

J&K set to observe 80th Independence Day

Amid tight security, elaborate arrangements

CM Omar to lead main function in Srinagar, Dy CM will preside over Jammu event; admin urges people to join Aug 15 celebrations

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Aug 14: Jammu and Kashmir is all set to celebrate 80th Independence Day on Saturday with elaborate arrangements in place across the Union Territory and heightened security to ensure peaceful and incident-free functions.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the civil administration and security agencies have completed preparations for the August 15 celebrations, with functions scheduled at district, sub-divisional and block levels across Jammu and Kashmir.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will preside over the main Independence Day function at Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar, while Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary will lead the main celebration at Maulana Azad Stadium in Jammu, the official said, adding that the administration has made arrangements for the ceremonial functions, including parades, cultural programmes and other activities, while full dress rehearsals have been conducted at various venues ahead of the celebrations.

He said that security has been strengthened across Jammu and Kashmir, particularly around major venues, sensitive installations, highways, entry and exit points and vulnerable areas along the Line of Control | More on P6



J&K set to scale new heights of prosperity: LG Sinha

Extends warm greetings, good wishes to people on 80th Independence Day

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Aug 14: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said Jammu and Kashmir has firmly set out on a path of rapid socio-economic growth and exuded hope that the Union Territory would scale new heights of prosperity in the near future.

In his message on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day, LG



Sinha, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), extended warm greetings and good wishes | More on P6

‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’

Ensure past mistakes don’t get repeated in future: LG Sinha to J&K youth

Asks them to build bridges of trust, construct inclusive Viksit Bharat

Says through partition, enemies of nation tried to destroy spirit of unity in diversity

‘Building self-reliant J&K a shared duty; national unity bedrock of our strength’

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 14: Asking youth of Jammu and Kashmir to ensure that the mistakes of the past are never repeated in the future, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said that they have to build bridges of trust and construct a Viksit Bharat that is inclusive.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion of ‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’ at Tagore Hall here, LG Sinha, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, “Partition is not merely history but a living memory of millions of families.”

He urged the youth to learn from the experiences of the



past, to reject enmity and communal bitterness, and to build bridges of trust. He called upon them to construct a developed India that is inclusive

and empowered. “The youth of Jammu Kashmir must ensure that the mistakes of the past are never repeated in the future. Where walls were once

raised, you must build bridges of trust and construct a Viksit Bharat that is inclusive,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

Pertinently, the ‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’ was marked by collective remembrance and a reaffirmation of national unity.

The Lieutenant Governor paid heartfelt tribute to all those citizens who endured unimaginable suffering during the partition of 1947 and whose sacrifices continue to inspire generations.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasized that the wound of partition continues to exist as a pain in the collective consciousness of every Indian. “Decades after | More on P6

CM says Jantar Mantar protest was only beginning of statehood campaign

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 14: Stating that the Jantar Mantar protest was only the beginning of the campaign for the restoration of statehood, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said its reinstatement was a “super promise” made by the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Talking to reporters, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the Chief Minister said the country must remember that the people of Jammu and Kashmir were promised the restoration of statehood.

“The country needs to remember that we were promised. It was not an ordinary promise; it was Modi

Questions delay in approval of business rules; warns govt cannot be held responsible if Gen-Z-like episode erupts over reservation

Ka Vaada (the promise of PM Modi). It is said that there are normal promises, and then there are super promises. This was a super promise. Why has this super promise not been fulfilled? We are not getting any answers,” he said.

Omar Abdullah reiterated that the Jantar Mantar protest was not the end of the campaign | More on P6



HAPPY
INDEPENDENCE DAY
GREETINGS TO THE PEOPLE OF
JAMMU & KASHMIR
GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

Homestay Policy a bedrock to boost sustainable tourism in J&K: CS Atal Dulloo

‘Undertake greater handholding, intensive capacity-building initiatives for prospective, existing homestay owners’

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 14: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, chaired a meeting of the Tourism Department to review the renewed Homestay Policy aimed at expanding homestay infrastructure across Jammu & Kashmir, promoting tourism in unexplored destinations and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for local communities.

The meeting, as per an official statement, was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Tourism; Commissioner Secretary, GAD; Director, I&C, Jammu; Director, Tourism, Kashmir/Jammu; representatives of J&K Bank and other concerned officers.

Describing homestays as the bedrock of tourism in unexplored destinations, the Chief Secretary observed that these offer an environmentally sustainable model particularly suited to an ecologically fragile region like J&K.

He emphasised that promotion of homestays would not only expand tourism beyond established destinations but also make local residents active stakeholders in tourism development, generating employment and income opportunities across different strata of society and contributing to an overall improvement in their standard of living.

The Chief Secretary directed the Tourism Department to undertake greater handholding and intensive capacity-building initiatives for prospective and existing homestay owners so that local communities are adequately equipped to provide quality services to visitors.

He further called upon financial institutions to extend necessary financial support for augmentation, renovation and improvement of homestay facilities under the renewed policy framework, observing that easier access to finance would encourage more households to participate in the initiative. During the meeting,



the Tourism Department gave a detailed presentation on the existing homestay ecosystem and the provisions incorporated under the renewed policy.

The ACS, Tourism, Dr Ashish Chandra Verma divulged that a homestay, under the policy framework, refers to a residential property where the owner/promoter and family reside on the premises, with a provision for a minimum of one and maximum of six guest rooms, subject to prescribed standards relating to safety, hygiene, water supply and electricity. Adding that Jammu & Kashmir presently has a total accommodation capacity of 20,514 beds across 2,802 homestay units.

He also highlighted that the policy provides homestay owners with a range of benefits, besides an additional source of household income. It was given out that the same includes official recognition by the Tourism Department, promotion through J&K Tourism platforms, access to training and capacity-building programmes, facilitation of financial assistance

through Government schemes and banking institutions, participation in tourism promotion campaigns and enhanced visibility among domestic and international tourists.

The meeting was also informed about the introduction of the Bed & Breakfast (B&B) model, under which secondary residential properties can now be registered for tourist accommodations too.

Under the model, owners can offer between one and six rooms for accommodation, thereby providing an opportunity to generate income from vacant or underutilised residential properties while simultaneously increasing the availability of tourist accommodation across the UT.

The renewed framework also provides for a simplified online registration process through the J&K Tourism portal. Applicants can upload property details, photographs and requisite documents online, enabling greater visibility among tourists through official digital platforms.

The initiative also envisages

easier discovery of registered properties through digital integration and geotagging, besides providing a dedicated platform for promotion of homestays across Jammu & Kashmir.

The meeting further discussed the financial inclusion component of the initiative being facilitated through J&K Bank. Under the financing arrangement, loans for converting a residential house into a homestay can be extended up to 5 lakh per room, subject to a maximum of 30 lakh per homestay, depending upon the average conversion requirements.

The Department also highlighted the digital integration carried out under Mission YUVA, through which the J&K Government has partnered with OYO for the “Crown of Incredible India” Homestay Initiative.

The initiative seeks to promote village-based entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities for youth through the establishment and promotion of homestays, thereby creating new avenues for local livelihood generation while

taking tourism deeper into rural and lesser-explored areas.

One more feature of this framework incorporates a simplified and time-bound inspection mechanism. An Inspection Committee will assess registered applicants on the basis of a prescribed checklist and assign Silver or Gold category based on compliance with the stipulated standards.

Applicants uploading all requisite documents as per the prescribed checklist will be granted provisional registration under the Silver Category for a period of six months. Further, if verification is not completed within 15 days, the registration shall be deemed to have been automatically approved, thereby reducing procedural delays and providing greater certainty to applicants.

The renewed Homestay Policy is aimed at creating a more inclusive, digitally enabled and financially supported tourism ecosystem, with local households and youth positioned at the centre of tourism-led economic development across Jammu & Kashmir.

DC Srinagar presides over Valedictory Ceremony of Inter-College patriotic singing, painting competition at GCoE



KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 14: As part of the celebrations marking the 80th Independence Day, a Divisional-Level Competition-cum-Valedictory Function was organised Friday at Government College of Education (GCoE), M.A. Road, Srinagar, bringing together talented students and participants from Schools, Colleges from across Kashmir Division.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, presided over the valedictory function as the Chief Guest.

While Nodal Principal Colleges Kashmir Division, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naz, Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Aadil Fareed, IAS Probationer, Alfred Thomas, Principals of various City Colleges and large number of students, participants from different parts of the Kashmir Division and faculty members of GCOE attended the event.

Addressing the gathering, the DC congratulated all the participants for their enthusiastic participation and commended the organisers, institutions for creating a meaningful platform to nurture and showcase young talent and creativity with the spirit of patriotism. The DC, as

per an official statement, urged the students to utilise their skills, knowledge and creativity for the greater good of society, emphasising that the youth have a vital role to play in nation-building. He encouraged them to pursue excellence in their respective fields while remaining committed to social responsibility, discipline and the spirit of patriotism.

The DC further called upon the students to use their talent as a means of giving back to society and contributing positively to the nation. He stressed that true patriotism is reflected not only in words but also through responsible citizenship, dedication to one's duties and constructive contribution towards the progress of the country.

Earlier, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naz, underlined the significance of organizing such events in the run-up to the Independence Day celebrations.

Later, winners in various categories were felicitated with prizes and certificates in recognition of their talent, dedication and participation.

The event also featured cultural presentations and a reaffirmation of the collective commitment towards the nation's progress, unity and development.

DC Budgam chairs DLIC meet, approves 1635 cases under HADP, JKCIIP, ISDS

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, AUGUST 14: District Administration Budgam Friday approved 1,635 cases under HADP, JKCIIP and ISDS schemes during a meeting of District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC), chaired by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan.

Of the total, 1,407 cases were approved under HADP, 128 under JKCIIP and 100 under ISDS. The approvals cover Agriculture, Horticulture, Sheep Husbandry, Fisheries, Horticulture P&M and Sericulture sectors.

Chairing the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner, as per an official statement, stressed that agriculture and allied sectors are vital to the rural economy and directed the concerned departments to ensure timely implementation, effective handholding of beneficiaries and close monitoring of approved cases.

He further instructed for coordinated efforts among the Agriculture and Allied Departments to harness the district's potential in agriculture, horticulture, livestock, fisheries and sericulture, with a focus on strengthening rural livelihoods and creating sustainable employment opportunities.

The DC instructed for coordinated efforts to maximise the impact of these schemes, improve productivity, strengthen rural livelihoods and create sustainable income and employment opportunities for farmers and other beneficiaries.

The meeting was attended by CPO, CAO, CAHO, CHO, DSHO, AD Fisheries and other concerned officers.

Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign Partition horrors remembrance day observed across Anantnag

KT News Desk

ANANTNAG, AUGUST 14. As part of the ongoing Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2026, Partition Horrors Remembrance Day was solemnly observed Friday across District Anantnag to commemorate the sacrifices and struggles of millions during the 1947 Partition of India.

The main commemorative event, organized at Town Hall, Municipal Council Anantnag, was attended by Deputy Commissioner (DC), Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, alongside Additional Deputy Commissioners (ADCs), ACR, CPO, ACD, DSEO, and senior officers from the District Administration. Officials from various line

departments, local youth, prominent civil society members, and citizens gathered in large numbers to mark the day.

The ceremony, as per an official statement, commenced with the playing of the National Song followed by the National Anthem. As a key feature of the program, poignant documentaries were screened showcasing the circumstances, consequences and horrors of the Partition on August 14, 1947.

The program concluded on a reverent patriotic note with the playing of the National Song and National Anthem.

Similar remembrance events were also held across various public offices, educational institutions, and other important places of the district.

DC Kulgam urges tolerance, mutual brotherhood

KT News Desk

KULGAM, AUGUST 14: District Administration Kulgam, in collaboration with DIPR, NIC, Education and other departments Friday observed Partition Horrors Remembrance Day in the district.

The solemn observance was chaired by the Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam, Shahzad Alam, who paid tribute to the countless individuals who endured unimaginable suffering during the Partition of 1947.

In his address, the DC, as per an official statement, called upon citizens to draw strength from that painful chapter of history and to uphold the core values of compassion, unity and brotherhood that form the

foundation of our nation and emphasized that remembering the horrors of Partition is not about reopening old wounds, but about reaffirming our collective commitment to harmony and to ensuring that such divisions never find space in our society again. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam, Vikar Ahmad Giri also addressed the gathering and spoke on the important lessons to be learnt from the Partition Horrors and urged the younger generation to carry forward the message of peace, tolerance and national integration.

The event saw active participation from district officers and officials, students, civil society members and citizens from diverse communities.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR UNION TERRITORY OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION SHOPIAN.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
E-NIT S.NO:- (21) OF 2026-27 (e-Tendering)

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor Union Territory of J&K, e-Tenders are invited on **Percentage** basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD/ Railways/ Other Governments/ Union Territory for the below-mentioned works.

S. No	Name of work	Adv. Cost (In lacs)	Cost of Tender Doc.	EMD 2% of the advertised cost	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Head of Account
01	Construction of Pipe Siphon from Hushangpora to Ingichan Wooder under block Chitragam	12.00	250	24000/-	25 days	D, C, & B	District Capex (DDC Grants)
02	Construction of Pipe Siphon at Padderproa Block Hermain	24.38	250	48760/-	30 days	C&B	District Capex (DDC Grants)
03	Construction of Pipe Siphon at Ayend Block Kapren	24.28	250	48560/-	30 days	C&B	District Capex (DDC Grants)

Position of Funds: Budgetary Provision.

Accord of Administrative Approval District Development Commissioner Shopian's AAA Order No: 98-DDCS of 2026 dated: 11-08-2026 issued vide endstt. No: DDSCS/Capex/AA/26-27/1857-61 dated: 11-08-2026

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

01	Date of issue of Tender Notice	13-08-2026 (05:00 PM)
02	Date of start of downloading.	13-08-2026 (05:30 PM)
03	Bid submission start date Technical/ Financial.	13-08-2026 (06:00 PM)
04	Bid submission end date.	24-08-2026 (04:00 PM)
05	Date & Time of opening of Bids (online).	25-08-2026 (10:00 AM)

Terms and Conditions:

- The bid shall be accompanied by a non-refundable tender document fee , Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) / Additional performance security, to be deposited as per Govt. of J&K Finance Department (Codes Division) Circular No: FD-Code/290/2026 dated: 22/05/2026. The designated Account number as communicated vide Chief Engineer Kmr. I&FC Department Srinagar's No: CE/I&FC/DB/6518-47 dated: 16/06/2026 is as under:

Account Name	Chief Engineer Kashmir Irrigation & Flood Control Department Srinagar.
Account No	0367010200000608
IFSC Code	JAKA01ANKEE
Bank	J&K Bank Ltd. Tankipora Branch.

Proof of Payment of EMD / Additional Performance Security / Tender Document Fee:

The bidder shall upload documentary proof of payment of EMD, Additional Performance Security, and Tender Document Fee, as applicable, in the form of a **Pay-in-Slip / Payment Receipt** clearly indicating the **Transaction ID** and **Date of Payment**.

The **date of payment must fall within the stipulated period of the e-NIT**, i.e., between the **Start Date** and **End Date of the e-NIT**.

Payments made after the End Date of the e-NIT shall not be considered valid, and the bid shall be liable for rejection.

- The successful bidder shall be required to submit hard copies of all the documents uploaded online at the time of bid submission, as and when directed by the Tendering Authority.
- The EMD of the successful bidder will be retained as performance security deposit till expiry of defect liability period, whereas the EMD of unsuccessful bidders will be returned latest by 30 days after award of the contract. Contractor / Bidder who fails to submit the EMD/ Additional security/ tender fee as required; there EMD will be forfeited besides they will be barred/prohibited from participating in the Tendering process for a period of Six Months (06 Months) in the first instance. Their online uploaded tenders will not be considered for the said period.

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

No: SID/ 2895-2900
Dated: 13-08-2026

DIPK-4576/26
DATED: 14-08-2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Irrigation Division, Shopian.

Rain, hailstorm lash J&K parts

- MeT warns flash floods
- Hailstorms damages orchards
- Thundershowers likely over next 5-days

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Aug 14: Hailstorm accompanied by intense rain lashed several parts of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, damaging orchards in parts of Shopian district, while flash floods hit Pahalgam after a spell of heavy showers.

The hailstorm, with hailstones reportedly measuring around 2-3 cm or more in some areas, caused damage to fruit crops across parts of Shopian, with orchardists reporting significant losses.

Meanwhile, Flash floods were also reported from Pahalgam following an intense spell of rain. Nallah Awoora overflowed, washing away a makeshift road constructed in the Awoora area. The same route had earlier been washed away during a cloudburst.

Pertinently, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Srinagar had earlier issued a warning for several areas, forecasting heavy rain and brief intense showers over Anantnag, Pahalgam, Tral, Pulwama, Kulgam, Banihal-Ramban and Shopian.

The warning, issued at 2:46 pm, remained valid until 5:46 pm and cautioned that the intense



showers could trigger flash floods, landslides and mudslides, particularly in Pahalgam, Shopian, Kulgam, Anantnag and Ramban districts.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar said rain was recorded over many parts of Rajouri, Shopian, Kulgam, eastern parts of Srinagar, Anantnag, Banihal-Ramban, Kishtwar and adjoining areas.

It predicted that the ongoing spell of rain and thundershowers could continue over many places, with brief intense heavy showers likely over Ganderbal, eastern Srinagar, the Hazratbal-Zakura axis, Shopian, Kulgam, Anantnag, Tral, hilly areas of Ganderbal, Ramban, Udhampur, Reasi, Doda and Kishtwar during the following three to five hours.

The weather office warned that intense showers could generate

localised flash floods, mudslides and landslides in hilly areas. It also cautioned of possible shooting stones and landslides at some vulnerable locations.

In the past 24 hours, significant rainfall was recorded at several stations, with Kathua receiving 62.4 mm, Bhaderwah 62.2 mm and Reasi ARG 34.5 mm, according to the Meteorological Centre.

The weather office said a spell of rain and thundershowers was expected at many places on Friday, with brief intense showers likely towards the afternoon.

On Saturday, light to moderate rain and thundershowers are expected at many places of Jammu and Kashmir during the late night and early morning hours, followed by another brief spell towards the afternoon. From August 16 to 19,

several spells of light to moderate rain and thundershowers are likely at many places, with heavy rain or brief intense heavy showers possible in some districts during the early morning and afternoon hours.

The Meteorological Centre has warned of the possibility of heavy rain and brief intense heavy showers in some districts of the Jammu division during this period, along with brief intense showers in one or two districts of the Kashmir division.

Such torrential or intense showers could trigger flash floods, landslides, mudslides and water-logging in low-lying areas, it said.

From August 20 to 22, light rain and thundershowers are expected at scattered places across Jammu and Kashmir—(KNO)

CM Omar felicitates floriculture department's contest winners

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Aug 14: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday felicitated 12 winners of various competitions organised during the Tulip Show and Badamwari Spring Festival, recognising their creativity, artistic talent and innovative use of digital media in promoting J&K's iconic spring gardens and floral heritage.

The winners, who included a large number of students, particularly from Government Schools, were presented cash prizes and certificates of participation by the Chief Minister at a felicitation ceremony held here.

CIn the Instagram Reel Competition organised in connection with the Tulip Show 2026, Salman Ahmad Wani, Shazeeb Iqbal and Ayush Anand secured the first, second and third positions respectively. In the photography competition, Umair Wani, Saba Reshi and Sharafat Khan emerged winners, securing the first, second and third positions respectively.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that the objective of these competitions was not only to encourage artistic and creative talent among students and young people but also to garner greater public



attention to J&K's major floral attractions through contemporary platforms.

The Chief Minister highlighted the main floral events in the annual floriculture calendar while appreciating that Badamwari, Tulip Garden and newly added Chrysanthemum festival witnessed great public participation and that these events get further visibility and attention through competitions in painting, photography and social media content creation.

He said the competitions provided an opportunity to recognise both traditional artistic expression and modern technology. He commended students from various schools for having

won the prizes today and expressed the hope that more students will participate in these competitions next year.

The Chief Minister observed that while the painting competitions provide a platform for young artists to capture the beauty of the gardens on canvas, the photography and Instagram Reel competitions help showcase these destinations to a much wider audience through social media.

He emphasized that such initiatives help combine creativity, technology and tourism promotion, while nurturing young talent and creating greater awareness

Continued on
 www.kashmirthunder.

No change in IWT: India tells Pakistan

Sajid Raina

New Delhi, Aug 14 (KNO): Days after Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif warned that any attempt to stop his country's water supply would invite a "decisive response," India on Friday said there is no change in its position on the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT).

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal while addressing the weekly media briefing here said, "There is no change in the way we think. Our position on the treaty is clear."

Pertinently, India placed the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance following the April 2025 terror attack in Pahalgam.

The Indian government has maintained that the treaty cannot return to operation in its existing form unless Pakistan takes credible and permanent steps to end cross-border terrorism.

Jaiswal also responded to questions concerning Jammu and Kashmir and remarks made by Norway's foreign minister following discussions with Pakistani officials

during a visit to Islamabad.

Reiterating India's position on the issue, the MEA spokesperson said Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh are an "integral and inalienable" part of India.

He said the international community should instead be concerned about atrocities in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir and the use of the territory for cross-border terrorism. "The whole of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh are integral and inalienable part of India," Jaiswal said.

India has consistently maintained that issues concerning Jammu and Kashmir are internal to the country, while Pakistan continues to raise the matter internationally.

The latest exchange comes amid continued tensions between the two countries over water-sharing arrangements and cross-border terrorism. Pakistan has continued to assert its rights under the Indus Waters Treaty, while New Delhi has linked the future of the agreement to Pakistan's actions against cross-border terrorism—(KNO)

No remote work order for PM Package employees: Div Com

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 14: Amid reports that employees appointed under the Prime Minister's Package had been asked to work from home ahead of Independence Day, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir Anshul Garg on Friday clarified that no such order has been issued. He urged people to rely on official government and administration channels for authentic information.

Responding to a query about reports that PM package employees had been verbally directed to work from home amid security concerns, Garg said, "No such orders have been issued in any way." He said the administration and security agencies have put in place necessary arrangements for the safety of employees, residents and the general public ahead of the Independence Day celebrations in Srinagar.

"We should rely on the authentic information channels that are provided



by the government and the administration," Garg said.

The Div Com also extended Independence Day greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir and invited residents of Srinagar and across Kashmir to attend the main Independence Day function at Bakshi Stadium on Saturday.

He said Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will unfurl the national flag and address the gathering at the stadium

at 10 am. The Divisional Commissioner said a full dress rehearsal for the Independence Day function was held at Bakshi Stadium on Thursday, with parade contingents and cultural groups taking part in the preparations.

The Divisional Commissioner said the participants had been preparing for the event for around 20 days and were making efforts to ensure the programme is

conducted successfully.

He further said security agencies had carried out a detailed review of the arrangements for the national event to ensure adequate security for all participants and visitors.

The Div Com urged people to participate in the Independence Day celebrations either at the main event in Srinagar or at functions organised in their respective districts—(KNO)

51 J&K Police personnel selected for gallantry, meritorious service medals



Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Aug 14: As many as 51 Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel have been selected for gallantry and meritorious service medals on the occasion of Independence Day 2026, according to the official honours list.

The awardees include 38 recipients of the Medal for Gallantry (GM) and 13 recipients of the Medal for Meritorious Service (MSM). Besides, one J&K Home Guard and Civil Defence personnel has also been selected for the MSM.

Among the 38 gallantry medal recipients are senior police officers, including Deputy Inspector General Shiv Kumar, IPS; SSP Shobhit D Sakse- na, IPS; SP Nasir Ahmad; SP Mushtaq Ahmad; DIG Pande Rajiv Omprakash, IPS; and SP Divya D, IPS.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Sarfaraz Bashir has been awarded the second bar to the Medal for Gallantry, while Head Constable Rayeesh Ahmad Reshi and Selection Grade Constable Ishtiaq Ahmed Khan have been awarded the first bar to the GM.

The other GM recipients are Waseem Mohi-Ud-Din Lone, Manzoor Ahmad, Mudasir Ahmad, Ashak Hussain P, Kishore Kumar, Javid Iqbal Jan, Mohinder Singh, Sheeraz Ahmad, Surinder Paul, Ishtiaq Ahmad Reshi, Tanveer Hussain Lone, Mudasir Ahmad Shah, Kalu Din, Adit Kumar Nad, Mohd Usman, Shabir Ahmad Malik, Manzoor Ahmad Ganie, Khurshid Ahmed Wani, Mushtaq Ahmad Shah, Ab Rashid Mir, Mohamad Shafi Bandy, Abdul Rashid, Zahoor Ahmad, Zahoor Ahmad, Dheeraj Kumar,

Shakir Hassan, Vikram Nag, Mushtaq Ahmad Khan and Tariq Ahmad.

The 13 J&K Police personnel selected for the Medal for Meritorious Service are SP Sandeep Kumar, SP Amit Gupta, DSP Rajesh Sharma, DSP Muzaffar Ahmad Shah, DSP Kuljeet Singh, DSP Sharat Chander Singh, Inspector Shamim Ahmed, Inspector Vikram Singh, ASI Bodh Raj, Inspector Mumin Ahmad Rather, ASI Mushtaq Ahmed, Sub-Inspector Manzoor Ahmad Gada and Constable Ashraf Gull.

Separately, one J&K Home Guard and Civil Defence personnel has also been selected for the Medal for Meritorious Service.

The honours recognise personnel for acts of gallantry and distinguished and meritorious service in police and other uniformed services on the occasion of Independence Day.

LG SINHA CONGRATULATES J&K POLICE PERSONNEL ON INDEPENDENCE DAY MEDALS
 Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha congratulated the officers and personnel of the Jammu and Kashmir Police who have been awarded medals for gallantry and distinguished and meritorious service on the occasion of Independence Day 2026.

"Heartiest congratulations to all the officers and personnel of J&K Police who have been awarded the prestigious Medal for Gallantry, President's Medal for Distinguished Service and Medal for Meritorious Service on the occasion of Independence Day 2026," LG Sinha said in a post on X.

Continued on
 www.kashmirthunder.

23% surplus power likely for J&K, Ladakh in Sept

Riyaz Bhat

Srinagar, Aug 14: The Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC) has assessed Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh as largely surplus power regions for September 2026.

The Committee said that the Union Territories will likely have overall 23 percent surplus energy and 13.8 percent surplus energy during the peak solar hours.

The analysis, based on SLDC data, suggests that power availability will outstrip demand across most blocks, with the NRPC stating that any remaining 'residual shortfalls' are minimal and easily covered via short-term markets, specifically during periods when solar generation is unavailable. "As per the data submitted by SLDC, J&K and Ladakh is largely a surplus state for September 2026, with availability exceeding demand across most blocks," NRPC said.

It also said that the residual shortfalls, if any, are marginal and can be managed through



the short-term market during non-solar periods.

Earlier this month, KNO reported that Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are likely to face nearly fourteen percent power deficit against the total

availability during the peak hours in the ongoing month of August.

The official documents of NRPC in this regard has anticipated a power deficit of minus 13.9 percent during the

peak hours for the month of August-2026.

The officials have projected that there will be a total of 2334 Megawatts (MWs) power availability in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh against the total

anticipated requirement of 2710 MWs during the peak hours.

The committee however said that there will be surplus power of 4seven percent during the other hours except from the peak hours. Pertinently, this agency in March this year reported that from the upcoming financial year 2026-27, Jammu and Kashmir will likely require 3813 MWs of power during the peak demand.

The authorities had further projected that in the financial year 2027-28 Jammu and Kashmir will require 3964 MWs of electricity during the peak hours followed by 4117 MWs of energy in the financial year 2028-29.

Apart from peak demand, the authorities had also projected that there will be an electrical energy requirement of 23,372 Million Units (MU) in the financial year 2026-2027.

It also said that in the year 2027-28, Jammu and Kashmir will likely require 24,559 MU of energy followed by 25,780 MU in the year 2028-29—(KNO)

EDITORIAL

Building Viksit Bharat Through Unity and Action

Today, as India celebrates its 80th Independence Day, the Tricolour that flutters across every home and heart is not merely a symbol of freedom won in 1947. It is a living testament to the sacrifices of countless bravehearts and a reminder that the true meaning of freedom lies in the opportunity for every citizen to fulfil their aspirations and contribute to the nation's progress. The journey

from Swatantra Bharat to Viksit Bharat is not a destination that will arrive on its own. It is a collective mission that demands the participation of every Indian—from the farmer tilling the soil to the scientist pushing the boundaries of innovation, from the teacher shaping young minds to the soldier guarding our borders. Each one of them is an architect of India's destiny, and their efforts, however small, are

building the foundation of a prosperous and self-reliant nation. This year's Independence Day carries added significance as we honour the ideals of social reformers like Mahatma Jyotiiba Phule and Savitribai Phule, whose contributions to education, equality, and women's empowerment continue to guide our national priorities. Their vision resonates in the remarkable achievements of our women—from

the Drone Didis enhancing agricultural productivity to the Fighter Combat Leaders in the Air Force, and the sports-women who brought home 8 of India's 13 gold medals at the Commonwealth Games. The spirit of public participation, which was the hallmark of our freedom struggle, remains alive today. National campaigns, digital transformation, and the unprecedented expansion of infrastructure are creating

new opportunities for every citizen. More than 25 crore people have been lifted out of poverty, and over 80 crore people have been ensured food security—proof that development, when rooted in cultural pride and guided by the principle of Antyodaya, is both rapid and sustainable. As we celebrate this day, let us remember that the strongest pillar of our democracy is the trust of the people. Let us reaffirm

our commitment to building an India where every citizen has equal opportunities, where justice is accessible to all, and where the youth—our most valuable asset—continue to dream big and achieve even bigger. The future is ours. This century belongs to India. Let us move forward with the resolve that the Tiranga will not only fly high at every home but also in our thoughts, our character, and our actions. Jai Hind!

President Of India's Address To Nation On 80th Independence Day

My dear fellow citizens,
Namaskar!

On the eve of our Independence Day, I convey my warm greetings to all of you for this national festival. In a few hours from now, our country will witness the auspicious beginning of the 80th year since its independence. All Indians, living in the country and abroad, celebrate this festival with great joy. Our Tricolour is the symbol of our freedom. We unfurl it with immense pride.

On the 15th of August 1947, Bharat Mata was liberated from the shackles of subjugation. Every citizen became an architect of the destiny of Independent India. The true meaning of freedom lies in ensuring that all citizens are able to utilise opportunities to fulfil their aspirations, and work towards the goal of making India the foremost nation in the world.

Dedicated students and teachers, scientists and engineers committed to development, doctors and healthcare workers providing health services, industrious workers and our Annadata farmers are all contributing to nation-building through their efforts. Talented sportspersons, craftpersons and artists, visionary intellectuals, diligent members of the workforce in private and public sectors, people's representatives devoted to serving them, officials in the judicial system, dutiful civil servants, big and small investors contributing to our economy, selfless social workers, and all Safai Mitra who are frontline workers of the Swachhata Abhiyan are all playing an important role in the nation's progress. Numerous citizens engaged in various other activities, and every citizen who faithfully discharges the Fundamental Duties enshrined in our Constitution, are active partners in our nation-building process. I wholeheartedly appreciate each one of them. I specially commend the devotion of our soldiers in the three Armed Forces, Armed Police Forces, and all police personnel for their unwavering dedication to duty. I also praise the Indian diaspora and the officials serving in our embassies who enhance India's prestige and honour on the global stage.

My dear fellow citizens,

We are moving ahead towards building Viksit Bharat by the centenary year of our Independence in 2047. Guided by the spirit of Antyodaya, it is our resolve to ensure that the fruits of development reach every individual. Embracing our rich heritage and the ideals of the freedom movement, we march ahead on the path of modern development. The Ved-Vakya, 'Vayam Rashtre Jagriyam' inspires us to always remain ready to serve the nation.

During our freedom struggle, people with diverse ideologies were united by one common goal – India's Independence. During the Swadeshi Movement, the song Vande Mataram became a song of the masses. Countless Indians plunged themselves into our freedom struggle under the leadership of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar embodied the highest ideals of social reform and patriotism. I humbly bow to all those great sons and daughters of Bharat Mata whose ideals guided our country to its freedom and its progress thereafter.

Today, on the 14th of August, we observe Vibhajan Vibheeshika Smriti Divas. We solemnly remember those lakhs of Indians who lost their lives in the violence resulting from the partition, or were forced to endure the tragedy of displacement. Lakhs of people had to become refugees due to communal violence and endure the horrors of partition. Yet, they did not give up their identity.

At the time of our independence, along with the grave consequences of partition, was the extraordinary challenge of unifying more than 550 princely states with a newly independent India. Sardar Patel put an end to the system of kingdoms and integrated the princely states into our independent democracy. On behalf of a grateful nation, I pay my respectful tributes to the sacred memory of the sculptor of the unity of modern India Lahu Purush Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

My dear fellow citizens,

The Constitution framed by the People of India rests on the foundation of people's participation. The spirit of public participation has always been inherent in the people of our country which is the cradle of democracy. With renewed vigour, our fellow citizens



are promoting the same tradition of people's participation. National campaigns are being implemented through active participation of the people. This is an inspiring achievement of our democracy.

Equality of status and of opportunity, along with the dignity of the individual, are among the cherished ideals of our Constitution. Today, people from ordinary backgrounds are making extraordinary contributions in many fields. This strengthens my belief that in today's Bharat, everyone can dream big and also realise such dreams.

Our Constitution clearly lays down the responsibilities of the Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary. Giving voice to the aspirations of the people is the duty of their representatives in the legislature. The Executive is responsible for implementing policies that serve the interests of the nation and its people. It is the duty of every person associated with the judicial system to ensure that no one is deprived of justice due to lack of resources. All citizens, especially those belonging to deprived sections of the society, should have equal access to timely justice with dignity.

My Dear Fellow Citizens,

During the period of a little over a decade, our country has witnessed:

Rapid and inclusive development;
Priority to harmonising heritage and development; and,
Removal of numerous, decades-old obstacles to development.

Our country is celebrating the 200th birth anniversary of Mahatma Jyotiiba Phule. Mahatma Phule and Kranti-Jyoti Savitribai Phule made historic contributions to social justice, education, women's empowerment, and equality. Following their ideals, the upliftment of the deprived sections of society has been given priority at the national level during the past few years. New standards have been set in the area of women's education. More than 25 crore people have been lifted out of poverty. Under 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana', the world's largest program of financial inclusion, nearly 59 crore account holders have joined the banking system. Out of these, more than 32 crore account holders are women. Food security has been ensured for more than 80 crore people by providing them with free rations. Under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana', free healthcare coverage of up to 5 lakh rupees per year has been provided to 60 crore people. Kisan Samman Nidhi and Kisan Credit Cards have provided support to farmers engaged in activities such as farming, dairy, poultry, fisheries, and beekeeping.

History of the world bears witness to the fact that development rooted in a strong sense of cultural identity is both rapid and sustainable. Today, there is a growing awareness in the country that a sense of cultural pride bolsters the inner strength of the nation. Our ancestors have passed on a rich legacy of learning, science, art and culture, spirituality, and virtuous conduct. We are moving ahead, harmonizing our heritage and development.

India has developed the world's largest and best digital infrastructure. Digital payments are now common even in small rural shops

and among street vendors. More than half of the world's real-time digital transactions take place in India. Together, the people of India and the Government have presented an example of digital revolution to the global community. By using technology, the Government has provided benefits of welfare schemes to the people in a transparent manner.

Our country has seen an unprecedented expansion of modern infrastructure in the form of highways, waterways, railways and airways. This is creating opportunities for new enterprises, generating employment, and boosting investor confidence.

My Dear Fellow Citizens,

Warfare and instability prevailing in several parts of the world are affecting every country. Even in such trying circumstances, our economy is moving ahead as the fastest growing major economy in the world. According to economic projections, the growth rate of the Indian economy is expected to be more than twice the average global growth rate. 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' has further strengthened the foundation of our economic progress and national security.

While moving ahead on the path of modern development, India is also playing a leading role at the global level in protecting the environment. Our country has achieved some of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, ahead of schedule. Over the past few years, the development of renewable energy has gained unprecedented momentum.

National interest is the foundation of our foreign policy. Peace, cooperation, dialogue, and the ideal of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam are the pillars of our foreign policy. We have entered into Free Trade Agreements with many countries to enhance economic cooperation and strengthen mutual relations. We are playing a leading role among the countries of the Global South. Our country has grown in stature on the global stage. We believe in a rules based international order. Our endeavour is to ensure that the global community receives appropriate representation in the United Nations and other multilateral organizations. This endeavour of our country has been getting strong support from many countries.

My dear fellow citizens,

Future generations have as much right over natural resources as we do. We must ensure that none of our actions result in the slightest encroachment upon the exercise of this right by future generations. We should make all efforts so that we are able to leave for them even richer bounties of nature. Our faith in conserving the environment is an integral part of our tradition. A simple song in the Santali language carries a profound message. A few lines from that song, written by Pandit Raghunath Murmu are:

Dare Gujey Kan Nyel Te

Miru Cheney Rag Bayaha Daya Haya Ge.

Gujey Kan Apowag Jati Dharam Dare

Chedag Babon Rag Bayaha Abo Ana Nyel Te.

In this song, the poet describes an insoluble parrot crying in grief because a tree has completely dried up. He says: "O my dear brothers! The parrot wails on seeing a dying tree. O my brothers! Why do we, human beings, not grieve when the tree of human culture is being destroyed?" The message of this

song is that all people must remain committed to preserving nature and human values. A lush green tree symbolizes the moral ideals and wellbeing of human society. In the spirit of campaigns such as 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' and 'Lifestyle for Environment' or LiFE, we should make individual and collective efforts to protect the environment.

My dear fellow citizens,

It gives me immense pleasure to see our girls performing exceptionally well in the field of education. Also, women's participation is increasing across diverse sectors from the Drone Didi who contributes to enhancing agricultural productivity, to the Fighter Combat Leader in the Air Force. In the recently concluded Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, women have won 8 out of India's total tally of 13 gold medals. Our women are increasingly achieving economic self-reliance. More than 10 crore women are members of Self Help Groups. A target was set to create 3 crore Lakhpati Didis. This target has been achieved. Now our country is moving towards the goal of creating 3 crore new Lakhpati Didis. About two thirds of the entrepreneurs who have received financial assistance under 'MUDRA Yojana' are women.

Along with efforts for economic self-reliance of women, we are also seeing them in leadership roles in many fields. It is a remarkable achievement of our democratic republic that the number of women exercising their right to vote is growing. 'Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam' has been enacted in 2023 with the purpose of reserving 33 percent representation for women in the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies. Achieving the objectives of this Act will enhance women's role in leadership and make our democracy more inclusive.

65 percent of our country's population is below the age of 35. This young population is our most valuable asset. The youth of our country are talented, committed, and skilled. I have seen the innovative and practical solutions that young people are developing to address various challenges at the grassroots level. This reflects the dedication of our youth to society and the nation. A new phase of space exploration has been ushered in through the recent successful rocket launch by a young team with an average age of just 28 years.

Many of our youth are embracing the culture of job creation as they pursue the path of self-employment. The participation of young entrepreneurs has led to the creation of a strong start-up ecosystem in our country. Major global enterprises are impressed by the talent and dedication of Indian youth and entrust them with leadership roles. Such young achievers have enhanced the reputation of India's youth power across the world. Our younger generations strengthen my faith in India's bright and prosperous future.

Our students are the architects of India's future. Just as the government and society must remain united to ensure national security, everyone must contribute through joint and concerted efforts to safeguard the present and future of our students. Public examinations become gateways to the opportunities for our students. The Government is undertaking comprehensive steps to reform these examinations. The objectives of these

reforms are to completely curb the use of unfair means in public examinations, make the examination system more transparent, more secure, and more trustworthy for the youth.

Through the Government's initiatives and emerging economic activities, a wide range of new avenues are opening up for the youth. By exploring such new opportunities, our young people can embark on new paths to success.

Physical and mental wellbeing of our youth forms the cornerstone of our country's future. Families and society also share the responsibility to motivate our youth to move ahead with enthusiasm.

Sports are being adopted as a medium for promoting the development of our youth and for nation-building. Under the Khelo India program, sports ecosystem is being developed across the country, from the grassroots to the national level. The Government is making unprecedented investments to promote sports. These efforts are yielding good results. In international sports tournaments, there has been a remarkable leap in the performance and achievements of our sportspersons.

While our country has the world's largest young population, the number of senior citizens is also on the rise. The Government has taken several initiatives to improve the quality of life of senior citizens. About 6 crore senior citizens of the age of 70 years and above can avail of free healthcare services of up to 5 lakh rupees per year. Society as a whole should be sensitive towards senior citizens, fostering a sense of belonging towards them and upholding their self-respect.

My Dear Fellow Citizens,

We take pride in our tradition of overcoming the forces hostile to humanity, for upholding truth and justice. On the 26th of July, we observed Kargil Vijay Diwas. Earlier, on the 7th of May, we commemorated the completion of one year since the launch of Operation Sindoor. We remembered the unmatched valour of our Armed Forces. That historic operation against terrorism demonstrated the capability of the Indian Armed Forces to act with precision. It sent a clear and firm message to terrorists and those who support them, that no matter where they hide, they will have to face the consequences of their actions. Suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty with the country that harbours terrorism is a decisive step in the interest of our nation, especially the farmers.

For decades, Naxalism posed a serious challenge to the nation. Making India Naxal free is a major achievement. Today, enthusiasm prevails in the areas once affected by Naxalism. All-inclusive development is underway in these regions. A large number of players took part in the Bastar Olympics, and many artists showcased their talent in Bastar Pandum, which were enjoyed by large number of people.

12 forts built to safeguard national pride, associated with the Maratha military tradition, have been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List last year. And, this year, Sarnath, the site of Bhagwan Buddha's first sermon, has been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. On the one hand, Bharat Bhoomi has monuments of spirituality associated with Bhagwan Buddha. It also has symbols of our impressive ability to fight for preserving our pride and glorious traditions, on the other.

My Dear Fellow Citizens,

The development and wellbeing of every Indian is the real objective of building Viksit Bharat. The great nationalist writer, Gurajada Apparao, who wrote in Telugu, conveyed a timeless message of patriotism in one of his songs:

Desamunu preminchumanna, manchi anadi penchumanna.

Desamante matti kaadoy, desamante manushuloy.

The essence of these lines is:

Love your country.

Foster goodness.

A nation is not just its land,

A nation is all its people.

It is my belief that with the participation of the society and efforts of the Government, people in every village, each town, and all households across India will become healthier, happier, and prosperous.

With this all-inclusive spirit of patriotism, let us devote ourselves to the sacred national goal of transforming Swatantra Bharat into Viksit Bharat.

Thank you!

Jai Hind!

Jai Bharat!

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

‘US wants Netanyahu to condemn settler siege in Palestinian village’

REUTERS/AFP

Qusra (West Bank), Aug 14: The United States wants Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to publicly condemn a siege imposed by Jewish settlers in a Palestinian village, US and Israeli officials said on Friday, as settlers pressured residents by pitching a new tent before Israeli soldiers arrived and it was taken down.

Settlers have been besieging homes in Qusra in the occupied West Bank for almost a week, trapping Palestinians in an area where rights groups say settlers are mounting a concerted effort to seize more land, further eating into territory where Palestinians aim to establish a state.

The siege has drawn public US criticism: the US Ambassador to Israel, Mike Huckabee — a strong supporter of Jewish settlement in the West Bank — on Thursday condemned settlers besieging a Palestinian home as “Israeli terrorists.”

A US official and an Israeli official said on Friday White House officials are pressing Netanyahu

to publicly condemn the siege.

Washington began to protest after learning that the home of a Palestinian-American was among those under siege, said the two officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe sensitive discussions, of which they had knowledge.

Netanyahu has not commented on the siege in Qusra. Neither his office nor the White House immediately responded to requests for comment.

France urges Israel to arrest West Bank settlers at Qusra

France on Friday called on Israel to arrest and prosecute rogue settlers blockading Palestinian homes at Qusra in the occupied West Bank and to protect the civilian population, AFP reported.

“France condemns in the strongest possible terms the occupation of several Palestinian homes in the village of Qusra in the West Bank by Israeli settlers, as well as the acts of violence committed against Palestinian civilians,” the foreign ministry said.

“It calls on the Israeli authorities to arrest and bring to justice



those responsible for these acts.”

“The settlers are still here” Settler violence in the West Bank has risen during the three years since the Hamas-led October 7 attacks on Israel.

Condemning settlers could be politically risky for Netanyahu some two months before an election, potentially upsetting settler voters upon whom parts of his right-wing coalition rely. Opinion polls show Netanyahu

could lose power, his security credentials still shaken by the 2023 Hamas attacks.

“We are very afraid,” said Aysha Hassan, a Palestinian woman who lives in one of three besieged homes in the village, speaking to Reuters by phone.

“There is nothing new. It’s been like this for six days...the settlers are still here.” Hassan said she had seen

settlers below the house in the early hours of the morning and shared videos with Reuters showing groups of settlers wandering underneath her home that she said she had taken from her window.

The United Nations has said some 15 Palestinians, including two children, were trapped inside their homes with no water or electricity.

Footage shot by a Palestinian

resident trapped in another of the besieged homes and obtained by Reuters showed seven settlers outside, standing near a blue tent. One is seen throwing stones toward the nearby village, as another arrives with chairs.

Israeli army vehicles and soldiers later arrive and the tent is seen collapsed on the ground.

“Israeli civilians erected a tent in the Qusra area, and IDF soldiers operated to remove it while protecting the local residents,” the Israeli military (IDF) said in a statement, a day after dozens of troops were sent into Qusra and occupied several village homes.

Netanyahu’s government, the most right-wing in Israeli history, has spearheaded a rapid expansion of settlements in the West Bank, territory captured by Israel in a 1967 war. Israel has established dozens of new settlements and settler outposts in the area.

Rights groups say that settlers have been trying to seize properties on the outskirts of Qusra and neighboring Jalud as part of a strategy to seize the

land between them and join it up with settler outposts to the south and larger settlements to the west.

Men in uniform prayed with settlers

The siege began at the weekend when settlers closed off the road to the three homes and set up a tent in their front yards, refusing to allow anyone to enter or leave. They had earlier cut off their electricity and water.

The Israeli military has said soldiers have deployed in Qusra since Thursday morning to protect residents and maintain security.

Video from earlier in the week showed several Israeli men in green military garb joining the settlers in a morning prayer in the tent. The military said it was taking disciplinary action against any personnel involved.

The West Bank is home to some three million Palestinians and 500,000 settlers. There are some 146 settlements in the West Bank, as well as 390 smaller outposts, according to the Israeli settlement watchdog group Peace Now.

Attacks on health care in conflict zones averaging more than four a day in 2026: WHO

REUTERS

Geneva, Aug 14: Attacks on health care facilities, workers and patients in conflict zones including Ukraine and Gaza have continued to rise in 2026, reaching an average of more than four per day, the World Health Organization said on Friday.

There have been more than 900 attacks between January and August this year, resulting in at least 900 deaths and more than 1,400 injuries, according to WHO data presented in Geneva by Altai Musani, the agency’s director of humanitarian and disaster management.

Ukraine, Lebanon and the occupied Palestinian territory account for the largest share of reported incidents, although attacks have also been recorded in countries including Iran, Sudan, Myanmar, Syria, Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo, Musani said.

“What we are witnessing are multiple forms of violence,” Musani said, citing the use of



heavy weapons, destruction of health facilities and the detention or abduction of health care workers and patients. During this period 94 health care workers have been detained.

In Gaza, all 36 hospitals have been damaged and only about half remain partially functional, while in Sudan 37 percent of health facilities are reported non-functional this year, he said. In Ukraine, the WHO has verified more than 3,100 attacks since Russia’s

full-scale invasion, including a recent strike affecting a WHO warehouse.

“An attack on health care does not end when an attack gets verified,” Musani said. “It is the patient who cannot receive health care tomorrow. It is the ambulance that cannot make the next referral.”

A WHO study of 69 attacks in northwest Syria found outpatient consultations fell by 51 percent immediately after an attack and remained depressed

for more than a month.

Attacks can also undermine responses to disease outbreaks, Musani said. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, 12 verified attacks on health care since an Ebola outbreak was declared in May have disrupted surveillance, contact tracing, treatment and community outreach efforts. Such incidents make it harder to detect and contain outbreaks, he said. The 156 verified attacks in Ukraine so far this year, out of a total of 3,100 since Russia’s full-scale invasion began, have affected hospitals, ambulances, warehouses and medical supply chains, Musani stated.

Since the WHO’s surveillance system began tracking such incidents in 2018, more than 10,400 attacks have been verified across 29 countries and territories, resulting in about 5,700 deaths and over 8,500 injuries, Musani said.

Musani said not a single one of the more than 10,000 verified attacks had yet entered an accountability process.

AFP

Washington, Aug. 14: Vice President JD Vance said Thursday that the top US priority in the Iran war was keeping oil and gasoline prices low for Americans, with preventing Tehran from acquiring a nuclear weapon ranking second.

The remarks contrasted with President Donald Trump’s repeated framing of the fight: that entering the war had the sole objective of preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon, even if that meant short-term economic sacrifices for Americans.

Vance’s comments also underscored the growing reality that the war now centers on control of the Strait of Hormuz, which Iran has forced to the top of the negotiating agenda.

“I know that oil is down today and it’s way down from the highs in the early days of the conflict,” Vance said on Fox News. “That’s goal number one — keep oil and gas cheap for Americans all over



our country.”

“And then obviously goal number two is ensure that Iran never gets a nuclear weapon,” he added.

The vice president has been among the members of the administration most skeptical of the offensive launched against Iran in late February.

His latest remarks, however, appear to confirm the more cautious approach now favored by the US president, which involves maintaining strong economic pressure on Iran while a military standoff in the Strait of Hormuz persists.

“Sometimes we’re focused on the energy piece of it because we want Americans to be able to afford the price of oil and gas. Sometimes we’re obviously focused on the military ... on the nuclear program,” Vance also said.

Vance added that Trump was “at the height of his authority with a lot of tools — diplomatic, military and economic.”

The decision to focus on economic pressure comes as the diplomatic path appears blocked, with both Washington and Tehran sticking to their conditions for reopening the strait.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K set to

and International Border.

The security grid has been reinforced along stretches of the LoC, including Gurez, Uri, Karnah and Tangdhar sectors of North Kashmir and the Sunderbani area of Jammu, the official said.

He said that additional surveillance and area domination measures have also been put in place along the International Border in the Jammu region, with security personnel maintaining round-the-clock patrolling and monitoring sensitive locations.

Another official said that troops deployed along the LoC have intensified patrolling and surveillance and are maintaining close coordination to detect and respond to any suspicious movement or possible infiltration attempt. “Security forces have also deployed modern surveillance equipment, including drones and quadcopters equipped with high-resolution cameras and night-vision capabilities, in difficult and vulnerable areas. Smart fencing and electronic surveillance systems have been strengthened at vulnerable points to supplement physical barriers and improve detection capabilities along the borders,” he said, adding, “Rapid response teams and specialised units have been kept ready for quick deployment to sensitive locations, while bulletproof and all-terrain vehicles are being used to facilitate movement in mountainous and difficult terrain.”

The official said that security forces have also conducted operational exercises to sharpen their response to possible infiltration attempts and attacks on forward positions.

Recently, troops in the Sunderbani sector conducted drills simulating infiltration and attacks on fortified positions to test coordination, firepower and rapid-response capabilities.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police have intensified checking and surveillance in sensitive and border areas besides strengthening security at key entry and exit points, he said.

“Security agencies are maintaining close coordination and sharing intelligence inputs to prevent any attempt to disrupt the Independence Day celebrations or exploit increased movement during the occasion,” the official added.

Meanwhile, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has appealed to people across the Union Territory to participate in the Independence Day celebrations in large numbers and attend functions being organised at

district and other levels.

Officials said the public participation would add to the spirit of the national celebration and make the programmes across Jammu and Kashmir more inclusive.

The administration has urged people to join the celebrations peacefully and observe Independence Day with enthusiasm and patriotic spirit.

With security arrangements and civil preparations completed, authorities said all necessary measures have been put in place for smooth conduct of the August 15 functions across Jammu and Kashmir. (KNO)

J&K set to scale

to the people of Jammu and Kashmir

He paid homage to the leaders, freedom fighters and martyrs of India’s freedom struggle and expressed gratitude to the Armed Forces, paramilitary forces, police and other agencies working to protect the country’s sovereignty and integrity.

“We honor the supreme sacrifice of the brave hearts who laid down their lives in the line of duty,” LG Sinha said.

LG Sinha also felicitated the farmers, workers, business community, scientists, teachers, innovators, craftsmen, civil society groups, Nari Shakti and Yuva Shakti of Jammu and Kashmir, saying they had played a vital role in raising the stature of the Union Territory.

He said the diversity of Jammu and Kashmir must be cherished while protecting the country’s unity and integrity.

“This is the core message of Independence Day,” LG Sinha said.

He said Jammu and Kashmir had witnessed remarkable progress over the past few years, with the Union Territory receiving a “powerful developmental boost.”

The Lieutenant Governor said several mega projects in J&K are nearing completion, while work on key infrastructure initiatives was progressing at a swift pace. “The government wants to ensure that the benefits of development reach every corner of the region,” he said. “I am confident that we will scale new heights of prosperity in the near future.”

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the people of Jammu and Kashmir to renew their commitment to collectively build a strong, self-reliant and developed Union Territory.

He urged citizens to join hands in safeguarding peace and prosperity, saying the day was fast approaching when Jammu and Kashmir

would emerge as one of the leading developed regions in the country and make a significant contribution to the vision of a developed India.

LG Sinha concluded his message by extending Independence Day greetings to the people, “Jai Hind!” (KNO)

Ensure past mistakes

the partition, their sacrifice reminds us that the wound remains unhealed, lingering as a generational pain in India’s collective soul. On Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, we are not merely recalling the past but we are giving voice to those millions whose voices were taken away from them. I wish to reiterate with firm resolve that we will not allow their pain to be buried in the dust of history.

Remembering them is fulfilling our duty towards humanity. We will preserve their memories. Remembering them with complete truthfulness, honesty, and utmost sensitivity is the most sacred tribute. I believe that their stories are an indelible chapter of our national consciousness, and their sacrifice will forever remain alive in the soul of Mother India,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor urged the people of UT of Jammu Kashmir to treat this day as an occasion of introspection and national resolve. He called upon the youth, farmers, workers, and women to rise with courage and determination, to turn the pace of time towards progress and harmony.

The Lieutenant Governor praised the resilience of people who rebuilt their lives with courage and enriched the country’s social fabric and cultural heritage with historic traditions and values.

“Today’s occasion is an opportunity to acknowledge the pain of the past and strengthen our unwavering commitment to peace, harmony and national unity. This day reminds us that only the lessons of history can make the future secure and humane,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

He noted that the partition divided families and displaced communities from Pakistan-occupied Jammu Kashmir and Chhamb. He paid tribute to those who faced decades-long discrimination within the UT due to Article 370. The Lieutenant Governor said that PM Modi ended their suffering and granted them equal rights like any other citizen of the country.

The Lieutenant Governor also paid tribute the countless families who sacrificed during the tribal invasion months after partition.

“Within a few months of partition, enemies

of the nation carried out terror attack under the cover of tribal invasions. Indian Army and people fought bravely. The struggle and sacrifice of countless families are an integral part of the collective memory of Jammu Kashmir. Today, I humbly pay tribute to the patience, hard work, and unbroken patriotism of all those families,” he said.

The Lieutenant Governor reminded the gathering that India’s strength lies in its diversity. From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, from Gujarat to Goa, from Assam to Arunachal Pradesh, India is a confluence of languages, cultures, traditions, and beliefs, he said.

“Through partition, enemies of the nation tried to destroy this spirit of unity in diversity, but India has continuously moved forward with pride and confidence. We must take a pledge to acquaint future generations with the pain of partition, to strengthen peace and harmony, and to ensure that such a tragedy is never repeated. Building a self-reliant Jammu Kashmir is a shared duty and national unity remains the bedrock of our strength, security and collective progress,” the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor visited the photo exhibition on Partition Horrors Remembrance Day. A Two- minute silence was observed in the memory of those who lost their lives during the Partition of India.

The event also featured a moving theatrical performance by the artists that brought to light the trauma, hardship, and displacement experienced by millions during the Partition.

Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson, J&K Waqf Board; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Shaleen Kabra, Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, Brij Mohan Sharma, Principal Secretary Culture; Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organisation) BJP J&K; senior officials, prominent citizens from different walks of life and youth in large number were present. (KNO)

CM says Jantar Mantar

but rather its beginning.

“We will decide what we have to do,” he said, adding that there were various options available.

When asked whether the party was planning to hold a long march for the restoration of statehood, the Chief Minister said he was not aware of any such plan.

“They have not shared their plans with me. Let them share. Obviously, we are not going to discuss it with you first. We will discuss it

among ourselves. There are many options. Apparently, I hear my party is planning a long march. It is a good thing. That is not a wrong thing,” he said.

Responding to a question about the approval of business rules, Omar Abdullah said he is eagerly waiting for it.

“We have responded to all queries and made changes in the proposal regarding provisions on which objections were raised. We are now waiting for its implementation. We have shown full flexibility from our side and even shared it informally,” he said, adding that he is scheduled to meet the Union Home Minister in next few days to discuss different issues, including business rules.

The CM also questioned the delay in implementing the cabinet decision on reservation.

“The cabinet responded to queries on reservation. As per rules, the reply was sent to the LG. What happened after that? Let someone tell us whether our reply was sent to Delhi and whether it was approved. It should not happen that a Gen-Z episode starts here. We would not be responsible for it. We have done our work. We justified the changes proposed in reservation. It is not good that they push our cabinet decisions under the carpet,” he said.

Asked about local body elections, the Chief Minister said they should be held at an appropriate time.

He further said Jammu and Kashmir had suffered due to restrictions imposed under the Indus Water Treaty and asserted that the region should have the first right over its river waters.

Questioning Pakistan’s claims of sympathy towards Kashmiris, he said such sympathy disappeared when it came to water resources.

The CM said that Jammu and Kashmir had faced restrictions on the use of its rivers, including the Chenab, and was unable to undertake certain projects for drinking water, power generation, and navigation.

“We could not get drinking water from Chenab, could not make a dam on Tulbul and use it for navigation, and could not make a big dam on any of their rivers and stop the water,” he said, adding that the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty should allow Jammu and Kashmir to make greater use of its water resources.

“Now that the Indus Water Treaty has been cancelled, it should remain cancelled so that we can use this water properly at the right time,” Omar added. (KNO)

Nation to mark 80th I-Day; Red Fort celebrations to see maiden rendition of 'Vande Mataram'

PTI

New Delhi, Aug 14: The nation will commemorate the 80th Independence Day on August 15, a red-letter day in the history of India, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi set to lead the celebrations at the Red Fort complex amid patriotic fervour and multi-layer security.

For the first time, the National Song, 'Vande Mataram', will be rendered during the Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort.

Ceremonial events are scheduled to be held at state capitals and other cities and towns across the country, which will include flag-hoisting followed by cultural performances.

The main function will be held at the Red Fort complex and Prime Minister Modi will lead the celebrations.

The mega function is set to commemorate 150 years of the enduring legacy of the National Song, 'Vande Mataram', and "celebrate the energy, aspirations and pivotal contribution of 'Yuva Shakti' in driving India's journey towards Viksit Bharat by 2047", the defence ministry said on Thursday.

Upon his arrival at the Red Fort, Modi will be received by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, his deputy Sanjay Seth and Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh.

The defence secretary will introduce the General Officer Commanding (GOC), Delhi Area, Lt Gen Rajesh Sethi, to the prime minister.

The GOC will then conduct the prime minister to the saluting base where a combined Inter-Services and Delhi Police Guard will present general salute to PM Modi. Thereafter,



the prime minister will inspect the guard of honour, the ministry earlier said in a statement.

The Guard of Honour contingent for the prime minister will consist of one officer and 24 personnel each from the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Delhi Police.

A full-dress rehearsal of the event was held at the Red Fort on Thursday.

The Indian Army is the coordinating service for the Independence Day celebrations this year. The guard of honour will be commanded by Lt Col Arjun Singh. The Army contingent in the Prime Minister's Guard will be commanded by Maj Aditya Sharma, the naval contingent by Lt Cdr Neelam Rana and the Air Force contingent by Sqn Ldr Vipin Kumar. The Delhi Police contingent will be commanded by Additional DCP

Vineet Kumar, it said.

After inspecting the guard of honour, the prime minister will proceed to the ramparts of the Red Fort. The GOC, Delhi Area, will conduct the prime minister to the dais on the ramparts to hoist the national flag.

"Capt Sonia Singh Chauhan will assist the prime minister in hoisting the national flag. It will be synchronised with the 21-gun salute by the valiant gunners of the 1721 Field Battery (Ceremonial)," the statement said.

The ceremonial battery, utilising the indigenous 105mm Light Field Guns, will be commanded by Maj Pawan Singh Shekhawat and the gun position officer will be Naib Subedar (Assistant Instructor in Gunnery) Anuthosh Sarkar.

"The National Flag Guard, comprising one officer and 32

other ranks each from the Army, Navy and Air Force and Delhi Police, will present the Rashtriya Salute at the time of hoisting of the national flag by the prime minister. Maj Lokendra Singh Shekhawat will be in command of this Inter-Services Guard and Police Guard," the ministry said.

After being hoisted, the tricolour will receive a 'Rashtriya Salute'.

"The Army band, consisting of one JCO and 25 other ranks, will play the tune of 'Vande Mataram' and the National Song will be sung by everyone present at Red Fort. It will be followed by the recitation of the National Anthem. The band will be conducted by Subedar Ishwar Singh," it said.

As soon as the national flag is hoisted by the prime minister, flower petals will be showered at

the venue by two Mi-17 helicopters of the Indian Air Force -- one trooping the national flag and the other carrying a flag depicting 'Vande Mataram'. The captains of the helicopters will be Wg Cdr Rajat and Sqn Ldr Ankit Varshney, the statement said.

After the showering of flower petals, the prime minister will address the nation.

At the conclusion of his speech, 2,500 National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets and My Bharat volunteers will sing the National Song, 'Vande Mataram', followed by the National Anthem.

The NCC cadets and My Bharat volunteers will be seated on Gyanpath, opposite the ramparts forming the words 'Vande Mataram'. View cutters depicting the theme 'Viksit Bharat @2047' will be installed at Gyanpath.

For the first time, 'Vande Mataram' will be rendered during the Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort, the ministry said.

Nearly 5,000 special guests from different walks of life have been invited to witness the celebrations at Red Fort this year. They include International Yoga Day volunteers, women entrepreneurs under PM Mudra Yojana, best performing MY Bharat volunteers, best performing beneficiaries of PMAY(U) and street vendors under PM SVANidhi, among others.

Over 1,500 people from various states and Union Territories, dressed in traditional Indian attire, have also been invited to witness the grand ceremony, it said.

Also, to promote patriotic fervour among citizens, a number of band performances are being held at 343 prominent locations across the country, the ministry said.

PM hails President Murmu's address to nation



PTI

New Delhi, Aug 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said President Droupadi Murmu's address to the nation on the eve of the 80th Independence Day inspired the country to work with renewed determination for a 'Viksit Bharat'.

In a post on X, the PM said the President's thoughts "reflect the strength of our nation and the aspirations of every Indian". Modi said the address was motivating and thoughtful. "Her message inspires us all to work with renewed determination for

a Viksit Bharat," the prime minister said.

Underlining that students are the "architects of India's future", President Murmu said in her address that the government is taking comprehensive steps to reform public examinations to completely curb paper leaks and unfair means, making the system transparent, secure, and trustworthy.

She stressed that just as the government and society remain united to ensure national security, everyone must contribute through joint and concerted efforts to safeguard the present and future of students.

Public Notice

I, Tasaduq Hussain Dar, resident of Hussainy Colony, Chattergam, hereby inform the general public that my expired passport has been lost. The passport number and date of expiry are not available. If found, kindly contact the undersigned. Any misuse of the said passport shall not be my responsibility.

Tasaduq Hussain Dar
R/o Hussainy Colony, Chattergam
Contact No.: 7006264462

India's generosity, tolerance should not be mistaken for weakness: NSA Ajit Doval on Op Sindoor



PTI

New Delhi, Aug 14: National Security Advisor Ajit Doval has said India's generosity and tolerance should not be mistaken for weakness, asserting that the country can take risks and hit hard, irrespective of the consequences.

Speaking in the upcoming Discovery docuseries "Declassified: Operation Sindoor", Doval said the objective of the 88-hour military operation was to destroy enemy camps, particularly those responsible for the Pahalgam terror attack.

"We had decided the objective of the operation as destruction of the enemy camps particularly those who had been responsible for the Pahalgam attack," Doval said in his first interview since Operation Sindoor.

"Message to the world is very clear - India's generosity or India being tolerant should not be mistaken for its weakness. India can take risks, India can hit hard, irrespective of the consequences," he added. The two-part docuseries brings together India's military and national security leadership to recount the decisions and events surrounding Operation Sindoor, with first-hand accounts from those who oversaw India's response, Discovery said in a statement. In the show, Doval offers an account of the decision-making and resolve behind the military response, it added.

The NSA recalled meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was in Saudi Arabia when the Pahalgam terror attack happened and had to cut short his visit.

"Prime Minister returned. Foreign Secretary had come to receive him. Then at the airport itself we had a meeting. First he wanted to know all the facts. And then his first question to me was -- 'Who has done it? Who is responsible? We should be very clear who the perpetrators are. I want it immediately.'

Partition redrew India's borders, divided its 1000-year-old civilisation: VP



PTI

New Delhi, Aug 14: Vice-President C P Radhakrishnan on Friday said the 1947 Partition did not merely redraw India's borders but also divided its thousand-year-old civilisation, and called upon the younger generation to remember the suffering and sacrifices of those affected by it.

Radhakrishnan, who is also the Chancellor of Delhi University, was speaking as the chief guest at an event organised by the Centre for Independence and Partition Studies (CIPS), University of Delhi, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) to mark the Partition Horrors Remembrance Day. The event, held at the Multipurpose Hall of Delhi University's Sports Complex, focused on the "Story of India's Partition (1947)" and the theme "The Partition of India -- A Saga of Displacement, Separation and Resettlement".

"Partition did not merely redraw our borders; it also divided our thousand-year-old civilisation," Radhakrishnan said, adding that the day marked "one of the most tragic and dehumanising chapters" in the country's history.

He said the division along religious lines fragmented India's cultural and civilisational heritage, with the Sindhu river and places such as Kartarpur Sahib, Nankana Sahib, ancient Shakti Peethas, Harappa and Mohenjo-daro falling on the other side of the new border. The Vice-President said the suffering endured by people during Partition should be remembered not to reopen old wounds but to learn from history and ensure that such a "horror" is never repeated.

"It is just one day before we celebrate our Independence Day; we must remember that the joy of

freedom must never be separated from the sufferings that our elders endured in 1947," he said.

"No great achievement can come without a cost. The sufferings borne by our elders made India a free country," he added.

Radhakrishnan also stressed the responsibility of citizens to safeguard the country's unity and respect its diversity. "It is the prime duty of all of us to maintain the integrity of this nation," he said, adding that pride in one's mother tongue should not translate into hatred for another's language.

He urged students to place the nation first, remain connected with India's civilisational history and contribute to the country's development.

During the event, the Vice-President also honoured Partition survivors present at the programme. Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Yogesh Singh, who presided over the event, said around 15 million people were forced to leave their homes during Partition, while the exact number of those killed remains unknown.

"This is a day to ask questions and learn from our mistakes. Why did Partition of India happen?" Singh said. He also raised questions over whether the Partition could have been avoided and who ultimately bore responsibility for the "massive humanitarian tragedy".

"Those who died were not numbers or statistics; they were people and someone's family. People did not know whether their homes would be in India or Pakistan," Singh said.

Singh said remembering the events of Partition was necessary to ensure that history is not repeated and highlighted CIPS' work in documenting accounts of Partition survivors through interviews. He said the centre's digital archives would help future generations access these first-hand accounts.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION CHADOORA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

ENIT NO. 36 OF R&B/CHADOORA/ 2957-65 of 2026-27 DATED: 12/08/2026

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In Two cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/ Central Governments for the following works:-

SN	Nome of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion (days)	M.H OF Account	Class Of Contactor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Urgent damaged R/Wall near H/O Gh Rasool at Dooniwar near Zoonipora Crossing.	6.00	300.00	12000.00	18	Permanent Restoration SASCI-I	C/D
2	Construction of Damaged wall on Bonion Butwader road near KG High School.	8.00	600.00	16000.00	25	Permanent Restoration SASCI-I	C/D
3	Upgradation of road from Dadaompura tang to Dembal Check via Sonia Dij along with edge.	20.00	800.00	40,000.00	25	Permanent Restoration SASCI-I	B/C
4	Restoration Humpora Eidgah link Road.	15.00	600.00	30,000.00	21	Permanent Restoration SASCI-I	B/C/D
5	Construction of protection bund on Panzan Devbagh link road near Panchayat Ghar Panzan A.	6.00	300.00	12000.00	18	Permanent Restoration SASCI-I	C/D

Project Authority: PWD (R&B) DEPARTMENT KASHMIR

Position of Funds: Budgeted/Committed.

Position of AAA: Accorded

Position of TS: Sanctioned

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	12 /08/2026
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	12/08/2026
3	Bid submission Start Date	12 /08/2026
4	Bid Submission End Date	19 /08/2026 upto 6.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids	20/08/2026 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of **Treasury Challan (deposited in MH: 0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora** (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to **Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora** (tender receiving authority).

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and Earnest Money / Bid security must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

1.1 The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of **Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora** (Tender receiving authority) within 15 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work, The CDR/ FDR/ Bank Guarantee should be valid till DLP period. The Date of Performance Security should be after the date of issuance of Letter of acceptance. Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor for a period of 01 Year shall be forwarded to Higher Authorities.

2. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e., **Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora**. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period. In case of failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor for a period of 01 Year be forwarded to Higher Authorities.

18. The tender/bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.

19. 50% of the normal deposits (Deducted at 10% from running bills) to be released after virtual completion of the work and balance 50% after completion of DLP.

20. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form).

No. 2957-65
DATED: 12/08/2026

DIPK-4598/26
DATED: 14-08-2026

Executive Engineer
R&B Division Chadoora

80th Independence Day: Jammu And Kashmir Stands Tall In Salute To The Tricolour | Jahangir Shah (KNO/KT)



INOX SRINAGAR

15TH AUGUST - SATURDAY -
HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

MOVIES SCHEDULE

15TH AUGUST, SATURDAY
INDEPENDENCE DAY SPECIAL

AWARAPAN 2 (HINDI) (RATN 16+) 10:35 AM 12:50 PM 02:35 PM 04:55 PM 07:45 PM	THE END OF OAK STREET (ENGLISH) (A) 11:55 AM	BATWARA 1947 (HINDI) (A) 03:45 PM 06:40 PM	SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY (3D ENGLISH) (RATN 13+) 01:25 PM 04:20 PM 07:15 PM
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IMHANS: Opioid substitution therapy (OST) Badamwari Helpline Number: 18008914416 14416 (Tele-Manas)
SKIMS JVC: Addiction Treatment Facility Centre (ATF Bemina) Helpline Number: 0194-2493104 0194-2494358
BANDIPORA: Addiction Treatment Facility District Hospital Bandipora Old Hospital Bandipora Phone No. 01933294869 Email: atfbandipora@gmail.com
BUDGAM: Addiction Treatment Facility Budgam ASYM District Hospital Budgam Cell No. 790604918 email: atfbudgam@gmail.com
PULWAMA: Addiction Treatment Facility Pulwama New Covid Hospital Opposite Govt. Degree College Boys Pulwama, Helpline No. 01933294868 Email: atfpulwama@gmail.com
SHOPIAN: Addiction Treatment Facility Shopian Govt. District Hospital Shopian Cell No. 01933294869 Email: atfshopian@gmail.com
KULGAM: Addiction Treatment Facility Centre (ATF Kulgam) Near Fruit Mandi Gawasia Colony District Hospital Kulgam Cell No. 7889572528 Email: atfkulgam@gmail.com

JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE DRUG DE-ADDICTION CENTRE,
WANGANPORA EIDGACH, SRINAGAR | Email: ydcsrlnagar@gmail.com
Mr. Shahnawaz Ahmad 9149685507 | Mr. Manzoor Ahmad 9022718778
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