, when land was allotted for establishing the university, but a portion remained under Army occupation, delaying the institution’s expansion for decades. The proposal gained momentum over the past four years under Vice-Chancellor Prof Umesh Rai, who pursued the matter with the Ministry of Defence, the Jammu and Kashmir administration and Army authorities. The initiative also received support from Raj Bhavan.

Continued on
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PM Vidyaxmi Scheme: Promoting Educational Inclusion In India

The scheme facilitates the inclusion of students from economically weaker backgrounds into the mainstream education system. Applicants include students from EWS, General, OBC, SC, ST, and PwD categories, reflecting the scheme's extensive reach and inclusive framework. The Government has allocated a budget of ₹3,600 Crores from 2024-25 to 2030-31, with 7 lakh fresh students expected to benefit from interest subvention during the seven-year period.

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

The Pradhan Mantri Vidyaxmi Scheme is a flagship initiative of the Education Ministry that seeks to make quality higher education accessible to deserving students facing financial constraints. The scheme provides collateral-free and guarantor-free education loans to such students for studying in top ranked higher education institutions in the country. It further supports beneficiaries through interest subvention based on family income, reducing financial constraints to educational attainment. In doing so, the scheme contributes to India's progress towards SDG 4, which seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030.

Bridging Financial Barriers to Higher Education

India has witnessed rapid expansion in higher education enrolment over the last decade, with the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) rising from 23.7% in 2014-15 to 30.0% in 2023-24. However, for many meritorious students, access to quality higher education in the top-ranked institutions of the country often remains difficult due to financial constraints. Many try to fill the gaps through education loans, but there are many more who cannot afford the high interest rates on these loans. The dreams of these students to study in IITs, IIMs and many other top-ranked institutions of the country remain unfulfilled despite their merit.

The PM Vidyaxmi Scheme (PM-Vidyaxmi), approved by the Union Cabinet on 6th November 2024, comes to the aid of such students. This is a mission-mode intervention under which collateral-free, guarantor-free education loans are provided to students who have got admission on their own merit to one of the designated Quality Higher Educational Institutions (QHEIs) in the country. A 3% interest subvention is also provided for students with annual family income up to ₹8,00,000. The entire process for getting these loans is simple, transparent, student-friendly and entirely digital. There is a unified portal through which students can apply for education loans, track the status of their applications, claim interest subvention and also raise grievances.

The scheme stems from the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, which recommends that financial assistance should be made available to meritorious students through various measures for studies in both public and private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The objective is to ensure that lack of finance does not prevent any meritorious student from studying in the best institutions in the country. PM-Vidyaxmi positively contributes to the goals of SDG 4 and NEP 2020 by advancing inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Features, Benefits and Coverage

PM-Vidyaxmi provides collateral-free and guarantor-free education loans for students admitted on their own merit to designated QHEIs in the country. Currently, 1,425 QHEIs are covered under the scheme, including both public and private institutions. Management quota, NRI quota, etc. admissions will not get this benefit.

Loans up to ₹7.5 lakhs are provided 75% credit guarantee by Government of India, to support banks to expand coverage. For students with up to ₹8 lakhs annual family income, the scheme provides for 3% interest subvention on loans up to ₹10 lakh. This is in addition to the full interest subvention already offered to students with up to ₹4.5 lakhs annual family income.

Collateral-free, Guarantor-free Education Loans

Students admitted to eligible QHEIs can obtain education loans without furnishing collateral or third-party guarantees under PM-Vidyaxmi. There is no cut-off on highest amount



of education loan. It will depend on course fee and other fees charged by the QHEI and other associated expenses (like mess, hostel fee, other refundable and non-refundable fees of the QHEI, cost of a reasonable quality laptop and reasonable amount of living expenses required by the student during the course period) and students from all income categories are eligible to apply.

To encourage lending institutions to extend loans to students, the Government provides a 75% credit guarantee for loans up to ₹7.5 lakh. This significantly reduces lender risk and improves loan accessibility.

The interest rates charged on the educational loan under the scheme will be capped at the individual bank's Externally Benchmarked Lending Rate (EBLR) + 0.5%. The rate will always be less than the interest rate charged by the bank on other education loans not covered under PM-Vidyaxmi. The repayment period of the education loan is up to 15 years, excluding a moratorium period of the course period plus one year. The loan is available for all degree/diploma programmes in India and there is no limit on the number of students getting such loans. The educational loans are provided through Scheduled Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), and Cooperative Banks participating in the scheme.

Interest Subvention

PM-Vidyaxmi supplements the PM-USP CSIS (Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Protsahan Central

Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme). Under PM-USP CSIS, students who are pursuing technical/professional courses from approved NAAC accredited HEIs/ NBA accredited courses and whose annual family income is up to ₹4.5 lakhs, shall be eligible for 100% interest subvention during moratorium period for education loan up to ₹10 lakhs.

PM-Vidyaxmi interest subvention scheme's coverage is broad-based and includes all courses at designated Quality Higher Educational Institutions (QHEIs). Under the scheme, interest subvention of 3% on loans up to ₹10 lakhs is awarded during the moratorium period (course period plus one year) to those meritorious students whose family's annual income is less than ₹8,00,000.

If the education loan amount is more than ₹10 lakhs, interest subvention is provided for the disbursed total principal amount of the loan up to ₹10 lakhs only.

Student availing any other Central/ State Government Scholarship or any other interest subvention scheme or Fee reimbursement shall not be eligible for availing interest subvention benefits under CSIS or PM-Vidyaxmi.

In a year, a maximum of one lakh students shall be eligible for 3% interest subvention during the moratorium period. No such limit is for CSIS beneficiaries.

Understanding the Differences Between PM-USP CSIS and PM-Vidyaxmi

The key differences between the two schemes are as follows. Under PM-USP CSIS, the institutions covered include NAAC/NBA accredited institutions, INIs, and technical institutes approved by regulatory bodies like Medical Commission of India, Nursing Council, Bar Council, Pharmacy Council, and Dental Council. Under PM-Vidyaxmi, the institutions covered are top 100 in NIRF for private institutions, top 200 in NIRF for state government institutions, and all remaining central government institutions.

In terms of courses, PM-USP CSIS covers professional and technical courses, while PM-Vidyaxmi covers all degree and diploma courses. The family income limit for PM-USP CSIS is ₹4.5 lakh, while for PM-Vidyaxmi it is ₹8 lakh. Regarding interest subvention, PM-USP CSIS provides full interest subvention during the moratorium period, while PM-Vidyaxmi provides 3% interest subvention during the moratorium period. In terms of slots, PM-USP CSIS has no limit, while PM-Vidyaxmi has 1 lakh fresh slots per year. The loan repayment period for both schemes is up to 15 years after the moratorium period (course period plus one year).

The scheme offers affordable education loans with interest rates capped at the bank's Externally Benchmarked Lending Rate (EBLR) + 0.5%. In addition, banks may provide up to 1% additional interest concession to the borrowers if the interest is serviced during the study and the moratorium period. The scheme also provides tax benefits on the interest

paid under Section 80E.

Interest subvention and credit guarantee benefits are available only once for undergraduate, postgraduate, or integrated courses. The Government has allocated a budget of ₹3,600 Crores from 2024-2025 to 2030-2031 for the scheme. 7 lakh fresh students are expected to get the benefit of this interest subvention during the seven-year period.

Eligibility Criteria for Students

The scheme is available to students who have secured merit-based admission through competitive exams in any of the designated Quality Higher Education Institutions (QHEIs) in India. The scheme provides education loans for all degree and diploma courses. The repayment period of the education loan would be up to 15 years excluding the moratorium period (course period + 1 year). To avail all these benefits, students are required to register through Aadhaar, remain enrolled in their courses, and maintain a satisfactory academic performance

Additional Conditions:

- The applicant must not discontinue the course midway or be expelled from the institution due to disciplinary or academic reasons.
- From the second year onwards, the student must maintain satisfactory academic performance to continue receiving interest subvention benefits.
- The student can avail of interest subvention and credit guarantee benefits only once, either for an undergraduate, postgraduate, or integrated course.

Eligibility Criteria for Higher Education Institutions

The criteria for shortlisting institutions are based on their NIRF rankings. It currently covers institutions that are top 100 ranked HEIs in the overall/category-specific and/or domain-specific rankings in the latest list of NIRF published by the Ministry of Education; top 200 ranked HEIs under the governance of State/Union Territories governments in the latest list of NIRF published by the Ministry of Education; and all remaining HEIs under the governance of the Government of India.

Indian campuses of foreign education institutions, foreign campuses of Indian education institutions and foreign education institutions are not covered under the scheme. The criteria to select HEIs across India ensures equitable inter-state representation. This list is updated using the latest NIRF ranking. As of now, 1,425 institutions are covered under PM-Vidyaxmi and are eligible for PM-Vidyaxmi education loans.

Steps for Availing Benefits

PM-Vidyaxmi aims to make higher education more accessible by providing students with easy access to educational loans through a user-friendly digital platform. The scheme simplifies the loan process by enabling students to apply online, track their applications, and receive timely approvals and disbursements.

The scheme operates through a dedicated scheme portal that enables common loan applications, bank selection, tracking of application status, interest subvention requests, and digital processing and transparency.

PM Vidyaxmi Digital Rupee App (CBDC Wallet)

Once the loan is sanctioned and disbursed, eligible students can apply for interest subvention based on their family income. The subsidy amount is credited to the beneficiary's PM Vidyaxmi Digital Rupee App (CBDC Wallet) and subsequently transferred to the education loan account.

Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme (CSIS) provides full interest subsidy during the moratorium period on loan availed for pursuing technical/professional courses in India. Students whose annual gross parental/family income is up to ₹4.5 lakh are eligible under the scheme.

Existing PM-USP CSIS is being administered through the PM-Vidyaxmi portal and PM-Vidyaxmi Digital Rupee Wallet. As of July 22, 2026, there are 35,777 active wallets enabling disbursement of subsidies worth ₹57.66 crore. This digital mechanism has helped streamline benefit delivery, reduce delays, and ensure that financial support reaches eligible students efficiently. For FY 2025-26, total claims pertaining to 2024-25, received at Canara Bank are ₹4,14,844 amounting to ₹82.81 crores, which will significantly reduce repayment burden of the student beneficiaries. The portal also provides students with a platform to raise and monitor grievances, ensuring transparency and timely resolution of disputes.

Impact of PM Vidyaxmi Scheme

PM-Vidyaxmi is designed as a unified, fully digital and transparent education loan facilitation platform, enabling students to apply to banks for all kinds of education loans including PM-Vidyaxmi loans, through a single portal and track their application status online. The dashboard provides real-time statistics on applications, approvals and processing stages.

In FY 2025-26, 6,45,514 education loan applications were received on the portal across all education schemes. Out of these, 1,10,667 applications were for PM-Vidyaxmi loans. Out of these, 70,852 loans were sanctioned and 67,728 loans have already been disbursed.

Gender Inclusion

PM-Vidyaxmi ensures that all eligible meritorious students have access to financial support for higher education, regardless of their gender. Women and transgender students also stand to benefit from the scheme, making higher education more inclusive and accessible. By reducing financial barriers, the scheme helps students pursue quality education, improve their skills, and build better career prospects. This, in turn, increases their employability and encourages greater participation in the workforce, contributing to more inclusive social and economic development. In FY 2025-26, 3,68,742 men and 2,76,764 women applied for loans. 2,03,438 loans were sanctioned for men and 1,58,629 for women.

Empowering Underprivileged Students

The scheme facilitates the inclusion of students from financially weaker backgrounds into the mainstream education system, thereby enhancing overall inclusivity. Among the total applications submitted, there were students from the Economically Weaker Section (EWS), General category, Non-Creamy Layer Other Backward Classes (NCBC), Other Backward Classes (OBC), Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and Persons with Disabilities (PwD). The involvement of applicants from all major social groups reflects the scheme's extensive reach and inclusive framework. This underscores the scheme's contribution to reducing financial barriers and promoting fair and equitable access to educational opportunities across different sections of society.

PM Vidyaxmi Scheme: A Step Towards Educational Equity

The PM-Vidyaxmi is a significant step towards expanding equitable access to higher education by providing collateral-free and guarantor-free education loans to meritorious students, complemented by targeted interest subvention for eligible families. By reducing financial barriers, the scheme enables greater participation in quality higher education, particularly for economically disadvantaged students. In doing so, it advances the objectives of the NEP 2020, contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4 on inclusive and equitable quality education, and supports the development of a skilled and future-ready human capital base for the country.

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

Govt committed to inclusive rural development: Javid Dar

Reviews rural development initiatives in Jammu

KT News Desk

JAMMU, AUGUST 01: Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, on Saturday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of various rural development initiatives and flagship programmes being implemented across the Jammu Division.

The meeting, as per an official statement, reviewed the progress and implementation of major schemes and programmes, including G-RAM-G, PMAY-G, SBM-G, RGSA, IWMP, NRLM besides other centrally sponsored and departmental initiatives aimed at strengthening the rural infrastructure, improving livelihood opportunities and enhancing the delivery of basic services in rural areas.

During the review, the Minister stressed the need for proper transparency, accountability and timely execution of all developmental works. He directed the officers to ensure that the projects are completed within the stipulated timelines without compromising on quality.

Javid Dar emphasized that rural development must remain firmly focused on improving the quality of life of



people in villages. He called for strengthening the grassroots institutions and ensuring that the benefits of government schemes reach the eligible beneficiaries in a transparent and time-bound manner.

The Minister identified the water conservation, livelihood enhancement, rural infrastructure, employment generation and effective implementation of welfare schemes as key priority areas. He called for close coordination among different departments and field functionaries to achieve the prescribed targets and address implementation-related challenges promptly.

He underscored the importance of active community

participation in rural development programmes. He stated that greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions, local communities and beneficiaries is essential for ensuring sustainable outcomes, efficient utilisation of public resources and accountable service delivery.

The Minister directed the officers to undertake regular field inspections, closely monitor the progress of ongoing works and ensure that developmental initiatives are aligned with the actual needs and aspirations of rural communities.

Highlighting the commitment of the Omar Abdullah-led government towards inclusive rural development, Javid Ahmad Dar said that concerted

efforts are being made to empower the rural communities by improving access to essential services, promoting local entrepreneurship, creating sustainable livelihood opportunities and strengthening rural infrastructure.

The Minister also stressed upon the officers to identify gaps in implementation, remove bottlenecks through coordinated intervention and maintain continuous engagement with the local communities to ensure that development remains responsive, inclusive and people-centric.

Earlier, Director Rural Development Jammu, Shahnaz Akhter, gave a detailed PowerPoint Presentation highlighting the physical and financial progress of ongoing projects and works being executed under various schemes across the division. She briefed the Minister about the achievements, targets, bottlenecks and implementation status of different programmes.

The meeting was attended by Director Rural Development Jammu, Assistant Commissioners Development (ACDs), Assistant Commissioners Panchayati Raj (ACPs) and other senior officers of the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department.

J&K Judicial Academy conducts day-44 of Induction Training for newly appointed Civil Judges

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 1: Under the patronage of Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Sanjeev Kumar and the guidance of Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Chairman, Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy, the Jammu and Kashmir Judicial Academy conducted the proceedings of Day-44 of the Pre-Appointment Induction Training Programme (Batch-2026) for the newly appointed Civil Judges (Junior Division) at its Mominabad, Srinagar campus.

The forenoon sessions, as per an official statement, were conducted by Justice Mohd. Yousuf Wani, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Member, Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy, on "Criminal Proceedings: From Registration of FIR to Cognizance" and "Commencement of Trial and Judicial Management of Criminal Cases."

Justice Mohd. Yousuf Wani highlighted the importance of induction training as a bridge between the academic learning and practical judicial functioning.

Emphasizing the crucial role of Judicial Magistrates in the criminal justice system, Justice Mohd. Yousuf Wani sensitized the trainee officers to various stages of criminal proceedings,



including investigation, cognizance, framing of charges, recording of evidence and judicial management of criminal trials.

He also emphasized the need for careful exercise of judicial discretion, adherence to procedural safeguards and maintenance of judicial independence, integrity and ethical standards.

The afternoon session featured an inspiring address by Justice Rahul Bharti, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Member, Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy.

Addressing the trainee Civil Judges, Justice Rahul Bharti said that the officers had now stepped from the world of academic aspirations into the realities of judicial service, where every decision carries lasting consequences.

Emphasizing that judicial office demands seriousness, dedication and maturity, Justice Rahul Bharti encouraged the trainees to embrace every challenge as an opportunity to learn

and evolve. He impressed upon them that while promotions may come with length of service, true professional achievement lies in acquiring knowledge, developing competence and earning respect through integrity, hard work and excellence in judicial performance.

Justice Rahul Bharti also urged the officers to cultivate the habit of continuous learning, remain humble throughout their careers and discharge their judicial responsibilities with compassion, confidence and an unwavering commitment to justice.

Director, Jammu & Kashmir Judicial Academy, Naseer Ahmad Dar, highlighted the rich judicial experience and expertise of the Resource Persons and interacted with the trainee officers throughout the programme. He emphasized the importance of continuous learning, active participation and a practical understanding of criminal law for the effective discharge of judicial responsibilities.

'New Fast Tea' unsafe, FDA issues public health advisory



KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 01: The Food & Drugs Administration (FDA), Jammu & Kashmir, has issued a public health advisory advising consumers not to purchase or consume "Dust Tea" (Premium Instant Mix Tea) marketed under the brand "New Fast Tea", Batch No. 10, packed by M/s INAAM Tea Agency, Thane, Maharashtra, after the product was declared Unsafe by the National Food Laboratory (NFL), Ghaziabad.

The sample was lifted by the Food Safety Officer, Trial, on 27.06.2026 during routine enforcement activities and forwarded to the National Food Laboratory, Ghaziabad, for analysis.

As per Food Analyst's Report, the sample was found to contain the prohibited synthetic food colours, Tartrazine and Sunset Yellow, rendering the product Unsafe under the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the regulations made thereunder.

Based on the laboratory findings, the Designated Officer (Assistant Commissioner), Pulwama, has issued a Prohibition Order under Section 36(3)(b) read with Section 18(1)(f) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, prohibiting the sale and distribution of the affected batch within District Pulwama. Further regulatory proceedings under the Act have also been initiated.

Consumers in possession of the batch are advised not to consume the product. Any instance of its sale or distribution may be reported immediately to the concerned Designated Officer or the Food & Drugs Administration.

The Food & Drugs Administration, J&K, appeals to the public to remain vigilant and report the sale or availability of the prohibited tea batch or any suspected case of unsafe, adulterated, or misbranded food through the Toll-Free Helpline 104 or by email at cfsjandk.fnd@jk.gov.in.

Speaker holds public outreach camp at Kanidajan

Assures accelerated development, protection of rights under Forest Rights Act

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, AUGUST 01: Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Abdul Rahim Rather, on Saturday visited village Kanidajan in the Charar-i-Sharief Constituency, where he held a public outreach camp to listen to the grievances of the people, review the developmental needs of the area and assess the overall progress of various public welfare initiatives.

During the public interaction, the people apprised the Speaker of several issues concerning the area and projected their developmental aspirations while expressing appreciation for his continued outreach and accessibility.

A major concern raised by the villagers pertained to the alleged harassment caused by issuance of eviction notices by the Forest Department and the reported obstruction of agricultural activities on lands which, they said, have been under their possession and cultivation for generations.

The residents informed the Speaker that a large number of families are solely dependent on the produce from these lands for their livelihood and urged the government to safeguard their legitimate rights.

Addressing the gathering, the Speaker categorically stated that no one would be allowed to act in violation of the provisions of the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006. He



asserted that the rights of all eligible beneficiaries under the Act would be protected in letter and spirit adding that no undue harassment of villagers would be tolerated.

The Speaker said that officers and officials of the Forest Department are expected to be fully conversant with the provisions of the law and must discharge their responsibilities in strict conformity with the legal framework.

He said that the government has recently issued comprehensive guidelines clearly explaining implementation of the relevant provisions of the Forest Rights Act. He cautioned that no individual should attempt to misuse the Act as a pretext for fresh encroachments on forest land or government property, emphasizing that the law must be implemented fairly

and transparently while safeguarding the rights of genuine beneficiaries.

The villagers also highlighted several long-pending developmental requirements, including improvement of road connectivity, augmentation of drinking water supply, strengthening of electricity infrastructure, upgradation of the local High School to Higher Secondary level, enhancement of healthcare facilities and establishment of veterinary centres in the area.

Responding to the demands, the Speaker assured the gathering that the government remains fully committed to the welfare and inclusive development of the people. He said that all genuine issues projected by the residents would be taken up with the concerned departments and addressed in a phased and time-bound

manner.

The Speaker also gave a detailed account of the developmental initiatives undertaken by the present government during the last one-and-a-half years in the Charar-i-Sharief Constituency. He informed the gathering that macadamisation works on several important roads, including Dardpora-Kanidajan Road, Hayatpora -Wanpora via Kazipora Road, Tujan-Tilsara Road, Charaipora -Karpura-Tujan Road, Dardpora-Chrawani-Charar-i-Sharief Road besides other key road projects have been completed.

He announced that the macadamisation of the 9-kilometre Kanidajan-Nowgam road will soon be taken up at an estimated cost of around Rs. 2 crore. Similarly, works on the Nowgam-Nilnag road at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.40 crore, Leden-Dobha road at a cost of Ra 97 lakh, restoration of the Kanidajan-Darwan road and improvement of the Kanidajan-Pehlipora road at an estimated cost of Rs. 70 lakh and Rs. 40 lakh, respectively, will also be undertaken shortly.

The Speaker reiterated that every effort is being made to strengthen the infrastructure and improve the quality of life of the people through sustained public investment and responsive governance.

The people expressed gratitude to the Speaker for his commitment towards resolving the public issues.

DLSA Srinagar organises Special Lok Adalat for matrimonial cases



KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 01: In compliance to the directions of NALSA & JK Legal Services Authority, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar, organized a Special Lok Adalat for Matrimonial Cases.

The Special Lok Adalat, aimed at amicably resolving Cases, was held under the guidance of Haq Nawaz Zargar, Chairman District Legal Services Authority (Principal District & Sessions Judge) Srinagar, and overall supervision of Secretary DLSA Srinagar.

To facilitate the amicable settlement of cases, two benches were constituted for the Special Lok Adalat. The 1st bench was presided over by Mehreen Mushtaq, Principal Judge Family Court, Srinagar, and Massarat Jabeen, PT&E Magistrate, Srinagar as Member, and the 2nd bench was presided over by Preet Simran Kaur, 4th Additional Sessions Judge, Srinagar and Fida Hussain Nayak, Municipal Magistrate, Srinagar as member.

85 cases were taken up by these benches for amicable settlement, out of which 14 cases were settled.

DG Rural Sanitation reviews SBM (G) progress in Kupwara

KT News Desk

KUPWARA, AUGUST 01: Director General, Rural Sanitation, J&K, Anoo Malhotra, Saturday chaired a comprehensive review meeting in Kupwara to assess the progress of key Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) initiatives across the district.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Director, Rural Sanitation, Kashmir, Shabir Ahmad Hakak, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat (ACP) Kupwara, Ab Rashid Sheikh, Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) Kupwara, Ab Rashid Ganaie, Block Development Officers (BDOs), Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers, Consultants of the Directorate and other concerned officers.

The review focused on the status of rural sanitation assets,



door-to-door waste collection services, tendering of sanitation infrastructure, operation and maintenance of existing assets, and other SBM(G)-related works being implemented across the district.

During the meeting, the Director General conducted a block-wise review of ongoing projects and directed all Block Development Officers to accelerate the pace of implementation.

She emphasized that Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)

should remain a priority and instructed the officers to ensure timely execution of all sanctioned works.

Stressing the importance of efficient service delivery, the Director General Rural Sanitation called for the time-bound completion of all ongoing sanitation projects and directed the Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Kupwara, to closely monitor progress and ensure that all works are completed within the stipulated timelines.

VC SKUAST-K chairs 14th Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting of KVK Shopian

KT News Desk

SHOPIAN, AUGUST 01: The 14th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting of KVK Shopian and the 20th SAC Meeting of KVK Kulgam were held Saturday at the Conference Hall of KVK Shopian under the chairmanship of Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir.

Adv. Shabir Ahmad Kullay, MLA, Shopian, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth, Director Extension, SKUAST-Kashmir, was the Guest of Honour.

The meeting was attended by Prof. Najeer-ur-Rehman Sofi, Associate Director Research, MRCFC Khudwani; Head, Research Station Sallar; Programme Coordinators of KVKs of the Kashmir Division; officers from the



Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, and Sheep Husbandry Departments; scientists from KVK Shopian, KVK Kulgam, and AARC Pahnoo; along with progressive and champion farmers from the districts of Shopian and Kulgam.

Addressing the gathering, Adv. Shabir Ahmad Kullay

commended the farmer-centric initiatives of both KVKs and assured continued support for agricultural development.

Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai lauded the outstanding work of KVK Shopian and KVK Kulgam in improving farmers' livelihoods and emphasized the promotion of Integrated Farming

Systems (IFS), value addition, agri-entrepreneurship, and market-oriented farming for sustainable agricultural growth.

At the outset, Welcoming the participants, Prof. Raihana Habib Kanth highlighted the importance of SAC meetings in strengthening research-extension-farmer linkages.

She also congratulated KVK Shopian on the release of its bulletin (Success Story), 3rd Newsletter, and extension folders, appreciating the scientific staff for effectively disseminating university technologies to farmers.

Dr. Zaffar Afroz Badri, Head, KVK Shopian, and the Head, KVK Kulgam, presented the Annual Progress Reports (2025-26) and Annual Action Plans (2026-27), showcasing achievements in technology dissemination, farmer capacity building, and sustainable agriculture.

Trump threatens more strikes on Iran

Tensions from Hormuz to Kuwait, Gaza lead to more warnings

AP

Cairo, Aug 01: US President Donald Trump threatened more strikes on Iran as the United States presses for the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.

Hours later on Saturday, Kuwait said it responded to a new round of drone attacks from Iran while a tanker was struck in the strategic waterway.

Meanwhile, Israel carried out heavy strikes on the Gaza Strip after the Palestinian militant group Hamas agreed to disarm.

US threatens new strikes in the conflict with Iran

Speaking to reporters Friday during a meeting with members of his Cabinet at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland, Trump said “we just want to win” in Iran and signalled that he expected US military action to continue for some time.

He said the US will hit Iran “very hard” until they can’t take it any more.

Later that day, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt expressed the US administration’s frustration anew, charging that Tehran last month signed a memorandum of understanding with the US on a truce but then quickly “broke it, shot at commercial ships, and killed American soldiers.”

“President Trump is not going to stand by and allow this terrorist behaviour to occur,” Leavitt said in a statement on Friday evening. “Iran will continue to pay until they come to the table in, what President Trump deems, a meaningful way.”

On Saturday, the US State Department issued new security alerts for Americans in 10 countries in the region to exercise heightened caution due to the escalating tensions with Iran.

The warnings — covering Bahrain, Israel, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates — urged US citizens to prepare for the possibility of flight cancellations, temporary airspace closures and other travel disruptions.

New attacks on Kuwait and on shipping
Kuwait’s military said Saturday that its forces were responding to drone attacks, which were part of Iran’s assaults on the country.

In a statement, Maj. Gen. Saud Abdulaziz Al-Otaibi, spokesperson for Kuwait’s Defence Ministry, said the drones hit “a number of vital facilities,” including a government structure in the country’s north. He said there were no casualties.

The British Navy said Saturday that a tanker was struck and a separate explosion hit close to a vessel in the Strait of Hormuz off the coast of Oman. No casualties were reported in either incident, it said. The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organisation said an unknown projectile hit the vessel on Friday 11 nautical miles northeast of Lima, Oman. The attack damaged the vessel’s engine room.

The group said that on Saturday a large splash and an explosion were reported close to another tanker while it was



sailing 21 nautical miles north-west of Khasab city.

Iran has repeatedly attacked vessels attempting to transit through the Strait of Hormuz without its authorisation as part of its ongoing conflict with the US.

Israel strikes Gaza after Hamas says it will disarm

Intense Israeli strikes Friday night and Saturday killed at least four people in central and northern Gaza and wounded dozens more, according to local health officials.

The strikes overnight in Gaza followed evacuation warnings

by Israel’s military, which said on Saturday that it had struck Hamas targets across the territory and dismantled five Hamas storage facilities.

The strikes came after Hamas confirmed Friday that it will disarm in a potential breakthrough for ending the war in Gaza, though major obstacles remain.

Palestinians in Gaza — most of whom are displaced or live in camps — received the news with both hope and scepticism. A 24-year-old tuk-tuk driver, Abdel Moneim Aboul-Roos, who lost his leg in an Israeli strike, told The Associated Press that he

doesn’t care about “talk about withdrawal and disarmament” as long as essentials like food and medicine remain lacking.

Israel has not officially commented on the Hamas deal, which is part of a US-brokered ceasefire announced last October.

That agreement called for Hamas to disarm and hand over power to an independent Palestinian administration. Israel was to withdraw and an International Stabilisation Force was to be deployed.

In a post on X Friday, Israeli far-right lawmaker Itamar

Ben-Gvir called the deal “unacceptable” and said the killings in Gaza must continue. “Israel must win,” he said.

Egypt, a key Gaza ceasefire mediator, lauded Hamas and other Palestinian groups for “their positive response” in the phased peace plan, Egyptian state-run media reported.

The Associated Press is tracking the progress of Trump’s plan to end the Israel-Hamas war.

Elsewhere in the region

-- Houthi rebels forced eight Saudi ships to reroute from the Bab el-Mandeb strait after the Iranian-backed rebels

announced a blockade on Saudi shipping in the chokepoint. Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree, the military spokesperson for the Houthis, said in a statement Friday that the vessels changed route to the Cape of Good Hope around Africa to avert the blockade.

— In southern Lebanon, Israeli forces set off explosions Friday to destroy an underground tunnel network under the Crusader-built Beaufort Castle that Israel says had been used by Iran-backed Hezbollah militants as a command centre.

The 12th-century castle, also known as Al-Shaqif, was seized by Israeli forces in May. It was recently added to UNESCO’s World Heritage List over Israel’s objections.

— Lebanon’s President Joseph Aoun said the Israeli operation sent “negative messages” ahead of upcoming talks in Rome. Israeli and Lebanese negotiating teams are set to meet again there to continue hammering out a plan under which Israel would withdraw from southern Lebanon in exchange for Hezbollah’s disarmament.

— An Israeli army officer was moderately wounded in an encounter with Hezbollah militants in southern Lebanon overnight into Saturday, Israel’s military said. There was no immediate comment from Lebanese authorities or Hezbollah. Thirty-eight Israeli soldiers have been killed in Lebanon or northern Israel since that conflict reignited when Hezbollah fired at Israel shortly after the start of the Iran war.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Two labourers

would be in addition to the Rs 6 lakh immediate relief being provided by the district administration.

Expressing profound grief, CM Omar conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls and assured that the government stands firmly with the families during this difficult time.

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai also condemned the terror attack and announced Rs 20 lakh ex-gratia for each of the families of the deceased workers.

He termed the attack an assault on humanity and national unity and directed the Chhattisgarh Government to depute a senior officer to Jammu and Kashmir to coordinate with the local administration and the bereaved families to ensure the last rites are conducted with full dignity and according to religious customs.

Sai expressed confidence that those responsible for the attack would be brought to justice and awarded the strictest punishment under the law.

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi also condemned the attack, describing the killing of the two workers as “extremely tragic.”

He extended condolences to the bereaved families and said strict action must be taken against the terrorists, asserting that the nation remains united against terrorism.

National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah also expressed grief over the incident and called for an honest and thorough investigation into the killings.

Speaking to reporters in Tangmarg, Dr Farooq, as per KNO, said, “I am deeply saddened by the incident. We don’t know who killed them or who is behind the attack. It must be investigated honestly and thoroughly. I don’t know why such attacks occur whenever we demand statehood.”

Moreover, Mirwaiz Dr Moulvi Mohammad Umar Farooq also condemned the killings, saying Islam upholds the sanctity of every innocent human life and unequivocally rejects the killing of innocent people.

In a statement issued to KNO, Mirwaiz said targeting poor labourers who had come to Kashmir to earn an honest livelihood is completely against the teachings of Islam and the values of humanity.

Furthermore, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather also condemned the terror attack, describing the killing of the non-local labourers as ‘the murder of entire humanity.’

He expressed sympathy with the bereaved families and said such acts of violence have no place in a civilised society. (KNO)

Review SoPs

dignified last rites for the victims of the Kulgam terror attack and to provide all the support to bereaved families.

The meeting also discussed the security arrangements in place for the ongoing Amarnath Yatra and strengthening of the security grid.

Pertinently, soon after the terror attack on Friday LG Sinha had spoken with the Director General of Police, J&K, Nalin Prabhat and top security officials. He had directed the security forces to step up their operations and eliminate the terrorists.

The Lieutenant Governor wrote on X: “I spoke with the DGP, Shri Nalin Prabhat and top

security officials following the brutal terrorist attack in Kulgam in which a labourer from Chhattisgarh was killed. I strongly condemn this cowardly act. I have directed our security forces to step up their operations and eliminate the terrorists.”

“My deepest condolences to the bereaved family. J&K administration and the entire nation stand with the families,” LG Sinha wrote. (KNO)

NC Chief Spokesperson

civilians a “cowardly act” and asserting that no religion permits the killing of innocent people.

Speaking to reporters here, Sadiq, as reported by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said the attack had caused immense grief and deserved the strongest condemnation.

“The more we condemn this attack, the less it is. Targeting innocent people is not only cowardly but also against humanity. Those responsible for this barbaric act must be arrested as soon as possible and brought to justice,” he said.

He said the victims were poor, hardworking labourers who had come to Jammu and Kashmir only to earn a livelihood for their families. “These poor people had come here to work honestly and support their families. No religion teaches or justifies the killing of innocent civilians. Such acts have no place in our society,” he said.

Referring to the assistance announced for the victims’ families, Sadiq said Chief Minister Omar Abdullah had sanctioned an ex gratia relief of Rs 10 lakh for the next of kin of each deceased.

“Apart from the Rs 10 lakh ex gratia announced by the Chief Minister, around Rs 6 lakh will also be provided through the Red Cross and other sources. While no compensation can replace a human life, the government is committed to extending every possible support to the bereaved families,” he said.

Responding to Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma’s remarks seeking clarification from National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah over his statement on the Kulgam attack, the NC chief spokesperson dismissed the BJP leader’s criticism.

“Nobody takes Sunil Sharma seriously. Neither Delhi nor even his own party takes him seriously. My advice to him is to leave the post of Leader of Opposition and work in Kishtwar instead of making tall claims because nobody is listening to him or taking him seriously,” he said.

Reacting to Sharma’s assertion that there was no connection between terrorism and the restoration of statehood, MLA Sadiq said the decision rested entirely with the country’s leadership.

“The day statehood is restored, trust me, the Leader of Opposition himself will not even know beforehand. The Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister will decide it. The Leader of Opposition or anyone else neither has that authority nor will anyone seek their opinion,” he said.

Referring to the anniversary of the August 5, 2019 constitutional changes, Tanvir Sadiq said the BJP may celebrate the day, but the National Conference continued to regard it as the ‘darkest chapter’ in Jammu and Kashmir’s history.

“We have always believed and will always believe that it was the darkest chapter in the history of Jammu and Kashmir. We have

pledged to undo what happened on that day. The National Conference will continue its constitutional and democratic struggle till its last breath to restore what was taken away from the people of Jammu and Kashmir unconstitutionally and undemocratically,” he added. (KNO)

Murder of

anyone. These Pakistan-backed cowards have committed not just the murder of innocent people but the murder of humanity itself,” he said.

Referring to the victims’ families, Sharma said the sight of helpless children deeply moved him.

“A one-and-a-half-year-old child saw his father being killed before his eyes. What kind of jihad is this? It is extremely unfortunate. No amount of condemnation is enough for such a barbaric act. My heart cried when I saw those helpless children and grieving family members,” he said.

Sharma said he had spoken to the family members of the victims as well as the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, who, he said, assured all possible assistance to the bereaved families.

“The Jammu and Kashmir government will also provide support. No amount of compensation can replace a human life because life is priceless, but every effort must be made to rehabilitate the affected families,” he added.

Calling for decisive action against terrorism, Sharma said security forces must not only eliminate terrorists but also dismantle the entire support structure behind them.

“I believe the entire ecosystem supporting terrorism must be exposed and destroyed. The security forces are investigating, and the complete network behind such acts must be brought to light so that such incidents do not recur,” he said.

The BJP leader also took exception to National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah’s remarks linking the Kulgam terror attack with the demand for restoration of Jammu and Kashmir’s statehood.

“Dr Farooq Abdullah said such attacks take place whenever statehood is demanded. If he himself says he does not know who carried out the attack, then why make such statements? What exactly does he want to convey? Does he want to support terrorism or suggest something else? He must first clarify his remarks,” Sharma said.

He said linking terrorism with the issue of statehood is ‘strange and unacceptable.’

“Statehood is a matter to be decided by the Parliament of India. Connecting terrorist incidents with the demand for statehood is beyond understanding. Terrorism should never be politicised,” he said.

LoP Sharma said there should be a fair and thorough investigation into the incident and asserted that no one should interfere in the probe.

“Let the investigation proceed honestly. Nobody should come forward to shield those who are found involved. Whenever security forces act, some people immediately begin defending suspects. The entire structure and ecosystem backing terrorism must be exposed, and only then can this menace be uprooted,” he added. (KNO)

JKPSC Submits

cleared (508) officers for the promotion. In the field of rule making, the Commission

gave its assent to the recruitment rules of (02) departments.

- Highlights of the Annual Report 2025-26:
 - Against (1263) posts, the commission received (94546) applications.
 - The Commission conducted (52) written tests/ Preliminary examination and (02) Mains examination.
 - The Public Service Commission has made (1152) selections against (1263) posts referred to it. This included selection of J&K Administrative, Police and Accounts Service, Junior Judges and Assistant Directors in Planning Development & Monitoring Department etc.
 - The Commission held (29) Departmental Promotion Committee meetings and cleared (508) officers for the promotion.
 - The commission conducted (03) departmental examinations and (813) candidates appeared in these examinations.
 - In the field of rule making, the Commission gave its assent to the recruitment rules of (02) departments.
 - The J&K Public Service Commission has adopted 100% written-examination-based recruitment to ensure transparency in the overall recruitment process.
 - The Commission has switched over to the “On-Screen Evaluation” system to ensure error-free evaluation and to avoid delay in the selection process.
 - The commission introduced the system of informing the candidates about examinations/ interviews through SMS service.

Jmu-Sgr highway

and Qazigund after the highway was declared fit for traffic. Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMs) stranded on the Kashmir side were also allowed to proceed towards Jammu,” an official said. (KNO)

Special train to

the decision was taken following a surge in passenger rush at Srinagar and Katra railway stations due to the highway closure.

The statement said the special train will depart from Budgam at 1:00 pm and reach Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra railway station at 4:20 pm, with scheduled halts at Srinagar, Banihal and Sangaldan.

For the return journey, the train will leave Katra at 5:05 pm and arrive in Budgam at 8:30 pm, it said.

The railway authorities said the special train service will continue to operate to ease passenger movement until normal traffic on the highway is restored. (KNO)

EOW Kashmir

large-scale financial irregularities and embezzlement in various branches of the Central Co-operative Bank, Baramulla.

“During the investigation, it was established that the then Branch Manager of the Langate branch, acting in connivance with other accused persons, fraudulently sanctioned fictitious loans and permitted overdrafts far beyond his delegated financial authority, leading to the misappropriation of approximately Rs 3.11 crore of the bank’s funds. The investigation further disclosed that the accused entered into a criminal conspiracy to facilitate these fraudulent transactions, thereby causing substantial wrongful loss to the bank,” the spokesperson said.

He said the allegations were substantiated during the investigation and, accordingly, the

chargesheet was presented before the competent court for judicial adjudication.

The spokesperson said those chargesheeted in the case are Ghulam Mohd Beigh, retired Branch Manager and a resident of Kenyal Tarthpora, Handwara, and Abdul Hamid Gojri, Cashier-cum-Clerk and a resident of Gund Karim Khan, Rafiabadi.

“The Crime Branch has advised the public to remain vigilant against such economic frauds and report any suspicious activities to the SSP, EOW Kashmir. Victims may also lodge complaints through email at sspeow-kmr@jkpolice.gov.in,” the spokesperson added. (KNO)

Heavy rain triggers

Kishtwar, citing heavy rainfall, slippery road conditions and the possibility of shooting stones posing a threat to the safety of students and staff. Schools in the district were also asked to switch to online classes.

According to the Meteorological Centre, Srinagar, Kathua recorded the highest rainfall in the past 24 hours at 46 mm, followed by Shalimar 42 mm, Shopian 41 mm, and another observatory in Shopian 40 mm, Awantipora 31 mm, Ramban 30.5 mm and Poonch 27.5 mm.

The weather office has forecast generally cloudy conditions with spells of light to moderate rain and thundershowers over the next few days, with the possibility of heavy to very heavy showers at isolated places, particularly in parts of the Jammu division.

It warned that torrential rain and brief intense showers could trigger flash floods, landslides and shooting stones at vulnerable locations during the next five days.

Meanwhile, a cloudburst near Mina-2 in Minamarg triggered flash floods and landslides on Friday evening, affecting four temporary shelters of Bakerwal families, but swift action by Police Post Minamarg ensured all occupants were safely evacuated without any loss of life.

The cloudburst struck the area in the evening hours, causing flash floods that impacted approximately 20 persons belonging to Bakerwal families residing in deras opposite Police Post Minamarg.

Acting promptly, personnel of Police Post Minamarg launched a swift rescue operation and safely evacuated all the affected families to the Police Post Minamarg building and the Sheep Husbandry Department building at Minamarg.

During the incident, a Wagon R vehicle was also washed away by the flash flood. However, all the occupants of the vehicle are safe, and no casualties have been reported.

Meanwhile, traffic on the Drass-Srinagar National Highway has been temporarily suspended at the affected location. Police personnel from Police Post Minamarg, along with road clearance machinery, are on the spot and actively engaged in clearing debris and restoring traffic at the earliest.

District Police Drass appealed to all commuters, tourists, and locals to avoid crossing overflowing water channels, streams, and flood-prone areas and to exercise utmost caution while travelling until normal conditions are restored. (KNO)

7-yr-old boy dies

and a nursery student.

The incident has triggered grief across the area. Authorities have initiated an inquiry and further investigation is underway. (KNO)

PM Modi inaugurates Bhogapuram Airport, says Andhra poised to become manufacturing hub

PTI

Visakhapatnam, Aug 1: Highlighting the development potential of Andhra Pradesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said global companies are exploring opportunities in the state, which can become a hub for manufacturing activities.

Addressing a public rally after inaugurating the new airport at Bhogapuram and launching development projects worth Rs 18,000 crore, Modi said the airport will serve as the "runway" for development of Andhra Pradesh, especially the northern region.

The Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport has been built at an outlay of over Rs 5,700 crore with an initial annual passenger handling capacity of 6 million which can be scaled up to 40 million.

"Google has also announced a 15 billion dollar AI and cloud infrastructure campus. (at Visakhapatnam). Many other



global companies are also looking at new possibilities. This will be of great benefit to Andhra Pradesh and the youth of the country."

He further said the central government is also backing a mega pharma park in Naka Palli, which is slated to be developed into a major pharma hub in Andhra Pradesh.

During his speech, the prime minister said the country's aviation sector has made extraordinary progress in the last 12 years and the number of airports has more than doubled from 74 to 166.

According to Modi, global companies are exploring opportunities in Andhra Pradesh and that will help create employment for the youth.

Projects worth Rs 2 lakh crore have been announced for Andhra Pradesh in recent times and railway projects to the tune of Rs 1 lakh crore are progressing in the state.

The country's blue economy initiatives

are gaining momentum, positioning North Andhra Pradesh to emerge as a "coastal economic corridor", he said.

The PM asserted that Andhra Pradesh has the potential to be a hub for manufacturing and pharmaceuticals.

Meanwhile, Modi took a swipe at the Congress and the Gandhi family, saying, "Earlier, airports were named only after one family."

Referring to the regional air connectivity scheme UDAN, he said it has provided people from small towns the opportunity to fly.

Modi said today, under the leadership of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, the entire team of NDA is operating at double speed for Andhra Pradesh.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accompanied by Chandrababu Naidu and Union Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu, reached the venue in an open-top vehicle amid cheers from the public.

'India's aviation sector sees extraordinary progress'

PTI

Visakhapatnam, Aug 1: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the country's aviation sector has witnessed extraordinary progress, noting that the number of airports has more than doubled from 74 to 166. After inaugurating

the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport in Bhogapuram near here, Modi said the project will serve as a "runway" for the development of Andhra Pradesh, especially the northern region.

Referring to the regional air connectivity scheme UDAN, he said it has provided people from small towns the opportunity to fly.

Highlighting the growth and development potential of Andhra, the prime minister said the state's northern region can transform into a thriving coastal economic corridor.

Foundation stone was laid virtually for development projects worth Rs 18,000 crore, including those pertaining to road connectivity and energy security.

PM inaugurates Swami Vivekananda cultural youth centre in Mysuru

PTI

Mysuru, Aug 1: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday inaugurated the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Youth Centre - Viveka Smaraka - at Sri Ramakrishna Ashrama here.

He also offered prayers and floral tributes to Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, his wife 'Maa' Sharada Devi and disciple Swami Vivekananda. Karnataka Governor Thawarchand Gehlot and Chief Minister D K Shivakumar accompanied him. According to an official statement, the Viveka Smaraka commemorates Swami Vivekananda's historic visit to Mysuru in November 1892 during his journey across India.

NSA Doval urges youth to rise above personal gains, dedicate themselves to national interest

PTI

Pune, Aug 1: National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval on Saturday called upon the country's youth to dedicate themselves fully to national interest and rise above personal gains, urging them to make the most of the "window of opportunity" before India to build a stronger nation.

Addressing a gathering after receiving the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026 here, Doval said today's youth may feel that freedom means doing whatever they want, but that is not the case. Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the award, instituted by Tilak Smarak Trust, to Doval.

"Today's youth should commit themselves completely and think that they will work only for the national interest. They should be willing to sacrifice small personal interests, and even if such considerations arise, they should ignore them," he said.

Doval said India was passing through a crucial phase in its history and should not allow the present opportunity to slip away.

"There is a window of opportunity in the history of our country. We cannot afford to lose it. Right now, our priority is to build the nation," he said.

Expressing confidence in India's future, the NSA said the country would succeed in its mission and create a new chapter in its history. "I am confident that we will



succeed in this endeavour and create a new history," Doval added.

He said the country was fortunate to have leaders like Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union minister Shah.

Hailing Lokmanya Tilak, Doval said he was not only a freedom fighter, but also a social reformer and a philosopher.

Doval said when plague hit Pune and claimed the life of his 21-year-old son, Tilak did not leave the city but stayed back instead.

"The youth probably thinks that India was always like this. Youth probably thinks freedom is doing whatever it feels. But freedom was not merely that. Those who sacrificed their lives for freedom, those who struggled for it...Lokmanya Tilak. "There was pain among

people...they wanted to speak. Tilak gave them the strength to do so and instilled a new 'chetana' (consciousness) in them," he said.

Doval said these days people talk about their rights, but they do not know what pain it would cause to those who sacrificed everything for it if rights are misused.

Tilak did not just give a call that 'Swaraj is my birthright and I will take it', but he wanted every citizen to nurture the same mindset, he added. Doval said it was Tilak's belief that until a sense of nationalism is instilled among the masses and people rise above their personal interests, nation-building, national development, and national security cannot be achieved.

"On strategy, people generally ask me what to do. (While

formulating a strategy) we often face confusion as multiple paths emerge... a situation of confusion or illusion prevails. We call it VED analysis. VED stands for Vital, Essential and Desirable.

"We do VED analysis and assess what is vital, what is essential and what is desirable. If service to the nation is vital to us, if making the country powerful is vital, then all other things become secondary. Essential and desirable things too have their importance, but if they come in the way of national interest, we will not be able to go on that path as that would be detrimental to the nation," he said.

The National Security Advisor said that on this day of the death anniversary of Tilak, they should take a resolve to make a new and powerful India.

"India has not yet reached where it should be. We think we are independent and all our responsibilities are over. India still faces internal as well as external challenges.

Our progress is not such that everyone feels happy. Rather, India's progress is still dangerous for several people, several countries and elements, and we have to fight these elements," he said.

To make a powerful India, there is a need to erase the doubts and only work in the national interest, he asserted. "If we go ahead unitedly, we will achieve the goal. Fortunately, today we have great leadership in the form of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amitji

and a conducive atmosphere, and we can make ourselves powerful," he said.

Doval praised Shah, saying he had the opportunity to work closely with the home minister. "I have experienced his dedication, commitment and resolve in serving the national interest. He has a clear vision and has never faced a situation of indecisiveness," he said.

The work done by Modi and Shah has benefited the country immensely, and "we will take the work ahead", he said.

Doval said he accepts the award named after Lokmanya Tilak with humility.

Doval, 81, has handled crucial assignments in sensitive regions, including Mizoram, Sikkim, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. He also served in diplomatic roles at Indian missions in Islamabad and London.

He is the longest-serving National Security Advisor of India. Doval has served as India's special representative for the India-China boundary talks and is also credited with playing an important role in diplomatic efforts that helped resolve the Doklam standoff.

Instituted in 1983, the Lokmanya Tilak Award was first conferred on socialist leader S M Joshi, the Trust had said. It is awarded every year on August 1, the death anniversary of freedom fighter Bal Gangadhar Tilak, to individuals who have made a remarkable contribution to the nation's progress and development.

Centre to release over Rs 2,117 cr worth of SDRF in advance to seven flood-hit states



PTI

New Delhi, Aug 1: The Central government has approved the advance release of its share of the State Disaster Response Fund, worth Rs 2,117.85 crore, to support seven flood-affected states during the ongoing monsoon season, an official statement said on Saturday.

Of the affected states, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha and Nagaland have already received the first instalment of the Central share for the financial year 2026-27.

"To ensure timely availability of funds for relief operations, Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved the advance release of the second instalment of the Central share of

SDRF to Himachal Pradesh and Odisha," the statement said. Himachal Pradesh has been sanctioned 193.95 crore, and Odisha is to get 500 crore as their second instalments.

The advance release of first instalments has been approved for Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat and Maharashtra by relaxing documentary requirements under applicable guidelines, considering the urgent need for resources for relief measures, the statement said. The assistance approved for Arunachal Pradesh amounts to Rs 44.55 crore, for Assam Rs 379.35 crore, for Gujarat Rs 500 crore, and for Maharashtra Rs 500 crore.

India-China trade through Shipli La resumes after six years

PTI

Shimla, Aug 1: The cross-border trade between India and China through Shipki La, known as the ancient silk route joining India with Tibet, resumed on Saturday after a gap of six years.

Revenue and Horticulture Minister Jagat Singh Negi on Saturday flagged off 16 traders after presenting traditional Khataks (ceremonial scarves) along with their horses towards Shipki village in Tibet.

The minister said that the exchange of various goods would take place via a barter system and that the traders would have to return after conducting trade in the Tibetan region for 72 hours.

He also inaugurated a modern trade mart (Chhuppan Trade Mart) constructed in the Shipki La area in the border Gram Panchayat of Namgya in Himachal's Kinnaur district at a cost of Rs 1.70 crore to facilitate border trade, a statement issued here said.

The minister urged local traders to



strictly adhere to the import-export regulations prescribed by the Union Ministry of Commerce, ensuring transparency and compliance with the rules.

Preliminary information indicates that traders will be able to bring 72 types of items from the Indian side and 30 from the other side.

Nadda reviews NEET-PG 2026 preparations Cautions against paper leak rumours

PTI

New Delhi, Aug 1: Union Health Minister J P Nadda on Saturday reviewed preparations for the NEET-PG 2026, directing all agencies to ensure the examination is conducted in a smooth, secure, transparent and technology-driven manner, while cautioning candidates against rumours and fraudulent claims of question paper leaks.

The NEET-PG 2026 examination is scheduled for August 30 and will take place in a single shift across approximately 340 cities and over 1,300 examination centres.

A total of 2,73,183 candidates have registered for the examination, an increase of over 12.5 per cent compared to the previous year, a health ministry statement said.

During the review meeting, Nadda assessed the preparedness of the



National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS), technology partners and other stakeholders.

He was briefed on examination logistics, candidate facilitation measures, the security framework and technology-enabled interventions introduced for this year's

examination, the statement said.

Nadda emphasised the need for every effort to ensure a fair, transparent, and candidate-friendly examination while maintaining the highest standards of integrity and security. He directed all concerned agencies to coordinate closely to provide candidates with a hassle-free experience. Nadda also urged aspirants not to be misled by rumours or fraudulent claims regarding the examination.

He said the final question paper is selected through a highly secure, encrypted and time-bound process shortly before the examination begins, with multiple technological and operational safeguards ensuring its confidentiality until the scheduled start time. Any claim of prior access to the question paper is completely false and intended to mislead candidates, he said, advising aspirants to rely only on official

communications issued by NBEMS and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and to report any suspicious activities or attempts at unfair practices.

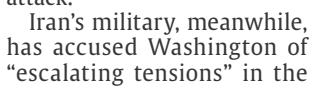
Among the measures introduced this year, candidates will be required to indicate three state preferences for test centres, with the corresponding state as the mandatory first preference to facilitate allotment of centres closer to their place of residence, the statement said.

Test city intimation will be issued nearly three weeks before the examination to help candidates plan travel and accommodation.

The examination pattern has also been revised to 180 questions to be answered in 210 minutes, providing candidates with more time per question while maintaining the overall duration of the examination, it stated.

AFF

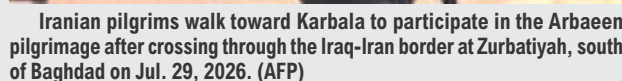
"The Iranian regime is



The Middle East war broke out on February 28 when the United States and Israel launched strikes on Iran, which has retaliated with missile and drone strikes across the region.

AFP

It is one of the world's



economic sanctions.

Amir said, complaining that the Iranian economy is suffering. "We are standing against them, and we will resist, even if we have to survive on dry bread."

'Avenge our leader

Pilgrim Fatemeh Moradi, 52, has been to the Arbaeen at least five times before, but said that this year is for "our martyred leader, on his behalf and on the behalf of all the martyrs."

Devoted Shia Muslims take pride in martyrdom, commemorating the Battle of Karbala in 680 where Hussein was killed by Umayyad caliph Yazid.

During Arbaeen, they show their grief, mourning with weeping and wailing in memory of Hussein.

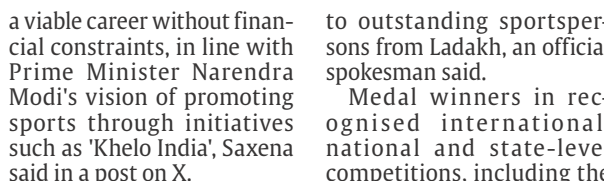
REUTERS

The Philippine embassy in Beijing did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the Chinese military drills around the shoal.

Xinhua reported that those who violate the ban will be held legally accountable. China Coast Guard will set up regular patrols around the reserve to deal with any illegal activities, Xinhua said. China Coast Guard conducted on Saturday a rights-protection and law enforcement drill near the shoal, according to China state broadcaster CCTV. China Coast Guard said it will strengthen law enforcement and control measures in the waters near the shoal, according to CCTV.

PTI

Guided by the motto “scout, facilitate and recognise”, the Ladakh Sports Policy 2026 policy seeks to enable talented youth to pursue sports as



The highlight of the policy is the introduction of a comprehensive framework for financial support

Under this framework, international gold medalists will receive Rs 1 lakh per month, national gold medalists Rs 75,000 per month, and state-level gold medalists Rs 10,000 per month, with proportionate scholarships for silver and bronze winners for a period of 12 months, he said.

The policy ensures that as the beneficiary athletes progress to higher levels, their scholarship is correspondingly upgraded.

PTI

New Delhi, Aug 1: India stamped its authority on the penultimate day of the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships, with all eight paddlers storming into the men's and women's singles semifinals at the Thyagaraj Stadium here Saturday.

The women completed a clean sweep to set up an all-Indian semifinal lineup, while the men also occupied all four semifinal spots after overcoming stiff overseas and domestic challenges.

Top seed Manush Shah was stretched to six games by Australia's Aditya Sareen before prevailing 11-6, 11-8, 2-11, 13-15, 11-8, 11-5.

Payas Jain emerged victorious in the standout all-Indian quarterfinal, edging Harmeet Desai 8-11, 12-10, 12-14, 12-10, 11-6, 11-9 in a gripping six-game contest.

AP

"It is right that, in the coming days and weeks, UEFA will work with its associations and in close cooperation with other confederations to reflect on how this happened and devise a plan to make sure that it cannot occur again."

PTI

Earlier, Chitravel set the tone for the day with an excellent effort in the men's triple jump.

Asian Games bronze

Disappointment continued in the women's 10000m race walk event as well after Priyanka Goswami ended up at seventh despite clocking a season's best 45:53.93.

The other Indian in the fray, Ravina was disqualified.





DHAMAAL 4 (HINDI) (U/A 13+)
01:25 PM





SPIDERMAN BRAND NEW DAY (HINDI) (U/A 13+)
10:00 AM, 03:50 PM, 07:45 PM





SPIDERMAN BRAND NEW DAY (3D ENGLISH ATMO+ WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLE) (U/A 13+)
11:30 AM, 02:25 PM, 05:20 PM, 08:15 PM





SPIDERMAN BRAND NEW DAY (ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLE) (U/A 13+)
10:30 AM, 12:55 PM





THE ODYSSEY (ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLE) (A)
04:20 PM, 06:45 PM



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