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SCAN TO VISIT

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Create openings rather than seeking them: LG Sinha to youth

Addresses maiden convocation of Cluster University Jammu | Says startups from small towns show genuine democratisation of opportunity | Compliments women students for winning 130 out of 163 gold medals

Yogesh

Jammu, Nov 14: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said that startups from small towns show genuine democratisation of opportunity and asked the young graduates to create openings rather than seeking them.

Addressing the maiden convocation of Cluster University of Jammu here, LG Sinha, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "India now has nearly 223,000 startups and 135 unicorns, and that many founders come from small towns, reflecting a genuine democratisation of opportunity and entrepreneurship."

Offering a fresh perspective on the "demographic dividend", Lieutenant Governor said he preferred to call it a "demographic responsibility". "Society would benefit when youth connect farmers to markets, women's self-help groups become employment-generating enterprises, and engineers develop affordable medical tools for remote areas," he said.



He said the graduating students of CUJ's maiden convocation are the pioneering torchbearers of the university's tradition, and congratulated all graduates, gold medallists and their parents. Governor of Tamil Nadu, Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar also graced the occasion.

The Lieutenant Governor complimented the women students, noting that 130 of the 163 gold medals had been won by daughters.

He observed that when given opportunities, daughters do not merely attain positions but redefine the meaning of achievement.

He said their gold medals are badges of confidence for generations to come.

"Daughters across higher-education institutions in Jammu Kashmir are writing new chapters of success in their own names," the Lieutenant Governor said.

INTELLECTUAL HERITAGE OF J&K PROMOTED HARMONY AMONG FAITHS

He highlighted the intellectual heritage of Jammu Kashmir and noted that Maharishi Kalhana, author of the Rajatarangini, Maharishi Abhinavagupta, and the saint-poets Yogini Lalleshwari and Sheikh-ul-Alam, promoted harmony among faiths and the pursuit of truth. He said the graduates were carrying forward a tradition of knowledge more than a thousand years old.

The Lieutenant Governor said India is witnessing a historic period of | More on P6

Become entrepreneurs, innovators: CM Omar to graduates

Says no student should lose academic year waiting for examinations or award of degree

KT News Desk

Jammu, Nov 14: Asking young graduates to become entrepreneurs, innovators and value creators, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday said that no student should lose an academic year waiting for examinations or the award of a degree.

Addressing the first-ever convocation of Cluster University of Jammu at Abhinav Theatre here, CM Omar, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "Rapid technological changes, particularly the emergence of artificial intelligence, had transformed the employment landscape, making continuous learning, critical thinking, judgement and empathy increasingly important."

He urged young graduates to look beyond conventional career paths and explore entrepreneurship and emerging economic opportunities, observing that government employment alone could not absorb every graduate.



"Sustainable prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir will come when our youth move beyond being exclusively job seekers and become value creators, innovators and entrepreneurs," he said.

Identifying agribusiness and food processing, sustainable tourism, cultural heritage, renewable energy, disaster resilience and the digital economy as sectors with significant potential, the Chief Minister called upon graduates to leverage their academic knowledge to develop enterprises and generate employment.

He pointed out that Jammu and Kashmir's agricultural produce, including basmati rice, Bhaderwah rajmash, saffron, walnuts, kaladi and citrus fruits, offered considerable scope for value addition, branding and access to wider markets.

Similarly, he said, graduates could explore opportunities in heritage tourism, eco-tourism, digital media, renewable energy, climate-resilient infrastructure and technology-enabled services.

The Chief Minister said his government was determined to support young entrepreneurs by strengthening the start-up ecosystem, simplifying clearances and improving access to credit.

He also emphasised the importance of timely academic calendars and examination cycles, asserting | More on P6

Traffic Police blacklist 60,000 vehicles having 5 or more pending challans: DIG

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Nov 14: Deputy Inspector General of Traffic J&K Haseeb-ur-Rehman on Saturday said that J&K Traffic Police have blacklisted nearly 60,000 vehicles having five or more pending traffic challans, while smart cameras are increasingly detecting violations such as red-light jumping, riding without helmets and driving without seat belts.

Talking to reporters here, the DIG as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said the department has implemented the Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS), with intelligent traffic lights set to be introduced as part of a major push to modernise traffic regulation and enforcement across the Union Territory.

He said technology-driven surveillance has significantly increased the detection of violations, with cameras catching offenders even in the absence of traffic personnel at the spot.

"Whether someone jumps a red light, drives without a seat belt or rides without a helmet, the cameras are detecting these violations. This is also creating a deterrent against traffic rule violations," he said.

Rehman said | More on P6

KULGAM TERROR ATTACK

Search operation continues for 4th day, DGP visits multiple sites

CRPF DG chairs operational conference, reviews security; dog squad deployed; security tightened along Jmu-Sgr NH



Umaisar Gull Ganie

Kulgam, Nov 14: The massive search operation to track down the terrorists involved in the firing on a party of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in South Kashmir's Kulgam district continued for the fourth consecutive day on Saturday.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that dog squads were pressed into service to assist search teams. Security has also been tightened along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and adjoining areas to prevent any suspicious movement.

Meanwhile, Director General of Police (DGP) J&K, Nalin Prabhat visited multiple ongoing operation sites in Kulgam today and reviewed the security situation in the aftermath of the Kulgam terror attack, that left three CRPF personnel injured.

During the visit, the DGP interacted with officers deployed on the ground, took stock of the | More on P6

Nearly 2000 kg rotten meat seized, destroyed in two days at Budgam Rly Stn

Police register FIR after doctors declare mutton unfit for human consumption

Naveed Ul Haq Ganaiee

Budgam, Nov 14: Officials have seized around two tonnes of rotten meat at Budgam Railway Station over the past two days, with Police registering an FIR in connection with the first seizure and launching an investigation to identify the traders.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that around 1,600 kilograms of meat was seized on Friday after Railway Police alerted the Food Safety Department about foul smell emanating from the consignment.

Station House Officer (SHO) Railway Police Budgam, Benazir Iqbal, told KNO that the consignment was inspected on the spot by the Veterinary Department. "The doctor issued a certificate declaring the meat unfit for human consumption due to its highly deteriorated condition and potential health risks," she said, adding. "The seized meat was disposed of in the presence of the Tehsildar, Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Budgam and officials of the Food Safety Department."



"An FIR (No. 05) has been registered under Section 271 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), | More on P6

No compromise on meat quality, massive crackdown launched: Minister

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Amid growing concerns over the quality and safety of meat supplied to consumers in Jammu and Kashmir, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Javed Ahmed Rana on Saturday said the government has launched coordinated operations involving multiple departments to ensure quality checks and prevent any compromise with public health. In a conversation | More on P6

Dry weather expected across J&K

- Gulmarg freezes at minus 1.6°C
- Farmers advised to resume work

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Nov 14: Gulmarg recorded the lowest minimum temperature in Kashmir at minus 1.6 degrees Celsius, while Shopian was the coldest among the plains at 0.9 degrees Celsius, as fresh rainfall and snowfall in higher reaches marked Saturday's weather across Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

According to the Meteorological Centre here, Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of 7.4 degrees Celsius, which was 6.1 degrees above the seasonal normal, while Qazigund also recorded 7.4 degrees Celsius, 6.3 degrees above normal.

Pahalgam recorded a minimum temperature of 2.8 degrees Celsius, 4 degrees above normal, while Kupwara settled at 4.7 degrees Celsius, 4.4 degrees above normal. Kukernag recorded 6.3 degrees Celsius against the normal of 2.2 degrees, while Gulmarg settled at minus 1.6 degrees Celsius, one degree below normal.

According to details accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Sonamarg recorded a minimum temperature | More on P6

Nearly half of Kashmir's diabetics unaware of condition, doctors warn

Call for annual screening for those above 35; ICMR-INDIAB study finds 7.8% diabetes prevalence, 10.5% prediabetes in J&K, Ladakh

Jahangeer Ganaie

Srinagar, Nov 14: Kashmir is witnessing a steady rise in diabetes cases, with nearly half of those suffering from the disease remaining unaware of their condition, doctors said on World Diabetes Day on Saturday, stressing the need for early diagnosis, regular screening and lifestyle modifications.

Doctors said diabetes was no longer restricted to urban areas, as cases were increasingly being reported from both rural and urban parts of Kashmir, and cautioned that the absence of noticeable symptoms in many patients often results in delayed diagnosis, exposing them to serious health complications.

Dr Tanveer Ahmad, an endocrinologist, told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that diabetes is a chronic condition that develops either when the pancreas fails to produce sufficient insulin or when the body cannot effectively utilise the insulin produced. The disease is broadly classified into Type 1, Type 2 and gestational diabetes, he said, adding that genetic predisposition and environmental factors can contribute to its development.

He said common symptoms include excessive thirst, frequent urination, unexplained weight loss, fatigue, weakness, mood changes, blurred vision, slow-healing wounds and recurrent infections, though many people do not experience noticeable symptoms, making periodic screening particularly important. "The best way to prevent Type 2 diabetes is to adopt healthy eating habits, avoid ultra-processed foods, remain physically active and reduce weight if one is overweight or obese," the endocrinologist said.



Nearly half of the people suffering from diabetes remained unaware of their condition, said Dr Shahnawaz Ahmad. He advised people above 35, especially those with obesity, hypertension, a family history of diabetes, polycystic ovary conditions or a history of diabetes during pregnancy, to undergo blood sugar screening at least once a year. "People with these risk factors should not wait for symptoms to appear," he said, recommending at least 45 minutes of brisk walking every day.

Dr Rafaqat described diabetes as a silent killer and stressed that dietary regulation, regular exercise and weight management could play a significant role in controlling it. He cautioned against unnecessary steroid use and self-medication, saying such practices could adversely affect blood sugar levels, and said diabetes education is as important as treatment.

Doctors warned that prolonged exposure to uncontrolled blood sugar could lead to cardiovascular diseases, diabetic neuropathy, nephropathy and retinopathy, besides an increased risk of cognitive decline, with the risk rising with the duration of diabetes and poor blood sugar control.

Meanwhile, findings of the ICMR-INDIAB study in 2024 have highlighted the growing burden of diabetes and other metabolic disorders in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

According to the study, around 7.8 per cent of the population is suffering from diabetes, while another 10.5 per cent is in the prediabetes category. The study also found that nearly 30 per cent of the population was hypertensive, while 57.6 per cent was obese.

Doctors said non-communicable diseases | More on P6

'Diabetes care must protect organs, improve quality of life'

Jahangeer Ganaie

On World Diabetes Day, health experts called for a comprehensive approach towards diabetes management, saying treatment should focus not only on controlling blood sugar levels but also on protecting patients from long-term complications and ensuring a better quality of life. Dr Shariq Rashid Masoodi, Senior Consultant, Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolic Medicine at DSM Clinics Kashmir, speaking with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said people should not wait for diabetes to manifest through symptoms before taking action, as early screening, timely diagnosis and appropriate treatment can make a significant difference. He said diabetes care must go beyond blood sugar control | More on P6

Waste Segregation, Responsible Disposal

DC Pulwama flags off waste collection vehicles for door-to-door Solid Waste Management

Calls for proper, collective community participation to keep public spaces, water bodies, religious places clean

KT News Desk



PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 14: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, K.K. Sidha, Saturday flagged off 11 dedicated waste collection vehicles for door-to-door solid waste collection and management services across all 11 blocks of the district, marking a significant step towards strengthening sanitation infrastructure and ensuring scientific waste management at the grassroots level.

The flag-off ceremony, as per an official statement, was attended by ADDC Pulwama, Gulzar Ahmad Bhat; ACD Pulwama; ACP Pulwama; BDOs and other concerned officials of the Rural Development Department.

The initiative, being implemented by the Rural Development Department (RDD), aims to streamline door-to-door waste collection, promote segregation of waste at source and ensure its proper disposal through an organised collection and management mechanism across rural areas of the district.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of responsible waste management practices, particularly segregation of recyclable and non-recyclable waste at source. He urged people to refrain from dumping garbage in water bodies, near religious places or other public spaces, emphasising that such practices adversely affect the environment and public health.

He called upon the public to make proper use of the newly flagged-off vehicles and extend cooperation to the concerned field functionaries for effective implementation of the initiative.

The DC emphasised that maintaining cleanliness and ensuring scientific waste disposal is a collective responsibility, requiring active participation from every household and community.

Children's Day celebrated at Palaash, Pareesha Child Care Institutions of Bandipora



KT News Desk

BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 14: Children's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Palaash Child Care Institution for Boys and Pareesha Child Care Institution for Girls in Bandipora, with a series of colourful activities and celebrations aimed at spreading happiness among children and highlighting their rights, welfare and overall development.

The celebrations, as per an official statement, witnessed children participating in various fun-filled activities and enjoying memorable moments in a cheerful and festive atmosphere.

Officials from Mission Vatsalya also interacted with the children and highlighted the significance of Children's Day. They threw light on the importance of ensuring a safe, supportive and nurturing environment for every child, while emphasising the need to protect child Rights, promote their education and ensure their emotional and social well-being.

District Child Protection Officer Bandipora, Bashir Ahmad Malik, in his message, extended warm greetings to the children on the occasion and stressed that every child deserves love, care, protection, dignity and equal opportunities to grow and prosper.

He highlighted that Children's Day is not merely a day of celebration but also a reminder of the collective responsibility of society, families and institutions towards safeguarding childhood and creating opportunities for children to realise their full potential.

He further emphasised the role of Mission Vatsalya in strengthening child protection mechanisms and ensuring the welfare, rehabilitation and holistic development of children, particularly those requiring care and protection.

SWD Budgam organises awareness-cum-enrollment drive at Kanigund Beerwah

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, NOVEMBER 14: Social Welfare Department (SWD), Budgam, through SANKALP – Hub for Empowerment of Women (SANKALP-HEW), under Mission Shakti, organised an Awareness-cum-Enrollment Drive at Kanigund, Beerwah, with the objective of promoting women empowerment, creating awareness about government welfare schemes and sensitising the community about child rights.

During the programme, participants were sensitised about the role and objectives of SANKALP – Hub for Empowerment of Women and the various support services available for women. Emphasis was laid on inter-departmental convergence and facilitating linkages with different government departments to ensure that eligible women can access the benefits of various welfare schemes and livelihood opportunities. The participants were also informed about the importance of handholding support in facilitating the enrollment process, addressing their queries and guiding them in availing the benefits of available government initiatives.

Furthermore, an awareness session on child rights, care and protection was conducted, highlighting the importance of safeguarding children's rights, ensuring their safety and well-being, and creating a protective and supportive environment for every child.

The programme also focused on identifying eligible beneficiaries, facilitating scheme-based linkages and strengthening coordination with relevant departments to ensure effective delivery of welfare services at the grassroots level. Through awareness, convergence and handholding, the initiative aimed at promoting the socio-economic empowerment of women and strengthening child protection at the community level.

Finance Accounts Assistant Examination

ADDC Bandipora reviews arrangements at various examination centres

KT News Desk

BANDIPORA, NOVEMBER 14: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Bandipora, Nazir Ahmad Mir, who has been designated as the General Observer for District Bandipora for the upcoming JKSSB Finance Accounts Assistant Examination scheduled to be held on November 15, 2026, conducted an extensive inspection of various examination centres across the district.

During the inspection, the ADDC, as per an official statement, took a detailed assessment of the arrangements put in place at the examination centres to ensure the smooth, fair and transparent conduct of the examination.

He inspected the availability of essential facilities, including proper seating arrangements, adequate infrastructure, drinking water, sanitation facilities, electricity and other necessary amenities for the candidates.

The ADDC also interacted with the concerned centre superintendents and officials, taking stock of their preparedness and emphasising the importance of maintaining discipline, transparency and strict adherence to the examination guidelines.

ADC Shopian inspects JKSSB Examination Centres

Reviews arrangements for Accounts Assistant Examination

KT News Desk

SHOPIAN, NOVEMBER 14: Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Shopian, Dr. Zakir Hussain Faaz Saturday visited and inspected various examination centres across the district to take stock of the arrangements being put in place for the smooth and hassle-free conduct of the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) examination scheduled to be held on November 15, 2026.

The ADC, as per an official statement, was accompanied by Member, JKSSB, Mudasir Ahmed, District-Level Nodal Officer for JKSSB Examination, Owais Ahmed and other concerned officials. During the visit, the ADC thoroughly reviewed the availability of essential facilities at the examination centres, including drinking water, uninterrupted power supply, heating arrangements, toilet and washroom facilities, installation of CCTV cameras, jammers and other requisite arrangements to ensure a conducive, secure and transparent examination environment.

The ADC interacted with the concerned Centre Superintendents, invigilators and Heads of Institutions of the Education Department and obtained detailed feedback regarding the preparedness of the centres. He stressed the importance of ensuring that all arrangements are put in place well in advance, leaving no scope for any inconvenience to the candidates appearing in the examination.

World Diabetes Day

District Administration Pulwama organises Yoga Sessions

KT News Desk

PULWAMA, NOVEMBER 14: District Administration Pulwama, in collaboration with the District Ayush Office Pulwama, Saturday organised a special yoga session at the DC Office Complex, Pulwama, to mark World Diabetes Day 2026, observed under the theme "Early Action on Diabetes."

Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, K.K. Sidha, as per an official statement, participated in the session along with ADC Pulwama, Dr. S.M. Ashraf, CPO Pulwama, Aashiq Khanday, ACR Pulwama, Shabaaz Ahmad Bodha, ACD Pulwama, DSWO, DYSSO and other district officers and officials.

During the session, participants performed various yoga asanas under the guidance of yoga practitioners, highlighting the role of yoga and regular physical activity in maintaining overall health and preventing lifestyle-related diseases, particularly diabetes.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner expressed concern over the growing prevalence of diabetes and its adverse impact on human health. He observed that sedentary lifestyles, lack of physical activity, excessive sugar consumption, prolonged screen time, inadequate sleep and stress are among the key factors contributing to lifestyle-related diseases.

Emphasising the importance of preventive healthcare, he called for greater awareness and timely intervention, urging people to adopt healthier routines through regular exercise, yoga, balanced nutrition, adequate sleep and effective stress management.

The Deputy Commissioner also highlighted the significance of Children's Day, observed on November 14, and stressed the need to inculcate healthy habits among children from an early age. He encouraged them to participate in outdoor activities, remain physically active, follow a balanced diet and limit excessive screen time.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Khursheed Ahmad Dar, S/o Ab Razaq Dar, R/o GangerhamaGanderbal, hereby notify the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Service Book/Service Records of the Police Department, 9th JKAP-IR, as Khursheed Ahmad, instead of my actual and correct name, Khursheed Ahmad Dar. Similarly, my father's name has been recorded as Sh. Ab. Razak, instead of Ab Razaq Dar.
Now, I intend to rectify the aforesaid discrepancies in my service records. If anybody has any objection, he/she **may file the same before the** concerned authority within seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

Sd/-
Khursheed Ahmad Dar
S/o AbRazaq Dar
R/o Gangerhama Ganderbal

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECH.
CITY DRAINAGE DIVISION SRINAGAR.
Contact No. 0194 3100263

Corrigendum No.(1) to e-NIT NO: 06 _CDM_OF _2026-27
D A T E D :- 05-11-2026

Subject:- Rate contract for supply of commercial gas refilling-19 Kg cylinders for office use during the winter season 2026-27.

Due to poor response, the critical dates in respect of above mentioned E-NIT are hereby rescheduled as under:-

Bid Submission End Date	18-11-2026 upto 6.00 P.M
Bid Opening Date (Technical Cover).	19-11-2026 upto 2.00 P.M

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as envisaged in the NIT.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
MECHANICAL CITY
DRAINAGE
DIVISION SRINAGAR

NO:CDM/2109
DATED :- 14-11 -2026

DIPK-7697/26
DATED: 14-11-2026

SRINAGAR MUNICPAL CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
LEFT RIVER WORKS DIVISION
Ph. No. 0194-2458118
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE INVITING E- TENDERS
FRESH NIET NO:57 e-Tendering/2026-27 Dated: 11-Nov-2026

For and on behalf of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors for the following work: -

Sl. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (In Lacs)	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	Earnest Money (EMD)	Class of Contractor (Civil)	Technical Sanction/ Dated	Head of Account
01.	Balance work of Madina Shoping complext at Bagi Nand Singh	Rs. 100.00/-	Rs. 1100/-	Rs. 200000/-	AAY	12 Dated: 26/09/2026	AFA

Accord of Administrative Approval:
Available
Other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below: -
CRITICAL DATE SHEET

1	Publish date	11-11-2026
2	Document download date	11-11-2026 04:00 PM To 17-11-2026 06:00 PM
3	Bid submission/uploading date	11-11-2026 04:00 PM To 17-11-2026 06:00 PM
4	Bid Opening date	18-11-2026 11:00 AM
5.	Submission of hard copy for successful bidder	19-11-2026 10:00 AM To 04:00 PM

TERMS & CONDITIONS:
1. As Per the Government Circular No. 01 (ADM) FD of 2025 Dated: - 08.07.2025 Endorsement No. FD-ST/75/2025-03 Dated: - 08-07-2025 issued by the J&K UT Finance Department. "Every participating supplier/contractor to mandatorily disclose/Upload the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payments shall be released by the Government Department/ Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder."
2. The intending tenders should attach an Online receipt/ Bank challan equivalent to 2% of the advertised cost / total cost. In compliance to the SMC circular No.SMC/PS/CAO/748-753, Dated: 05/08/2026, the EMD of 2%, Tender Fee and performance security shall be accepted only through Online Transaction pledged in favour of FA/CAO SMC which is to be deposited as per the given details below;
Name of the Account: Srinagar Municipal Corporation
Name of the Bank: -Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.
Branch: -Balgarden, Srinagar
Bank Account No: -0216010200000007
IFSC code: -JAKA0GARDEN
MICR CODE: 190051008
3. The bidder shall upload the payment receipt of EMD & tender Fee along with technical Bid on JK Tenders Portal. Bids without valid online payment receipt shall be rejected as Non responsive. If any bidder is found to have submitted fake, forged, manipulated or **invalid payment receipt towards EMD/Tender Fee the bid of such bidder shall be rejected. In addition to rejection of bid the contractor/ firm** shall automatically be treated as debarred from participating in any tenders in LRWD for a period of Six Months from the date of detection.
4. The Lowest successful bidder shall have to submit performance security guarantee in shape of Bank Challan/E-Receipt pledged to FA/CAO (SMC) after opening of tenders. The value of performance security shall be as per the Circular issued by the Principal Secretary to the Government Finance Department under endorsement No. FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 Dated:08.08.2025 and amendment made by the Government Finance Department (J&K) time to time illustration (enclosed).
5. The Additional performance security shall be treated as part of the performance Security and will be released after completions of defect liability period (DLP)
6. Circular issued by the Commissioner/Secretary to Govt. Housing &Urban Development Department (J & k UT) vide No: -7760278-hud-plan/106/2026-01 Dated: - 06.06.2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Left River Works
Division, Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

No.SMC/EELRWD/2441-2450 Dated:11-Nov-2026.

DIPK-NB-2128/26
DATED: 14-11-2026

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NEWS | 03

SUNDAY | 15.11.2026

Nothing wrong in Ruwa joining politics: Tanvir Sadiq

▪ Using her late grandfather Geelani's name wrong

Rehan Qayoom Mir



Srinagar, Nov 14: Amid the reports about late Syed Ali Shah Geelani's granddaughter Ruwa Shah mulling to join politics, National Conference Chief Spokesperson and Zadibal MLA Tanvir Sadiq on Saturday said whether those invoking the name of late Geealni were adhering to the political vision he had advocated for Jammu and Kashmir. Talking to reporters here, MLA Sadiq said he had no objection to anyone individually choosing to enter politics, but questioned whether such a move is being pursued in an individual capacity or by invoking Geelani's legacy.

"If she wants to help people through politics, there is nothing wrong with that. But if she wants to mislead people by using her grandfather's name, then I think that is wrong," he said. Sadiq said late Geelani 'had presented a distinct vision' of Jammu and Kashmir before the people. "She is a young girl and if she wants to enter politics individually, that is her decision. But the important question is whether she wants to enter politics in the name of her grandfather," Sadiq said.

Reiterating the National Conference's political position, Sadiq said the party had consistently adhered to its agenda for the past 70–80 years and had never compromised on its principles despite difficult circumstances and sacrifices by its workers and leaders.

He said the NC had remained committed to its political position since its establishment in 1936, adding that its workers, ministers and legislators had made sacrifices but the party had never abandoned its stated agenda.

On questions surrounding concerns raised by some MLAs, Sadiq said the matter had been discussed with the Chief Minister and the party president. He also questioned the BJP and the Leader of Opposition over the issue of statehood, saying the people of Jammu and Kashmir would have had more ministerial representation had statehood not been withdrawn in 2019. Commenting on the recent cabinet reshuffle and speculation about possible differences within the National Conference, Sadiq said the party remained organisationally strong despite being a democratic institution where differences could arise.

"Differences may exist, but this is a democratic party. We will sit together and discuss matters comfortably. The organisation is strong and nothing will happen to it," he said. He also responded to complaints raised by street vendors against alleged harassment, saying he would take up the matter with the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP). Sadiq further said vendors had every right to earn their livelihood through legal means and no one should be allowed to indulge in hooliganism or create unnecessary conflict. "If there is something genuine, the vendors are working hard and have every right to work legally. No one is allowed to indulge in hooliganism, irrespective of who they are. I will take up the matter with the SSP," he said—(KNO)

LG Manoj Sinha visits SMVD shrine



KT News Desk

Jammu, Nov 14: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha visited the Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji (SMVD) and offered his obeisance. He prayed for peace, good health, and prosperity for all.

Deputy CM draws 'thug' jibe from NC MLA

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Nov 14: The infighting within the ruling National Conference has once again come out in the open, with party legislator Javid Iqbal Choudhary describing Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary as a "thug."

Reacting to an Instagram post questioning his absence from a function attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary in Rajouri district, Javid, who represents the Budhal constituency, said that the Deputy Chief Minister did not deserve his presence and went on to call him a "thug." "The Dy CM is a thug and does not deserve my presence at his functions. My self-respect and the interests of my people come first," Javid wrote. The Deputy Chief Minister's handling of the Roads and Buildings (R&B) Department has come under sharp criticism from ruling party legislators on several occasions. During the June 3 meeting at Dachigam, as many as 20 legislators reportedly raised complaints against the Deputy Chief Minister.

In a memorandum submitted to the National Conference leadership, 17 dissident legislators demanded that the Deputy Chief Minister be divested of the R&B portfolio—(KNO)

Rotten Meat Trade

Mirwaiz seeks strict action against those involved, Grand Mufti declares it 'Haraam'

Rehan Qayoom Mir





Srinagar, Nov 14: Amid repeated seizures of rotten and unfit meat consignments at Budgam Railway Station, Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq on Saturday called for strict action against those involved, with Grand Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam Farooqi declaring the trade of such meat "Haraam" (prohibited) under Islamic law.

Mirwaiz said those responsible for bringing and trading such meat in Kashmir should face strict punishment. He questioned how such incidents were recurring despite previous action.

"Such lapses are happening repeatedly. The government must take concrete steps, and police should take full action against those involved and book them under relevant laws at the earliest," Mirwaiz said. Grand Mufti Nasir-ul-Islam termed the trade and consumption of decomposed meat prohibited under Sharia, urging people to refrain from purchasing meat from unverified sources and buy only from licensed shops.

He appreciated the Railway Police and Food Safety Department for detecting and seizing the consignments, while questioning how such meat was being transported to Kashmir and for how long it may have been entering the market.

The Grand Mufti said the issue is not merely about food safety but also involves religious concerns, as consumers must know the source and nature of the meat they purchase.

He said meat whose animal source and slaughter status were unknown could not be considered permissible for consumption under Islamic principles, adding that people should avoid such products altogether.

Expressing concern over the repeated incidents, the Grand Mufti said restrictions should be imposed to prevent such consignments from entering Kashmir. He urged the Food Safety authorities to strengthen inspections and monitoring.

Around 1,600 kilograms of deteriorated meat was seized at Budgam Railway Station on Friday, following which an FIR was registered under Section 271 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

another consignment of rotten meat was seized from a parcel train at the same railway station. Both consignments were found unfit for human consumption during inspection by the concerned authorities—(KNO)

Mirwaiz features among world's 500 most influential Muslims for 13th consecutive year

KNO DESK

Srinagar, Nov 14: Mirwaiz Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq has once again featured among the world's 500 most influential Muslim personalities in the 2027 edition of 'The Muslim 500', marking his 13th consecutive inclusion in the annual publication.

The publication, brought out by the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre (RISSC), Jordan, has featured Mirwaiz in the Political category, identifying him as the 14th Mirwaiz of Kashmir, who assumed religious leadership in 1990 at the age of 17 following his father's assassination.

The publication acknowledges his longstanding advocacy of dialogue and peaceful engagement to address the Kashmir issue, noting that he has repeatedly called for dialogue between India and Pakistan as the only sustainable path to peace while advocating non-violent engagement on regional issues.

It also takes note of Mirwaiz's prolonged house detention from August 2019 to September 2023, observing that he continues to face sudden and intermittent detentions by authorities.

Referring to his religious and public role, the publication describes him as the chief cleric of Srinagar's historic Jamia Masjid, who bridges traditional religious leadership with human rights advocacy.

For over three decades, Mirwaiz has maintained that dialogue, rather than confrontation, offers the most viable path towards resolving the Kashmir issue—(KNO)

Sagar tours major grid stations in Jammu

▪ Reviews power infrastructure

KT News Desk



Jammu, Nov 14: Minister for Power Development Department (PDD), Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation, Elections and Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR), Ali Mohammad Sagar on Saturday conducted an extensive tour of Jammu city and its adjoining areas to review the existing power infrastructure, assess ongoing augmentation works and take stock of public grievances.

During the tour, the Minister inspected major Grid Stations at Gladni, Canal Road and Janipur and reviewed the infrastructure requirements of other important areas, including Bari Brahmana, Sidra, Jagti, Akhnoor and Kalakote.

He stressed the need to strengthen the transmission and distribution network to ensure reliable and uninterrupted electricity supply in view of the growing domestic, commercial and industrial demand.

At Gladni Grid Station, a major source of power supply to Jammu city, the Minister was informed that the station receives power through Salal and Kishenpur and has a 220/132/33 kV system. The station presently has four 132/33 kV transformers of 50 MVA each, providing a total transformation capacity of 200 MVA.

He was further informed that an additional capacity of 80 MVA is under execution and is expected to be commissioned within six months. The augmentation is aimed at improving power supply to Gandhi Nagar, Channi Himmat, Bathindi and adjoining areas. The existing emergency backup arrangements were also reviewed to ensure continuity of supply during contingencies.

Reviewing the proposed augmentation at Canal Road Grid Station, the Minister was apprised that the existing capacity of approximately 120 MVA is proposed to be enhanced to 150 MVA. The augmentation will strengthen power supply to Jewel Chowk, Subash Nagar, Canal Road, Satwari, Army and Air Force establishments, Cantonment areas and adjoining localities up to Talab Tillo. The requirement of an additional load of around 30 MW was also discussed.

At Janipur Grid Station, the Minister reviewed the existing power infrastructure and was briefed on the proposed augmentation and transformer replacement works. The existing arrangement comprises three 50 MVA transformers, providing a transformation capacity of 150 MVA. He was informed about the proposed addition of 80 MVA capacity and replacement of an existing 50 MVA transformer, with the works targeted for completion within six months.

Special focus was laid on Bari Brahmana, considering its expanding industrial base and growing domestic power requirements. The Minister stressed the need for a comprehensive assessment of load requirements in Bari Brahmana, Sidra, Jagti, Akhnoor and Kalakote to ensure that the infrastructure is strengthened in anticipation of future demand.

Directing the concerned officers to expedite all ongoing works, Sagar said that strengthening the power infrastructure remains a priority of the government and that consumers must receive reliable and quality electricity supply. He emphasised that grid augmentation, replacement of ageing equipment and creation of adequate backup arrangements must be undertaken in a planned and time-bound manner.

The Minister directed the department to ensure completion of all ongoing augmentation and transformer replacement works within six months. He also called

Continued on www.kashmirthunder.

From Festivities to Funeral

School wall collapse claims grade-3 girl's life on Children's Day

Riyaz Bhat



Srinagar, Nov 14: Unlike other schools wherein the kids don special dresses and uniform for the skit and other celebrations on Children's Day, a quieter, devastating scene unfolded in Kupwara, where a young girl lost her life after a boundary wall collapsed on her.

For the family of the 9-year-old kid who lost her life on the day meant for laughter and celebration turned into a nightmare in a government school in Kupwara on Children's Day, when a school wall collapsed, leaving a grade-3 girl student dead.

While the authorities have ordered an inquiry into the incident, Children's Day 2026 in Kashmir will be remembered not for the celebrations, but for the terrifying moment.

Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) in a communique in this regard said, "In view of the unfortunate death of student of Class 3rd within the School premises and pending enquiry, Head of the Institution (HoI) UPS Bandpora, Zone Drugmulla, Kupwara is placed under suspension with immediate effect."

DSEK said that during the period of her suspension, she shall remain attached with the office of Chief Education Officer, Kupwara. "Further, Hakeem Tanveer Ahmad, (JKAS), Joint Director- North is appointed as Inquiry Officer who shall conduct the in-depth inquiry into the circumstances that has caused the untoward incident."

The director said that the Inquiry Officer shall submit his report within 03 days.

In a separate communique, DSEK said that the report submitted by Chief Education Officer, Kupwara states that on 14-11-2026 during the lunch break students of Government UPS Bandpora, Zone Drugmulla having 175 enrolled students, were playing in the school lawn.

"During, this period some students reportedly moved towards the rear side of the school building where a boundary wall adjoining the school premises collapsed.

As per the information received from CEO Kupwara, one student of Najar Mohalla, Bandpora Drugmulla, Class-3, aged 9 years, came under the debris of the collapsed wall," it reads.

The communique said that the student was immediately shifted to Sub District Hospital Kupwara, where she was declared dead by the attending medical authorities. "The exact cause of the collapse of the boundary wall is yet to be ascertained and requires detailed investigation by the technical officers."—(KNO)

Kashmir DCs directed to set up district-level social media cells

New cells to counter misinformation, improve public outreach

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Nov 14: Deputy Commissioners (DCs) across Kashmir have been directed to operationalise 'District-level Social Media Cells' to ensure timely dissemination of information and effective public outreach. The move is aimed at strengthening digital governance and improving government-public communication,

The directions were issued on Saturday during a high-level review meeting, where the need for effective public engagement, timely information dissemination and monitoring through the proposed cells was stressed.

The progress of various administrative initiatives, security arrangements at migrant labourer clusters, facilities at migrant transit accommodations and major infrastructure projects were reviewed.

The meeting comes amid a growing need to strengthen the administration's digital communication and response mechanisms.

On October 30, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha had also called for setting

Continued on www.kashmirthunder.in

Kashmir Thunder

EDIT | SUNDAY | 15.11.2026 | 04

EDITORIAL

A Welcome Return To Simplicity

Kashmir's weddings have slowly turned into something they were never meant to be — a contest. A contest over the number of dishes, the size of the trami, the decorations and the guest list. Families who can barely afford it borrow money to keep up appearances. Those who cannot stay away in embarrassment. In the middle of all this, the actual purpose of a wedding — the Nikah — is often pushed to the end of a long, exhausting night. So the Kashmir Waza Association's decision to stop serving wedding dinners after 10 pm is welcome, and it deserves support. The Association has gone further, asking Wazas and host families to sign a bond before weddings, committing themselves to the prescribed guidelines. This is a practical step. A rule that binds both the cook and the host is a rule that has a chance of being followed. The religious leadership has backed the move, and that matters in Kashmir. The Mirwaiz has given it the support of the Mutahida Majlis-e-Ulema. The Grand Mufti has urged scholars and Imams to keep Nikah ceremonies short. Other religious scholars have welcomed it and asked the Association to issue a memorandum recommending a limited number of dishes, saying society will not correct itself on its own. He is right. The traditional Wazwan had seven dishes. It should return to seven. But a good decision is only as good as its implementation. The bond must be enforced. Host families must not be allowed to find a way around it. And the Waza community must not face the pressure alone. If one family insists on extra dishes and another agrees, the rule will collapse within a season. Let this be the beginning of a wider change. Simple weddings, timely Nikah, food that is served with dignity and not as a display of wealth. That is the Kashmir we should want back.

The Manufacturing Transformation Powered By PLI: From Policy To Production

Press Information Bureau

Production Linked Incentive (PLI) framework has emerged as one of India's most significant industrial policy interventions. Spanning 14 strategic sectors, the scheme has attracted investments, expanded manufacturing capacity, boosted exports and generated employment across the country. More importantly, it has helped strengthen domestic value chains and position India as a competitive manufacturing destination. As India advances towards Viksit Bharat 2047, PLI is laying the foundations for a more resilient, innovative and globally integrated industrial economy.

The Moment India Decided to Build

A smartphone assembled in Tamil Nadu. A solar module manufactured in Gujarat. A pharmaceutical ingredient produced in a bulk drug park. These are not isolated milestones. They are proof points of India's emergence as a more self-reliant, technology-driven and globally integrated economy. In sectors such as electronics, electric mobility and renewable energy, the focus is shifting from building capacity to building ecosystems.

At the heart of this shift lies the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme, introduced in 2020. Over the past six years, it has catalysed investments across sectors - translating policy ambition into production capacity. As India advances towards Viksit Bharat 2047, the next phase depends on deepening value chains and strengthening India's role in global production networks.

From Policy to Production: The Rise of the PLI Framework

Launched under Atmanirbhar Bharat, the PLI scheme was designed to accelerate manufacturing growth.

Initially, it encompassed sectors such as mobile manufacturing, specific electronic components, active pharmaceutical ingredients, and medical devices. However, as the scheme evolved, it expanded to encompass a total of 14 strategic sectors, including pharmaceuticals, textiles, specialty steel, etc., with a total approved financial outlay of 1.91 lakh crore (1,91,049 crore). At its core lies a simple idea- when domestic industries grow in scale, quality and competitiveness, investment, exports, jobs and innovation grow alongside them.

The Numbers Behind the Transformation

India's manufacturing and export performance is gaining momentum across several PLI-supported sectors. During 2021- 2025, several PLI sectors recorded strong export growth, including IT Hardware (77.2%), ACC Batteries (45.0%), Electronics (38.8%), Solar PV Modules (23.9%), and Specialty Steel (22.5%) on an average annual basis.

As of 30 June 2026, approved applications stood at 791 across 14 sectors, with cumulative actual investment exceeding 2.58 lakh crore (2,58,835 crore) and cumulative production/sales crossing 23.79 lakh crore. Exports were boosted by 15.53 lakh crore, while over 14.57 lakh direct and indirect jobs were generated (comprising 8.81 lakh direct jobs and 5.75 lakh indirect jobs across IT Hardware, LSEM, and Solar PV Modules). Cumulative incentive disbursement reached 36,754 crore. The level of incentive disbursement reflects the performance-linked nature of the scheme. Incentives are released when companies meet the required investment, production and other eligibility criteria. As projects move forward and begin production, eligible claims are made in line with the provisions of the respective schemes.

Sectoral outcomes show deeper localisation, with mobile imports declining nearly 77%.



PLI also enabled first-time domestic manufacturing of 191 bulk drugs, while telecom exports reached 21,033 crore.

These trends reflect how domestic manufacturing is increasingly integrating with global value chains.

Building the New Industrial India

Across sectors, the PLI framework is translating policy into tangible outcomes. New factories, expanded production lines and emerging industrial clusters are reshaping India's manufacturing landscape. Policy support is translating into tangible outcomes, creating new opportunities for industry, workers and entrepreneurs alike. Some of the sectors with clear outcomes are:

Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing (LSEM): Powering India's Digital Manufacturing Rise

The electronics manufacturing and IT hardware sector has been the largest beneficiary of the PLI scheme. With the LSEM scheme tenure now completed, companies under the scheme achieved a cumulative investment of 20,580.20 crore (nearly three times the initial target of 7,000 crore), cumulative production of 11,61,505 crore, direct employment of 1,69,249, and cumulative incentive disbursement of 19,090.98 crore till June 2026 (alongside 954 crore investment, 24,386 crore production, 5,216 direct jobs, and 97.84 crore disbursed under IT Hardware 2.0). Electronics production rose from 11.32 lakh crore in 2024-25 to 13.11 lakh crore in 2025-26, a 15.8% year-on-year increase.

This growth reflects a significant shift in India's electronics manufacturing capabilities. Compared with 2014-15, electronics production is now seven times higher. Electronics exports have increased eleven-fold to 4.24 lakh crore, strengthening India's global market presence. Mobile manufacturing has emerged as a key driver of this transformation. Mobile phone production has risen 33 times to 6.27 lakh crore. India today is the second largest mobile manufacturer in volume terms. The country has transitioned from being a net importer of mobile phones in 2014 to becoming a net exporter of mobile phones. Further, 99.2% of mobile phones used in India are now made domestically.

Pharmaceuticals: Strengthening the Pharmacy of the World

India is the world's 3rd largest pharmaceutical industry by volume and 11th largest by value. The country supplies nearly 20% of the world's generic medicines and serves a significant share of pharmaceutical demand across key markets.

PLI Scheme for Pharmaceuticals has a financial outlay of 15,000 crore for 2020- 21 to 2028- 29. The scheme supports domestic manufacturing of high-value pharmaceutical products and technological upgradation.

Reflecting strong industry confidence, as on 30 June 2026, the scheme has recorded cumulative investments of 46,744 crore, cumulative production/sales of 4,02,869 crore (over 4.02 lakh crore), direct employment of 1,21,294, and cumulative incentive disbursement of 6,662 crore, supporting investments in advanced manufacturing, product diversification, and export-oriented growth. Additionally, under the Bulk Drugs PLI scheme (outlay of 6,940 crore), cumulative investment reached 5,211 crore, sales 3,792 crore, direct jobs 5,127, and incentives 88 crore; while under the Medical Devices PLI scheme (outlay of 3,420 crore), investment reached 1,185 crore, sales 16,612 crore, direct jobs 5,769, and incentives 266.64 crore.

Telecom & Networking Products: Advancing Import Substitution

The telecom sector emerged as one of the early success stories under the PLI framework with a financial outlay of 12,195 crore. During 2021-25, telecom exports recorded an average annual growth of 1.5 per cent, while imports declined by 18.5 per cent annually. As of 30 June 2026, the scheme has attracted cumulative investments of 5,627 crore, achieved cumulative production/sales of 1,20,721 crore, created 36,319 direct jobs, and disbursed 2,796 crore in incentives. This trend indicates an early accomplishment in import substitution, aligning with the PLI framework's overarching objective of enhancing market penetration abroad.

White Goods (ACs and LED Lights): Building the Parts That Matter

Behind every air conditioner and LED light lies a network of high-value components that determine both cost and competitiveness. Through the PLI Scheme for White Goods (with a financial outlay of 6,238 crore), India is steadily building these capabilities at home. Reflecting the sector's growing momentum, budgetary support increased from 303.54 crore in 2025-26 (Revised Estimate) to 1,003.54 crore in 2026-27 (Budget Estimate). The fourth round of the scheme attracted 13 applications with committed investments of 1,914 crore. The applications were received during the window from 15 September to 10 November 2025, with strong participation from MSMEs. As of 30 June 2026, the scheme has achieved cumulative investments of 7,670 crore, cumulative production/sales of 57,057 crore, direct employment of 54,049, and cumulative incentive disbursement of 593 crore.

Automobile & Auto Components Industry: Driving the Mobility Revolution

The PLI Scheme for Automobiles and Auto Components is accelerating India's transition towards advanced and sustainable mobility. With an outlay of 25,938 crore, the scheme is supporting development of electric vehicles, advanced automotive technologies and high-value components, while strengthening India's position in the global automotive value chain.

The government's continued commitment is reflected in the increase in budgetary support, from 2,091.26 crore in 2025-26 (RE) to 5,939.87 crore in 2026-27 (BE). As of 30 June 2026, the scheme has attracted cumulative investments of 45,477 crore, recorded cumulative production/sales of 64,374 crore, generated direct employment of 71,337, and disbursed 3,174.15 crore in incentives.

Food Processing Industry: From Farm Gates to Global Markets

The food processing sector is combining manufacturing growth with rural value creation. With an outlay of 10,900 crore, PLI Scheme for the Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) is being implemented from 2021-22 to 2026-27. As of 30 June 2026, around 3.36 lakh (3,35,516) direct and indirect jobs have been created, far surpassing the scheme's target of 2.5 lakh jobs by 2026-27.

Some key achievements under the PLISFPI scheme include:

165 approved applications across multiple food processing categories.

69 MSMEs among the approved beneficiaries.

274 project locations established across the country, contributing to regional industrial development.

9,207 crore worth of cumulative investments reported by beneficiary companies, with cumulative production/sales reaching 5,13,104 crore (over 5.13 lakh crore) as of 30 June 2026.

3,271.44 crore in cumulative incentives disbursed as of 30 June 2026 (including 1,193 crore in 2025-26 and 556.64 crore in 2026-27 till June 2026).

Building on this momentum, a dedicated PLI Scheme for Millet-Based Products (PLISMBP) was introduced in 2022-23 from savings under PLISFPI. As on June 2026, out of total allocation of 800 crores for PLISMBP, an amount of 793.27crore has been approved to incentivise 29 applicants, which includes 8 large and 21 Small & Medium entities.

Specialty Steel: Strengthening India's Industrial Backbone

From infrastructure and automobiles to defence and engineering, specialty steel forms the backbone of several strategic industries. Specialty steel is the downstream, value-added product of steel manufacturing process. To strengthen domestic capabilities, the Government launched the PLI Scheme for Specialty Steel in 2021 with a financial outlay of 6,322 crore. As of 30 June 2026, the scheme had attracted 27,368 crore in cumulative investments, achieved cumulative production/sales of 4,170 crore, created 16,200 direct jobs and disbursed 236 crore in incentives.

Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage: Powering the Clean Energy Future

India is rapidly shifting towards electric mobility and clean energy. In this context, domestic battery manufacturing has emerged as a strategic priority. The PLI Scheme for Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage was approved in May 2021 with an outlay of 18,100 crore. It targets 50 GWh of domestic ACC manufacturing capacity and an additional cumulative capacity of (5) GWh for Niche ACC Technologies. Of this, 40 GWh was awarded to four beneficiary firms in two rounds by August 2025, while a 10 GWh capacity for grid-scale stationary storage is being tendered separately in 2026. The scheme is for strengthening domestic manufacturing and reducing dependence on imported ACCs. As of 30 June 2026, it had attracted 5,270 crore in cumulative investment and generated 1,292 direct jobs.

High Efficiency Solar PV: Building India's Solar Manufacturing Engine

Solar energy sits at the heart of India's clean energy ambitions, demanding a strong domestic manufacturing base. The PLI Scheme for High-Efficiency Solar PV Modules, with an outlay of 24,000 crore, addresses this directly. The scheme promotes domestic manufacturing, reduces import dependence, and encourages value addition across the solar value chain. Under the scheme, letters of award have been issued for setting up 48,337 MW of fully/partially integrated solar PV module manufacturing capacity. By September 2025, the scheme had attracted investments of around 52,900 crore. It had also generated direct employment for about 44,400 people.

The Journey from Policy to Prosperity

What began as a policy experiment in 2020 has become a defining chapter in India's industrial history. PLI has done more than incentivise production- it has shifted the national mindset. Manufacturing is no longer a background activity but a strategic priority.

The real measure of PLI's success is not just in the numbers. It lies in the factories that didn't exist six years ago, the engineers now working on EV batteries, the farmers whose produce reaches global shelves. India is not just making more- it is making differently. As the next phase begins, the ambition is clear: not just to produce for the world, but to innovate for it.

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

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Div Com Kashmir reviews facilities at Migrant Transit Accommodations, Srinagar Ring Road progress

Directs DCs to achieve Agristack, SVAMITVA targets

KT News Desk



SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 14: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Saturday chaired an extensive review meeting to assess the progress of various revenue-related initiatives, public service delivery, rehabilitation measures and key infrastructure projects across the Kashmir Division.

The meeting, as per an official statement, reviewed the implementation and progress of AgriStack, SVAMITVA, Property Card Distribution, Jan Sugam, Revenue Plus, RCCMS and JK SAMADHAN, besides CCTV coverage of migrant labourer clusters, the status of transit accommodations for PM Package employees, SRO-43 cases of terror victims, filling of vacant posts of Lumberdars and Chowkidars, constitution of District-level Media Cells, pending honorarium of Lumberdars and Chowkidars, transfer and disposal of mutation appeals by SDMs, removal of bottlenecks in various phases of Srinagar Ring Road, SBU and RKCTC projects, and disposal of pending public grievances.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners of various districts, Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner, Additional Commissioners and Assistant Commissioner Central, OSD to the Divisional Commissioner and Deputy Director Planning, among other officers.

While reviewing the progress of AgriStack, the Divisional Commissioner directed all Deputy Commissioners to ensure achievement of prescribed daily targets and bridge the existing gap through optimal utilisation of available manpower. He instructed that officers remain stationed in their respective areas and utilise holidays to maintain the pace of work and achieve the targets within the stipulated timelines.

He also directed the Deputy Commissioners to compile and submit a list of villages situated on State land where generation of Farmer IDs is not feasible.

Reviewing the progress under SVAMITVA, the Divisional Commissioner stressed the need to reconcile the gap between surveys received and returned under Map-1 and Map-2. He specifically directed the Deputy Commissioners of Anantnag, Baramulla and Budgam to expedite the process and ensure timely completion of pending work.

The Divisional Commissioner also reviewed the status of issuance of various certificates under Jan Sugam, including Income Certificates, Legal Heir Certificates, RBA/OBC/ST/SC Certificates, Unemployment Certificates, Agriculture Certificates and Property Certificates.

He further assessed the progress of Revenue Plus services, including issuance of Fards, attestation of mutations, Change of Land Use (CLU) permissions, extracts of Girdawari and Jamabandi, and copies of mutation records.

Taking note of the disposal of mutation appeals following the delegation of powers to Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs), he directed Deputy Commissioners to assess the improvement in disposal rates and ensure expeditious resolution of pending cases.

Reviewing public grievances, the Divisional Commissioner instructed all Deputy Commissioners to ensure that grievances are disposed of within 15 days, with particular emphasis on timely and effective redressal.

Also, Divisional Commissioner directed Deputy Commissioners to ensure installation and proper functioning of CCTV cameras in migrant labourer clusters across their respective districts to strengthen security and monitoring arrangements.

He also stressed the need to clear all pending SRO-43 cases pertaining to terror victims and directed the concerned authorities to complete the process and furnish certification confirming that no cases remain pending.

Regarding vacant posts of Lumberdars and Chowkidars in various areas, he directed the Deputy Commissioners to make temporary arrangements for filling up the vacancies and project the pending honorarium requirements to the concerned department for necessary action.

Meanwhile, the Divisional Commissioner undertook a detailed review of civil and security arrangements at Migrant Transit Accommodations, with particular emphasis on ensuring adequate basic amenities and a safe, comfortable living environment for the inhabitants.

He directed the concerned Deputy Commissioners to ensure uninterrupted electricity and drinking water supply, adequate local transport facilities, proper sanitation, functional lifts and timely snow clearance, particularly at transit accommodations in Srinagar, Budgam and Kupwara.

He stressed that all essential facilities must remain operational and that any shortcomings affecting the residents should be addressed promptly.

Reviewing the progress of infrastructure projects, the Divisional Commissioner directed the Deputy Commissioner Budgam to ensure that the December 31 deadline for the Galandar-Narbal stretch of the Srinagar Ring Road is adhered to without any delay.

Similarly, the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal was directed to resolve bottlenecks affecting Srinagar Ring Road Phase-II and Phase-IIA to facilitate timely progress of the project.

The Divisional Commissioner also stressed the need for expeditious resolution of pending issues concerning other major projects, including SBU and RKCTC.

He further urged all Deputy Commissioners to operationalise District-level Social Media Cells in their respective districts to strengthen public outreach, ensure effective dissemination of information, facilitate timely communication with the public and monitoring.

The Divisional Commissioner reiterated the importance of close monitoring, inter-departmental coordination and accountability, directing all officers to maintain the pace of implementation and ensure time-bound achievement of assigned targets.

CIPMC organises 'Khet Bachao Abhiyan' at Lar Ganderbal



KT News Desk

GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 14: The Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC), Srinagar, in collaboration with the Agriculture Department, Ganderbal, Saturday organised a farmer awareness programme under the banner of "Khet Bachao Abhiyan" at Lar, Ganderbal.

During the programme, as per an official statement, Abir Shankhari, APPO (WS), highlighted the importance of the National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices for the timely identification and effective management of pests and diseases affecting crops. He sensitised farmers about the judicious use of pesticides in accordance with the approved list of the Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIB&RC) and stressed adherence to necessary safety precautions during pesticide application to prevent adverse health effects.

Ghulam Ahmad Rather, SMS SDL, delivered an informative lecture on the safe and judicious use of pesticides, emphasising the importance of adopting scientific practices to ensure crop protection while safeguarding human health and the environment.

Kawal Nain Singh, SA, conducted practical demonstrations on the installation and use of yellow sticky traps and delta traps. He also explained the application of biopesticides and highlighted the importance of conserving beneficial insects and natural enemies in agricultural fields as part of sustainable pest management.

Syed Murtaza, AEO Lar, spoke about various aspects of natural farming and encouraged farmers to adopt eco-friendly agricultural practices, including the use of neem oil and other natural oils for crop protection.

The programme also featured an interactive session during which farmers raised various queries and shared their field-level concerns. The resource persons responded to their queries and provided practical guidance and solutions in a simple and farmer-friendly manner.

CHILDREN'S DAY

Justice Sanjeev Kumar celebrates with Children at Paresha, Palash Homes in Srinagar

Every child deserves equal opportunities, care, affection, protection, a dignified environment

KT News Desk



SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 14: In a heartfelt gesture reflecting compassion, commitment and institutional concern towards the welfare and well-being of children, Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Executive Chairman, Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, celebrated Children's Day with the children residing at Paresha (Children Home for Girls) and Palash (Children Home for Boys), at Ishber, Nishat, Srinagar, on Saturday.

The celebration, as per an official statement, was organised in an atmosphere of warmth, affection, enthusiasm and exuberance, with the objective of making the children feel valued, encouraged and empowered, while reaffirming the collective responsibility of institutions and society towards safeguarding the rights, dignity, safety and overall development of every child. The occasion served as a meaningful platform to strengthen the bond between the institutional authorities and the children and to reiterate the importance of providing them with a safe, nurturing, inclusive and enabling environment.

The Executive Chairman was accompanied by Shazia Tabasum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority; Naseer Ahmad Dar, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Srinagar; Naseer Ahmad, Director, School Education, Kashmir; Jahangir Ahmad Bakhshi, Joint Registrar Protocol, Srinagar, High Court of J&K and Ladakh; Dr. Mukhtiyar Ahmad, District Social Welfare Officer, Srinagar; Wajahat Majeed, Joint Secretary, Cricket Association of Jammu & Kashmir; Showkat Ahmad Mir, Superintendent, Palash; Sitander Kour, Superintendent, Paresha; Feroz Ahmad, Convener Jammu & Kashmir Alternative Care Network; and, along with other officers and officials.

During the visit, the Executive Chairman interacted with the children residing in both homes and engaged with them in a warm, friendly and encouraging atmosphere. He patiently listened to their experiences, aspirations and interests and encouraged them to pursue their education, cultivate positive values, develop their individual talents and remain confident in their abilities. He emphasized that every child deserves equal opportunities, care, affection, protection and a dignified environment in which to grow and realise their full potential.

The Executive Chairman underscored that children constitute the foundation of the nation's future and that their protection, education, health, emotional well-being and holistic development must remain a collective priority. He observed that children residing in institutional care deserve particular attention, sensitivity and sustained support so that they may grow up with confidence, self-respect and a sense of belonging. He further emphasised the importance of ensuring that no child is deprived of opportunities to participate in educational, cultural, recreational and sporting activities.

The celebration witnessed several vibrant cultural and recreational activities, with the children enthusiastically participating and showcasing their talents.

A special highlight of the programme was the traditional Kashmiri Rauf performance presented by the boys and girls of Paresha and Palash, which beautifully reflected the rich cultural heritage and artistic traditions of Kashmir. The performance was appreciated by the Executive Chairman and the accompanying dignitaries.

Adding further cheer and excitement to the celebrations, various recreational activities, including musical chairs and spoon race, were organised for the children. The enthusiastic participation of the boys and girls transformed the occasion into a memorable celebration filled with laughter, joy and youthful energy.

The activities provided the children with an opportunity to express themselves, demonstrate their sporting spirit and experience the happiness of collective participation.

The celebrations also included a special cake-cutting ceremony, in which the Executive Chairman, accompanied by the officers and officials present, joined the children in cutting the cake. The occasion was marked by warmth and camaraderie, as the children shared moments of happiness and togetherness with the visiting dignitaries.

As a gesture of encouragement and support towards the welfare, recreational interests and day-to-day needs of the children, the Executive Chairman, along with the accompanying officers, distributed bicycles, cricket kits, blankets, sports uniforms and other essential and utility items among the children. The distribution was intended to encourage their participation in sports and outdoor activities while also extending support towards their personal comfort and well-being. The initiative reflected the Authority's commitment to promoting the interests of children beyond the conventional framework of legal assistance by recognizing their broader developmental, emotional and social needs.

In a further initiative aimed at strengthening the educational infrastructure and promoting technology-enabled learning, Smart Boards were also provided to both Paresha and Palash Children Homes.

The initiative is intended to facilitate interactive and digitally enabled learning, enhance the educational experience of the children and provide them with access to modern teaching methodologies. The provision of Smart Boards reflects the commitment of the Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority towards bridging the digital divide and ensuring that children residing in institutional care are equally equipped with contemporary educational facilities and opportunities for academic excellence.

The Executive Chairman also highlighted the significance of coordinated institutional efforts in ensuring effective implementation of child protection and welfare measures. He observed that the protection of children from abuse, exploitation, neglect, discrimination and other forms of vulnerability is not merely a statutory obligation but a collective moral and constitutional responsibility. He stressed that children must be made aware of their fundamental rights, including their right to education, safety, protection, participation and development, in a manner appropriate to their age and understanding.

In this regard, the role of Legal Services Institutions in facilitating access to justice, creating legal awareness, extending legal assistance and ensuring the effective protection of children's rights was also underscored. The legal services framework, through its outreach initiatives and child-centric interventions, seeks to ensure that children, particularly those belonging to vulnerable and disadvantaged sections of society, are not left without access to legal remedies, institutional support and welfare mechanisms.

The occasion also reaffirmed the importance of collaborative engagement between the Legal Services Authority, Social Welfare Department, Mission Vatsalya, educational institutions, sports bodies and other stakeholders in strengthening the institutional framework for child protection and welfare. Such coordinated efforts are essential for creating an environment in which every child is provided with adequate opportunities to learn, grow, participate and develop into a confident and responsible individual.

DLSA Budgam celebrates at Little Angels Garden School

KT News Desk

BUDGAM, NOVEMBER 14: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam, celebrated Children's Day with great enthusiasm and fervour at Little Angels Garden School, Budgam, with the objective of spreading awareness among children about their rights, duties, safety, education and overall development.

On the occasion, Advocate Feroz Ahmad Khan, as per an official statement, attended the programme as the Resource Person and delivered an informative and insightful lecture on the significance of Children's Day and the importance of protecting and promoting the rights and interests of children. He highlighted various aspects of child rights, including the right to education, right to equality, right to protection against exploitation and abuse, and the importance of providing children with a safe, healthy and supportive environment for their growth and development.

The Resource Person also sensitized the students about the role and functioning of Legal Services Authorities in providing free and competent legal services, particularly for the protection of children and other vulnerable sections of society. He emphasized that every child deserves equal opportunities, care, protection and access to education, irrespective of their social or economic background. The students were also encouraged to remain aware of their rights and responsibilities and to actively participate in educational and extracurricular activities.

The interaction with the students provided an opportunity to educate and encourage young minds about the importance of their rights, dignity, safety and responsibilities in society.

The celebration was organized as part of the ongoing efforts of DLSA Budgam to promote legal awareness and sensitization among children and to ensure that the message of child rights, protection and access to justice reaches every section of society.

The programme concluded with a message emphasizing that children are the future of the nation and that their protection, education, empowerment and overall well-being are the collective responsibility of society.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from the students of Little Angels Garden School, school staff, officials and staff members of DLSA Budgam, and Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs).

DLSA Ganderbal commences DAWN, Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat Awareness Campaigns at BHSS Khalmulla

KT News Desk



GANDERBAL, NOVEMBER 14: On the occasion of National Children's Day, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Ganderbal, commenced awareness activities under the NALSA DAWN (Drug Awareness and Wellness Navigation) Fortnight Awareness Campaign and the Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat Campaign at BHSS Khalmulla, in collaboration with the Chief Education Officer, Ganderbal.

The programme was organised under the chairmanship of Abdul Nasir, Chairman, DLSA Ganderbal, and under the supervision of Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal.

The awareness sessions were conducted by Advocate Kausar Masoodi, Panel Lawyer, DLSA Ganderbal; Sajid Irfan, Deputy Legal Aid Defence Counsel; and Advocate Bilal Bhat, Panel Lawyer, DLSA Ganderbal, who sensitised the students on various issues concerning child protection, welfare and legal rights.

Under the Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat Campaign, special emphasis was laid on eliminating early and forced child marriage, highlighting its harmful social, educational and psychological consequences, as well as its legal implications. The students were sensitised about the importance of preventing child marriage, protecting the rights of children, promoting education, and encouraging parents, guardians and community members to play an active role in eliminating this social evil. The availability of free legal aid and the role of Legal Services Institutions in providing assistance and support in matters concerning child marriage were also highlighted.

The significance of 27th November, being observed as the International Day for the Elimination of Child, Early and Forced Marriage, was also emphasised.

Under the NALSA DAWN Campaign, the students were made aware of the harmful effects of substance abuse, preventive measures, early identification of children requiring support, and the importance of timely counselling, treatment, rehabilitation and legal assistance. Issues relating to child rights and protection, including the provisions of the POCSO Act, 2012, were also discussed.

As part of the awareness initiative, the awareness videos, as directed by the J&K Legal Services Authority, were screened for the students to enhance their understanding and reinforce the messages of prevention, protection and awareness.

It was further informed that the awareness activities under both campaigns shall continue from 14th November to 27th November 2026 across the district through educational institutions, community-level programmes and outreach activities, with the active involvement of Para Legal Volunteers and other concerned stakeholders.

Ensure every child gets happy childhood: Itoo

KT NEWS DESK

Srinagar, Nov 14: On occasion of Children's Day, Minister for Health & Medical Education and Social Welfare, Sakina Masood Itoo on Saturday called upon society to take a collective pledge to safeguard the innocence, health, and aspirations of every child.

Taking to microblogging site X, the minister as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) post "Behind every little smile lies a thousand dreams, and behind every child lies the hope of a better tomorrow. No child should ever have to suffer in silence, lose their innocence to hardship, or be denied the joy of a healthy and happy childhood."

"On Children's Day, let us pledge to protect every smile, nurture every dream and ensure that every child receives the love, nutrition, healthcare and opportunities they deserve," Itoo said.

"A child's smile is the purest measure of a society's happiness, and their well-being is our greatest responsibility" she said.

The minister said, "Let us give every child not just a future, but a beautiful childhood to remember." (KNO)

Rotary Club of Kashmir signs MoUs with ECHO India, multiple orgs

Aims to strengthen institutional partnerships, expand humanitarian initiatives across J&K

KT News Desk

Srinagar, Nov 14: Rotary Club of Kashmir, a unit of Rotary International, has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with multiple organisations, including ECHO India, to strengthen institutional partnerships and expand the reach of humanitarian and community development initiatives across Jammu and Kashmir.

The initiative aims to bring organisations together on a common platform, facilitating collaboration, sharing of expertise and resources, and coordinated action in areas of healthcare, education, environmental sustainability, social welfare and community development.



Speaking on the occasion, President Rotary Club of Kashmir, Dr. Touseef Bhat, emphasised that partnerships must go beyond formal agreements and translate into meaningful action at the grassroots level.

He said, "The real strength of these MoUs lies in their implementation on the ground. Signing an agreement is only the beginning; what truly matters is how effectively we translate these commitments into action. Such collaborations empower humanitarians, strengthen their capacity and provide them with the institutional support needed to serve communities more effectively."

Dr. Bhat further highlighted that Rotary Club of Kashmir is committed to building meaningful partnerships with organisations that share its vision of social transformation and humanitarian service. He said that bringing different institutions and expertise together would help address local challenges more effectively and create sustainable impact across the region.

Among the Rotarians present on the occasion were Assistant Governor Jagjit Singh, Rtn. Dr. Shabnum Bashir, Rtn. Gowhar Rashid, Rtn. Hussain Khan, Rtn. Irshad, Rtn. Mohd. Ashraf and Intern Abida Khan.

The event reaffirmed Rotary Club of Kashmir's commitment to strengthening collaborative networks and expanding its humanitarian footprint in the region.

Through these partnerships, the Club aims to transform collective intent into measurable outcomes, reinforcing Rotary's global motto of "Service Above Self."

Amit Sharma to lead UNFPA Census Mission to Trinidad, Tobago

'J&K's digital Census experience to be shared with Caribbean nation ahead of its 2027 population count'

KT News Desk

Jammu, Nov 14: In recognition of Jammu and Kashmir's Census preparedness and experience in conducting digital operations across difficult terrains, IAS officer Amit Sharma has been selected to lead an Indian delegation to Trinidad and Tobago for a UNFPA-coordinated technical assistance mission on Census preparedness in the last week of November.

In a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), it was informed that Sharma, Chief Principal Census Officer (CPCO) and Director Census Operations/ Director Citizen Registration, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, has been nominated by the Government of India as a subject expert to lead the mission ahead of the Caribbean nation's Census scheduled for March-April 2027.

The delegation will visit Port of Spain, the capital of Trinidad and Tobago, where the country's Central Statistics Office (CSO), with UNFPA's support, will organise technical sessions, discussions, field visits and interactions.

The Indian delegation will include Sharma and D. Helen Premakumari, Deputy Director General, Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka, representing the Ministry of Home Affairs' Office of the Registrar General of India (ORGI), along with four officers from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

The delegation will share India's Census experience and best practices, particularly the first paperless Census being conducted in the country, and explore ways to replicate the digital model in Trinidad and Tobago.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Create openings

transformation and emerging as one of the world's largest and fastest-growing major economies with the national resolve of building a developed India by 2047. He highlighted the country's digital public infrastructure, unprecedented growth in the space sector, research and innovation and rising investment in quantum technology, artificial intelligence, semiconductors, green energy and biotechnology.

BUILDING DEVELOPED INDIA BY 2047 OUR NATIONAL RESOLVE

"Building a developed India by 2047 is our national resolve. By then, many of you will be at the highest peaks of your careers. Therefore, a developed India is not a slogan for another generation; it will be the essence of your life's achievements. It will be a symbol of the success of your tenure, and it will be the greatest pursuit and accomplishment of your lives," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted the significance of humanities. "Technology tells us what we can do, while the humanities teach us what we should do. The nation needs engineers as well as historians, and scientists as well as musicians," he said, adding, "If we wish to strengthen the intellectual wealth and capability of society, we need scientists as well as musicians. For this, young generation must be prepared to struggle with unwavering courage."

"Turn crisis into opportunities. This is what great personalities did, and the world remembers them today. I believe that talent has no fixed address, and greatness does not arrive after checking postal addresses of certain individual. Greatness seeks courage and struggle," he said.

OFFERS 3 PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR INTERNSHIPS

The Lieutenant Governor also offered three practical suggestions for internships. First, present a well-studied solution to a company's challenge rather than simply seeking an opportunity, strive to be so valuable that the team feels one's absence, and choose internships that teach something new.

On artificial intelligence, he said the relationship between AI and humans would be one of partnership, not competition. He noted that AI will change the way we work, but determining the purpose of work will remain a human responsibility. The Lieutenant Governor also observed that AI can provide new answers based on old knowledge, but the courage to discover new questions will remain with human beings.

"AI will have speed and data, but humans will provide direction, compassion and the courage to ask new questions. AI should be guided by civilisational norms, values and accountability, and that its development should rest on human welfare, not just profit and productivity," he said.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor also gave five resolutions to the students. First, never stop learning, create opportunities rather than only seek them, uphold honesty and ethics, support those who follow, and express love for the nation through action.

"Your degree is not the end of your journey; it is a step to begin a new one. I believe that today's skills may become irrelevant ten years from now, but the habit of continuous learning will never become irrelevant. Therefore, make the pursuit of knowledge a permanent part of your nature.

Knowledge without character is meaningless. Therefore, do not merely aim to be a topper, become individuals who have the courage to speak the truth, the resolve to do what is right, and who treat every human being with dignity and respect.

The future awaits you. Move forward with courage. Give compassion and sensitivity a place in your heart. Take the light of knowledge into your hands and begin a new journey of life. I reiterate that technology will expand in the future, but the responsibility to give that future a new meaning will belong to human intelligence, to all youth," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, Prof. K. S. Chandrasekar presented the University report on the occasion

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah; Minister for School Education, Higher Education and Jal Shakti, Shamim Firdous; Registrar, Cluster University of Jammu, Ankur Mahajan, HoDs, faculty members, students and their parents attended the convocation ceremony.

Member of Parliament, Jugal Kishore Sharma; Member of Legislative Assembly from Jammu West, Arvind Gupta; Heads of various Educational Institutions, prominent citizens and senior officials of Civil and Police administration were also present. (KNO)

Become entrepreneurs

that no student should lose an academic year waiting for examinations or the award of a degree.

He described the Cluster University Jammu as a bold educational experiment conceived to bring together the region's strongest academic traditions and modernise higher education.

Congratulating the graduating students and gold medallists, the Chief Minister described them as pioneers whose achievements would lay the foundation for future generations. He also acknowledged the contribution and sacrifices of parents, families and teachers in shaping the academic journeys of the graduates.

Highlighting the distinctive character of Cluster University of Jammu, CM Omar, who was a special guest on the occasion, said the institution was conceived as a collegiate federation bringing together five established institutions—GGM Science College, MAM College, SPMR College of Commerce, Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, and Government College of Education.

He said the concept of pooling academic resources, faculty, libraries and laboratories while encouraging multidisciplinary learning had helped create a collaborative model of higher education. Referring to the University's placement in the 151–200 band of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), he described it as an encouraging achievement.

The Chief Minister, however, stressed the need for sustained investment in common infrastructure, digital connectivity, modern laboratories and hostel facilities, particularly for students from far-flung areas such as Poonch, Rajouri, Doda and Kishtwar.

"My government is committed to providing our universities with the necessary institutional support, academic autonomy, faculty strength and infrastructure to enable them to become genuine centres of knowledge, innovation and regional problem-solving," he said.

Emphasising the importance of character and social responsibility, CM Omar urged graduates to remain lifelong learners, respect the dignity of labour, uphold integrity, stay connected with their communities and prioritise their mental and physical well-being.

He also called upon them to carry Jammu and Kashmir's pluralistic cultural ethos and heritage wherever their professional journeys took them, while contributing their skills, experience and ideas towards the development of their home region.

The Chief Minister expressed confidence that the first graduating batches of Cluster University of Jammu would make meaningful contributions to society and help shape the future of Jammu and Kashmir.

Later, the Chief Minister, along with other dignitaries, presented medals and certificates to the graduating students.

Governor of Tamil Nadu Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar attended the convocation as the Chief Guest, while Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, who is also Chancellor of the University, presided over the occasion. Minister for Higher Education Shamim Firdous; Member of Parliament, Jammu, Jugal Kishore Sharma; MLA Jammu West, Arvind Gupta; and Vice-Chancellor Cluster University Jammu, Professor K.S. Chandrasekhar were also present—(KNO)

Dry weather

of 2 degrees Celsius, Kulgam 4.4 degrees, Ganderbal 6.3 degrees, Baramulla 7.3 degrees and Bandipora 8.7 degrees Celsius.

In the Jammu division, Jammu city recorded a minimum temperature of 15.3 degrees Celsius, while Banihal registered 6 degrees, Bhaderwah 3.8 degrees, Batote 7.8 degrees, Katra 13.8 degrees and Kathua 15.6 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, several parts of Jammu and Kashmir witnessed rainfall during the past 24 hours, while higher reaches received fresh snowfall. The Meteorological Centre said generally cloudy weather with a brief spell of light rain in the plains and light snowfall over higher reaches was expected at scattered to many places towards Saturday afternoon and evening.

The weather department has forecast generally dry conditions across Jammu and Kashmir from November 15 to 21, although cloudy weather is likely towards November 20 and 21. Dry weather is also expected from November 22 to 25.

The department has advised farmers to resume agricultural activities from November 15 onwards. It has also cautioned about the possibility of thunder and gusty winds at isolated places towards Saturday afternoon and evening. (KNO)

Nearly 2000 kg rotten

while further investigation is underway to identify those responsible for transporting and handling the consignment," she said.

Iqbal said the consignment was unmarked and had not been booked in the name of any identifiable person. Police are also questioning railway authorities over how such a consignment was accepted without proper documentation.

She said transportation of meat requires proper documentation, including slaughterhouse, veterinary and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) certificates, besides adequate refrigeration facilities to maintain the prescribed temperature of minus 18 degrees Celsius or below.

However, the seized meat had arrived in ordinary packaging without ice or any refrigeration arrangement, she added.

Meanwhile, Assistant Commissioner Food Safety Budgam, Mufti Umar, said the department received a call from Railway Police at around 3 pm on Friday, following which a team rushed to the railway station for inspection.

He said the meat was found in a highly deteriorated condition, with containers leaking blood and emitting a foul smell. The consignment had also not been transported under the required frozen conditions of minus 18 degrees Celsius or below.

Mufti Umar said the findings of the Veterinary Surgeon were subsequently verified by the Food Safety team, including the Food Analyst and officials of the Mobile Food Testing Van.

He said a Magistrate deputed by the district administration issued an order for disposal of the seized meat to prevent it from entering the public distribution channel.

ANOTHER CONSIGNMENT

In a fresh development, another consignment weighing around four quintals (380 kilograms) of rotten meat was seized at Budgam Railway Station from a parcel train on Saturday.

An official told KNO that the fresh consignment was also found in a highly deteriorated condition and unfit for human consumption during inspection.

The official said the latest consignment was also destroyed as per the prescribed procedure in the presence of the concerned authorities.

The repeated seizures have raised serious questions over the transportation and acceptance of perishable food consignments through the railway network without proper documentation and adequate cold-chain arrangements.

The Assistant Commissioner urged people to report suspicious food consignments to the department, reiterating its commitment to ensuring food safety and protecting public health

1,600 KG OF BUFFALO MEAT DESTROYED

Meanwhile, an official spokesman said: "The FDA, J&K, along with the Railway Police, railway authorities and the District Administration, Budgam, seized and subsequently destroyed approximately 1,600 kg of buffalo meat at Budgam Railway Station following the detection of serious violations relating to its declaration, transportation and maintenance of prescribed cold-chain conditions."

"The enforcement action was initiated following specific information received from the railway authorities regarding the transportation of a consignment of buffalo meat. Acting promptly on the information, the Food Safety Team, Budgam, inspected the consignment and it was observed that adequate refrigeration or dry-ice arrangements had not been made to maintain the prescribed transportation temperature of -18°C or below, thereby compromising the mandatory cold-chain requirements," he said, adding, "The consignment was further subjected to preliminary testing through the Food Safety on Wheels facility, which indicated that the meat was unfit for human consumption. Accordingly, the entire consignment, weighing approximately 1,600 kg, was seized and subsequently destroyed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and the prescribed procedures for disposal of food articles unfit for human consumption."

It is pertinent to mention that, in an earlier enforcement action, the Food Safety Authorities had seized approximately 2,600 kg of meat in Srinagar. The FDA, J&K, continues to maintain strict vigilance across all districts to prevent the transportation, distribution and sale of unsafe and non-compliant food commodities, with stringent legal action being initiated against violators in accordance with the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and the rules and regulations framed thereunder. (KNO)

No compromise on meat

with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Rana said that Legal Metrology also falls within the ambit of his department and plays an important role in checking quality and ensuring compliance with prescribed standards.

He said that although certain responsibilities had been transferred to the Health Department after 2019, the matter has now been taken up again, with the relevant departments being brought together for coordinated action.

The minister said a detailed meeting was held involving the Legal Metrology Department, Food Safety Department and Health and Medical Education Department to discuss their respective responsibilities and strengthen monitoring of meat quality.

He added that the government is keeping a close watch on the situation and has initiated joint operations to ensure that meat supplied to consumers meets the required quality standards.

"Nobody will be allowed to compromise with the quality of meat or play with people's health," the minister maintained.

The minister's remarks come amid recent enforcement action in Budgam, where around 1,600 kilograms of rotten meat was seized at Budgam Railway Station following an alert by Railway Police to the Food Safety Department. (KNO)

Search operation

ongoing search operations and issued directions to strengthen the security grid and intensify counter-insurgency operations in the district.

Meanwhile, CRPF Director General Gyanendra Pratap Singh chaired an operational conference at the Group Centre CRPF in Srinagar to review the prevailing security situation and operational preparedness across Kashmir.

According to a CRPF statement, the conference was attended by senior officers, including SDG (Operations) Vitul Kumar, SDG J&K Zone Sandeep Khirwar, IG Operations Kashmir Sector Vineet Brijlal, IG Srinagar Sector Pawan Kumar Sharma and ground commanders of Valley-based CRPF units.

During the meeting, the DG directed senior officers to intensify counter-insurgency operations across the Valley, strengthen the security grid, improve real-time coordination among security forces and maintain heightened operational readiness to neutralise terrorist elements and dismantle their support networks.

The conference also reviewed strategies for sustained and intensified counter-insurgency operations across the region.

Pertinently, on Wednesday, three CRPF personnel were injured when terrorists opened fire on a security checkpoint near Nowpora Akhran in Kulgam district. One of the injured personnel was airlifted to Srinagar for specialised medical treatment.

Since the attack, security forces have intensified search operations across several villages in the district.

Around 500 suspected overground workers (OGWs) have reportedly been questioned as part of the investigation.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has also joined the investigation and is collecting evidence from the attack site. Security agencies have expanded surveillance and intensified searches to track down the attackers and identify their possible support network. (KNO)

Traffic Police blacklist

nearly 60,000 vehicles stand blacklisted for having five or more pending challans, adding that the measure is intended to discourage repeated violations and improve compliance with traffic rules.

He said the government is also working on infrastructure development and the introduction of modern traffic-management facilities, which would bring further improvements to the traffic system in J&K.

On the directive to remove black coverings from auto-rickshaws and ensure transparent coverings, the DIG said the measure is aimed at addressing concerns related to drug trafficking, women's safety and child protection.

"Transparency is necessary because there are several issues, including the drug menace, activities of drug peddlers, women's safety and child safety. Keeping these concerns in mind, this measure has been taken," he said.

He, said the department is also open to suggestions from auto-rickshaw operators and other stakeholders regarding the implementation of the directive, including any genuine concerns over the time required or possible improvements.

He said officers would hold further discussions on the matter and assured that constructive suggestions from the public would be considered. (KNO)

Nearly half of Kashmir's

were increasing rapidly across the country, underlining the need for collective efforts by the government, healthcare institutions, administration, social organisations and communities to address unhealthy lifestyle practices. (KNO)

'Diabetes care must protect

and focus on protecting vital organs, including the heart, kidneys, eyes and nerves, while also addressing associated metabolic risks.

Dr Masoodi said people living with diabetes require continuous medical attention and a comprehensive treatment approach to minimise the risk of complications and maintain their overall health.

He added that access to quality diabetes care should be ensured for everyone, irrespective of their financial circumstances, disability or geographical location.

"On World Diabetes Day, my message is simple: don't wait for diabetes to announce itself. Take action early. Let us make a commitment to support those living with diabetes, challenge myths and stigma, and turn awareness into meaningful action," he said.

Another endocrinologist, Dr Khursheed Ahmad, said greater attention was needed towards understanding how diabetes affects an individual's everyday life and how people diagnosed with the condition could cope with it while maintaining a healthy and productive life.

He said diabetes should not be considered a barrier to living a normal life, provided patients remain consistent with medical advice and make necessary changes to their daily routines.

Dr Khursheed stressed that lifestyle modifications, particularly changes in food habits and regular physical exercise, could help delay or even defer the onset of diabetes among people at risk.

He said people needed to adopt healthier lifestyles and remain conscious of their dietary choices and physical activity to reduce the long-term burden of the disease.

The experts said diabetes management requires sustained efforts, patient education and accessible healthcare services, adding that timely intervention and comprehensive care can help protect lives and improve the quality of life of those affected. (KNO)

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Bulk of issues resolved, India-US trade pact approaching 'finishing line': Jaishankar

PTI



New Delhi, Nov 14: India and the US have sorted out the bulk of the issues relating to the proposed trade deal, including tariff lines, and the deal could be sealed "soon" as talks continue to resolve the last stretch of concerns, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday.

His remarks come a month before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's likely visit to the US for the G20 Summit, on the sidelines of which he and President Donald Trump may meet to review the broader trajectory of bilateral ties and progress on the trade pact. In an interactive session at the HT Leadership Summit, the external affairs minister said the negotiations are approaching the "finishing line", adding that many of the remaining issues are "not so much at our end" and that more changes have occurred on the American side.

"Well, it's certainly our hope, and in many ways anticipation that we are at the last stretch. That's not a secret," he said responding to a question on the negotiations for the trade pact.

There has been speculation that India and the US may announce the trade deal following talks between Modi and Trump on the sidelines of the G20 Summit, to be held in Miami on December 14 and 15.

Jaishankar said his understanding has been that the bulk of the issues were sorted out. "There is the last stretch of issues and in many cases these concerns are not so much at our end, because the changes have been more at the American end than our end."

"The hope is that we should close it out soon. It's always the case that in that last period, everybody's impatient," he noted.

Last month, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in Mumbai that both sides are very close to firm up the trade deal.

India and the US have been engaged in talks since early 2025 on the proposed trade pact to address tariff friction, eliminate non-tariff barriers, and boost bilateral market access. India is seeking better tariffs than its competitors for its goods in the US market.

"For us the key is that we want a trade deal which is beneficial, it is balanced and which would give us a comparative advantage over groups of comparable economies," Jaishankar said.

"That is really what we are looking for and that is really our expectation of where we would be when the trade deal is done." he said.

The external affairs minister also called for looking at the proposed trade pact from a "larger perspective" of both countries.

"In our case, many of our early (trade) deals were done with Asian economies and many of those Asian economies were actually competitive economies. The gains which people expected from those FTAs (free trade agreements) did not exactly materialise," he said.

"Today, think if you look at the FTAs which have been done in the last few years, I think they've been much more thought through. They've been much more strategically and economically assessed," he said.

Jaishankar said the US is India's biggest market and having the trade deal with it would benefit the country.

"When you look at this big context and say there is the US, our biggest market in a way, the world's largest economy, obviously having a trade deal with such an economy would benefit us."

"For the US, President Trump is obviously looking to do a whole set of bilateral deals to improve markets for himself. Now, the challenge is to find a landing point," he said.

"I think this is not something which could have been done quickly and magically with sort of bold thinking and rapid movement, because these are very serious issues, people's jobs and people's lives are at stake."

The external affairs minister also suggested that issues relating to tariffs were sorted out.

"If you are serious, you go tariff line by tariff line. That takes time. Now we've done it the painstaking way. Not everybody has had the patience or frankly the understanding to bear with it.

"But I think having put in that effort, we have now reached almost the finishing line. I think bear with it and hopefully we'll get it," he said. If the trade deal is finalised, then it could trigger an upswing in the overall trajectory of bilateral ties. The India-US relations witnessed a major downturn after Washington imposed punitive tariffs on India last year and President Trump made assertions regarding his role in de-escalating the India-Pakistan military clashes of May 2025 that drew sharp reaction from Indian officials.

Washington's new immigration policy and its decision to increase H1B visa fee also contributed to the slide in India-US ties.

The ties came under fresh strain after the US decided to restrict a key green-card processing programme for major global and Indian IT firms, including Tata Consultancy Services and Wipro.

Modi swiped his Metro smart card to buy my ticket, says Shivakumar

PTI



Bengaluru, Nov 14: Karnataka Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Saturday offered a humorous account of Prime Minister Narendra Modi buying his Metro ticket by swiping his own smart card, saying he had no money with him when they travelled on the newly inaugurated Pink Line Metro.

"I did not have money with me. So I told him, 'You buy my ticket'. He swiped his card for me as well," Shivakumar told reporters while travelling with them on the Pink Line, which Modi inaugurated on November 13. Shivakumar travelled in the metro as part of his journey from Kengeri to Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, BMRCL said in a release.

After inaugurating the Pink Line of Bengaluru metro, Modi travelled with Shivakumar, Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda and BJP MP Tejasvi Surya on Friday.

When asked about the Prime Minister's gesture and their warm interaction during the inauguration, the Chief Minister said political differences should not come in the way of development and cooperation in the national interest. Pointing out Karnataka's contribution to the national economy and workforce, Shivakumar said the state was the country's second-highest taxpayer and second-highest GST contributor.

Asked about his interaction with Modi, including their helicopter journey to Mysuru, Shivakumar declined to disclose what they had discussed.

"I cannot disclose all that," he said, describing their relationship as one based on "human relationships and mutual respect".

He said Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge also treated him with affection and respect.

"Not everyone has the same leadership qualities. Some people tend to hold themselves back. I am not like that. I take the initiative, go forward and express my views," he said.

PM to inaugurate, lay foundation stones for 246 tribal projects worth Rs 3,000 cr today

PTI

New Delhi, Nov 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Sunday participate in the Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas programme marking the 151st birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda, and inaugurate and lay the foundation stones for 246 development projects worth around Rs 3,000 crore. Modi will address the programme in Gadchiroli in Maharashtra, through video conferencing at 11 am.

The projects aim to strengthen education, healthcare, livelihood opportunities and community infrastructure for tribal communities across the country, an official statement said on Saturday.

Of the 246 projects, 173 will be inaugurated, including 38 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) for tribal students and 100 Multi-Purpose Centres under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN).

Among the projects for which foundation stones will be laid are 19 new Eklavya Model Residential Schools and 12 Tribal Multipurpose Marketing Centres aimed at improving market access for tribal producers. Another 42 projects will be taken up under PM-JANMAN and the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan.

Activities during the fortnight included interactions with EMRS students, a National Tribal Literary Festival, training programmes for tribal healers, health and nutrition camps for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), and community service initiatives in tribal villages.

Congress wants to contest 181 seats in 2027 UP polls, indicates Akhilesh

PTI



Lucknow, Nov 14: Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav indicated on Saturday that the Congress has expressed its wish to contest 181 seats in the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls, while asserting that the INDIA bloc would remain united to defeat the ruling BJP in the state.

Asked at the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit in Delhi whether the Congress is seeking to contest 100 seats, Yadav said the party has demanded more than that. Asked if the demand was of 200 seats, he replied, "A little less than that." When the interviewer suggested 180 seats, Yadav said, "Add one more," indicating that the Congress has sought 181 seats from the SP.

"We have made up our mind on how many seats we will contest. The Samajwadi Party and the INDIA alliance will defeat the BJP together," he said, adding that the "theft" of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodhya will be a major poll issue. The Uttar Pradesh Assembly has 403 seats.

Asked if he is considering an alliance with Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati, Yadav said he does not think of other alliances while being part of an existing one.

The BSP is not a part of the INDIA opposition bloc.

A senior SP leader had earlier claimed that Yadav will visit Ayodhya on December 12.

"I will have darshan first and then seek blessings," Yadav said.

He said he wants to thank the people of Faizabad, which includes Ayodhya, for their support to the SP in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. SP's Awadesh Prasad won the Ayodhya Lok Sabha seat in the 2024 election.

Yadav accused the BJP of failing to protect the religious sentiments of devotees by allowing a "theft" of offerings made at the Ram temple.

"Crores of devotees donated money and offerings out of their faith. That money was stolen. Our chief minister (Yogi Adityanath) was setting a world record by visiting Ayodhya, but he did not know that offerings were being stolen there," he said. He claimed that the declining support for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Uttar Pradesh was reflected in its losses in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

He said the verdict was against injustice, discrimination, unemployment and the failure to fulfil promises on investments and jobs.

Mann announces KBC-style competition for Punjab's youth; winner to get Rs 1 cr

PTI

Chandigarh, Nov 14: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Saturday announced a 'Kaun Banega Crorepati'-style quiz competition for the youth in the state with the winner set to get a cash prize of Rs 1 crore.

Mann said 'Punjab Da Crorepati' would test participants' knowledge of Punjab's history, culture, geography, mathematics and various aspects of the state government. Participants aged between 15 and 30 years will be eligible for the competition, he said during its launch.

"The Punjab government is launching a unique programme for youths -- 'Punjab Da Crorepati'," Mann said here.

Four runners-up will get Rs 10 lakh each and eight other toppers Rs 5 lakh each, while over 10,000 participants will also receive prizes. Mann said his government wants books in the hands of youngsters because the pen shapes the destiny of a nation and will stand with them at every step, asserting that the success of the youth is Punjab's true progress.

"There will be questions like (the TV quiz show) 'Kaun Banega Crorepati'. Participants will have to answer multiple-choice questions, each carrying four options, of which only one will be correct," he said. The competition will have a pool of 50,000 questions, most of which would be based on those asked in recruitment examinations for government jobs, including the posts of patwaris, constables, Punjab Civil Services officers and sub-divisional officers, Mann said.

The tenth round will be conducted in 23 districts, and their toppers will qualify for the grand finale. Urging youngsters to register in maximum numbers, Mann stated that the 'Punjab Da Crorepati' would provide an exciting opportunity for them to learn, enhance their knowledge and win substantial cash rewards.

Registration for the competition opened on November 14 and closes on November 28, he informed. The digital quiz rounds will be held on November 21, 23, 25, 27 and 29, followed by December 1, 3, 5 and 7. The district-level competitions will be conducted across all 23 districts on December 9, providing participants an opportunity to represent their respective districts in the race towards the grand finale. To familiarise participants with the digital platform and its functioning, a mock quiz will also

CRPF sacks jawan for posting death threat to commander on social media

PTI

New Delhi, Nov 14: The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has terminated a jawan from service for allegedly posting messages on social media threatening to kill his commander, officials said on Saturday.

Officials told PTI that the accused was identified as probationary Constable Pinak Nath from Assam who belonged to the Alpha Company of the CRPF's 33rd battalion based in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir. He had joined the force recently, they said.

The battalion's Commanding Officer conducted an inquiry, following which Nath was terminated from service on Friday under the provisions of the Central Civil Services (Temporary Service) Rules, 1965, they said.

OFFICE OF THE BLOCK MEDICAL OFFICER QAIMOH

TENDER EXTENSION NOTICE

No: Est/BMO/Q/2026/ 2020

Dated: 14 November 2026

In continuation to this office Short Term Tender Notice issued vide No. Est/BMO/Q/1037-39 dated 02/11/2026, regarding the procurement/supply of LPG/Heating Gas for heating arrangements across the health institutions of Medical Block Qaimoh, it is hereby notified for the information of all concerned registered gas dealers that zero tenders/bids were received by this office within the stipulated timeframe.

In view of the above, and in order to ensure healthy competition, the last date for the submission of sealed tenders is hereby extended up to 17/11/2026 (up to 02:00 PM).

The tenders shall be opened on the same day at 03:00 PM (or on the next working day in case of a holiday) in the office chamber of the undersigned in the presence of the Purchase Committee and the tenderers or their authorized representatives who choose to remain present.

All other terms, conditions, and specifications contained in the original tender notice cited above shall remain unchanged.

DIPK-7698/26
DATED: 14-11-2026

Sd/- Block Medical Officer Qaimoh, Kulgam

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL & HOSPITALS DIVISION SRINAGAR

Telefax:- 0194-2496089, Email ID:- :exen-mechospsgr@jk.gov.in

Gist of e-tender

e-NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2026-27/85/e-tendering,
Dated: 13.11.2026

(SHORT TERM)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work: -

Name of Work	Est. Cost (in lacs)	Cost of T/Doc.	Time of completion (in days)	TS No	Earnest Money
1	2	3	4	5	6
Overhauling, Replacement of Essential Components and Allied Repairs/Servicing of Anest Iwata Make Vacuum Pump Model VLS100, 10 HP, installed at Govt. Superspeciality Hospital, Shireenbagh, Srinagar.	1.68935	200	15	M&HD/TS/60 of 11/2026	2% of the estimated cost

AA Accorded Vide No: 07 MCS of 2026 Dt:23.04.2026
Position of Funds:- Available with intending Department.

1. **Downloading of Bids:- The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 13.11.2026 (18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 13.11.2026 (18.00 hrs)**
2. **Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site 13.11.2026 (18.00 hrs) to 19.11.2026 (13:00hrs) in two (02) covers.**
3. **Opening of Bids :- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 19.11.2026 at 15.00(hrs)**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
M&HD, Srinagar

No: M&HDS/TS/5366-70 **DIPK-7682/26** **DATED: 14-11-2026** **Dated: 13.11.2026**

China to host APEC summit in Shenzhen with Xi, Trump and Putin to meet

PTI



Beijing, Nov 14 : China is set to host the 33rd APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting next week in its high-tech Shenzhen city, where the presidents of China, the US and Russia will hold a historic trilateral summit.

The meeting of the 21-nation Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders will take place November 18-19.

It gains importance as Chinese President Xi Jinping will host a summit with his US and Russian counterparts, Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin. Discussions at the trilateral summit are expected to focus on a host of global issues, including global conflicts, AI and the reduction of nuclear weapons by big powers. The White House confirmed that the three leaders are planning to meet on the sidelines of a summit in China next week.

The historic meeting between the leaders of the US, Russia and China will take place as Trump attends the APEC summit in Shenzhen, White House spokeswoman Olivia Wales told the media.

"The president has made it clear that, among other topics, he will discuss the reduction of nuclear weapons in the world, whose proliferation President Trump believes is very dangerous," BBC quoted her as saying.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told the media in Beijing on Friday that China is in communication with the US and Russia on the trilateral summit. Mao said the theme for the 21-member APEC summit is "Building an Asia-Pacific Community to Prosper Together."

"We look forward to working with all parties to adopt the Shenzhen Declaration at next week's APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, and achieve practical outcomes in areas that are vital for both regional and global economic growth, such as trade, connectivity, digital economy, and artificial intelligence," she said.

The 21 APEC members are Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam.

No South Asian country, including India, is part of the APEC.

Trump will arrive in Shenzhen late on Wednesday for the two-day summit of APEC states.

He will also take part in bilateral talks with Xi on Thursday -- their fourth meeting since the US president returned to office in 2025, according to the BBC report. This will also be the unprecedented third meeting between the two leaders this year.

Trump visited Beijing in May this year and held wide-ranging talks with Xi. He also rolled out the red carpet for the Chinese president when he paid a state visit to Washington in September and personally received him at the airport.

But their Shenzhen meeting takes place against the backdrop of massive wins by the Democrats against the Trump-backed Republicans in the recently concluded US midterm elections.

The Democrats won control of the US Senate and Congress, denting Trump's power and influence. Wales said that "among other topics", Trump planned to discuss the "reduction of nuclear weapons".

The trilateral meeting could yield a commitment to control artificial intelligence (AI) in nuclear arsenals as part of a broader agenda on global governance, the report said.

The three countries had engaged in weeks of back-and-forth discussions to nail down the agenda and protocol for talks.

"I think the president does intend to talk about Iran in the trilateral meeting with Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin," a senior US official said, adding that the war in Ukraine was not on the agenda.

"We have had many meetings recently with the Russians, but China is not really a part of that track, so it doesn't seem appropriate to have the Ukraine discussion there," the senior official said, according to the report.

No bilateral meeting between Trump and Putin is scheduled, and Washington has no plans to engage with North Korea during the trip, according to the White House.

The senior US official noted Washington did not expect "any kind of agreement" at the trilateral meeting and characterised the talks as an "entry point" for conversation about "reducing the number of nuclear weapons", the report said.

The choice of Shenzhen, a bustling metropolis in Guangdong province bordering Hong Kong, carries significance as China seeks to showcase its economic transformation and technological prowess.

Once a relatively small fishing settlement of 30,000 people, Shenzhen was transformed into a high-tech metropolis of 18 million in four decades.

It is now Asia's fourth-largest city economy, aided by Special Economic Zones emerging as a global manufacturing, technology and innovation centre, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

Zelenskyy warns US security framework could benefit Putin

AP



Kyiv, Ukraine, Nov 14 : Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the United States had raised the possibility of a new security framework for Europe as part of efforts to end Russia's war in Ukraine, warning that Moscow could use such discussions to weaken NATO and reshape the continent's borders.

"In my view, this can be dangerous," Zelenskyy told reporters on Friday. "This should not be the main agenda." His comments were embargoed until Saturday. Zelenskyy also said the United States had asked for the first time whether Ukraine would withdraw from parts of the Donbas region in eastern Ukraine that Russia does not control if Kyiv were admitted to NATO.

He said he believed Moscow was interested in reopening broader questions about European security rather than focusing exclusively on ending the 4 1/2-year war.

"(Russian President Vladimir) Putin's desire to change borders in Europe is a fact. I am sure this is part of his concept of revising security guarantees in Europe," he said. "This is dangerous because, in my view, it is precisely things like this that lead to wars or escalations."

European leaders have stressed that decisions about the continent's security must be made by Europeans themselves, warning against allowing Russia to dictate the terms of a new security order or negotiate NATO's future.

US raised Donbas withdrawal in exchange for Ukraine's membership in NATO Zelenskyy reiterated that Kyiv would not surrender its territory.

"If the American side confirms precisely this to us, together with other NATO partners, then I will ask our Ukrainian society what it thinks: do we accept it or not?" Zelenskyy said.

He stressed that any arrangement would not involve recognising occupied territories as Russian.

Zelenskyy also rejected the possibility of Ukraine committing to neutrality, saying that would require changing the country's constitution.

"If Putin expects Ukraine's neutrality to be enshrined, that's not going to happen," he said. "We're not in NATO right now anyway."

Zelenskyy says Europe must decide its own future .He said any changes to Europe's security arrangements must be decided by European NATO members only after the war ends.

"The sequence should be as follows: a ceasefire, an end to the war in Ukraine, and security guarantees for Ukraine," he said. "There can be no security guarantees in Europe, or for Europe, without Ukraine."

Energy ceasefire and prisoner exchanges are priorities

Zelenskyy said Ukraine's priorities in the Abu Dhabi negotiations included an energy ceasefire, reopening the Black Sea, prisoner releases and preparations for a meeting between leaders to end the war.

He said Russian negotiators lacked authority to decide on several issues and that Moscow was unwilling to accept an energy ceasefire.

Zelenskyy said discussions in Moscow with US negotiators resulted in an agreement on a prisoner exchange involving more than 1,000 people on each side. The exact number was still being determined, he said, estimating it at 1,200 to 1,300. He also said Washington supported Ukraine's demand that European countries participate directly in future negotiations, rather than remain outside the main negotiating room.

Britain, France, Germany and Italy were among the countries represented at the Abu Dhabi meetings, Zelenskyy said. He expected between three and five European representatives to participate in future discussions.

Zelenskyy questions Starshield restrictions

He said the system's speed had been restricted to a maximum of 161 kph (100 mph) in occupied areas and that the limitations had been in place for five days.

"The current Starshield restrictions suggest that SpaceX imposed them," Zelenskyy said. "That's what our team is telling me. So this doesn't quite line up with what we heard earlier. That's why we need to get to the bottom of all this."

He said the restrictions prevented Ukrainian forces from intercepting Russian jet-powered Shahed drones over occupied territory as they approached from the east, forcing them to wait until the drones reached areas where the limitations did not apply.

Microsoft restores services after hourslong global outage

AP

Chicago, Nov 14 : Microsoft said Saturday that services were fully restored after a massive outage that lasted for hours.

"We have completed our efforts to address the underlying issue of the incident and restored service to the remaining impacted customers and regions," the company said in an update on X.

Users reported that Microsoft 365 services, including Outlook, Teams and AI assistant Copilot, were interrupted. Downdetector, an online tracker, said it received outage reports from users in more than 70 countries and territories.

The outage affected governments, courts, healthcare services, businesses, airlines and banks in many places. Governments including those of Japan, Singapore and Australia reported that the hours-long episode had impacted some of their operations.

Over 430 million people use Microsoft 365 apps, Microsoft said on its website. Problems started appearing around midday Thursday in the US.

The Redmond, Washington-based company apologised on Friday for the disruptions and said the outage was "not related to cyber" or artificial intelligence agents.

It said the incident "was introduced by an issue during an earlier network capacity upgrade that surfaced" following a recent network change.

"With no emails coming or going, many office workers feel like they are having a virtual snow day," said Jeremy Singer, a professor at the University of Glasgow's School of Computing Science.

Still, he added, "this problem serves to emphasise the dependence we have built on one company's digital infrastructure, and may lead us to question whether we need more resilience in our IT ecosystem."

The global reach of the outage was swift. After problems first emerged midday Thursday in the US, online tracker Downdetector said it received outage reports from 74 countries and territories within an hour.

The total number of people affected was not clear, but Microsoft said in January it had more than 450 million paid commercial subscriptions to its 365 services.

Some banks in Hong Kong, an Asian financial hub, also saw disruptions.

OpenAI and Anthropic reported problems connecting with Microsoft 365 tools, underscoring the ripple effects as more people use artificial intelligence platforms to interact with other companies' software.

Atiqa Mir only Indian selected for FIA women's driver programme



PTI

Franciacorta (Italy), Nov 14 : Indian racing prodigy Atiqa Mir is among nine drivers chosen worldwide in the junior category for the FIA Girls On Track Rising Stars program for 2026.

Atiqa is one of the youngest drivers chosen for the world body FIA backed initiative aimed at promoting and developing young women drivers at the grassroots level. She is also is the only Indian named in the age 12-14 junior category.

Girls On Track was launched by the FIA in 2018. Atiqa's selection follows a string of impressive performances in the Champions of the Future Academy (COTFA) championship and the FIA Karting World Championship where she finished sixth in the opening race. She had dominated the COTFA round in Greece earlier this year.

"In just over two weeks, nine talented racers will head to Cremona Circuit (in Italy) for three-day training camp designed to sharpen their skills and help take their racing to the next level," read a note from the FIA Women in Motorsport Commission.

The other drivers picked by the FIA in the junior category are Lina Salamanca from France, Sofia Calderon from Costa Rica, Cora Moore from Britain, Anna Regina Franco Rodriguez from Mexico, Lily Rizk from Egypt, Kira Maistrenko from Ukraine, Annais Orelana from Chile and Emily Grace Hamer from Australia. Atiqa, the first Indian to be backed by the Formula 1 Academy, is currently taking part in the final round of COTFA series here.

Pochettino leaves US job to become Manchester United manager

AP



Fayetteville (USA), Nov 13 : Tears filled Mauricio Pochettino's eyes as he discussed quitting the U.S. national team for his dream job with Manchester United.

"A decision that in some parts, it's a very sad decision, in other parts, we are professional and we need also to try to find the next step, to try and make your dreams come true," he said.

Just three months after the U.S. Soccer Federation announced his contract to lead the Americans through the 2030 World Cup, Pochettino said Friday he will depart next week for Old Trafford. He will try to revive the 20-time English champions, in the relegation zone after 10 games of the Premier League season.

"They know that there's not too many opportunities (that) can happen in your career like a side of Manchester United and, of course, when that arrives, it's difficult to turn down," Pochettino said during an emotional news conference at the U.S. team training camp.

He signed a 2 1/2-year contract and will take over on Nov. 18 ahead of the match at Liverpool four days later, becoming United's eighth permanent coach or manager since Alex Ferguson retired in 2013. Pochettino choked up at a news conference, speaking while seated between USSF president Cindy Parlow Cone and CEO JT Batson.

"One of the most difficult decision in our career," he said, crying and rubbing his hands as Cone put a supportive hand on his back.

He did not want to speak about the state of United. The English club said the 54-year-old Argentine was "renowned for his high-intensity, attacking style of football, his dedication to building strong, cohesive teams and his outstanding record of developing individual players," and had "consistently performed at the highest level of football across multiple leagues."

Pochettino's appointment came one day after Michael Carrick was fired for overseeing United's worst league start in 40 years. Manchester United is 18th in the 20-team league.

Pochettino and his assistants will remain with the U.S. for the CONCACAF Nations League quarterfinals against Haiti on Saturday and Tuesday.

"We recovered our motivation," Pochettino said. "We recovered our capacity to dream big, the capacity to train players that really want to improve and really want to share good moments and players that really care about the federation and this country."

Pochettino took over the U.S. team in the fall of 2024 and led the co-host Americans to the round of 16 at this year's World Cup. The USSF is likely to inquire about Pep Guardiola's interest and also could consider elevating Under-23 coach Steve Cherundolo, a former national team defender. Cherundolo will lead a senior national team training camp next month with players mostly from Major League Soccer.

It is not known how much Pochettino will earn at United, as typically European soccer teams do not disclose the salaries of coaches and players. United has spent huge sums on coaches and executives over the past 13 years and paid well in excess of $100 million in severance payments alone. Pochettino earned just over $5 million during his first seven months as coach of the U.S., according to the U.S. Soccer Federation's tax filing. Manchester United is paying a release fee to the USSF to terminate his contract.

India beat Pakistan by one wicket to win U19 Asia Cup

PTI



Al Amerat (Oman), Nov 14 : India beat Pakistan by one wicket in a thrilling final that went to the last ball to regain the Under-19 Asia Cup here on Saturday.

Opener Usman Khan's 107 helped Pakistan score a massive 337 for nine in 50 overs.

But India overhauled the target in the last ball of the match to lift the title after several twists and turns.

Skipper Lakshya Raichandani led the chase with a solid 80. Aaryavir Sehwag made 58.

Brief scores: Pakistan U19: 337/9 (Usman Khan 107, Abdul Qadir 80, Farhan Yousaf 60; Kavya Patel 4/68, C Venkata 3/40) lost to India U19: 339/9 in 50 overs (Lakshya Raichandani 80, Aaryavir Sehwag 58, Manal Chauhan 47, Mohit Ulva 49 not out; Rizwanullah 3/53) by 1 wicket.

