



Countries using terror as policy tool must be sent strong message: PM Modi

Outlines security, connectivity, opportunity as 3 pillars for SCO

KT News Desk

Bishkek, Sep 01: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said those countries that use terrorism as an instrument of their policy, and provide shelter and support to terrorists, must be sent a strong message that terrorism cannot be a 'strategic asset' for anyone.

Addressing the 26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Bishkek, the Prime Minister called for dismantling the entire terror infrastructure with zero tolerance for double standards.

In his address at the summit hosted by Kyrgyzstan President Sadyr Japarov, Modi emphasised that terrorism continues to pose a "grave challenge to all of humanity" and that the fight against it cannot be limited to a mindset of "action-reaction".

"We must dismantle the entire ecosystem of terrorism — its financing, recruitment, radicalisation, and safe havens. We



must speak with one voice that there can be no place for double standards on this serious issue," the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister outlined Security, Connectivity and Opportunity as the three main pillars of India's vision for the SCO, stressing that the time has come to move these pillars beyond vision and translate them

demonstrated that a conflict in one region does not remain confined to that region. Its impact is felt across the world, affecting energy security, maritime trade, and supply chains. The countries of the Global South bear the greatest brunt of such disruptions," he said.

The PM highlighted that peace and stability in Afghanistan were closely linked to security in the Eurasia region, noting that India would continue its development and humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people.

On connectivity, Modi backed initiatives that connect markets, facilitate trade and create new avenues for development, while stressing that such projects must respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations.

The Prime Minister said the real measure of success for the SCO should be in creating new opportunities for young people, opening new markets for entrepreneurs, | [More on P6](#)

Maintain sustained pressure on terror networks: LG Sinha directs top security brass

Calls for aggressive area domination strategy to decisively eliminate emerging threats; commends J&K Police, security agencies for effective action against drug smugglers



Umaisar Gul Ganaie

Srinagar, Sep 01: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday directed the security forces to intensify area domination and maintain sustained pressure on terror networks to decisively counter emerging threats across Jammu and Kashmir.

Chairing a high-level review

meeting with top security brass here, LG Sinha, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) instructed the senior officials to maintain sustained pressure on terror networks and enhance ground-level operational synergy.

He called for an aggressive area domination strategy to decisively eliminate emerging threats.

The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Nalin Prabhat, DGP; Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary Home Department; S.J.M. Gillani, Special DG Coordination PHQ; Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; M.K. Sinha, ADGP, CID; Sujit Kumar, IGP Kashmir; Tejinder Singh, IGP Jammu; | [More on P6](#)

136 JKAS officers transferred in major GAD reshuffle

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Sep 01: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday carried out a major bureaucratic reshuffle involving 136 officers of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS), with several senior officials being given new assignments in the civil secretariat, districts and key government institutions.

According to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the General Administration Department issued the transfer and posting order with immediate effect through Government Order No. 1463-JK(GAD) of 2026.

As part of the reshuffle, Shahbaz Ahmad Mirza, presently Member of the J&K Special Tribunal, has been

appointed Secretary of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission against an available vacancy.

Among the other significant changes, Rifat Kohli has been named Chief Operating Officer of Himayat, replacing Rajneesh Gupta, who will now serve as Special Secretary in the Hospitality and Protocol Department.

Gulzar Ahmad Dar has been posted as Special Secretary in the Cooperatives Department, while Bhumesh Sharma has been moved from the J&K Advisory Board for Development of Kisans to head the Advisory Board for Development of Pahari Speaking People as its secretary.

The government has appointed Kanta Devi as Special Secretary in | [More on P6](#)

NC, BJP set for political face-off in Srinagar today

Saffron party to march to Civil Secretariat over power tariff, jobs, alleged corruption

NC announces counter-protest over statehood, constitutional guarantees

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Sep 01: The ruling National Conference and the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party are set for a political face-off in Srinagar city on Wednesday, with the saffron party announcing a march towards the Civil Secretariat and the NC calling for a counter-protest at the BJP



headquarters.

The BJP has announced a protest march against the NC-led government, with party leaders and workers scheduled

LoP Sharma dares CM Omar to resign, seek fresh mandate on statehood issue

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and Leader of Opposition (LoP) Sunil Sharma on Tuesday asked Chief

Minister Omar Abdullah to resign and seek a fresh mandate from the people on the issue of statehood. Talking to reporters here LoP Sharma, according to the news agency— | [More on P6](#)

CM revamps cancer treatment fund, raises eligibility to Rs 4 lakh annually

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sep 01: In a major leap forward for public healthcare and social welfare, the Chief Minister led government has announced a comprehensive overhaul of the landmark Cancer Treatment & Management Fund for Poor (CTMFP) to ease the out-of-pocket financial burden on poor and vulnerable patients battling cancer.

This major policy shift directly targets the critical gaps that previously left low-income families financially exhausted. While major inpatient operations and therapies are broadly covered under the Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY



SEHAT ecosystem, patients historically suffered massive out-of-pocket expenses for outpatient care, routine diagnostics, and daily medication.

Addressing this gap head-on, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's

modified guidelines raise the annual family income eligibility limit from 2.40 lakh per annum (20,000 per month) to 4.00 lakh per annum, extending a strong safety net to other low-income families.

Furthermore, recognising that cancer recovery demands sustained assistance, the administration has replaced the old one-time grant with up to three distinct financial sanctions.

The revised scheme showcases a modern transformation when evaluated against the original 2010 guidelines. The Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's updated initiative institutes clear assistance slabs of 75,000 for | [More on P6](#)

IGP Kumar, IAS officers meet CM Omar

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sep 01: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday met several officers, deputations and other individuals at the Civil Secretariat here.

Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir, Sujit Kumar, called on the Chief Minister following his recent assumption of charge. Omar Abdullah extended his best wishes to the officer for his new assignment and discussed matters pertaining to the security and policing environment in the



Kashmir region.

A group of newly inducted IAS officers, including Babila Rakhwal, Shabnam Shah Kamili,

Rachna Sharma, Leena Padha, Rajinder Singh Tara, Munir ul Islam, Sajjad Hussain Gani, Anoo Malhotra, | [More on P6](#)

CM meets GCC J&K, discusses governance issues

KT NEWS DESK

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday chaired a meeting with members of

the Group of Concerned Citizens (GCC) J&K at the Civil Secretariat here and discussed a range of issues concerning governance, development, | [More on P6](#)

J&K Assembly to go paperless from upcoming autumn session

Legislative business to be managed via NeVA portal

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Sep 01: In a significant move, the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly will adopt a paperless system from the upcoming autumn session commencing on September 21.

According to a circular issued by the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, a copy of which is in possession of news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), all legislative business relating to the session will be processed and managed through the National e-Vidhan | [More on P6](#)

MBBS, BDS interns' protest for stipend hike continues 'We perform night duties, extended shifts, but stipend remains Rs 400/day'

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Sep 01: The agitation by MBBS and BDS interns over the long-pending revision of their monthly stipend entered its second consecutive day on Tuesday, with protests continuing at Government Medical Colleges (GMCs) and other medical institutions across Jammu and Kashmir.

The interns are demanding that their monthly stipend be increased from the existing Rs 12,300 to Rs 30,000, arguing that the present amount has remained unchanged for nearly seven years despite rising living



costs, increasing clinical responsibilities and repeated representations to the authorities. As reported by the news

agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the coordinated protest was witnessed in several institutions,

including GMC Srinagar, GMC Baramulla, GMC Handwara, GMC Anantnag, GMC Jammu, GMC Udhampur, GMC Rajouri, GMC Doda and SKIMS Bemina. The interns have been holding demonstrations and maintaining their decision to stay away from routine duties until their demand is addressed.

The protesting interns said their demand was not merely about an increase in remuneration but about recognising the nature of work they perform during their compulsory internship.

"We are working in emergency departments, wards and other | [More on P6](#)

ACB arrests two police officers in Rs 15K bribery case

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sep 01: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday said it has arrested two police officers for allegedly demanding and accepting a Rs 15,000 bribe in Srinagar.

In a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), a spokesperson said the ACB received a written complaint alleging that PSI Karanjeet Singh, the Investigating Officer (IO) of Case FIR No. 65/2026 registered at Police Station Ram Munshi Bagh, Srinagar, had demanded illegal gratification



from the complainant through his accomplice, Ravi Jee Bhat, Sub-Inspector at Police Station Ram Munshi Bagh, for closing the case as "Not Admitted" between the parties.

He said that upon receiving the complaint, the ACB conducted verification of the allegations, which prima facie

established the demand for illegal gratification.

Accordingly, Case FIR No. 12/2026 under Sections 7 and 7A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, and Section 61(2) of the BNS was registered at Police Station ACB Srinagar, and an investigation was taken up.

The spokesperson said that during the course of the investigation, a trap team was constituted. The team caught Ravi Jee Bhat, Sub-Inspector, Police Station Ram Munshi Bagh, red-handed while demanding and accepting the Rs 15,000 bribe on behalf | [More on P6](#)

Strengthen agricultural infrastructure, facilitate adoption of modern technologies by farmers: Dir Agriculture Kashmir

Reviews expenditure status of Shopian, Anantnag inspects proposed Centre of Excellence Site at Kulgam

KT News Desk

KULGAM, SEPTEMBER 01: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Sartaj Ahmad Shah, Tuesday undertook a comprehensive review of the expenditure status and implementation of various departmental schemes in the districts of Shopian and Anantnag.

During his visit, the Director, as per an official statement, inspected the Soil Testing Laboratory at Bijbehara, where he took detailed stock of its functioning, infrastructure and facilities available for soil analysis. He emphasized the significance of soil testing in promoting scientific and balanced use of fertilizers, improving soil health and enhancing agricultural productivity.

He directed the concerned



officers to ensure that farmers are provided timely soil testing services and appropriate technical advisories based on soil health parameters.

The Director also inspected the site identified for establishment of the Centre of Excellence at Kulgam and reviewed the suitability of the site and the proposed

facilities. He underscored that the Centre of Excellence should serve as a state-of-the-art platform for demonstration and promotion of modern agricultural technologies, climate-resilient farming practices, quality planting material and advanced production techniques.

While reviewing the

expenditure status of Shopian and Anantnag districts, Sartaj Ahmad Shah stressed upon the officers to ensure timely and judicious utilization of allocated funds and expedite the implementation of approved interventions. He called for close monitoring of both physical and financial progress and directed the field functionaries to ensure that the benefits of various schemes and programmes reach the farming community in a timely and transparent manner.

The Director further emphasized the need for coordinated efforts among field functionaries to strengthen agricultural infrastructure, improve service delivery and facilitate the adoption of modern technologies by farmers.

DC Kulgam visits faculty of Agriculture, South Campus SKUAST-K Khudwani



KT News Desk

KULGAM, SEPTEMBER 01: Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Shahzad Alam Tuesday visited Mountain Research Centre for Field Crops (MRCFC), Khudwani, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K).

The DC, as per an official statement, was accompanied by senior district officers and university officials and was briefed on the centre's work across seed production, crop improvement, agronomy, plant

protection, and soil health.

The DC also took note of the centre's pivotal role in developing rice, rapeseed, and wheat varieties suited to Kashmir's diverse agro-climatic conditions – from temperate valley plains to cold, high-altitude areas exceeding 2,000 metres – and its germplasm conservation programme, a living repository of indigenous rice landraces and exotic introductions safeguarding Kashmir's agricultural biodiversity for future breeding and climate adaptation.

He lauded the institution's

sustained contributions and its standing as a model research facility over more than eight decades of dedicated service.

He was further apprised that MRCFC Khudwani has been upgraded to the Faculty of Agriculture, South Campus (FoASC), marking the first dedicated agricultural faculty in South Kashmir, a development long in the making. The upgraded campus will offer MSc and PhD courses in agronomy, plant breeding, plant pathology, entomology, and soil sciences.

The DC assured the university authorities of district administration's full developmental backing, assuring that macadamisation of roads, installation of street-lighting, and all other civic amenities needed to create a conducive environment for students and faculty would be taken up on priority.

The DC also stressed that research must travel beyond experimental plots to reach all the farmers across Kashmir. He called for wider dissemination of modern technologies in field crops where improved varieties, precision input management, nano fertilisers, and resource-conservation practices, and value addition hold real potential to raise farm incomes.

Inter-Zonal Cricket Competition begins in Baramulla

KT News Desk

BARAMULLA, SEPTEMBER 01: The Inter-Zonal District-Level Cricket Competition for Boys commenced Tuesday across District Baramulla, organised by the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Baramulla, under the supervision of DYSSO Baramulla, Mushtaq Ahmad Pampori.

The week-long competition, as per an official statement, is being held simultaneously at four cluster venues viz Singpora Kalan, Sopore, Pattan and Boniyar, providing young cricketers an opportunity to showcase their talent, teamwork and sporting spirit.

At Cluster Pattan, Zone Pattan defeated Zone Kunzer in the opening match, while Zone Singpora Pattan emerged victorious against Zone Nehalpora in the second match.

The competition will continue throughout the week, with teams vying for district-level honours and an opportunity to showcase their cricketing potential.

Farmer Field School Programme inaugurated in Ganderbal

KT News Desk

GANDERBAL, SEPTEMBER 01: The Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC), Srinagar, in collaboration with the State Agriculture Department, Ganderbal, inaugurated a "Farmer Field School Programme" at Village Khanpora, Ganderbal, Tuesday.

The programme, as per an official statement, was chaired by Dr. Vageesh Pandey, Deputy Director (E), CIPMC Srinagar and Ghulam Ahmad Rather, SMS (DL), Ganderbal, who was accompanied by Mushtaq Bhat, AEO, Wakoor.

At the outset, Ghulam Ahmad Rather, provided a brief introduction to the programme, along with an overview of the activities and schedule planned for the day. Dr. Haroon Rashid Hakla, Assistant Plant Protection Officer (PP), delivered an informative introductory lecture and highlighted the importance of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and its various benefits to farmers. He provided valuable insights into seed treatment, need-based application of chemicals, National Pest Surveillance System, and safe and judicious use of pesticides. He emphasized that the adoption of IPM practices can help farmers reduce unnecessary pesticide use while promoting sustainable and economically viable crop production.

National Ecotourism Capacity-Building Programme SKUAST-K hosts 37 IFS Officers from 18 states



KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 01: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-Kashmir) has brought together 37 Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers from 18 States for a three-day national capacity-building programme on "Ecotourism in Forest and Wildlife Realms: Prospects & Challenges", being held from September 01to 03 at the Shalimar Campus.

Organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, the programme brings together senior forestry professionals, university leaders, researchers and subject experts to deliberate on emerging opportunities and challenges in sustainable ecotourism, forest and wildlife management.

Addressing the participants, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, as per an official statement, stressed that tourism in ecologically fragile regions must be guided by sustainability, conservation and community participation. He said the objective should not be to maximize tourist numbers but to maximise the positive value of tourism while minimising its ecological footprint.

Emphasising the vulnerability of Himalayan ecosystems, Prof. Ganai called for a calibrated approach in which tourism becomes an instrument for conservation rather than ecological degradation. The Vice Chancellor also underlined the growing role of GIS, remote sensing, Artificial Intelligence and digital monitoring in protected-area management, biodiversity assessment, visitor management, ecosystem monitoring and evidence-based decision-making. He said SKUAST-K has an important role in generating scientific evidence, building professional capacities and providing technology-driven solutions to emerging

environmental challenges.

Former Chief Secretary, Ramesh Negi, Guest of Honour, emphasised the need to shift ecotourism from a tourism-centric to a conservation-centric model, keeping ecological carrying capacity, biodiversity protection, local livelihoods and responsible visitor behaviour at the centre of planning and management.

Dr. Javeed Iqbal, Course Director, said the programme has been designed to go beyond conventional classroom-based training by providing participants with a field-oriented, interdisciplinary and technology-enabled learning experience. He noted that participation from 18 States would facilitate cross-state learning and exchange of experiences from diverse forest and ecological landscapes.

The programme covers key themes including Himalayan biodiversity, protected-area management, ecosystem carrying capacity, legal and institutional frameworks, Eco-Development Committees, participatory planning, gender integration, overtourism mitigation, sustainable livelihoods, GIS, remote sensing and AI-based conservation monitoring.

As part of the experiential component, the participating officers will visit important ecological and tourism landscapes including Wular Lake, Gulmarg, Zabarwan landscape, Chandaji Eco-Restoration Site and Hokersar Wetland. They will also be exposed to technological innovations at SKIIE and the Centre for Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, SKUAST-Kashmir.

The programme builds upon SKUAST-Kashmir's continuing engagement with MoEFCC through capacity-building initiatives focused on smart conservation, forest landscape restoration, climate mitigation and biodiversity conservation. The University has also been advancing multidisciplinary, technology-driven solutions involving AI, IoT, CRISPR and precision systems.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANTNAG

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

Notice Inviting short term E-Tenders-NIT No.15of 2026-27

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of J and K U.T, e-tenders on percentage rate basis are invited in Single cover system from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K U.T Govt./CPWD/Railways/other govts/UT's for the following works: -

S. NO.	NAME OF WORK	Estt Cost (Rs in lacs)	Earnest Money (EMD) Rs	Time for completion	Class of Contract	Cost of Tender document (Rs)	Major Head of Account	Tender opening authority
1	Desilting of Ganie Khul Mir Danter Canal from RD 0-2500 mtrs at spots	2.00	6000/-	10 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
2	Crate protection work on intake channel near pump - house of LIS Khirमतooru	1.56	4680/-	12 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
3	Restoration of field channel of LIS Hapatnad by way of construction of RCC Trough at Two Spots	3.44	10320/-	20 days	DEE	300/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
4	Construction of lining wall at spots of Wohan Canal Left from RD 2650 m to 2800 m at Nowgam	2.97	8910/-	20 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
5	Checking of leakages and restoration of sloughned embankments by way of Construction of Retaining/Lining Wall of Wohan Canal Right at RD 11300M	3.21	9630/-	20 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
6	Strengthening of weak embankments at RD 4800 M OF Darkhan Wohan 2nd Canal by way of construction of retaining wall	3.51	10530/-	20 days	DEE	300/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
7	Construction of lining wall on right side of Valloo Ladi from RD 580 mtrs to 700 mtrs at spots	1.71	5130/-	12 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
8	Construction of lining wall on right side and bed treatment on Pranigam Ladi from 780to 3000 mtrs at spots	2.03	6090/-	12 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
9	Checking of leakages by way of bed treatment and PCC jacketing on Shah 1st near RD 800mtrs	2.00	6000/-	15days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
10	Construction of Lining wall on Right sides of Nogund ladi From RD 1200 mtrs onwards at spots	2.28	6840/-	20 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
11	Construction of lining wall on right side and Bed treatment of Shah 1st near RD 1100 mtrs	1.21	3630/-	12 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
12	Construction of Lining wall on Left side of Draway Ladi from Rd 1200 mtrs onwards	2.16	6480/-	12 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
13	Restoration of breach by way of lining wall on Boan Ladi at RD 150mtrs	1.03	3090/-	10days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer
14	Construction bifurcations of Panzath- Sronsoo and Shampora- Dardikoot ladi.	1.44	4320/-	12 days	DEE	200/-	M&R 2702	Ex. Engineer

Remittance Head:-0702
Position of AAA:- (1)Accorded Superintending Engineer Hyd. Circle Anantnag's AA order No. 32 DB of 2026 dated 25/08/2026 issued under No. SE/Hyd/DB/AA/5494-95 dated 25/08/2026
Position of TS:- (1) Accorded TS order No. 10 DB of 2026-27 dated 31/08/2026 issued under No. DA/DB/TS/TS dated 31/08/2026
The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (BOQ) set to terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the schedule of dates detailed below :-

1.	Publishing date	01.09.2026	02.00PM
2.	Download Date Starts	01.09.2026	02.00PM
3.	BID Submission Date Starts	01.09.2026	02.00PM
4.	BID Submission Date Ends	11.09.2026	06.00 PM
5.	Date of opening of tenders	12.09.2026	11-00 AM

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website www.jktenders.gov.in and The bids uploaded shall be opened online on above mentioned date by the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present. In case of holiday or office happening to be closed on the date of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

1. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies (on 100dpi) of all necessary documents like Cost of Tender document in the form of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag, latest GST clearance certificate (GSTR-3B and GSTR-1), Registration card duly renewed along with Verification, Affidavit (1st Class Magistrate), BID Security in the form of EMD for an amount detailed above. (EMD CDR shall be deposited separately for each item of work). The date of CDR/FDR/BG should be between the bid submission start date and bid submission end date. After opening of tenders online, the 1st lowest bidder shall be asked to deposit the CDR/FDR/additional performance security pledged to tender receiving authority and other documents in original. The CDR/ FDR / additional performance security and other documents in original shall be deposited within two Days positively after opening of tenders. The EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR 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/released latest by 30 days after award of the contract. The check list of documents for cover 1st is attached with the NIT & bidders are advised to recheck the uploaded documents as per the Check list.

2. Additional Performance Security shall be taken from the first lowest bidder/selected bidder (within 02 days after opening of the tenders) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG as per the Circular issued by the Finance Department vide No. FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 dated 08-08-2025 if the bid percentage is below 10%. The additional performance guarantee/security shall be treated as a part of performance security.

3. The CDR/ FDR/Security Deposit uploaded during tendering shall be properly verified from the issuing bank before awarding the contract. Furthermore if at any stage the CDR/APS/FDR/Security Deposit are found to be false or forged/fraudulent, action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against the contractor as laid down in Procurement of Manual of works GFR 2017 besides blacklisting the contractor from tendering process.

4. If the successful bidder is seriously unbalanced or front loaded in the opinion of the Tender Opening Committee. The Tender opening Committee may in such cases seek written clarifications from the bidder, including detailed price analyses of its bid price in relation to scope, schedule, resources mobilization, allocation of risks and responsibilities and any other requirements of the bid's documents besides Additional Performance Security as per above breakup. If, after evaluating the price analyses, procuring entity determines that the bidder has substantially failed to demonstrate its capability to deliver the contract at the offered price, the Tender Opening Committee may reject the bid/proposal. A bid which contains several items in Bill of Quantities those are unrealistically priced low and which cannot be substantiated satisfactorily by the bidder may be rejected as non-responsive.

5. Contractor / Bidder who fails to submit the CDR/FDR / Treasury Challan as required, & APS (if applicable) the 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.

6. Contractor who shall be allotted the work has to start the work within the stipulated time period after the date of allotment as the work is of very important nature.

7. The department shall not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids due to any reason what so ever.

8. The tenders shall remain valid for 90 days (Ninety Days)

9. As soon as the contract is fixed with the successful bidder, he has to enter into an agreement with the department.

10. The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-
a. Any bidder withdraws his bid during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms & condition of the bid.
b. The successful bidder fails to execute an agreement with the department timely after fixation of contract; however non-drawal of agreement will not prevent the contract from being enforced upon him.

11. The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept/reject the bid/s without assigning any reason thereof.

12. The work is to be completed within the time limit specified in the NIT. In case of delay in completion of work due to contractors fault beyond stipulated time of completion, the contractor shall be liable to pay liquidated damages at the rate of 0.5 % of the contract value (half percent) per week of delay. However, such liquidated damages shall not exceed 10% of the total contract value of the item, or a part thereof, delayed.

13. No price escalation will be paid for completion of the work within stipulated time or extended date of completion due to any reason whatsoever.

14. Retention money/Security deposit shall be 10% of the contract value which shall be retained at the rate of 10% of bill amount from Running Account Bills and shall be released after completion of the defect liability period i.e; 06 months after the issuance of completion certificate by the Engineer-in-Charge.

15. All items of works shall conform to Specifications as per Relevant IS codes and as directed by the Engineer-in-Charge.

16. The contractor shall be solely responsible for carrying out the mandatory tests required or as decided by Engineer-in-charge for the quality control at his own costs. The cost of conducting all tests shall be borne by the contractor and deemed to have been included in the percentage rate quoted by the bidder. Nothing extra shall be payable on this account.

17. In case of tie for the position of 1st lowest bidder, all the bids shall be out rightly rejected and the work shall be put to fresh tenders.

18. The date of start of work shall be reckoned within one week from the date of issuance of LOI/Contract allotment as the case may be.

19. The Contract shall be terminated in case contractor fails to start/complete the work, within the stipulated time period, his Earnest Money/Performance Security /additional performance deposit (if any) shall be forfeited after termination of the contract. Besides, defaulting contractor shall be barred/ Prohibited from taking part in future tendering process in Irrigation Department at least for Six Months

20. The employer may terminate the contract if the contractor causes a fundamental breach of the contract.

The fundamental breach of contract will include:-
a) Continuous stoppage of Work for a period of 07 days without any valid reason like inclement weather or so requiring mandatorily authorization of Engineer in-charge in such circumstances.
b) The contractor fails to start/complete the work, within the stipulated time period.

Pursuant to the process of termination of defaulted contract, the employer reserves the right to invite fresh tender for the balance work at the risk and cost of defaulter contractor. Besides, his Performance Security/Retention Money shall be forfeited after termination of the contract and defaulting contractor shall be debarred from taking works in Irrigation Department at least for six months.

21. Any kind of damage which may occur to any work during the course of execution due to torrential rains/heavy snow fall/cyclone/floods etc. shall be the responsibility of the bidder to rectify till the work is finally handed-over to the Department.

22. The taxes viz. Income tax, GST & Cess shall be deducted from the bidders' claims as admissible under rules.

23. The bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities). In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling percentage rate inclusive of all taxes & it should be saved with the same name as it contains.

24. Any typographical error in respect of units which mismatch with the SSR, if any, may be taken as what is recorded in SSR and is binding upon the Contractor.

25. Bidders shall give undertaking towards the submission of authentic information/documents. All the participating bidders should be fully cognizant that if the documents uploaded/submitted with the bid are found to be fake/not genuine/forged/tempered, they will be blacklisted from participating in this division/department for a period as decided by higher authorities and the bidder to whom the contract is awarded on the basis of uploaded/submitted documents, if later discovered to be fake/not genuine/forged/tempered, the contract will be cancelled and the performance security deposit and work done claim for the said work shall be forfeited. Furthermore no clarification/claim shall be entertained after opening the tender.

26. Instructions to Bidders:-
a) Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint with the bid submission process.

No. IDA/3785-3803
Dated: 31/08/2026

DIPK-5202/26
DATED: 01-09-2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Irrigation Division Anantnag

‘Ladakh’s ecology threatened by Infra, tourism, climate change’

Raja Syed Rather

Srinagar, Sep 01: Ladakh's fragile ecosystems and rich avian diversity are facing increasing pressure from infrastructure expansion, rising tourist activity, habitat alteration, climate change, exotic plantations, feral dogs and other forms of human interference, a scientific assessment submitted before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has highlighted.

The assessment was prepared by the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) and Wildlife Institute of India, and submitted before the Principal Bench of the NGT in Original Application No. 1339/2024, following the Tribunal's directions seeking scientific information on the conservation of bird species and their habitats in Ladakh amid growing concerns over tourism and other activities.

464 bird species documented in Ladakh

According to the assessment, 464 bird species have been documented in Ladakh, of which 197 are recorded as breeding species.



Of these, 87 are resident species that breed in Ladakh and remain in the region throughout the year.

The report underscores Ladakh's importance for avian conservation, noting that the region falls within the Trans-Himalayan Biogeographic Zone, characterised by extreme climatic conditions, high altitudes and fragile ecosystems with limited natural resources.

Ladakh's avifauna comprises

both resident and migratory species. Besides the 87 resident breeding species, the records include 110 winter visitors and passage migrants, 20 winter visitors/summer migrants, 64 passage migrants and 16 vagrant species. Around 50 species originating from Central Asia and the northern Tibetan Plateau have been recorded as visitors to Ladakh, underlining the region's importance along migratory

routes.

Several high-altitude species characteristic of Ladakh's unique ecological landscape have also been identified, including the Tibetan Snowcock, Tibetan Partridge, Black-necked Crane, Tibetan Sandgrouse, Himalayan Snowcock, White-browed Tit-Warbler, Brown Accentor and Tibetan Grey-backed Shrike, besides a variety of waterbirds and waders.

65 species under high conservation concern

A total of 65 bird species recorded in Ladakh have been identified as being of "High Conservation Concern", including the Yellow-breasted Bushchat, Egyptian Vulture, Steppe Eagle, Pallas's Fish-Eagle, Saker Falcon, Long-billed Bush Warbler, Common Crane, Black-necked Crane, Eurasian Curlew, Black-tailed Godwit and Ruddy Turnstone.

The Black-necked Crane has been given particular importance in the assessment and is described as an iconic bird of Ladakh. The region is also recognised as an important breeding

area for the species. The bird depends on specific high-altitude wetlands and grassland habitats, making it vulnerable to disturbance around its breeding grounds.

Infrastructure expansion raises habitat concerns

Development and infrastructure expansion have emerged as major concerns for Ladakh's birdlife. According to the assessment, poorly planned infrastructure projects can affect high-altitude wilderness areas by altering and fragmenting habitats. The proposed geothermal plant at Puga Hot Spring has been cited as an example, with the report noting that the proposed project area provides important habitat for several bird species. Road construction and related infrastructure have also been highlighted as potential sources of disturbance, particularly when roads provide greater access to previously undisturbed areas.

Exotic plantations, feral dogs, tourism add pressure

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SAYBO president calls on LG Sinha



KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sep 01: Rajan Kapoor, President, Shri Amarnathji Yatra Bhandara Organisation (SAYBO) called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday.

MLA Baig urges MP Ruhullah to reconsider his resignation decision



Waris Fayaz

Srinagar, Sep 01: National Conference MLA Javid Hassan Baig has appealed to Srinagar MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi to reconsider his decision to tender his resignation and hold an open discussion with the party leadership amid differences.

In an open letter addressed to MP Ruhullah, MLA Baig said he was writing "not as a member of the National Conference, but as a companion and friend".

"I respect your right to differ, but I am convinced that you can also play a more effective role for the people

by staying within the party," Baig said.

He urged Ruhullah to meet NC leadership especially Chief Minister Omar Abdullah before taking any final decision. "Perhaps many misunderstandings will be cleared and a viable path will emerge," he said.

Baig stressed that there should be no compromise on principles, while calling for an effort to move forward together despite differences.

"Please reconsider your decision once again," he appealed.

The Baramulla MLA said Jammu and Kashmir needed political voices to be strengthened rather than divided.

It is noteworthy that, the appeal comes days after National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah asked Ruhullah to resign from the Lok Sabha and seek a fresh mandate from the people.

MP Ruhullah, responding to the remarks in Tangmarg

Continued on
www.kashmirthunder.in

Union Secy chairs workshop on ‘Administrative Data Harmonisation’



KT News Desk

Srinagar, Sept 01: The Directorate of Economics & Statistics (DES), J&K, under the Planning, Development & Monitoring Department, organised a one-day UT-level workshop on "Administrative Data Harmonisation" at SKICC, Srinagar, to strengthen the quality, consistency, interoperability and effective use of administrative data across government departments.

Dr. Saurabh Garg, Secretary, Union Ministry for Statistics & Programme Implementation

(MoSPI) chaired the event.

R. Alice Vaz, Commissioner Secretary, Planning, Development & Monitoring Department along with other Administrative Secretaries of major line departments were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Saurabh Garg highlighted the pivotal role of administrative data in strengthening the national statistical system.

He stressed harmonisation of concepts, definitions, classifications, meta-data and standards to ensure

comparability, interoperability and statistical quality. He encouraged J&K to leverage institutional mechanisms such as Data Strategic Units and Chief Data Officers.

Addressing the gathering, R. Alice Vaz introduced the broad objectives of the workshop. She emphasised the importance of reliable, standardised and timely data for evidence-based policy formulation, efficient resource allocation and outcome-oriented governance.

She stressed stronger

Continued on
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Opposition’s bid to weaken NC will fail: Javed Dar

Waris Fayaz

Handwara, Sep 01: Cabinet Minister Javed Ahmed Dar on Tuesday hit out at opposition parties, saying they have no agenda beyond criticising the National Conference (NC) government but will not succeed in weakening the party.

Talking to reporters in Handwara, Minister Dar said opposition parties would continue attempts over the next three years to weaken the NC, but would not succeed.

"Opposition parties will try to weaken a strong tree, but they won't succeed because the National Conference is the strongest party," he said.

On complaints about the sale of sub-standard pesticides and fertilisers, the minister said the government was taking the matter seriously.

He said enforcement

teams had been directed to establish checking points and conduct inspections at entry and exit points to prevent the movement and sale of sub-standard agricultural inputs.

The minister urged people to report cases involving the sale of sub-standard fertilisers and pesticides, assuring that strict action would follow against those found violating the norms.

"We are acting on the information. I urge people to report those selling sub-standard fertilisers and pesticides, and we will act tough," he said.

Asked about NC MP from Srinagar, Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, the minister declined to comment.

"We have time and again commented on it. I won't repeat now. Talk about something else," he said—(KNO)

CA patients seek radiotherapy facility at GMC Anantnag

Jahangeer Ganaie

Anantnag, Sep 01: Cancer patients and their attendants in south Kashmir are seeking the early establishment of radiotherapy services at Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag, saying the absence of the facility forces patients to repeatedly travel to Srinagar for an essential part of their treatment.

For families already struggling with the physical, emotional and financial burden of cancer, repeated journeys to Srinagar for radiotherapy add another layer of hardship, particularly for elderly patients and those requiring prolonged treatment.

Patients and attendants



said that GMC Anantnag has gradually developed into an important cancer-care centre for the region, with chemotherapy, palliative care and on-cology consultations available, but the lack of radiotherapy means treatment remains incomplete at the institution.

They urged the administration to ensure that the required equipment is installed at the college at the earliest so that patients from Anantnag, Kulgam, Shopian and Pulwama can access comprehensive cancer treatment closer to home. A doctor from the

department of Oncology at GMC Anantnag said the availability of radiotherapy at the institution is important for completing the chain of cancer treatment and reducing the need for patients to travel elsewhere.

He said more than 60 per cent of cancer patients require radiotherapy as part of their treatment, while many others may require radiation later for palliative purposes.

"Cancer treatment is often multimodal. A patient may require surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and palliative care at different stages. Therefore, having these facilities available under one roof is

Continued on
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Daily wagers demand time-bound regularisation

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Sep 01: Members of the Jammu and Kashmir Casual Daily Wagers Forum (JKCDF) on Tuesday staged a protest at Press Enclave here, demanding time-bound regularisation of their services and an early resolution of their long-pending issues.

The protesters called for the report of the committee constituted to examine the regularisation of daily wagers, saying the process should not be delayed any further.

Addressing the

gathering, JKCDF president Sajad Ah-med Parry said the government had promised to address the issue and should now take concrete steps towards regularisation.

"The government should take the matter forward and resolve our issues. They promised regularisation and we want them to fulfil the promise," Parry said. The forum has repeatedly raised concerns over the de-lay in framing a clear roadmap for regularisation. In a recent press conference, it had said the

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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER PLANNING AND PUBLICITY DIVISION SRINAGAR

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT NO: 07 of 2026-27 DATED: 27-08-2026

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:-

S.No.	Name of Work	Adv. cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Bid Security (EMD) INR (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document (Rs)	Time of Completion
	Repair / Renovation / Upgradation of Guard Hut at Poshkar Kangan Ganderbal.	3.91	7900	"D" & Forest Territorial Contractor	200.00	60 days

The position of codal formalities in respect of above work(s) is as under:

Sno	Particulars	Remarks
a.	Scheme	CAPEX
b.	Position of Funds	Budgeted
c.	Position of AA	Accorded vide No: CFC/Plg/AA/ITS/Plg/2026/95-98 DT. 24-08-2026.

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, scope of work, Bills of Quantities, (B.O.Q), Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can

be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.

Publishing Date:	29-08-2026
Download Start Date:	31-08-2026
Bid submission Start Date:	31-08-2026
Bid submission End Date:	09-09-2026 upto 06:00 p.m
Date of Opening of Technical Bid through online:	10-09-2026 at 01:30 p.m (In the office of Divisional Forest Officer, Planning and Publicity Division Kashmir at Sheikh Bagh Srinagar).
Date of Opening of Financial Bid through online:	To be opened (Online) after technical evaluation is completed.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: <https://jktenders.gov.in>.
- Bids upload must accompany Govt. Treasury (Cost of tender documents) in the shape of Treasury challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury Under Account Head 0406-02-900-0000-0000
- In pursuance to Finance Department Circular instructions vide No. FD-Code/290/2026 Dated: 22-05-2026 to implement online system for depositing Bid security (EMD) all works Departments. The Bidders shall deposit the EMD & IT Service Charges Fee in the Centralized Pooling Bank Account of this Department. The details of the Accounts are as Account: Principal Chief Conservator Forests Name of the Bank: Jammu and Kashmir Bank. Branch : Civil Secretariat IFSC Code : JAKA00MOVING Account No : 0110010200001102
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 30 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid shall be accepted in physical/hard form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e., Bid Security (EMD) and Tender Fee, Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/Forest Territorial Department/duly renewed for the current year 2026-27, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Affidavit cum undertaking.
- As per rule 171 of GFR-2017, Performance Security shall have to be deposited by successful bidder to the order of 3% of the value of contract and if there are compelling circumstances, performance security in excess of three percent may also be demanded.
- In case bid of the lowest bidder (successful bidder) is found abnormal low Bids (ALBS) the circular instructions issued by Finance Department J&K vide No. FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 Dated:- 08-08-2025 will be imposed on the lowest bidder.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).
- The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
- The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the Detailed Tender document.

DIPK-5214/26

No. DFO/P&P/NIT-07/2026-27/421-26

DATED: 01-09-2026

Dated: - 27-08-2026

Abid Ali Lone, SFS
Divisional Forest Officer,
Planning & Publicity Division
Srinagar

EDITORIAL

A Helpline That Restores Faith In Governance

When a government acts swiftly in a moment of crisis, it earns trust. When that act evolves into a lasting institution of support, it builds faith. The dedicated toll-free helpline launched by the Omar Abdullah-led government after the Pahalgam terror attack has done precisely that. What began as an emergency response to reports of intimidation

and harassment against Kashmiris studying and working outside the Union Territory has grown into a lifeline for thousands. The helpline (1800-8900-166) now handles everything from distress calls and emergency assistance to grievance redressal and coordination with authorities in other states. It is a single-window support platform for Kashmiris across India and abroad.

The helpline's interventions during the Iran-Israel conflict, when scores of J&K students were stranded amid escalating tensions, stand out as a testament to its effectiveness. It maintained communication with affected students, coordinated with their families, and facilitated critical information flow. Such an intervention goes beyond routine governance; it is genuine care in

action. What makes this initiative remarkable is its lean structure. A single officer at the Chief Minister's Secretariat manages the entire operation, monitoring calls, coordinating responses, and following up with departments across jurisdictions. Despite this, the helpline has responded to thousands of calls and messages, often serving as the first point of contact for people seeking

urgent help. The helpline is more than a telephone number. It is a reassurance mechanism for students, workers, professionals, and families from Jammu and Kashmir navigating challenges far from home. It signals that the government is accessible, responsive, and willing to act beyond traditional office hours and bureaucratic silos. In an era where citizens often feel disconnected from

their governments, this initiative stands as a model of accessible and empathetic governance. It reminds us that the true test of a government lies not in its policies alone but in its ability to respond when citizens need it most. For many Kashmiris, a call to 1800-8900-166 has become synonymous with the assurance that help is only a phone call away. That is governance at its best.

Affordable Nutrition For Every Indian: Jan Aushadhi Nutraceuticals

Press Information Bureau

In an increasingly health-conscious India, nutraceuticals have gained recognition as an essential part of overall well-being. Be it for school-going children or senior citizens, dietary supplements, herbal products that include vitamins & minerals, herbs & botanicals, probiotics, etc., have found wide acceptance. Yet, affordability continues to be a challenge for millions of families seeking nutritional supplements. The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) is addressing this gap with its nutraceutical basket. From nutrition bars to disease-specific formulations, the Jan Aushadhi nutraceuticals Basket is making nutrition supplements more accessible to people across India.

Nutrition for Diverse Needs
The Jan Aushadhi portfolio is designed to respond to the varied needs of young, old, women, and people with different health issues. The range includes protein supplements, immunity products, nutritional foods and specialised formulations for individuals with specific dietary requirements. Manufactured in accordance with prescribed quality standards and offered at affordable prices, these products aim to make regular nutritional support more accessible without placing an undue burden on household budgets. Convenient Nutrition for Active Lifestyles
Nutrient-dense Jan Aushadhi Protein Bar & Jan Aushadhi Immunity Bar offer a portable source of nourishment for children, working professionals and fitness enthusiasts. Available in chocolate flavour



in a 35-gram pack, protein bar provides a convenient way to supplement daily protein intake while on the go. Enriched with Immunity-Supporting Ingredients tasty Immunity Bar provides energy and strengthens body's protective barriers. These nutrition bars offer an economical alternative for consumers craving a quick snack but averse to junk food. For a more substantial protein supplement, 100% Whey Protein Powder & Jan

Aushadhi Protein Powder support daily protein intake and muscle recovery, making it suitable for fitness enthusiasts. Protein Powder is available in Vanilla and Kesar Pista flavours, giving consumers greater choice. **Supporting Women's Nutritional Needs**
Women have distinct nutritional requirements at different stages of life. Jan Aushadhi Women Protein Boost is formulated to support daily protein intake,

energy levels, and healthy bones and muscles. Available in chocolate and vanilla flavours, the 250-gram pack is priced at 204.66. By offering specialised nutrition at affordable rates, this product seeks to make it easier for more women to incorporate nutritional supplementation into their daily routines.

Nutrition Designed for Specific Health Needs
For individuals managing specific health conditions such as Diabetes, Kidney problems etc, dietary requirements can be more complex. Diabetes Care Protein Powder from JanAushadhi complements the nutritional requirements of people living with diabetes. For individuals with kidney-related conditions, Renal Care Protein Powder is available in both Low Protein and High Protein variants, allowing the choice of formulation to be guided by medical advice and individual dietary needs. **Jan Aushadhi Poshan: Everyday Nutrition for Families**
For affordable everyday nutritional support for everyone in the family, the Jan Aushadhi Poshan range offers malt-based nutritional food enriched with essential vitamins and minerals. Available in regular malt and cocoa variants, the range includes:
Malt Based Food, 500 g: 160.17
Malt Based Food with Cocoa, 500 g: 164.62
Malt Based Food with Cocoa Sachet, 30 g: 8.90The multiple pack sizes offer flexibility for different consumption needs and budgets. Easy to prepare and suitable for regular consumption, the Poshan range

provides families with an accessible nutritional supplement for everyday use. **Making Quality Nutrition More Accessible**
These products highlight the growing importance of nutrition as part of a broader approach to health management. While specialised nutritional products should be used in accordance with professional medical and dietary guidance, affordable access can help make appropriate nutritional support more attainable for families. For overall well-being, lifestyle choices that include quality nutrition cannot be stressed more. Families are increasingly opting to make healthy choices when it comes to food and nutrition supplements. By offering affordable alternatives to expensive branded nutrition supplements through the Jan Aushadhi Kendra network, PMBJP is ensuring that quality nutritional support is not limited by income. Affordable medicines remain the core of PMBJP, but nutrition is an essential part of the same larger health journey. Whether it is a student seeking convenient nourishment, a working professional managing a demanding routine, a homemaker supporting family nutrition, a senior citizen with specific dietary needs or an individual managing a health condition, access to appropriate nutrition can play an important role in supporting well-being. By combining quality, affordability and accessibility, the Jan Aushadhi nutraceutical range is helping make nutrition a more attainable choice for Indian families reinforcing the vision of "Quality Healthcare and Nutrition for All."

To End Global Hunger, Invest In Rural Communities

Food insecurity remains more prevalent in rural communities and disproportionately affects women. Greater productivity will protect livelihoods and help rural communities move from hunger to abundance.

Esther Ngumbi

The UN recently released its "State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2026" report, which, perhaps surprisingly, delivered some encouraging news. While roughly 645 million people experienced hunger in 2025, that was nearly 14 million fewer than in the previous year. For the first time in a decade, the number of hungry people in Africa also declined. But despite these positive developments, significant regional disparities persist. Most notably, the report found that food insecurity remains more prevalent in rural communities and disproportionately affects women. The key question facing governments and development organizations, then, is how to improve food security in those communities and accelerate progress toward eliminating hunger. Four priorities stand out. First, enhancing food security in rural communities requires boosting agricultural productivity on existing farmland in ways that are sustainable and minimize environmental impacts. As growing populations place increasing demands on agricultural systems, simply expanding farmland risks accelerating deforestation and environmental degradation. Producing more on existing farmland is thus essential to meet rising demand without further damaging natural ecosystems.



Healthier soils are critical to efforts to boost agricultural productivity. Any strategy to strengthen food security in rural communities must therefore begin with a simple but fundamental question: Are soils healthy enough to support sustainable increases in crop production? Unfortunately, recent studies suggest that agricultural productivity in hunger-affected regions remains severely constrained by extensive soil degradation despite decades of attempts to improve soil health. Recognizing that poor soil

threatens food and nutrition security, rural livelihoods and environmental sustainability, African leaders endorsed the 10-year African Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan and the longer-term Soil Initiative for Africa Framework in 2024. The good news is that once the foundational questions about soil health and quality have been answered – using available soil health tests, as well as science-based indicators and assessments – corrective measures can be taken. There are numerous principles and practices for building soil health,

including cover cropping, intercropping, crop rotation, rotational grazing and the use of organic fertilizers and biofertilizers, as well as minimizing soil tillage, maximizing soil cover, increasing biodiversity and maintaining living roots. Second, efforts to improve soil health must be accompanied by investments in rural farming communities. Food producers need access to improved seed varieties, biofertilizers, water and emerging technologies such as precision agriculture. Together, these investments could further boost agricultural productivity and bolster food security. Third, stronger land tenure is crucial to improving food security in rural communities. Land tenure security has long been recognized as a fundamental pillar of agricultural production, development and rural transformation, incentivizing farmers to make long-term investments in restoring soil health and adopt other productivity-enhancing practices. The link between stronger land rights and agricultural productivity is well documented. This link is particularly important for women, who contribute significantly to agricultural production yet remain disadvantaged in land ownership and tenure security. Although the effects of greater land tenure security vary across regions and policy contexts, ensuring women's ownership rights can advance gender equality, enhance agricultural productivity, support rural livelihoods and deliver lasting

improvements in food security. Lastly, governments must invest in the infrastructure that connects rural producers to markets, including electricity, refrigerated transportation and roads. Better access to urban markets can help farmers generate additional income by enabling them to sell more of what they produce. Improved transport networks can also lower costs, enabling farmers to reinvest their savings in advanced technologies, thereby reducing postharvest losses while diversifying into a wider range of higher-input crops. With healthy soils, access to agricultural inputs and emerging technologies such as precision agriculture and artificial intelligence, robust land tenure rights and upgraded infrastructure, rural farms around the world could sustainably increase agricultural productivity. Greater productivity would, in turn, protect livelihoods and help rural communities move from hunger to abundance. But time is of the essence. While the latest decline in global hunger is encouraging, sustaining and building on this progress will require considerable investment in the rural communities where food insecurity is most entrenched, in Africa and beyond. Esther Ngumbi is Associate Professor of Entomology and African-American Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Courtesy: Project Syndicate

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Urban Challenge Fund

CS led UTHPSC clears urban transformation projects worth Rs 2,692.58 Cr

Walled City, Nigeen Lakefront revitalization project seeks to rejuvenate Srinagar's historic urban core

KT News Desk

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 01: In a major step towards accelerating sustainable and investment-driven urban transformation in J&K, the Union Territory Level High Powered Steering Committee (UTHPSC), chaired by Chief Secretary, Atal Doolo, has approved three major urban development projects with a cumulative base cost of 2,692.58 crore under the Government of India's Urban Challenge Fund (UCF).

The meeting was attended by the senior officers in the administration including the ACS, Tourism; ACS, Finance; Principal Secretary, Culture; Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; Commissioner, JMC/SMC and other concerned officers.

The projects, as per an official statement, identified by the Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD) includes TARANG (Tawi Area Regeneration and Green Growth) in Jammu, Walled City & Nigeen Lakefront Revitalization in Srinagar, and KRIPA (Katra Revitalisation Through Integrated Pilgrimage Amenities) in Reasi are designed to combine public investment with market-linked



financing and private participation to create modern, sustainable and economically vibrant urban spaces.

The approvals mark a significant advancement in J&K's efforts to leverage the UCF framework for transformative urban infrastructure, while unlocking additional institutional, municipal and private capital for large-scale development.

With an estimated cost of 1,567.91 crore, TARANG envisages comprehensive regeneration of the Tawi riverfront and surrounding urban areas through a combination of public infrastructure and PPP-led commercial development. The project has a funding structure comprising 307.05 crore each from the Government of India and UT Government, while

953.81 crore is proposed to be mobilised through market

and PPP financing.

The PPP component will facilitate development of a high-end residential group housing project, an upscale hotel, a modern retail mall and associated Left Bank road infrastructure. The Central Island will also be activated through development of a luxury resort asset.

The project further provides for extensive structural and river-protection works, including a diaphragm wall, embankment filling, retaining wall with anchor slabs and interceptor drainage infrastructure.

The Walled City & Nigeen Lakefront Revitalization project, with an estimated cost of 1,010.77 crore, seeks to rejuvenate Srinagar's historic urban core and unlock the economic potential of its lakefront areas in the interiors of the historical city.

Around 300.77 crore will be deployed towards core public infrastructure and revitalisation of the historic city, while the PPP component will support development of a Hospitality Centre, Pokribal Lakefront and a premium five-star boutique hotel.

The Katra Revitalisation Through Integrated Pilgrimage Amenities (KRIPA) project in Reasi, estimated at 113.90 crore, will focus on improving pilgrim amenities, mobility management and institutional infrastructure in Katra.

A major component is the Katra Gateway Centre, envisaged as a 5+2 floor mixed-use facility over a 10.17-kanal site, with approximately 1.39 lakh sq ft of built-up area. It will include pilgrim dormitories with 480 beds across 36 dormitories, 35 guest rooms, retail outlets,

a community dining hall and dedicated prayer spaces.

To address parking and traffic congestion, the project also provides for a Multi-Level Car Parking facility with capacity for 365 Equivalent Car Spaces, EV charging infrastructure and dedicated bus bays near the Yatra Parchi Counter.

The project additionally provides 15.25 crore for institutional remodelling, including modern commercial office spaces, retail kiosks and upgraded administrative facilities for the Municipal Committee, Katra.

The three projects reflect the UCF's emphasis on developing bankable, investment-ready urban projects by combining government support with market-based financing. The approach is aimed not only at creating modern urban infrastructure but also at ensuring that such assets generate sustainable economic activity and long-term revenue streams.

The Committee has also laid emphasis on ensuring timely, quality and financially sustainable execution of the approved projects. The initiatives are expected to significantly enhance urban infrastructure, mobility, tourism and economic activity while creating new public spaces and investment opportunities across Jammu, Srinagar and Katra.

MVD, police conduct enforcement drive, E-challan 23 vehicles in Ramban



KT News Desk

RAMBAN, SEPTEMBER 1: The Motor Vehicles Department (MVD), Ramban, in coordination with the District Police, conducted a joint surprise enforcement drive Tuesday at Maitra, Atri Chowk and T-Chowk to check compliance with the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act.

The enforcement drive was led by ARTO Varun Bhasin. The MVD team checked 146 vehicles, of which 23 vehicles were e-challaned for various violations of the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act.

The violations included overcharging, overloading,

operating without valid permits, use of curtains on vehicle windows and operating without valid fitness certificates, among other offences.

Vehicles found plying without the required statutory documents were challaned, while those involved in serious violations were seized as per the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act.

The total expected amount of the e-challans is approximately 54,500. In addition, two vehicles were seized for serious violations.

Furthermore, the department has recommended suspension of two Driving Licences (DLs) for grave violations.

Kishtwar Admin finalises arrangements for Shri Krishna Janmashtami, Shobha Yatra

KT News Desk

KISHTWAR, SEPTEMBER 01: Additional Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal Tuesday finalised the arrangements for Shri Krishna Janmashtami and Shobha Yatra here at a meeting convened in the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to make adequate arrangements for security, sanitation, medical facilities, drinking water, transportation and other basic amenities to ensure the smooth and successful culmination of the festival.

The ADC directed the Police Department to deploy adequate security personnel at all temples across Kishtwar Township and its suburbs. He emphasised the need for formulating a foolproof traffic management plan and directed the authorities to identify alternate routes for traffic diversion to provide smooth passage to the Shobha Yatra.

The JPDC and Municipal authorities were asked to complete repair and replacement of streetlights wherever required. He stressed illumination of dark spots to avoid public inconvenience during the festival night.



Furthermore, the PHE and PDD departments were directed to keep the staff on alert for uninterrupted water and electricity supply in the town and its suburbs during the festival, with water tanker supply arranged at identified locations.

The enforcement departments including FCS&CA, Revenue, Legal Metrology, Municipal authorities, food safety and Police were tasked with conducting market inspections to keep a check on overcharging and food quality.

The Municipal authorities were directed to launch a massive drive to clean lanes and drains and lime-lining across the town and its suburbs, besides ensuring the removal of garbage around the temples, if any.

The ADC also directed the Fire and Emergency Department to remain prepared to handle any fire-related incident or eventuality.

The Health Department was directed to keep medical facilities and paramedical staff ready at all PHCs and hospitals across the district, besides deploying an ambulance and medical staff equipped with first-aid facilities during the procession from Shri Gauri Shankar Mandir, Sarkoot, to Shri Ram Mandir, Semna Colony, Kishtwar.

Members of Sanatan Dharma Sabh led by President Mahant Ram Saran Dass raised several issues and grievances. The ADC gave them a patient hearing, issued necessary directions on the spot and assured every possible support from the District Administration Kishtwar.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS Rishi Kumar Sharma; CEO KDA Kaiser Bhawani; ASP Pardeep Singh; ACR Idrees Lone, besides other officers and representatives from various departments, CRPF and others.

'Art against Drug Addiction' campaign held at Bagh e Bahu



KT News Desk

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 01: The Excise Department in collaboration with Floriculture Department Jammu, Tuesday organised a mega anti-Drug Awareness Camp here at Bagh e Bahu Garden.

Themed 'Art against Drug Addiction', the event featured a variety of art performances promoting a drug free and healthy lifestyle. The Dugger Manch presented a Nukkad Natak titled 'Nashye Di Maar'. Mohan Singh Padma Shri awardee along with his group enthralled the audience with the short play.

Another Theatre group- Azad Parinde performed a short play titled 'Karme da fal', depicting ill effects of drug abuse. Veteran theatre actors Madan Rangeela and Janak Khajuria alongwith Mohit Chib and Gourav performed in the play.

Renowned Cartoonist Manoj Chopra's series of cartoons on drug abuse was the highlight of

the event which was on display before hundreds of students from faculty of Social Sciences, Cluster University Jammu and Government Higher Secondary School Bahu.

Merchandise depicting cartoons and anti-drug slogans was released by the dignitaries including Excise Commissioner, Vaibhav Kohli; Padamshree Awardee, Rumalo Ram; Director Floriculture, Nagendra Singh Jamwal; Joint Director, Vikrant Kumar; Arvind Kotwal and Youth Icons Sars Bharti and RJ Juhie (92.7 BIG FM). Display your Talent winner Kunwar Langer performed Music Mashup while Sars Bharti sang Bawe wali Mata Bhaint.

The Excise Commissioner emphasized the need to combat drug abuse through art and culture and exhorted the youth to say no to drugs and help others in coming out of drug addiction. He reiterated the commitment of the government to Nasha Mukh Bharat and inculcating healthy lifestyle among youth.

New road connectivity proposed for villages affected by HEPP Pakal Dool: DC reviews proposals

KT News Desk

KISHTWAR, SEPTEMBER 01: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma Tuesday chaired a meeting to discuss and review the proposal for the construction of a road along the right bank of River Marusudar to provide road connectivity to the villages of Khraipakhnoo, Tunder and Prangus of Tehsil Dachen.

The villages fall in the vicinity of the Pakal Dul Hydroelectric Power Project (HEPP) and the existing connectivity to these habitations is expected to be cut off upon completion of the dam reservoir.

The new road connectivity project to Tunder and Prangus villages is being taken up under the PMGSY-phase IV.

Detailed discussion was held regarding the proposed road alignment, its technical feasibility and other issues related to the implementation of the project. The status of existing road connectivity and the requirements of the affected villages were also reviewed.

The PMGSY functionaries apprised the meeting that the project to connect Tunder and Prangus villages is expected to be taken up under the PMGSY-Phase IV.

The DC directed the authorities to prepare a DPR for the additional road stretch leading to Khraipakhnoo village and push

the already submitted DPR for Lopara to Tunder-Prangus for the current financial year.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the importance of ensuring proper road connectivity to these right-bank villages and called for close coordination among all concerned departments and agencies for the timely finalisation of the proposal and its submission.

The issues concerning land acquisition, forest clearance, road alignment, technical feasibility, funding and other matters were also discussed in detail.

The concerned officers informed the meeting about the current status of their respective departments and shared their observations regarding the proposed project.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned departments to work in a coordinated and time-bound manner and to submit the requisite details, reports and proposals at the earliest. He stressed that all necessary aspects of the project should be examined comprehensively to ensure the development of a viable and sustainable road connectivity plan for the area.

The meeting was attended by SDM Marwah Dr. Mohammad Ashraf; HOP, Pakal Dul HEP, Vishal Anand; ExEn, PMGSY, Marwah, Er. Tilak Raj Rajwal, besides other officers and representatives from concerned departments.

"Swachhata Sankalp Campaign" organised by ULB directorate concludes

KT News Desk

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 01: The Directorate of Urban Local Bodies Jammu, under the leadership of Director Kapil Sharma, has successfully conducted the "Swachhata Sankalp" Campaign across the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Jammu Division.

With active coordination of the concerned Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Executive Officers (EOs), the campaign covered Municipal Councils/Committee Billawar, Kathua, Samba, Vijaypur, Bari Brahmana, RS Pura, Katra, Reasi, Akhnoor, Sunderbani, Nowshera, Surankote, Udhampur, Batote, Ramban, Doda and Bhaderwah.

The campaign witnessed participation of more than 5,000 individuals, including students, government officials, prominent citizens, concerned MLAs, NGO representatives and local residents, taking part

in cleanliness drives, awareness programmes, Swachhata pledges and rallies.

A special focus of the campaign was placed on the core messages of Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban-keeping surroundings clean, proper management of wet and dry waste, responsible disposal of waste and encouraging citizens to take collective responsibility for cleanliness.

One of the major components of the campaign was the Green Initiative, through which citizens, shopkeepers, students and local residents were sensitised to the harmful effects of polythene and single-use plastic.

Over 2,000 reusable jute bags were distributed among local residents and participants to encourage the adoption of environmentally friendly alternatives and reduce dependence on single-use plastic.

The campaign also promoted awareness regarding wet and



dry waste segregation, cleanliness of public spaces and responsible citizen behaviour.

Schools across the participating ULBs responded positively to the initiative. A large number of schoolchildren participated in the awareness activities, rallies, cleanliness

drives and Swachhata pledges. The campaign provided students an opportunity to understand the importance of cleanliness, waste segregation, environmental protection and their role as responsible citizens.

The active participation of

district administration, local administration, government officials, NGOs, prominent citizens, market representatives and local residents further strengthened the campaign and ensured wider community outreach.

To supplement the field-level

activities, the Directorate also undertook a Radio Awareness Campaign through FM Radio Channels, carrying messages on Swachh Bharat Mission, cleanliness, sanitation, waste segregation, prevention of single-use plastic and responsible citizen participation.

The radio campaign helped extend the reach of the Swachhata Sankalp message beyond the physical campaign locations and enabled awareness messages to reach the wider population across the concerned ULBs.

Speaking on the successful culmination of the campaign, Kapil Sharma emphasised that cleanliness cannot be achieved by municipal bodies alone as it requires continuous participation and collective responsibility of citizens, schools, local institutions, NGOs and the administration.

He appreciated the efforts of all the CEOs/EOs and field teams for successfully

implementing the campaign across all 17 ULBs and for bringing together students, government officials, NGOs, prominent citizens and local communities on a common platform for cleanliness and environmental awareness.

The Director stressed that the Swachhata Sankalp Campaign is not merely a one-day cleanliness activity but an effort to develop sustained behavioural change among citizens, particularly with regard to waste segregation, prevention of littering, elimination of single-use plastic and proper use of public sanitation facilities.

The successful implementation of the campaign across ULBs has further strengthened the Directorate's commitment towards Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0, Swachh Survekshan, environmental protection and sustainable urban sanitation across Jammu Division.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Countries using

and improving the quality of life of citizens. He also announced India's readiness to host the first SCO Civilisation Dialogue Forum.

"From shared geography to shared opportunities, from vision to outcomes, and from government-driven cooperation to people-driven partnership. With the same belief and commitment, India is ready to contribute to the SCO family's shared journey," Modi said.

Maintain sustained

Sarah Rizvi, IGP, Crime Branch; Divisional Commissioners; DIGs and other senior officials.

Emphasizing that public trust is vital to the security apparatus, the Lieutenant Governor directed police officials to foster direct engagement with the public, designating specific hours for citizen interaction and grievance redressal.

Reviewing the functioning at the police station level, the Lieutenant Governor underscored the necessity of transparent, impartial and sensitive complaint handling, directing officers to conduct investigations with absolute professionalism.

"The police must maintain a strong and continuous engagement with the public. Every genuine grievance must be addressed with sensitivity and every investigation must be conducted with absolute fairness, transparency and impartiality," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor instructed all officers to maintain heightened operational vigilance, seamless inter-agency coordination and a proactive approach to safeguarding peace and maintaining law and order in the UT.

COMMENDS J&K POLICE, SECURITY AGENCIES

The Lieutenant Governor commended the Jammu Kashmir Police and security agencies for their effective action against drug smugglers. He has directed officials to intensify operations against narco-terror networks and enhance monitoring of emerging digital threats. Highlighting the emerging challenges in the cyber and social media space, the Lieutenant Governor directed for close monitoring of social media platforms to counter anti-national propaganda, digital misinformation and online blackmailing.

During the meeting, the DGP and Principal Secretary Home apprised the Lieutenant Governor of the overall security scenario in Jammu Kashmir. IGP, DIGs and Divisional Commissioners briefed the Lieutenant Governor on the security situation in their respective areas, anti-terror operations, law and order, drug smuggling and other emerging challenges.

The meeting also held comprehensive and detailed deliberations on a wide range of other critical issues.

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The meeting also held comprehensive and detailed deliberations on a wide range of other critical issues. (KNO)

Rain lashes

recorded a maximum of 31.2 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 18.6 degrees, while Pahalgam recorded 27.6 degrees and 17.5 degrees, respectively.

Kupwara recorded a maximum temperature of 33.2 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 18.4 degrees, while Kulkernag recorded 31.4 degrees and 18.2 degrees.

Gulmarg, one of the cooler stations in Kashmir, recorded a maximum of 22.2 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 12.2 degrees, while Konibal recorded 33.2 degrees and 19.4 degrees.

In the Jammu division, Jammu city recorded a maximum temperature of 33.9 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 25.2 degrees, while Banihal recorded 29.6 degrees and 20.5 degrees.

Batote recorded a maximum of 28.2 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 19.1 degrees, Katra 29.1 degrees and 22.6 degrees, Bhaderwah 30 degrees and 18.2 degrees, and Kathua 34.8 degrees and 23.4 degrees.

Among the AWS stations, Jammu recorded a maximum of 34.1 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 26.9 degrees, while Udhampur recorded 33.6 degrees and 24 degrees. Samba recorded 32 degrees and 24.9 degrees, Ramban 28.5 degrees and 21 degrees, and Poonch 33.4 degrees and 20.6 degrees.

In Kashmir, AWS data showed Srinagar at 32.4 degrees Celsius maximum and 20.2 degrees minimum, Awantipora at 32.4 and 19.6 degrees, Budgam at 31 degrees and 20.1 degrees, Baramulla at 30 degrees and 18.7 degrees, Bandipora at 32.4 degrees and 20.1 degrees, Pulwama at 32.7 degrees and 19.1 degrees, Shopian at 31.8 degrees and 17.5 degrees, Kulgam at 29.6 degrees and 18.3 degrees, Ganderbal at 30.5 degrees and 18.8 degrees, and Sonamarg at 25.1 degrees and 14.9 degrees.

The weather department forecast that on September 2, generally cloudy weather would prevail, with one or two spells of light to moderate rain or thundershowers at many places. Brief intense to heavy showers are likely in the Jammu division towards the early morning and late afternoon/evening hours.

On September 3, the weather is expected to remain generally dry, with brief showers at a few places.

On September 4, light to moderate rain and thundershowers are likely at many places, accompanied by brief intense showers.

From September 5 to 12, generally dry weather is expected, although brief spells of rain or thundershowers may occur at isolated to scattered places, particularly during the early morning and afternoon hours.

The Meteorological Centre Srinagar has cautioned that brief intense showers at localised places during September 1 and 2 could trigger flash floods, mudslides and landslides.

It advised people to remain cautious in vulnerable areas, while farmers have been advised that they may continue harvesting and other agricultural operations.

The weather bulletin said the maximum rainfall during the past 24 hours was recorded at Katra at 62 mm among the regular meteorological stations, while the AWS network recorded 73 mm at Kathua. (KNO)

NC, BJP set

Sunil Sharma, along with senior party leaders.

The BJP had announced the September 2 protest after a recent organisational meeting in Srinagar, where its leadership accused the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led government of failing to fulfil poll promises and raised issues including the increase in electricity tariffs, alleged corruption, unemployment, outsourcing of government jobs and delay in Panchayat and urban local body elections.

The party has said these issues will form the focus of its protest, with LoP Sunil Sharma accusing the government of "misgovernance and corruption" and alleging that outsourcing of recruitment was affecting employment opportunities for youth. The BJP has also questioned the delay in grassroots elections.

Responding to the BJP programme, the NC earlier in the day announced a peaceful counter-protest at BJP headquarters in Srinagar and Jammu.

The NC said that in Srinagar, its workers have been asked to assemble at Gindun Park, near Police Station Rajbagh, in the morning before proceeding as part of the party's protest programme. The party said its protest would seek accountability from the Union Government over commitments made in Parliament and before the Supreme Court of India.

The ruling party has also listed restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, constitutional guarantees, clearance of the reservation file and justice for the people of J&K among its key demands.

The NC also said the electoral mandate given by the people of Jammu and Kashmir "is not a blank cheque" and must be respected.

Meanwhile, the BJP's protest comes ahead of the upcoming Assembly session and is expected to bring several governance and public-interest issues into sharper political focus. The party has already said its legislators will raise issues concerning development, employment, local democracy, electricity tariffs and governance in the House. (KNO)

LoP Sharma dares

Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "If you have moral courage, ethics and values, resign and fight the elections in the name of statehood. Fight the elections only on the issue of statehood and let the people of Jammu and Kashmir tell you where you stand."

He said, "If Omar Abdullah has the courage, he should resign and seek a fresh mandate from the people on the issue of statehood," Sharma said

LoP Sharma also questioned the National Conference's mandate in the Assembly elections, saying the party had sought votes on issues other than statehood. "You fought the elections in the name of 35-A and now you are talking about statehood. If statehood is your priority, then fight the elections again," Sharma said.

The LoP also alleged that the government is trying to divert attention from the employment concerns of youth by focusing on the statehood issue.

He said around 25,000 youth were being affected by the outsourcing of jobs, alleging that contractors were being engaged for recruitment instead of established agencies. "Today contractors are hiring doctors, today contractors are hiring paramedical assistants. There is no merit seen there," he said.

Reacting to the National Conference's announcement of a peaceful gherao of BJP headquarters in Srinagar and Jammu on September 2, LoP Sharma called the move "unfortunate" and alleged that it is aimed at diluting the BJP's planned protest.

Sharma also said the BJP would go ahead with its protest on Wednesday and announced a gherao of the Civil Secretariat over the employment issue. "Our protest will go on as per schedule. We will protest tomorrow against the jobs that are not being given to the youth and the NC's protest on the same day is unfortunate and an attempt to divert the attention of the people from the real issues," he said. (KNO)

136 JKAS officers

the Health and Medical Education Department and Rajinder Singh as Special Secretary in the Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Department.

Sanjay Gupta, who was serving as Additional Secretary in the Mining Department, has been shifted to the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department in the same rank.

Several changes have also been made in district administration.

Amarjeet Singh has been posted as Additional District Development Commissioner, Poonch, while Ghulam Rasool will take charge as Additional District Development Commissioner, Kupwara.

Gulzar Ahmad Bhat, Administrator of Associated Hospitals, Srinagar, has been transferred as Additional District Development Commissioner, Pulwama. Masarat Hashim will succeed him as Administrator of Associated Hospitals, Srinagar.

Rifat Aftab Qureshi has been appointed Director, Command Area Development, Kashmir. The post of Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, held by Qureshi, will be filled as per the government order.

Dr Fayaz Ahmad Banday, meanwhile, has been transferred as Director, Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir.

In another key appointment, Anju Gupta has

been posted as Additional Inspector General of Registration, Jammu, while Pankaj Gupta has been appointed Regional Director, Survey and Land Records, Doda.

Namrita Dogra has been transferred as Regional Director, Survey and Land Records, Jammu.

Jogindera Singh Rai has been appointed Managing Director of the J&K Agro Industries Development Corporation, while Basharat Hussain has been posted as Chief Executive Officer of the Tourism Development Authority, Rajouri.

Vinod Kumar Behnal will take charge as Executive Director of the J&K Rehabilitation Council in the Social Welfare Department.

The reshuffle also affects the sports, taxation and disaster management sectors. Tazayun Mukhtar, currently Chief Executive Officer of the Urban Development Agency, Kashmir, has been appointed Secretary of the J&K Sports Council.

Dhananther Singh has been posted as Additional Commissioner, State Taxes (Administration and Enforcement), Jammu, while Shazia Koser has been appointed Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (IT, Data Analytics and Economic Intelligence), Jammu.

Dr Zahoor Ahmad Magray has been posted as Additional Commissioner in the office of the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir.

Ghulam Nabi Bhat has been appointed Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Recovery), Kashmir.

Veedushi Kapoor has been shifted from the Civil Aviation Department to the Revenue Department as Additional Secretary, while Shahid Mehmood has been posted as Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Pulwama.

Anil Salgotra, who was serving as Joint Chief Electoral Officer, has been appointed Joint Director, School Education, Jammu.

Raj Mohammad has been given charge as Director, Land Management, Srinagar Development Authority.

Afshan Masood has been posted as Joint Director, J&K Institute of Management, Public Administration and Rural Development (IMPARD).

Mohammad Aslam, Registrar-cum-Controller of Examinations at SKIMS, Soura, has been transferred as General Manager, District Industries Centre, Ganderbal.

Sumera Shamim, who was Director, Land Management, Srinagar Development Authority, has been posted as Joint Registrar, Cooperative Societies (Special), Kashmir.

Avleen Kour Bali has been appointed Joint Registrar, Cooperatives (Special), Jammu, while Ashima Sher has been transferred as Joint Director (Administration) in the Directorate of Rural Development, Jammu.

The order also includes a number of other postings and transfers across departments and field formations, covering areas including revenue, education, health, taxation, cooperatives, social welfare, rural development and urban administration.

The government said the transfers and postings would take effect immediately. (KNO)

J&K Assembly

Application (NeVA), a digital platform designed to streamline the functioning of legislative assemblies.

The circular states that questions submitted by MLAs have already been forwarded to the concerned departments, and login credentials for departmental access to the NeVA portal have been created. "All Administrative Departments are, therefore, requested to access their respective NeVA login accounts on a daily basis and ensure that Legislative Business concerning their departments, including Government Bills, legislative proposals and amendments, replies to Assembly Questions, assurances, notices, references and other related documents, is submitted, received and processed through the

NeVA Portal in accordance with the prescribed procedure and timelines," it reads.

The government departments have been directed to upload complete and authenticated documents corresponding to approved versions of proposals, designate Nodal Officers/NeVA Coordinators where not already appointed, and make necessary arrangements before commencement of the session to ensure a smooth transition to the electronic system.

The circular further advises that any technical issues with the portal be taken up with the Assembly Secretariat or the designated technical support team to avoid delays in legislative business. (KNO)

IGP Kumar,

Nitu Gupta, Prediman Krishan Bhat, Bhawani Rakhwal and Anuradha Gupta made a courtesy call and met the Chief Minister. The officers were recently inducted into the Indian Administrative Service.

The Chief Minister congratulated the officers on their induction into the country's premier civil service and wished them a successful tenure. He expressed hope that they would continue to serve the people with the same dedication and enthusiasm.

Commissioner Secretary, Information and Planning Department, R. Alice Vaz, separately met the Chief Minister and apprised him of the preparations for the First International Film Festival of Jammu & Kashmir (IFFJK), scheduled to be held from September 7 to 10, 2026.

The Chief Minister took note of the preparations and stressed the need for ensuring seamless arrangements and effective coordination among all concerned departments and agencies for the successful conduct of the international film festival.

Managing Director, Ernst & Young (E&Y), Amit Khandelwal, and Regional Head, E&Y, Navreet Singh, also called on the Chief Minister. The delegation briefed him on the work being undertaken by the firm in Jammu & Kashmir.

CM meets GCC J&K,

environment and public welfare in Jammu and Kashmir.

Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani was also present at the meeting. The civil society group was led by Khurshid Ahmed Ganai (IAS Retd.) and comprised other members of the GCC.

The delegation raised several issues of public importance, including governance, environmental protection, municipal administration and waste management. Particular attention was drawn to the conservation of water bodies and wetlands and the need for effective measures to safeguard these important ecological assets.

The GCC also raised issues relating to the conversion of agricultural land, traffic management, flood mitigation and management, and power development, including greater focus on renewable energy. Issues pertaining to skill development and employment generation, as well as digitisation of revenue records, were also discussed.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to the concerns and suggestions put forth by the members of the GCC. He noted the issues raised during the meeting and assured that these would be taken into consideration by the government while examining the relevant matters.

CM revamps cancer

families earning up to 3 lakh annually and 50,000 for those earning between 3 lakh and 4 lakh.

Further, beneficiaries are no longer confined to a short list; they can now access care at any hospital empanelled under the Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY-SEHAT network.

The modified scheme modifies traditional approach of assistance sent to hospital

accounts. Instead, direct bank transfers via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the patient shall be made. Further, once sanction is received from the Chief Minister's office, Deputy Commissioners are required to deposit sanctioned funds directly into beneficiary bank accounts within 72 hours of release from the Chief Minister's Secretariat.

This modified scheme is the government's decisive move to address financial vulnerability of patients suffering from life threatening disease and to provide governmental support to the families in need.

ACB arrests

of the case's IO, PSI Karanjeet Singh, from the complainant.

He said the bribe amount was recovered from the accused's possession in the presence of independent witnesses. Bhat was taken into custody in accordance with law, while his co-conspirator, PSI Karanjeet Singh, was subsequently arrested by the Bureau. Further investigation is in progress. (KNO)

MBBS, BDS interns

clinical areas, often during night and extended shifts. Despite these responsibilities, we are receiving only Rs 12,300 a month. The amount is simply not proportionate to the work we are doing," said Dr Tasaduq, a protesting intern.

Another intern said interns are an important part of the day-to-day functioning of government hospitals and frequently assist senior doctors in emergency care, OPDs, wards and other patient-care services.

"We are not asking for anything unreasonable. We are demanding Rs 30,000, which is still modest considering the workload, inflation and the stipends being paid in several other states," the intern said.

The interns also pointed to the disparity between Jammu and Kashmir and other states, saying that medical interns elsewhere are receiving substantially higher stipends while performing comparable clinical duties. Comparative figures cited by protesters show stipends of more than Rs 30,000 in several states.

Dr Ikhlās, one of the protesting interns, said the stipend had remained at around Rs 12,300 for years despite interns performing night duties, extended shifts and rural postings.

"Our stipend has remained unchanged for nearly seven years. We perform the same clinical duties as interns elsewhere, including emergency and night duties, but our remuneration remains around Rs 400 a day. We want the government to consider our demand seriously and raise it to Rs 30,000," he said.

They said the issue had already gone through the government process, but implementation continued to be delayed. "A committee had recommended revision of the stipend, and the issue has also been raised subsequently. Yet we have not received a clear decision. We keep being referred from one office to another, while the matter remains pending," they added.

The agitation comes amid acknowledgment from the Health and Medical Education Department that the proposal for enhancement of the stipend is under process. Health and Medical Education Minister Sakina Itoo had said on Monday that the demand was genuine and the file is lying before the finance department.

The interns, however, are seeking a time-bound decision and written assurance, saying verbal assurances would not be sufficient after years of delay.

"We respect the government and understand that the proposal has to pass through different stages, but this issue has already been pending for years. We want a clear timeline and a formal decision. Until then, the protest will continue," an intern said.

The interns have sought immediate attention of higher-ups in this regard. (KNO)

SC quashes all FIRs against CJP protestors, Sept 5 march called off

PTI

New Delhi, Sep 1: The Supreme Court on Tuesday quashed all FIRs registered against students who participated in the Cockroach Janta Party-led protests between July 20 to 25 across the country, prompting the group to call off its September 5 march in the national capital.

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant also directed the Centre to provide within three months compensation to families of students who ended their lives over the NEET paper leak.

Closing the criminal proceedings against the protestors, the bench said, "Keeping in view the future prospects of the young protestors, we invoke our powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to do complete justice."

Article 142 empowers the apex court to pass any orders to do complete justice.

Acceding to the Centre's request, the apex court, however, permitted Delhi Police to register fresh FIRs against 2,873 individuals with serious criminal antecedents who were present in the Jantar Mantar protest.

The bench, also comprising Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana, took note of the submissions of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta and widened the ambit of its order. "If there is any other FIR registered with regard to same protest between July 20 to July 25 in any of the states or UTs, which are not before this court, they shall not be pursued and will be treated as closed," it said.

Dealing with the award compensation to the families of those who committed suicide, the court directed the Centre to formulate a pan-India policy on the issue



and pay the money within three months to aggrieved families.

CJP co-convenor Saurav Das appeared before the bench and read out a statement on behalf of the group.

"As co-convenor of the CJP, I want to state that in view of the positive assurances of the Government of India and the judicial sanctity bestowed upon them today, and in view of the order being passed by this Court, the CJP deems it appropriate to withdraw the call for the march on September 5 and looks forward to compliance with today's order. I also thank the Court for this decision and the learned counsel on both sides, Ms. Vrinda Grover and the Solicitor General, for their efforts," Das said.

The bench recorded the

statements of the solicitor general and Das and said it has invoked its extraordinary powers keeping in mind the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case. It expressed the hope that both sides will abide by their promises.

During the hearing, Mehta informed the court that the Centre is committed to honour assurances given to the CJP that the police in Delhi and other states would not pursue the FIRs registered in connection with the protests.

The solicitor general also told the court that the Union of India is committed to other assurances as well, including compensation to the families.

Mehta, however, sought time to work out the necessary modalities. The CJP had called for a

protest march in Delhi on September 5, Teachers' Day. It had accused the Centre of failing to honour the promises made on July 25 to persuade the group to withdraw its 36-day agitation against irregularities in exams and the NEET paper leak.

According to the CJP, the march was to be led by families of students who committed suicide following the cancellation of the NEET exam and the subsequent re-test, as well as those who were allegedly subjected to police excesses during the July agitation.

The top court had agreed to hear a plea filed by Delhi Police seeking quashing of 13 FIRs against students who participated in the protests and registering a fresh case against

2,873 individuals.

The application said that according to the decision taken by the Central government on July 25, Delhi Police no longer wished to pursue the 13 FIRs.

"It is submitted that 2,873 individuals having serious criminal antecedents as per the National Crime Records Bureau database were prima-facie reported to be present at the protest site. The investigation is required to ascertain their role, if any, in the commission of offences relating to bodily harm or destruction of property at the said protests.

"The Delhi Police seeks leave to file a fresh FIR only for these 2,873 individuals. The registration and consequential investigation of this fresh, specific FIR shall be in conformity with the clarification of the expression, 'criminal antecedents,'" the application said.

The apex court had earlier constituted a high-powered enquiry committee headed by former apex court judge Justice R Subhash Reddy to probe issues and allegations, including those of police excesses against students surrounding the nationwide protests against NEET-UG paper leaks.

The CJP-led march on July 20 in Delhi saw clashes between protesters and security personnel, who used lathis and teargas shells to disperse crowds attempting to move towards Parliament.

The student-led protests, which spread to several cities, were centred around the resignation of the then Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

The agitation, which began at Jantar Mantar on June 20, was called off on July 25 after Pradhan resigned and the government accepted the CJP's other demands.

PM Modi concludes two-nation visit to Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan



PTI

Bishkek, Sep 1: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday concluded his two-nation visit to Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, during which he held bilateral meetings with several heads of state and attended the annual SCO summit in Bishkek, where he called for dismantling the entire ecosystem of terrorism.

PM Modi was seen off by Adylbek Kasymaliev, Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan, at the airport in Bishkek.

"Following a productive visit, PM @narendramodi departed from Bishkek for India. PM was seen off by Mr. Adylbek Kasymaliev, Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan," the Ministry of External Affairs posted on X.

"The visit was marked by productive engagements, and tangible outcomes, further strengthening India's engagement with the region," it said.

PM Modi started his visit from Uzbekistan on Saturday, during which the two countries decided to elevate their

ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership and set a target of USD 5 billion in annual trade by 2030 following talks with Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

The two sides also inked 11 agreements to boost engagement in several key sectors, including mining and tourism. They agreed to establish a framework for the long-term supply of Uranium from Uzbekistan to India, in line with cooperation in the civil-nuclear energy sector.

After reaching Kyrgyzstan on Sunday to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, Modi held a series of bilateral meetings on the sidelines.

In a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Modi called for an immediate end to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, asserting that a peaceful resolution of the conflict is humanity's shared priority.

Modi also attended the opening ceremony of the World Nomad Games in the Kyrgyz capital on Monday alongside a host of visiting SCO leaders.

Anna Hazare hospitalised in Mumbai



PTI

Mumbai, Sep 1: Social activist Anna Hazare has been admitted to a hospital in Mumbai after his blood reports suggested a renal infection, his associate said on Tuesday. Hazare, 89, was brought to Bombay Hospital in south Mumbai on Monday night from his native Ralegan Siddhi village in Ahilyanagar district, where he had been admitted to a local medical facility for initial treatment, his aide Datta Awari said.

"According to Anna's blood reports, he had a renal infection, but he is doing fine now," Awari said. The anti-graft

crusader was admitted to a hospital in Ahilyanagar last week and had recovered, he added.

Doctors at Bombay Hospital were conducting a detailed assessment of Hazare's condition. Over the years, the Armyman-turned-activist has led numerous movements to promote rural development, increase transparency in government functioning, and curb corruption. The Hazare-led anti-corruption movement in 2011 was one of the largest public mobilisations in New Delhi. His 13-day fast had drawn large crowds demanding a stronger Lokpal law.

Rahul Gandhi should apologise for spreading falsehood on Indian economy: BJP

PTI

New Delhi, Sep 1: The BJP on Tuesday hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership for the 7.8 per cent GDP growth in the April-June quarter and demanded that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi apologise for calling the Indian economy "dead" and spreading falsehood that a big economic tsunami was on its way.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, senior party leader Ravi Shankar Prasad also lauded Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's financial management and contributions of the Indian industry, businessmen and workers for the achievement.

He slammed the Congress for its criticism of the Modi government's economic policies, saying, "We have brought the Indian economy from the fragile five in 2013 to 7.8 per cent GDP growth."

Crediting Prime Minister Modi's vision and leadership, Prasad hit out at Gandhi, alleging that he tried to tarnish India's image with his



baseless remarks about the Indian economy.

"Rahul Gandhi has shared a wealth of insights over the past three or four months: 'Indian economy is a dead economy, a big economic tsunami is coming'. Now, a growth rate of 7.8 per cent is there in front of you. Do you have some shame?" the BJP MP asked the Congress leader. "The BJP condemns outright the irresponsible, false, baseless and mischievous contention of Gandhi that the Indian economy is a dead economy and a big economic tsunami is going to come," Prasad said.

This has happened despite war and the Gulf crisis. This

happens when there is stable leadership in the country like Narendra Modi who can turn challenges into opportunity. This happens when the entire country stands together with Modi's leadership, the BJP leader said.

Prasad said that though Gandhi is the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, he is bereft of any understanding of economic management and economic development.

"The BJP demands that Gandhi must apologise for condemning the Indian economy based on falsehood and baseless allegations that it is a dead economy and a big economic tsunami is

coming," he added.

"Rahul Gandhi doesn't do his homework. He relies on cheat-speak. He simply reads out whatever has been written for him," the BJP leader said, and asked, "Has Rahul Gandhi taken a contract to compromise and weaken the morale of the people of India?"

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has termed the GDP growth a "herculean feat", calling it particularly impressive, coming against the backdrop of global turmoil, geopolitical conflicts and supply chain disruptions.

In a video message on Instagram, the prime minister also slammed those spreading "jhooth ki goonj", an apparent riff on Rahul Gandhi's 'Chhatron ki Goonj' campaign where he has been critical of the Modi government's performance, saying the latest GDP growth rate tore through the narrative of "pessimism" about the Indian economy. Modi said India must maintain the growth momentum and continue working towards greater self-reliance.

GST mop-up hits Rs 1,99,853 cr in Aug, domestic revenue up 9.3%

PTI

New Delhi, Sep 1: Gross GST collections rose 14.8 per cent year-on-year to about Rs 2 lakh crore in August, driven by domestic transactions as well as imports.

The August GST collection figures, coming a day after the official data showed a 7.8 per cent growth in GDP during the June quarter of FY27, show that economic activity and consumption continued to be strong in the second quarter as well despite the tariff headwinds and the West Asia crisis.

Revenue from domestic transactions rose 9.3 per cent to over Rs 1.37 lakh crore, while that from



imports jumped 29 per cent to Rs 62,604 crore. With this, the gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue during August was Rs 1,99,853 crore.

The gross Central GST collection was Rs 38,413 crore, State GST at Rs 46,316 crore and Integrated GST at over Rs 1.15 lakh crore during August.

Refunds jumped 68 per

cent to Rs 31,795 crore during August.

Net GST collection during the month was at Rs 1.68 lakh crore, an 8.3 per cent year-on-year growth.

EY India Tax Partner Saurabh Agarwal said GST collections underscore the underlying resilience of the Indian economy, reflecting steady consumption and

improving compliance. Equally encouraging is the pickup in collections from states such as Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Ladakh, and Andaman & Nicobar — a trend that reflects the broadening of economic activity beyond traditional industrial hubs and points to more inclusive, geographically balanced growth.

"Looking ahead, with the festive season round the corner, revenue collections over the next couple of months are likely to trend higher, supported by increased consumer spending," Agarwal said.

Spitting, littering in public to attract fines in Bengal

PTI

Kolkata, Sep 1: Spitting on roads and littering in public places will attract fines in West Bengal from Tuesday as the BJP government steps up efforts to keep cities clean, with Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Minister Agnimitra Pal insisting that the move is aimed at changing public behaviour rather than filling government coffers.

Under the new enforcement drive, a person caught spitting in public will be fined Rs 100, while dumping garbage or spreading filth in public places will attract a Rs 200 penalty.

Open defecation or urination in public will also invite a Rs 200 fine, while use of single-use plastic carry bags below 125 microns will similarly attract a penalty of Rs 200.

The government initiative comes against the backdrop of existing legal provisions against littering and public spitting, which, officials and civic authorities have often struggled to enforce effectively.

Pal said the fines were deliberately kept nominal and should not be viewed as a revenue-generation exercise.

"Rather than imposing strictness to collect money through fines, our objective is to make people aware. We do not intend to take money from people by imposing fines," she told reporters on Tuesday.

"We want Kolkata and other cities of our state to become beautiful," she said.

IN THE COURT OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1st CLASS SOPORE

In the case of: Tahira Hamid D/o: Ab Hamid Hajam R/o: Darnambal.

Versus

C.E.O Municipal Council Sopore/BDO Sangrama/BDO Sopore (Registrar of Birth and Death)

...Non Applicant

NOTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE

Whereas, the above titled case is under process in this court, seeking direction therein to the non-applicant u/s 13(3) of the Registration of Births & Deaths Act, 1969 for registration of Birth event of the applicant's Self namely Tahira Hamid D/o:Ab Hamid Hajam as 15-01-1998 at Home.

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

Executive Magistrate 1st Class, Sopore

IN THE COURT OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1st CLASS SOPORE

In the case of: Irshad Ahmad Chokan S/o: Karamdin Sopore R/o: Brandoub Rafiabad .

Versus

C.E.O Municipal Council Sopore/BDO Sangrama/BDO Sopore (Registrar of Birth and Death)

...Non Applicant

NOTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE

Whereas, the above titled case is under process in this court, seeking direction therein to the non-applicant u/s 13(3) of the Registration of Births & Deaths Act, 1969 for registration of Birth event of the applicant's Son namely Mohd Anas Chokan D/o:Irshad Ahmad Chokan as 04-04-2023 at H.S.S Hospital .

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

Executive Magistrate 1st Class, Sopore

IN THE COURT OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1st CLASS SOPORE

In the case of: Afrooza Begam S/o: Shabir Ahmad War R/o: Gund Brath.

Versus

C.E.O Municipal Council Sopore/BDO Sangrama/BDO Sopore (Registrar of Birth and Death)

...Non Applicant

NOTICE TO PUBLIC AT LARGE

Whereas, the above titled case is under process in this court, seeking direction therein to the non-applicant u/s 13(3) of the Registration of Births & Deaths Act, 1969 for registration of Birth event of the applicant's Daughter namely Sadiya Shabir D/o: Shabir Ahmad War as 09-03-2013 at M.C.H Sopore.

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

Executive Magistrate 1st Class, Sopore

Trump vows to hit Iran hard after first exchanges of fire in a month

HIGHLIGHTS

- Trump: 'There will be a response' after Iranian attack
- Iran says it launched missiles at US bases in Jordan after US attack on Larak Island
- Three killed in US attack on Larak Island, Iranian media say
- Trump posts AI-generated videos of attack that did not take place
- Iran's president says 'continuing the war is in no one's interest'

REUTERS

Dubai/Asheville (North Carolina), Sep 1: US President Donald Trump threatened further strikes against Iran on Monday after the first exchange of direct attacks in a month, raising tensions in a conflict that had recently shifted into an economic standoff.

Iran launched missiles overnight at two US air bases in Jordan in response to a US attack on Iran's Larak Island, where Washington said it had struck Iranian launchers firing mines into the Strait of Hormuz.

The exchange highlighted how quickly a conflict that has increasingly been fought through sanctions, blockades and economic pressure can still spill back into military action. While neither side appeared to be seeking a return to full-scale war, both signalled they were prepared to respond to further attacks.

"We're going to hit them hard," a Fox News reporter quoted Trump as later telling the channel. "There will be a response."

Separately, Trump told reporters in the Oval Office that the renewed strikes did not signal a return to full-scale war, describing Iran as a "failed nation" whose economy and military had been severely degraded. "That doesn't mean we won't smack them. We'll see what happens."

Asked whether he had ruled out using nuclear weapons against Iran, Trump said there was "no reason" to do so because Iran was already "totally defeated militarily."

A senior Iranian source told Reuters the overnight exchanges of fire, the first since late July, were a "limited and contained confrontation" but said Tehran would deliver a harsh response if attacked again.

Trump said US air defenses had downed all Iranian missiles that could have caused any damage and that new US economic sanctions on Iran were having a big impact, Fox News reported.

Earlier, Trump had posted to social media two videos depicting



explosions engulfing Iran's main oil export terminal, with the message "Kharg island being blown to smithereens!!!"

But the videos were generated by AI and no such attack took place. Iran called Trump's post "laughable." Vice President JD Vance told reporters Trump "likes to switch it up on social media a little bit" and was "sending a message." Washington has so far mainly held off from hitting Iran's major oil and gas infrastructure, a move that Iran says would be met with devastating attacks against its Gulf neighbors.

PILING ON ECONOMIC PRESSURE
Washington has, instead, stepped up efforts to punish Tehran and its business partners with "secondary sanctions" that hit third countries buying its oil.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said that Iran was "lashing out" now because the new sanctions were taking a toll on its economy.

"They're in shock at the state of their economy," Bessent told

reporters at a meeting of G20 finance ministers and central bank governors in North Carolina. "I would think that they are lashing out kinetically because they are losing economically."

Bessent told Reuters on Sunday that new secondary sanctions were likely to be unveiled weekly in the effort to pressure Iran, with an initial focus on banks.

US HIT IRANIAN ISLAND IN STRAIT OF HORMUZ

US forces struck two Iranian launchers on Iran's Larak Island on Sunday, a US official said, after "Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps forces were observed preparing to launch rockets with sea mines into the Strait of Hormuz."

Three people were killed in the US attack, Iran's Tasnim news agency reported. The state-affiliated Nournews said two of them had been identified as members of the Revolutionary Guards Navy.

Larak is a small island in the strait near the strategic Iranian port of

Bandar Abbas. The Strait of Hormuz, which normally handles a fifth of global crude oil and gas shipments, has been effectively blocked since the start of the war.

In a statement, the US Central Command said it had taken "limited, precise" action against minelaying forces of Iran's Revolutionary Guards that posed an "imminent threat" in the strait. It gave no details.

Iranian state TV quoted the Revolutionary Guards as saying a supertanker had caught fire and been brought to a halt after being struck by two naval mines in the south of the strait. The US military later denied the claim.

PRESIDENT SAYS IRAN STILL WANTS NEGOTIATED END TO CONFLICT

Trump halted his "Operation Epic Fury" bombing campaign with a ceasefire in April, and the sides agreed in June on an interim framework for talks. But that failed to hold, leading to repeated exchanges of fire including two weeks of US bombing in July.

Over the past month, Washington has hoped a blockade of Iranian ports will inflict enough economic damage to force Iran to comply with US demands. Tehran meanwhile has maintained that the Strait of Hormuz is shut and will reopen only under its supervision.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian nevertheless said on Monday that Tehran still favored a negotiated settlement.

"... we believe that continuing the war is in no one's interest, neither ours, nor the region's, nor humanity's," Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency quoted him as telling Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of a regional security meeting in Kyrgyzstan.

Trump has yet to achieve the objectives he set out at the start of the war: dismantling Iran's nuclear program, curbing its ability to attack regional rivals and creating conditions for Iranians to overthrow their clerical rulers.

Nepal says death toll rises to 987



AFP

Kathmandu (Nepal), Sep 1: Devastating floods on the China-Nepal border have killed at least 987 people in Nepal, the disaster authority said Tuesday, taking overall deaths to more than 1,000.

Chinese state media earlier confirmed 16 people were killed in Tibet, bringing the total toll from Wednesday's disaster to 1,003. The number of missing in Nepal dropped to 3,916, as rescue efforts entered a seventh day, and the bodies recovered rose.

In China, state media say there 546 people missing, taking the overall number of missing to 4,462.

The missing in Nepal include 583 foreigners from over 30 nationalities. The

missing in China includes 261 foreigners from 23 countries.

Among the missing foreigners, Indians make up one of largest proportions, with 275 citizens and another 128 people of Indian origin missing in Nepal, according to New Delhi.

There are 85 US citizens missing, according to the State Department on Sunday.

There are also 62 Ukrainians, 51 Malaysians, 42 Australians, and 33 British citizens, according to reports, including both Nepal's tourist board and embassies.

In India, authorities in Uttar Pradesh state said they had recovered 17 bodies from rivers flowing from Nepal, believed to be flood victims.

Indian authorities are seeking to identify them, and they are not included in the toll.

Deployment of US Typhon missiles in Japan threat to security: Russia



REUTERS

Vladivostok (Russia), Sep 1: Russia's For-

eign Ministry said on Tuesday that the deployment of U.S. Typhon missiles in Japan, even for the purpose of military drills, was unacceptable to Russia and posed a threat to its security. Maria Zakharova, a spokeswoman for the ministry, told reporters at a briefing in Vladivostok that Russia was calling on Japan to return to a policy of pacifism.

The US military sent its powerful Typhon midrange missile system to Kagoshima Prefecture for joint exercises with the Japanese Self-Defence Forces in June, the Japan Times reported at the time. It said the missiles were then scheduled to take part in a joint exercise this month before being moved to a U.S. military base in Japan from around mid-October.

Marsh, Head return for ODIs against Zimbabwe, SA

■ Labuschagne misses out



PTI

Sydney, Sep 1: Top-order batter Marnus Labuschagne was a notable omission while skipper Mitchell Marsh and fellow opener Travis Head re-

turned to the 17-member Australia squad for the ODI series against Zimbabwe and South Africa beginning later this month.

Marsh and prolific run-getter Head missed the 50-over series

in Pakistan and Bangladesh earlier this year.

The twin series, starting on September 15, assumes added significance for Australia as they begin preparations for next year's ODI World Cup, to be co-hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

The pace-bowling duo of Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc will miss the Zimbabwe leg before aligning with the squad for the series against South Africa. Youngsters Joel Davies and Ollie Peake have retained their places in the squad following de-cent performances during Australia's recent series in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Bravo, Pollard, Narine honoured with stand at Queen's Park Oval

PTI

Port of Spain, Sep 1: Trinidad and Tobago's most celebrated cricketers -- Dwayne Bravo, Kieron Pollard and Sunil Narine -- unveiled a stand named after them at the historic Queen's Park Oval.

The stand unveiling, held on Monday, is part of the Queen's Park Cricket Club's (QPCC) celebrations, marking Trinidad & Tobago's 64th Independence Day.

It recognises the three homegrown stars whose achievements have contributed significantly to

the country's legacy in international and franchise cricket. The stand was formerly known as the Trini Posse Stand.

The honour places Bravo, Pollard and Narine alongside a distinguished group of Trinidad and Tobago cricketing legends whose names are associated with the Queen's Park Oval.

Other notable facilities at the venue include the Brian Lara Pavilion, Deryck Murray Players' Gallery, Jeffrey Stollmeyer Stand, Learie Constantine Stand, Gerry Gomez Media Centre and Cyril L. Duprey Stand.

Bravo, Pollard and Narine have been among the leading flagbearers of the shortest format, rewriting record books and setting numerous milestones over the years. Pollard, one of the most prolific T20 cricketers in the world, has played more than 700 matches, scoring over 14,000 runs and taking more than 330 wickets. Bravo finished his T20 career with 631 wickets, a record that made him the leading wicket-taker in men's T20 cricket at the time of his retirement. He also scored nearly 7,000 runs in the format.

WEDNESDAY

02

SEPTEMBER

2026

MOVIE

SCHEDULE

AWARAPAN 2
(HINDI) (U/A 16+)

11:05 AM

02:00 PM

07:45 PM

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

TOXIC:
A FAIRY TALE FOR GROWN-UPS
(A)

HINDI

01:55 PM

05:40 PM

HINDI ATMOS

11:00 AM

03:00 PM

07:00 PM

SPIDER-MAN:
BRAND NEW DAY
(ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES) (U/A 13+)

11:05 AM

04:50 PM

+91 95416 13868