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INSIDE

3 "Sanskrit Month" to be celebrated from July 12 to August 10 by SKJVS Trust

4 ARMY TRANSFORMING LIVES IN FAR-OFF BELTS

7 ICG Rescues Two Crew Members from stranded U.S. Sailing Vessel off Andaman & Nicobar Islands

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BRIEF

Dy CM acts against poor road work; suspends JE, issues notice to Contractor

TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, July 13: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, acting strictly against the substandard road work on the Chijhama-Tragpora stretch in Rafiabad, Baramulla, has suspended the Junior Engineer besides issuing show cause notice to the defaulter Contractor. The action has been taken following a viral video and public concern on the issue which necessitated suspension of Junior Engineer Riyaz Ahmad Bhat with immediate effect.

Cont. on Page 11

Prominent Kashmiri leaders allege house arrest

TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, July 13: Prominent political leaders in Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday claimed they have been placed under house arrest to prevent them from paying homage to the 22 persons killed by the Dogra army on this day in 1931, with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah terming the move as 'blatantly undemocratic'.

There was no official confirmation to the house arrest claims made by the leaders.

Paying tributes to the 22 people killed, Abdullah likened the July 13, 1931 incident to the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

'13th July massacre is our Jallianwala Bagh. The people who laid down their lives did so against the British. Kashmir was being ruled under the British Paramountcy. What a shame that true heroes who fought against British rule in all its

Cont. on Page 11

LG Sinha hands over appointment letters to NoKs of terror victims

■Terror Victim families, forsaken and forgotten, suffered silently for decades■Stories of their loved ones, brutally killed by Pakistan-backed terrorists are being brought to forefront: LG



TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, July 13: In a historic step to deliver Justice to the Terror Victim Families, the Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today handed over the appointment letters to Next of Kins (NoKs) of terror victims, at Baramulla.

The Lieutenant Governor had met terror victim families in Anantnag on 29th June 2025 and they were assured that eligible NoKs will receive the jobs within just 30 days. The Lieutenant Governor has fulfilled his promise within 15 days and today handed-over appointment letters to the members of the 40 terror victim families. The process will continue till every terror victim family is rehabilitated.

The family members, whose loved ones were mercilessly killed by terrorists, narrated the horrifying incidents and exposed the Pakistan-sponsored terrorists and their sympathisers.

The Lieutenant Governor reiterated his commitment to ensure that the terror victim families will receive the justice, jobs, recognition and support they deserve after years of suffering.

Cont. on Page 11

Govt to re-open cases, return properties of terror-hit families in J&K: LG Sinha

TP CORRESPONDENT

BARAMULLA, Jul 13 : Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday said the administration will investigate all unregistered cases involving terror-affected families and ensure the return of confiscated properties to their rightful owners.

Speaking to reporters in Baramulla, LG Sinha after distributing appointment letters to the families of terror victims, said after consultations with senior government officials, a decision was taken to provide government jobs to eligible members of these families.

"Those who have not received financial support will now be provided assistance. We will also facilitate self-employment opportunities," LG Sinha said.

He shared his emotional experience after meeting several terror-affected families in Anantnag. "The families were very emotional. Many of them, despite being eligible, were not provided government jobs. It was their right," he said.

He also said the administration has also decided to review cases where FIRs were not filed or properties were seized. "Such cases will be investigated, and wherever applicable, confiscated properties will be returned," the LG assured.

During the Baramulla event, 40 individuals received appointment letters under this initiative. LG Sinha emphasised that senior officials, including the Home Secretary of J&K, are personally monitoring the implementation of these measures.

He added dedicated helpline numbers have been activated in every district for terror victim families. "I appeal to the people of Jammu and Kashmir who have suffered due to terrorism to submit their applications through the helpline. Their cases will be investigated promptly," he added

'Decades of suffering ended today', says Raja Begum whose family terrorists killed for saying 'no'

'Victims like her are our family, our responsibility,' says LG Manoj Sinha



TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, July 13: After 26 years of unimaginable pain and silence, Raja Begum, an elderly woman from north Kashmir's Kupwara district, finally received a long-overdue measure of justice.

On Sunday, the lady from Kupwar's Lilam village, was among the 40 next of kin (NoK) of terrorism victims who were issued government appointment letters by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha in Baramulla, part of a broader policy to recognize and rehabilitate families shattered by decades of violence in Jammu and Kashmir.

Begum, who lost four members of her family in 1999 for simply refusing to provide shelter and food to terrorists, recounted the horror of that night - one that changed her life forever. "It was around 8 PM when they knocked on our door. They were masked, armed and demanded food and shelter. I refused," she recalled, her voice trembling with emotion.

That refusal came at a horrific cost. The terrorists, she said, returned and murdered her husband Ghulam Hassan, her sons Javid Ahmed and Irshad Ahmed and her daughter-in-law Dilshada. "I was left alone. I begged for survival. There was no one to help, no justice, only fear," Raja said, breaking down as she spoke of her long battle for recognition and aid.

Cont. on Page 11

Amarnath Yatra: Fresh batch of over 7,000 pilgrims leave from Jammu base camp



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: The 12th batch of 7,049 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu on Sunday (July 13, 2025) to pay obeisance at the holy Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

The pilgrims, including 1,423 women, 31 children and 136 sadhus and sadhvis, left for the twin base camps of Nunwan-Pahalgam in Anantnag and Baltal in Ganderbal in separate convoys under tight security arrangements in the early

Cont. on Page 11

Security forces conducting operations to track 40-50 terrorists active in Jammu region

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: The security situation in the hinterland and along the borders of the Jammu region remains peaceful and under control, with the security forces maintaining a strong vigil and dominating the higher reaches of key areas through a series of operations aimed at tracking down 40 to 50 terrorists active in the region, official sources said.

Multi-tier measures, including an anti-drone strategy, additional deployments and a focus on intensified night operations, have been put in place to keep the terrorists on their toes, they said. According to the sources, around 40 to 50 terrorists operating in multiple groups are currently active south of the Pir Panjal range.

"Nearly 80 per cent of them are Pakistani nationals," a source said, citing earlier intelligence assessments and ongoing ground reports. A series of counter-terror operations is underway in districts including Rajouri, Poonch, Kishtwar, Doda and Udhampur, they said.

"We are acting on specific inputs regarding terrorist movements. They are being tracked and are on the run," said the sources familiar with the ongoing operations. The operations are focused on the hinterlands of

Cont. on Page 11

'Should I Speak In Hindi Or Marathi?': Rajya Sabha nominee Ujjwal Nikam recalls conversation with PM Modi

TP CORRESPONDENT

NEWDELHI, Jul 13 : Ujjwal Nikam, Special Public Prosecutor, was nominated to the Rajya Sabha by President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday. Later, while expressing his gratitude, he shared details of a personal conversation with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had personally informed him of the nomination over a phone call.

Ujjwal Nikam is known for handling high-profile criminal cases, including the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks trial of Ajmal Kasab and the 1993 Bombay blasts case.

Speaking to ANI, Ujjwal Nikam shared a light-hearted moment from his conversation with Prime Minister Modi, during which the PM asked if he should speak in Hindi or Marathi.

"I thank President Droupadi Murmu for nominating me. When I met PM Narendra Modi during the Lok Sabha election campaign, he expressed his faith in me. Yesterday, PM Modi called to inform me about the nomination. He asked whether he should speak in Hindi or Marathi--both of us

Cont. on Page 11

Mehbooba Mufti slams curbs on July 13 observance at Mazar-e-Shuhada

TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, Jul 13 : People's Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti on Sunday said that the "dil ki doori (distance of hearts)" between Kashmir and the rest of India would end when the Centre accepts Kashmir's heroes as its own, just as Kashmiris have embraced national figures.

Her comments came amid allegations that the Union Territory administration had denied regional political parties permission to visit the martyrs' graveyard in Srinagar. Mufti further claimed that residents had been 'locked' inside their homes to prevent them from paying respects to the martyrs. "The day you accept our heroes as your

Cont. on Page 11

Authorities seal roads leading to martyrs' graveyard, NC says leaders put under house arrest

TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, July 13: Authorities on Sunday sealed all roads leading to Martyrs' graveyard in Nowhatta area of the old city even as the ruling National Conference claimed that several of it's leaders have been placed under house arrest.

Police and central paramilitary forces were deployed in strength at all entry points leading to Srinagar city as there were apprehensions of law-and-order problems on the occasion of Martyrs Day.

Only vehicles of officials and security forces were allowed to cross the barricades set up at the entry points, officials said. National Conference (NC) had applied to the District Magistrate Srinagar, seeking permission to pay homage to the martyrs of July 13, 1931.

However, the district administration refused to grant permission. "The District Administration Srinagar has denied permission to all applicants intending to proceed towards

Cont. on Page 11

High Altitude Cardiac Risks among Amarnath Yatra Pilgrims: Tread cautions on the Sacred Trail: Dr Sushil

TP CORRESPONDENT



JAMMU, July 13: Keeping in view ever increasing rush of the devotees enroute Amarnath Yatra which is known for its difficult and high altitude terrains, Head Department of Cardiology GMCH Jammu Dr Sushil Sharma held a day long cardiac awareness cum health check up camp at Shri Ram Mandir , Purani Mandi Jammu. The Temple serves a base camp for sadhus undertaking the Amarnath Yatra, where preparations and registration, are carried out before their departure. The camp aimed to provide awareness and education to Amaranth Yatra pilgrims and local residents about the potential cardiovascular risks associated with high altitude travel and to provide guidance on preventive measures. The camp aimed to ensure a safe and smooth pilgrimage for all.

While delivering lecture Dr Sushil stated that the annual Amarnath Yatra, a revered spiritual journey to the 3,888-meter-high holy Amarnath Cave in the Himalayas, draws thousands of pilgrims from across India and beyond. However, this challenging high-altitude trek is not without risks especially for individuals with underlying cardiovascular conditions or those unaware of the physiological stress that high altitudes impose on the heart and lungs.

He elaborated that at elevations above 2,500 meters, the atmospheric oxygen level drops significantly.

The body responds by increasing heart rate, blood pressure, and respiratory rate. For individuals with pre-existing coronary artery disease, hypertension, heart failure, or those with silent cardiac disease, this can precipitate serious complications including Myocardial infarction , Sudden cardiac death, High-altitude pulmonary edema (HAPE) and High altitude cerebral edema(HACE). Moreover, unacclimatized pilgrims are often exposed to abrupt altitude changes, strenuous physical exertion, low temperatures, and dehydration, all of which amplify cardiovascular stress.

He maintained that considerable number of pilgrims may be asymptomatic cardiac patients, especially among the middle-aged and elderly population. Without prior cardiovascular screening, they may be unaware of blocked coronary arteries or poorly controlled hypertension.

High altitude can unmask these conditions, leading to cardiac arrest or collapse en route. Recent reports have shown a noticeable increase in sudden deaths during the yatra, with cardiac causes accounting for the majority of these fatalities. Many of these deaths occur within the first few days of ascent when acclimatization is incomplete. Pilgrims should also be counseled about warning symptoms like Chest pain or discomfort, Shortness of Breath , Dizziness or lightheadedness, fatique and palpitations.

He Advised people to follow the Strategies for a safe trip to high altitudes such as increasing altitude gradually so the body has time to adjust to lower levels of oxygen, drinking enough water and fluids to stay hydrated, adjusting medications to reduce the likelihood of cardiovascular events. Planning a gradual ascent and establishing emergency descent plans and awareness of the closest hospitals.

In concluding remarks Dr Sushil said that for individuals with hidden or known cardiac conditions, the pilgrimage may pose serious risk. The precautions and knowledge of Symptoms during high altitude travel are life savings.

A collaborative approach involving pilgrims, healthcare providers, administrators, and policy-makers is essential to ensure that spiritual upliftment does not come at the cost of physical peril.

Preventive cardiology must now walk alongside devotion on this sacred trail.

While wishing all pilgrims a glorious and enchanting Amarnath yatra Mahant Rameshwer Dass told that Amarnath Yatra is a sacred and life-changing experience for many and Pilgrims should follow the Guidelines and precautions as suggested by Dr Sushil Sharma.

Management Committee of the Shri Ram Mandir Mahant Shri Rameshwer Dass and Dr Satya Narayan appreciated the efforts of Dr Sushil and his team for conducting cardiac awareness cum health Check up camp for yatris and local residents . Shri Kuldeep Raj Dubey (MLA Reasi) also grace the occasion .

Others who were part of this camp include Dr Venkatesh Yellupu and Dr Dishant Kambhol. Paramedics and volunteers include Kamal Sharma , Raghav Rajput, Ranjeet Singh, Gourav Sharma , Vikas Kumar , Rajinder Singh , Shubham Sharma , Mukesh Kumar , Makhan Sharma, Rahul Vaid , Rohit Nayyar , Anmol Singh and Nirvair Singh Bali .

Ten Amarnath pilgrims sustain minor injuries in road accident near Khudwani crossing in Kulgam



TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, July `At least 10 Amarnath pilgrims were injured Sunday in a road accident in the Vesu area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which falls under the police jurisdiction of Kulgam, along the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway.

An official said three vehicles ferrying Yatra pilgrims collided, resulting in injuries to some passengers.

All the pilgrims had minor injuries only and were shifted to a nearby health facility for treatment. The condition of all the injured is stable.

Devyani Rana pays obeisance at Shri Amarnath Ji Cave; calls upon devotees across India to join sacred Yatra

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: Devyani Rana, Vice President of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha Jammu and Kashmir UT (J&K BJYM), undertook the sacred pilgrimage to the Shri Amarnath Ji shrine and paid obeisance at the holy cave.

Her visit comes during the auspicious month of Shravan, a period revered in the Hindu tradition as especially sacred for the worship of Lord Shiva.

Rana described the experience as deeply spiritual and profoundly humbling.

"There are moments that remind us of who we are, where we come from, and what connects us as a people. This yatra is one such moment. To walk the path so many have walked in devotion, along with feeling the energy of prayer, is both grounding and uplifting," she said.The month of Shravan is marked by devotion, fasting, and prayers dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is traditionally during this sacred period that the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra draws lakhs of pilgrims from all over the country, united in faith and purpose.

Rana lauded the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, administration, and security forces for their exceptional coordination and unwavering dedication to the safety, comfort, and well-being of the pilgrims. "From various facilities to logistical support, every detail has been thoughtfully planned and executed." She noted.

As the yatra continues through the holy month, Rana urged devotees from across India to join the divine pilgrimage.

Amit Bali honoured with best drug control officer award



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: Drug Control Officer, Food and Drugs Control Organisation, Jammu and Kashmir, Amit Bali was honoured as the Best Drugs Control Officer of Jammu and Kashmir in the national convention held at Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad.

During this programme organised by All India Drug Control Officers Welfare Association, Amit Bali was honoured with a memento by Pharmexil Chairman Namit Joshi for his distinguished services. On this occasion apart from Joint Drug Controller Ranga Chandra Shekhar, National President of Pharma Entrepreneurs Association and members of the Chief Executive Committee of All India Drug Control Officers Welfare Association were also present

Army conducts Medical Patrol for Gujjar and Bakarwals at Khodra



TP CORRESPONDENT

RAJOURI, Jul 13: The Indian Army has always been recognised for its ethos, values and traditions of the highest order. Its professional and humane approach is well known and consistently praised.

Upholding these traditions, the Indian Army continues to work hand in hand with the Awam to address various challenges, including those related to healthcare.

In line with this commitment, the Indian Army at Samote organised a medical patrol for the Gujjar and Bakarwal communities in the remote area of Khodra Village on Sunday.

A total of 40 locals from the village of Khodra benefited from the initiative, availing themselves of free medical treatment and medicines.

Army medical representatives provided comprehensive care to all patients during the patrol which was specifically aimed at delivering essential healthcare directly to the people in these far-flung areas.

The local populace appreciated the selfless efforts of the Army, stating that such initiatives not only bring much-needed medical services to their doorstep but also strengthen the bond between the Army and the Awam, fostering greater cooperation towards the development of the region.

Youth Exchange Programme participants flagged off for UT Level Competition in Jammu

TP CORRESPONDENT

UDHAMPUR, Jul 13: A contingent of around 25 enthusiastic participants, including two staff members, was ceremoniously flagged off today from Udhampur to Jammu to take part in the Union Territory (UT) level competition under the Youth Exchange Programme.

The flag-off ceremony was conducted by Jaswinder Singh, In-charge Activity DYSS Udhampur, along with Vikas Sharma, PEM, and Anshu Brat Khanna, REK.

The teacher escort with the participants are Raman Gupta and Bhavika Arora.

The participants, representing the district with great zeal, will be competing in various categories aimed at promoting cultural integration, leadership, and youth empowerment.

While addressing the gathering at the departure, Jaswinder Singh shared words of encouragement with the participants. He emphasized the importance of such platforms in building confidence, discipline, and a spirit of unity among youth.

ABVP Doda Unit, organized Felicitation Program



TP CORRESPONDENT

DODA, July 13: The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), Doda Unit, successfully organized a Felicitation Program on 13th July 2025 at Bharmani Bhawan Resort, Doda, on the occasion of its 77th Foundation Day, to honour the top-performing students from Classes 9th to 12th across various schools of the district.

The program began with Deep Prajwalan (lamp lighting) and a welcome speech by Dr. Sumit Kotwal.

The event aimed to celebrate academic excellence and inspire students to contribute meaningfully to nation-building. PSI Meenakshi Momoliya was the Chief Guest, accompanied by Solankshi Sharma. Both dignitaries addressed the gathering and motivated students to work hard with discipline and dedication in service of the nation.

Tilak Thakur, State Organisation Secretary (J&K), addressed the audience and reminded them of ABVP's achievements. He encouraged students to groom their personalities and dedicate themselves to the service of the nation.

During the event, the top 10 meritorious students from each class (9th to 12th) were felicitated with medals, certificates, and mementos.

District Convenor of ABVP Doda, Anish Raj Kotwal, stated that ABVP has always been committed to student welfare and nation-first ideals. This program was a humble effort to recognize and encourage talent among the youth of Doda.

The event witnessed active participation from teachers, parents, and a large number of students.

The program was anchored by Anshul Singh Rana, and the vote of thanks was delivered by Anish Raj Kotwal, who encouraged students to play a significant role in nation-building.

Vishal Sharma (Insane Comic) Leaves Jammu in Splits at The Chatter Box's Power-Packed Comedy Evening

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: Laughter echoed through the walls of Chatter Box on the evening of July 13th as Vishal Sharma, popularly known as Insane Comic, delivered a sensational stand-up performance in his Jammu debut. The event, hosted by The Chatter Box, lived up to its promise of presenting fresh, high-quality entertainment and drew a packed house of enthusiastic comedy lovers from across the city.

Vishal Sharma, a fast-rising name in the Indian stand-up comedy scene with over 170,000 followers, charmed the audience with his clean humour, relatable content, and hilarious storytelling in the Kangri dialect. With over 75 shows to his credit and recognition from the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh for promoting regional comedy, Vishal's performance marked a major milestone in Jammu's live entertainment scene.

Warming up the stage were two local performers viz. Amit Singh Andotra, also known as Comedian Chui, and Atul Sharma, who both won hearts with their short yet impactful sets. Amit, a young artist from Kathua, has appeared on platforms like Sony TV's "India's Laughter Champion" and brings a strong presence from regional cinema and digital comedy. Atul, a stand-up comic and copywriter, brought relatable humour from everyday life and added depth with his sharp observations.

The show was conceptualised by Shivam Singh (Founder) and Meenakshi Bhagat (Co-Founder) of Chatter Box, who continue to pioneer live entertainment experiences in Jammu.

The event management and coordination were ably handled by Roheet Verma, Amit Singh Andotra, Disha Bhagat, and Anadi Sharma, ensuring a seamless experience for the audience and performers alike.

INDIAN ARMY'S "FOREVER IN OPERATIONS DIVISION MOUNTAIN TERRAIN BICYCLE EXPEDITION" CONCLUDES



TP CORRESPONDENT

DRASS, Jul 13: The Indian Army's "Forever in Operations Division Mountain Terrain Bicycle Expedition", which commenced from the icy heights of Siachen Base Camp on 25 June 2025, successfully culminated on 12 July 2025 at the Kargil War Memorial in Dras. Covering an arduous 680 km through the unforgiving terrain of Ladakh, the Expedition was a remarkable feat of endurance, grit and national pride.

The Team comprised 20 Indian Army Soldiers, who pedalled through the most challenging High Altitude Terrain in the world, braving harsh weather conditions and negotiating treacherous passes like Khardung La, Fotu La and Hambuting La. The Expedition not only symbolised physical resilience, but also served as a powerful medium to connect with the local populace and youth.

As part of its outreach efforts, the Team connected with 1100 young students of 11 Government Schools in remote areas as well Students from Ladakh University. Engaging with young students, the Team highlighted the legacy of the Indian Army, the significance of the Kargil War and the immense sacrifices made by our soldiers while protecting the sovereignty of our nation.

The Expedition members also interacted with NCC Cadets of 1st and 2nd Ladakh NCC Bn at Leh and Silmo emphasising the critical role which National Cadet Corps plays in shaping disciplined, confident and service oriented citizens.

The Team Leader inspired the youth by sharing insights into various career avenues in the Indian Army and ways to serve the nation with honesty, honour and dedication.

The journey witnessed overwhelming support and encouragement from Civilians and Army Units enroute, who welcomed the Team with cheers and refreshments.

This Expedition is a powerful testament to the Indian Army's unwavering spirit, while deepening its connection with the people of Ladakh.

Lt Gen Pratik Sharma reviews operational readiness during visit to forward areas in J&K



TP CORRESPONDENT

RAJOURI, July 13: Lt Gen Pratik Sharma Army Commander Northern Command accompanied by GOC White Knight Corps and GOC Ace of Spades Division undertook a forward area visit to the Bimber Gali Brigade in Jammu and Kashmir to review the operational preparedness and security situation along the Pir Panjal Range

The visit aimed at assessing the effectiveness of the counter-insurgency and counter-infiltration grid in the region as well as evaluating the prevailing threat perception and the overall posture of deployed troops Lt Gen Sharma visited key forward locations including the Shashi Tar area near Jara Wali Gali where he conducted a comprehensive review of ground deployments and surveillance mechanisms Interacting with field commanders and troops on the ground, the Army Commander lauded their high morale, unwavering commitment, and professionalism in serving under difficult terrain and harsh climatic conditions He emphasized the importance of maintaining aggressive operational readiness continuous surveillance and a resilient mindset to counter any emerging security threats along the Line of Control and in the hinterland Lt Gen Sharma reiterated the need for sustained vigilance and mission-focused deployment to ensure complete domination of the operational space

He expressed satisfaction with the preparedness levels of formations and units operating in the area and assured them of full support from the higher headquarters

A seasoned and highly accomplished officer Lt Gen Pratik Sharma has held several prestigious operational and strategic appointments across the Indian Army Known for his deep-rooted understanding of the Jammu and Kashmir region he has commanded multiple formations in the Union Territory and is regarded as a leader of strategic foresight and operational brilliance

His frequent engagements with troops in forward areas reflect his dynamic leadership and proactive approach to operational excellence Under his command the Northern Command continues to serve as a bulwark of national security ready to meet all challenges and uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country

CS visits Baltal Base Camp to assess SANJY 2025 arrangements

Inspects facilities at Base Hospital, functioning of JPCR

TP CORRESPONDENT



GANDERBAL, JULY 13: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today undertook a comprehensive visit to the Baltal Base Camp to assess the on-ground arrangements for the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY)-2025.

During the visit, the Chief Secretary chaired a high-level review meeting with the senior officers of the civil and police administration besides other line departments to take stock of facilities being provided to the pilgrims. The meeting focused on ensuring a seamless and comfortable pilgrimage experience for the devotees.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Syed Fahim Bihaqi, briefed the Chief Secretary on various aspects of Yatra management via the Baltal route. These included health and accommodation facilities, water and power supply, sanitation measures, flood mitigation and other essential logistics.

The Chief Secretary also had a detailed review of the security and traffic management plans.

SSP Ganderbal, Khalil Poswal, presented an overview of the security arrangements, including deployment of security personnel, surveillance measures and technological interventions like facial recognition systems, CCTV coverage and integrated control rooms for real-time monitoring.

It was informed that round-the-clock monitoring mechanisms have been put in place to ensure uninterrupted services and address any emergent issues promptly. Commending the coordinated efforts of all the departments and agencies, the Chief Secretary urged them to work with the same spirit and commitment to ensure a safe and successful Yatra. Later, the Chief Secretary visited the Base Hospital at Baltal to inspect the medical facilities, availability of emergency medicines and overall readiness to address health-related needs of the pilgrims. He interacted with the medical and paramedical staff and appreciated their dedication. He directed the health department to ensure sufficient deployment of medical personnel, ambulances and essential medicines to meet the influx of Yatris.

The Chief Secretary also visited the Joint Police Control Room (JPCR) Baltal, on-spot registration counters, tent accommodations and Langar areas. He interacted with the pilgrims, service providers and Langar sevadars to get first-hand feedback on the facilities. The pilgrims expressed satisfaction with the arrangements and lauded the administration's proactive approach.

The Chief Secretary was accompanied by Secretary Science & Technology, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary; DG Rural Sanitation; SSP Ganderbal; ADC Ganderbal; Camp Director Baltal and other senior officers from the civil and police administration.

DC Kishtwar reviews arrangements for Shri Machail Mata Yatra 2025

Pays obeisance at Shri Machail Mata Temple



TP CORRESPONDENT

KISHTWAR, JULY 13: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kishtwar, Pankaj Kumar Sharma along with Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Naresh Singh today visited the revered Shree Chandi Mata Darbar in Machail to review preparations for the upcoming Shri Machail Mata Yatra 2025, scheduled to commence on July 25, 2025.

During the visit, the DC paid obeisance at the holy shrine and inspected key infrastructure and amenities, including sanitation, water supply, electricity and road connectivity. He expressed satisfaction with the progress made so far and directed the concerned officers to ensure round-the-clock monitoring to provide a safe, comfortable and spiritually enriching experience to the pilgrims.

The DC interacted with locals at Machail, listened to their genuine demands and concerns and assured them that all possible steps would be taken to address their issues. He urged them to maintain cleanliness and adhere to the necessary guidelines to support the smooth conduct of the pilgrimage.

He also held a meeting with officers and officials of the Sub-Divisional Level Paddar at the office of SDM Paddar, issuing directions to ensure their continuous and dedicated efforts for a smooth and hassle-free yatra.

The DC further inspected the ongoing work at Yatri Bhawan Gulabgarh Paddar and instructed the executing agencies to complete the remaining work ahead of the start of the yatra.

The District Administration Kishtwar remains committed to ensuring a safe, comfortable and spiritually enriching experience for the pilgrims during Shri Machail Mata Yatra 2025.

DC Poonch, SSP lead comprehensive developmental review tour of Surankote Sub-Division

TP CORRESPONDENT



POONCH, JULY 13: In a concerted effort to review ongoing developmental initiatives and strengthen administrative preparedness ahead of the forthcoming Buddha Amarnath Yatra, Deputy Commissioner Poonch Vikas Kundal, along with Senior Superintendent of Police Shafkat Bhat, undertook an extensive tour of Surankote Sub-Division today.

The high-level delegation included senior officials from the civil and police administration, focusing on infrastructure assessment, inter-departmental coordination and security arrangements for the Yatra-bound pilgrims.

The tour began with a detailed inspection of Dundak Mandir, a key halting point for the yatris.

During the visit, the DC reviewed preparations including drinking water availability, sanitation facilities, temporary accommodations, medical aid and crowd control mechanisms. He directed officials to ensure a foolproof security plan, uninterrupted utility services and a welcoming environment for pilgrims. A comprehensive on-site security audit of the temple premises and nearby areas was also conducted.

As part of Yatra coordination efforts, the DC and SSP welcomed the Padal Yatra procession from Shiv Temple, Ari Potha, en route to Shri Buddha Amarnath Ji Temple, Mandi, via Harni-JWG. They interacted with the pilgrims, appreciated their devotion and assured full administrative support throughout their journey. The officers reiterated the administration's commitment to ensuring a smooth, secure and spiritually enriching Yatra experience.

Continuing the developmental review, the team inspected the under-construction bridge on the National Highway Bypass near Potha, a vital connectivity project.

The Deputy Commissioner assessed technical progress and instructed the National Highway authorities to adhere to quality standards, expedite completion and keep the route obstruction-free for commuter safety. He warned that delays or sub-standard work would not be tolerated.

The officials also visited the Machakki and Mastandara labour camps, which accommodate workers from the Parnai Power Project. The DC and SSP interacted with labourers to understand their living conditions, safety and working environment. The administration assured them of its commitment to their well-being and pledged to resolve grievances promptly. Project managers were directed to ensure proper accommodation, medical support and adherence to labour safety regulations.

The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed progress on the Surankote-Buffaliaz road, a critical rural link, along with various smaller development projects across the subdivision. He stressed the need for strong inter-departmental coordination to avoid delays and maintain construction quality.

He further directed Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Surankote to actively monitor the progress of all current and upcoming projects. He emphasised real-time tracking, departmental accountability and quick decision-making to meet deadlines and deliver results for the public.

The tour included participation from key officials such as SDM Surankote Farooq Khan, Tehsildar Surankote Akbar Hussain and senior officers from departments including the Public Works Department (PWD), Border Roads Organisation (BRO), and Parnai Power Project. Their presence enabled on-spot coordination and immediate resolution of issues encountered during the inspections.

This extensive field review underscores the district administration's commitment to public welfare, infrastructure development and effective Yatra management. DC Vikas Kundal affirmed that all ongoing projects in Surankote Sub-Division will be closely monitored and expedited in line with government priorities.

DDC Doda lays foundation stone of integrated sanitation and skill development facility at GMC Doda

Similar initiatives planned in Bhaderwah and Gandoh



TP CORRESPONDENT

DODA, JULY 13: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda, Harvinder Singh today laid the foundation stone of a two-storey integrated facility near the OPD Block of Government Medical College (GMC) Doda. The project, undertaken in collaboration with the Ladli Foundation and Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) 2.0, will include public toilets for men, women and specially-abled persons on the ground floor. The first floor will house a skill development centre aimed at empowering local youth, particularly women.

During the event, the DDC interacted with key stakeholders from the PWD (R&B) Department, Municipal Council Doda and the Health Department. He directed all departments to work in coordination and ensure timely completion of the project, adhering to quality standards.

The DDC also announced that similar facilities are planned at Sub-District Hospitals in Bhaderwah and Gandoh.

Rangyug stages solo Dogri play 'Chanchlo'



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: For the first time in the history of Dogri theatre, Jammu witnessed a groundbreaking 90-minute solo performance that captivated audiences and marked a significant milestone in regional performing arts. Chanchlo, presented by Rangyug - Theatre for Self-Realization and Social Change, brought solo storytelling to the forefront, combining powerful performance, regional language, and a socially resonant narrative.

Designed and directed by veteran theatre personality Deepak Kumar and sponsored by the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), Chanchlo is an adaptation of Nadira Zaheer Babbar's acclaimed Hindi play Sakubai.

The Dogri version was masterfully translated and performed solo by RJ Juhie Mohan, who delivered a moving and dynamic portrayal that held the audience spellbound throughout the uninterrupted 90-minute act. Set in urban Jammu, the play follows the journey of a domestic worker who migrates from a rural village in search of livelihood

. Her story-told through humor, emotion, irony and resilience-sheds light on the often-unseen lives of working-class women and touches on issues of migration, exploitation and the dignity of labor.

The historic performance was attended by an array of dignitaries and cultural stalwarts, including Padma Shri Dr Lalit Mangotra; Suresh Kumar Sharma, Retired Sessions Judge & Member, SMVDSB; Harvinder Kour, Secretary, JKAACL; Nagendra Singh Jamwal, Special Secretary, J&K Government; and Dr Javaid Rahi, Secretary, Kala Kendra.

The event also drew personalities from theatre, media, literature, and academia, as well as numerous art lovers and theatre enthusiasts from across the region. The production featured music and sound by Shivan Gupta; lighting design by Ashish Sharma and Pankaj Sharma; costumes by Anuradha; and makeup by Shammi Dhamir.

Backstage and production support came from Neharika, Raj Kumar Behrupia, Soham Kashyap, Sumit, Akrit, Poonam, Kabir and KS Home Store.

Dharti Aaba Abhiyan: DAJGUA & PM-JANMAN Benefit Saturation Camp Held at Nilgrar

TP CORRESPONDENT

GANDERBAL, JULY 13: Under the umbrella of the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA) and Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN), a mega benefit saturation and awareness camp was held at Nilgrar, a designated tribal village in Ganderbal district.

The initiative aims at saturating government schemes in tribal areas through convergence, transparency, and participatory governance.

The camp witnessed active participation from multiple line departments including Health, ICDS, Education, Rural Development, Social Welfare, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Revenue, who collectively delivered doorstep services and enrolled beneficiaries for flagship schemes such as: Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY) Golden Card generation, PM Ujjwala Yojana connections.

EDITORIAL

DO MORE

IT is really intriguing that despite so many steps and measures taken by the police, bovine smuggling continues to thrive in J&K. It has become a near norm that smugglers ferry bovine animals illegally from different areas in the Union Territory, and in most of the cases head towards the Valley. In this regard, reportedly, the Poonch police has foiled three separate bovine smuggling attempts in the area under Police Post Behramgalla on Mughal Road and rescued 18 animals from the clutches of bovine smugglers. Hardly a day passes in J&K, when there is no report of bovine smugglers being arrested and animals rescued. There is no doubt in the fact that the men in Khaki are doing their best to curb this crime but the bovine smugglers seem to have become fearless and that is the reason behind these criminals making use of new and unprecedented modus-operandi to smuggle livestock to different parts of Valley. The need of the hour is that police should take some additional steps to contain this menace which not only is a crime but also has the potential to disturb the social fabric in the society, which can lead to volatile situations as bovine smuggling can incite passions of communities, which should not be the case. Although Jammu and Kashmir Police is doing a magnificent job in curbing this crime, still there is a need to do more as bovine smugglers are in no mood to mend their ways. As this crime can create wedge between communities it has become necessary that the persistence and audacity of the bovine smugglers should be countered through stronger and more innovative measures. To contain this menace from the soil of J&K, the concerned authorities should adopt a more robust, coordinated, and intelligence-driven approach because in this fight, a lot more has to be done. All said and done, it has become necessary that the cops should act with more zeal and zest to contain this crime which not only has social repercussions but also religious ones as at times, this crime leads to hurting the religious

"Equals, not behind: Kerala schools' new seating arrangement a revolutionary step"



By Priyanka Saurabh

FOR decades, there has been an invisible line in India's education system - the front bench and the back bench. While students sitting on the front bench are often considered "brilliant", those on the back bench are seen as a symbol of neglect and ridicule. But a recent change in Kerala's government schools challenges this mindset to the core. There is no longer such a thing as "back benchers".

In Kerala schools, students are now being made to sit in a circle or a U-shape, so that every child is facing the teacher, no one is in front of them, no one is behind them. This is not just a seating style, but an ideological revolution - it shatters the idea that the right to learning is limited to a few children.

The aim of this change is clear: equality, participation and inclusion. Every child can now make eye contact with the teacher, ask questions and feel important.

It is said that this new system is inspired by a vision shown in a film. Sometimes cinema not only entertains but also becomes an inspiration for change. Just like "Taare Zameen Par" changed the perspective towards special children, this film forced us to think about the education system. Kerala brought that vision to reality - and this is the vision that can become a new light in the education sector of India.

Education is not just bookish knowledge, it is a psychological process. A child who is always made to sit at the back, his confidence is affected. He feels that he is "inferior", "unnecessary". But when the same child sits in front of the teacher, becomes a part of the discussion, a new energy is born within him.

The new seating arrangement is both a challenge and an opportunity for not only students but also teachers. Now the teacher will have to become a guide who believes in dialogue and participation rather than just standing in front and giving a lecture. This transforms "one-way education" into "two-way communication".

This new system is the beginning of bringing democracy in education. Where all children are viewed equally. This is in line with the basic spirit of the Constitution of India, which talks about equality, liberty and fraternity.

There is often a complaint about education in India that the classroom environment promotes inequality. Only a few children get the attention of the teacher, while others are left behind. This initiative of Kerala is an attempt to eliminate this imbalance. When every child sits at the same place, there will be equality in the vision and communication of the teacher as well. From the perspective of sociology of education, this system also challenges the discriminatory mindset related to class, caste and economic status. The children who were either socially suppressed or had low self-confidence often sat in the back rows. Now that they will be in the centre, their self-esteem will increase.

This experiment of Kerala is also important because it is not just a change imposed from above by policy makers, but an idea born out of the collective thinking and consensus of teachers, students and school administration. It is in line with the global principles of inclusive education, in which giving equal opportunities to every child is a priority.

The new system takes children out of the confines of traditional discipline and brings them into a world of dialogue, cooperation and participation. It makes the teaching methodology more interactive, lively and practical.

There is also a psychological aspect to this model: when a child feels important, his or her ability to learn increases. Self-esteem, self-confidence and classroom engagement are interlinked. So this arrangement is not just a change in seating style, but a change in the learning culture.

This system is not easy from a practical point of view. In most schools in the country, the classes are small, the number of students is high and the furniture is limited. But it is not impossible either. If there is political will and the teacher community is ready in this direction, then this model can be adopted in other states as well.

If a part of the education budget is spent on restructuring the classrooms across the country, it will not only bring about physical changes but also mental and educational changes. For this, improvements in teacher training, school structure and curriculum are also necessary.

Private schools should also learn from this initiative. Often private schools focus only on rankings and exam results, but they also need inclusive, sensitive and dialogue-based education. If they really want the holistic development of students, then adopting this model would not only be appropriate but also necessary.

Parents, guardians and society should also welcome this initiative. They must understand that education is not just a process of scoring marks but a process of social, mental and moral development. When a child sits on equal terms, listens and is listened to, only then will he become a responsible citizen. This system also challenges the idea that the teacher is supreme and the student is only a listener. Now both the teacher and the student are partners in the dialogue. This is the basic spirit of modern education, where education is not 'power' but 'partnership'.

This experiment of Kerala is also in line with the vision of India's Education Policy 2020, which emphasizes on thinking, communicating and being creative, rather than rote learning. When students are at the center of communication, their thinking ability and level of self-expression will also increase.

This will have far reaching effects. A child who is able to talk to his teacher without fear today will have the courage to speak his mind in society tomorrow. He can become not just a job seeker but also a guide for society.

There is often an atmosphere of fear in our society regarding education - fear of exams, fear of marks, fear of failure. But when the classroom environment is participatory and interactive, these fears gradually disappear. This is a big step towards fear-free education.

In short, this new seating arrangement in Kerala schools has not just changed the chairs and tables, but has changed the way an entire generation thinks, learns and interacts with society. This change has started on a small scale, but its results can be very big.

It is hoped that other states of India will also take inspiration from this experiment and take education away from 'competition' and towards 'inclusiveness'. When every child is at the centre, only then will the centre of society also rest on justice, equality and participation.

#Priyanka_Saurabh (Freelance journalist, poet and regular writer on education issues)

The Need to Understand Patterns of Life

By Vijay Garg

DYNAMISM lies at the heart of life, and nowhere is this more evident than in human relationships — especially those formed through marriage and family. The institution of a lifelong man–woman bond remains one of the most complex experiences

Dynamism is the essence of life. Anything which exists will have some movement, some growth, and some energy to it. It will be born at a point of time, grow, develop, and gradually wither away.

This is the essential cycle of life. It is available in plants, animals, and human beings. This is a domain worthy of its own exploration, fit enough for a specialisation with many permutations and combinations. Amongst the more obvious cycles of life is the birth, growth, flowering into its fullness of creatures, and ultimately their detachment or demise. All living creatures go through this cycle.

The depth of this exploration is deep and intense. This would need many efforts over many centuries to get to any conclusion worthy of even being tossed around. To make the topic manageable in the time and space of this text, it may be desirable to talk about the area of 'relationships' only.

By definition, the 'relationship' can only exist between entities. It can be between two people of any breed and variety. The period of time spent between the two can be cyclical and capable of many undulations. Some reading of patterns can be interesting. One of the areas of relationship that is fairly universal in character is the relationship of 'marriage'/'family'.

One could hasten to add that procreation is not essential to a marriage, but a marriage often leads to identifiable procreation. This is important because it constitutes the core of a family. This is a universal pattern, bereft of variations in race, creed, region, and more. Often, two people in a marital relationship are referred to as a couple, and they live together, grow together, and very often have a shared household. The shared household opens up many concerns of proprietorship, ownership, and more.

Usually, the fondness and necessity of the relationship between a couple make it unnecessary to have a legal framework on every aspect of ownership.

Goodwill, love, affection and pure, simple good sense allow a couple to navigate their relationships without too many tumbles or pitfalls. Life exists because of the normal smoothness of good sense and how relationships are essential to moving things, preserving things, and keeping them going. The coupling does not end there but has many ramifications that may require a legal framework of a civil society. This itself is a complicated and extensive area that may elude exhaustive treatment in the definitional constraints of this text. The conjugal relationships would normally be between a man and a woman.

Supercomputers and Artificial Intelligence



By Vijay Garg

SUPERCOMPUTERS and artificial intelligence (AI) are indispensable tools for cooking up the next generation of advanced materials.
Advanced computers allow scientists to rapidly design better alloys, chemical catalysts, and plastics using millions of potential candidates. Tomorrow's high-tech materials are being road-tested this way to cut down human trial and error.

Reshaping the world for a fossil fuel-free future means working quickly. Climate scientists say emissions must peak by 2025 to minimize environmental damage. And by designing computational materials together with manufacturers who can build and test them quickly, science could rapidly develop technologies like more powerful solar cells and car batteries.

Michael is the name of a supercomputer dedicated to just one task – discovering the ultimate battery system. Researchers at University College London will use Michael (named after renowned physicist and chemist Michael Faraday) to digitally build and test prototypes in every new material and type of cell possible to improve battery life, performance, and price.

Finding a resilient design for solid-state batteries would be a huge breakthrough for electric vehicles and energy storage. Lighter, longer-lasting, and cheaper solid-state technology could vastly improve vehicle range and charging times. And the energy from solar and wind power could be more efficiently stored until ready for use. Scientists working in the US and UK led the way in the 1970s in developing the lithium-ion battery used in today's electric cars, laptops, and cameras. But commercial units were only developed once Japanese electronics giant Sony pushed the technology forward in 1991 for mass production.

Partnerships between companies and universities could ultimately crack solid-state battery design. Startup Britishvolt, chemicals company Johnson Matthey, and Oxford University are part of a seven-strong consortium looking to win the international race to create a durable product. But they are only one among many.

Replacing liquid or polymer electrolytes used in lithium-ion batteries, often prone to overheating, with a solid conductor like ceramic, may take some large number crunching. Electric vehicle makers Mercedes-Benz are working with IBM and its quantum computers to find successful designs that might include cheap and plentiful materials found in seawater.

Nissan is partnering with NASA to open a solid-state battery plant in 2024 that uses no rare or expensive metals. The plan is to create a large database of materials that can be mixed and matched for the best combinations.

But computational materials may be needed in virtually every industry. And by rapidly classifying millions of substances on their ability to conduct electricity, their toughness, or the way they reflect light, AI and supercomputers can speed up the process of creating materials for just about anything.

Duke University researchers have successfully used supercomputers to design two new magnetic materials from a list of more than 200,000 substances.

One is useful for making hard drives and computer memory, and another uses no rare earth metals and can operate at high temperatures.

Computing power also helped Scientists at the University of Toronto identified a class of catalysts that can quickly turn greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO_2) into ethylene, for making fuels and plastics.

The team created a computer algorithm that ran through thousands of combinations of more than 240 molecules, leading to the discovery of 17 new catalysts. Their discovery could enable access to a $60 billion market turning waste CO_2 into valuable chemical raw materials using only renewable energy.

Vijay Garg Retired Principal? Educational columnist Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab

BaidyanathDham: A Confluence of Shiva & Shakti



By Er. Prabhat Kishore

PurvottarePrajawalikaNidhane,
SadaVasantamGirijaSametam.
SurasuraradhitaPadyapadmam
Sri BaidyanathamTamahamNamami.

THE world famous one-month long ShravaniMela of BaidyanathDham starts with the drizzle of Pavas (Rainy) season. The influx of saffron-dressed Kanwariyas, pouring water into an embellishedKanwarfrom Sultanganj'sUttar-vahini Ganga, walk barefoot on a 111 km long invincible path with the deafening sound of "Bol Bam" towards the Baba BaidyanathMandir in Deoghar. The chant of "Bol-BamKa Nara Hai, Baba Ek Sahara Hai" all the way fills this rugged path with devotion to Shiva.

BaidyanathDham is one of the great pilgrimage sites of Bharatvarsha. One of the twelveJyotirlingas of Bhagwan Shiva, "KamanaLinga" is located here. This Thirthsthan is famous not only in India, but all over the world. That is why every year lakhs of devotees from other countries like Burma, Bhutan, Nepal, Mauritius, Tibet, Bangladesh, Fiji, Pakistan etc come here to bow before Shiva. Shiva devotees fill water from the holy Ganges at Sultanganj and travel to BaidyanathDhamon foot with a Kanwar on their shoulders and offer water to Baba Bholenath. As per mythological legends this Holy spiritual land has its own special importance since the Vedic times.

According to Shiva Puran, Sati sacrificed her life by jumping into the Yagyakund after her father Daksha Prajapatihad humiliatedher husband Shiva. Enraged by the death of Sati, Bhagwan Shiva carried her body on his shoulder and started performing the TandavNritya. The yagya was destroyed and there was a catastrophe all around. Then on the advice of the Devtas, Bhagwan Vishnu sent his Sudarshan Chakra to cut off the body into parts so that Shiva's anger could be controlled. The limbs of Sati started falling off, which fell at total 52 places. The place, where the Hritpind i.e. heart part of Sati's body fell in BaidyanathDham, was named "Hardyapeeth". It is also known as "Chittabhoomi" because of the cremation of the heart of Sati at the said place by Bhagwan Shiva.

Another legend about BaidyanathDham is related to Mahapandit and Shastra-Shiromani LankeshRavan. Lankapati was such an ardent devotee of Bhagwan Shiva that many times he cut his head instead of a flower and offered it at the feet of his deity. Shiva cured him as Vaidya (Doctor); hence came to be known as Baidyanath (Vaidyanath).

According to another mythology, once a thought came to Ravan's mind that he has to travel from the remote region of Lanka to Kailash, situated at the extreme end of Uttaranchal of Bharat, to see his adoration again and again. So why not convince Bhagwan Shiva and ask him to stay in Lanka so that he can always get the benefit of his darshan. For this purpose, once Ravana did relentless penance in Kailash. While Shiva could not agree, Ravansaid that his "Kamna Ling" would be a good substitute. Shiva accepted the offer on the condition that Ravanmust not put down the Ling in the way, otherwise it would not proceed from there and that would be the site of the Ling. Ravan accepted Shiva's condition. This decision of Shiva caused a stir among the other Devtas, as it was expected to strengthen the demonic power of the mighty Ravan even more. So they made a move. When Ravan was going to Lanka with the "KamnaLinga" through the sky route, he felt uncontrollable urination at this place called Deoghar. Coming down from the sky, he started having a piss by handing over the Shiva-Linga to Lord Vishnu dressed as Baidyanath shepherd. But this was the illusion of the Lord. Hours passed, but Ravan'spiss did not last.

The Shepherd Baidyanath, unable to bear the heavy burden of Shivling, installed it on the Chittabhoomi of Mahasati. After thepiss, Ravan tried hard to lift the Shivling; but as per condition, he was not able to do so. Enraged, he pressed the Shivling with his thumb. Later on, Mahadev was named after shepherdBaidyanath and was worshiped by the local devotees. Ravan constructed a well nearthe Shivling and poured water of all the pilgrimages in it. He constructed a Kund (pool), which is today situated in the form of Shivaganga.

After the return of Ravan to Lanka, Vishwakarma built 21 other grand temples in this huge courtyard apart from BaidyanathMandir with big stones. These temples are- Annapurna Mandir, JagjananiMandir, ParvatiMandir, KaalBhairavMandir, Ganesh Mandir, Brahma Mandir, Sandhya Mandir, Mansa Mandir, Ganga Mandir, Hanuman Mandir, Surya Mandir, SaraswatiMandir, Ram Mandir, BagalaMandir, AnandBhairavMandir ,NarmadeshwarMandir, GaurishankarMandir, Kali Mandir, Tara Mandir, NeelkanthMandir and LaxminarayanMandir.

The importance of BaidyanathDham has also mentioned in our scriptures. Glorifying its importance in the Padma Puran, it is said - "BaidyanathMahalingam, Bhavarog Hare Shivam". According to AnandRamayan, once BhagwanRamchandraji himself came to BaidyanathDham after filling water from the Ganges and worshiped Shiva. Since then lakhs of devotees come here every day and get the desired results by worshiping the KamanaLinga. The importance of this month-long ShravaniMela, which takes place in the entire Shravan month, is not only on the national map, but it is also called the longest fair in the world. In any sense, the ShravaniMela of thirty continuous days is no less than the KumbhMelaat Prayag, Haridwar, Nashik and Ujjain, Ganga SagarMela, Vaishno DeviYatra, and other fairs of South India.

With the deafening slogans of "Bol Bam - Bol Bam" by groups of Shiv BhaktKanwariyas constantly moving like the waves of ocean, the spiritual atmosphere is bound everywhere. The devoteeswalking hundreds of miles get blisters on the feet and suffer pain. But as soon as the Ganges water is offered to Baba, all the pain vanishes and the devotees become self-confessed.

(The author is a technocrat & academician)

Ex-Servicemen Welfare Committee releases Book "Shoorveer", honouring Col. RK Sharma's life and bravery

TP CORRESPONDENT



JAMMU, JULY 13 : In a poignant moment, Col. R.K. Sharma, the decorated Army officer and protagonist of the book, released "Shoorveer," a testament to his bravery and service. The book, a compilation of his life and valorous deeds, was unveiled to a gathering of esteemed guests, ex-servicemen, and citizens. As Col. Sharma took to the stage, he was met with thunderous applause, a testament to the respect and admiration he commands. With a humble smile, he shared his thoughts on the significance of the book and the sacrifices that have shaped his journey.

The release of "Shoorveer" served as a reminder of the unwavering dedication and bravery that define the spirit of our armed forces. As the audience eagerly received their copies, the atmosphere was filled with a sense of pride and gratitude for the sacrifices made by Col. Sharma and his fellow soldiers. This momentous occasion not only celebrated Col. Sharma's achievements but also inspired the audience to reflect on the values of courage, duty, and sacrifice that he embodies.

To mark the occasion, a grand felicitation ceremony was organized by the Ex-Servicemen Welfare Committee at Shaurya Niwas, Gadigarh, Jammu, to honor the bravery and dedication of Col. R.K. Sharma, a decorated Indian Army officer. Col. Sharma has been awarded the Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra, and Sena Medal for his exceptional courage and service.The ceremony was attended by a large gathering of ex-servicemen, local citizens, social workers, and youth. Col. Sharma was felicitated for his bravery and service to the nation.

The Book "Shoorveer," which chronicles Col. Sharma's life and bravery, was released and distributed among the attendees.Col. Sharma's wife, Smt. Shashi Sharma, was honored with the "Veerangana Samman" for her sacrifices and support to her husband during his service. This gesture was met with emotional applause from the audience.

The ceremony was attended by several dignitaries, including Col. Dev Anand Lohamaroor, National President, Ex-Servicemen Welfare Committee, Smt Shashi Sharma, wife of Col. R.K. Sharma, Ashwani Sharma, former MLA, Rajendra Sharma, former Mayor. Other notable speakers who spoke on the occasion included Sarpanch Shamshher Singh, former MLA Kulwant Singh Bhatti, Dr. Mohit Sharma, Dr. Nav Balaram, ADC Tilak Shastri and several other ex-servicemen and citizens.

The speakers emphasized the need for a policy to provide government jobs and financial assistance to Veeranganas, who have made immense sacrifices for the nation. They praised the Rajasthan government's initiative in this regard and urged the governments of Jammu and Kashmir and India to follow suit.

The ceremony concluded with the National Anthem, and the attendees took a pledge to honor the nation's heroes and Veeranganas. The event highlighted the importance of recognizing and supporting the sacrifices of Veeranganas and their contributions to the nation's security.

ABRSM Holds Monthly Meeting and District Body Expansion in Jammu

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, JULY 13 : The monthly meeting of Akhil Bharatiya Rashtriya Shaikshik Mahasangh (ABRSM), Jammu District, was held today under the presidentship of Sh. Pawan Sharma, District President, and in the esteemed presence of State President Rattan Sharma. The meeting marked the extension of the District Body, with new responsibilities assigned to: Tarsem Lal, Ram Rattan Bali, and Satishta Devi as Vice Presidents, Bali Ram as Additional Secretary, Ajay Kumar as Media Prabhari, Narotam Sharma as Seh Media Prabhari, and Tarseem Kumar as District Executive Member.

The Zonal Body of Bhalwal Zone was also formed, with Jeeva Kant as Sanyojak, Ajay Kumar as Sah Sanyojak, and Smt. Nirmal Sharma as Mahila Karyakarta. Several prominent dignitaries graced the occasion, including Rahul Sharma (UT Joint Additional Secretary), Rakesh Sharma State Executive member, Ved Parkash, District General Secretary.

Keshav Chopra Organizes 99th Free Health Screening Camp

TP CORRESPONDENT



JAMMU, JULY 13 : Social Activist & Chairman of the Samvedna Society Keshav Chopra, organizes 99th Free General Health Screeing and Eye Check-Up Camp at Devstan Shri Bawa Brahm Dev Ji Village Taloor, Samba. The vital community initiative, held in collaboration with K.D. Multispeciality Hospital Jammu, led by Dr. J.P. Singh. The camp was aimed to provide essential healthcare services to the underserved population of the far flung areas of the region.The camp was inaugurated by SHO Samba, Inspector Sikander Singh Chauhan, who lauded the efforts of the Samvedna Society and its partners.

A total of 107 patients benefited from the camp, receiving comprehensive free-of-cost treatment. This included refraction, Non-Contact Tonometry (NCT), Auto Refractometer (AR) check-ups, and thorough vision check-ups conducted by an expert team of doctors. In addition to eye care, patients were also provided with free blood sugar and blood pressure tests, and necessary medicines were distributed at no charge. A significant aspect of the camp's commitment to community health is the provision for free surgeries under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme for eligible patients.

Speaking at the inauguration Sikander Singh Chauhan expressed his appreciation for the initiative. "It is truly commendable to witness the dedication of Samvedna Society in bringing such crucial health services directly to the people of Village Taloor. These camps play a vital role in ensuring that even those in remote areas have access to quality healthcare, and I am particularly pleased to see the focus on both general health and specialized eye care. This effort significantly contributes to the well-being of our community."

Keshav Chopra while speaking reiterated his organization's commitment to public welfare. "Our mission at Samvedna Society is to bridge the healthcare gap and make essential medical services accessible to everyone, regardless of their economic background. The overwhelming response from the community today, with 107 patients receiving free treatment, is a testament to the urgent need for such initiatives, We remain committed to continuing our efforts and look forward to reaching even more individuals in need through our upcoming camps."

Raj Kumar President of the devsthan while speaking expressed gratitude towards Samvedna Society for organizing Free Health Check up Camp at their respective devstan, Many of our residents, especially the elderly and those with limited resources, often face significant challenges in accessing quality healthcare.

Grand Free Medical Camp Organized at Baba Jitto Devsthan, Jhiri; 355 Patients Benefited, Ayurvedic Plants Also Distributed



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, JULY 13 : Dedicated to the promotion of Sanskrit culture and social service, Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust, Raipur (Thather), Jammu organized a one-day free medical camp at the historic Shri Baba Jitto Devsthan in the Jhiri temple complex, falling under the Marh Assembly constituency, as part of its "Sanskrit Month" celebrations. A total of 355 patients availed of health consultations, diagnostic services, and free distribution of medicines at the camp. Additionally, Ayurvedic plants were distributed, conveying a strong message of environmental protection. The camp was inaugurated by BJP's dynamic orator and MLA of Jammu North, Shri Sham Lal Sharma. Special guests present on the occasion included Mahant Shri Jagdish Mehta Ji of the temple, Trust President Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji, and a large gathering of local residents, social workers, and devotees.

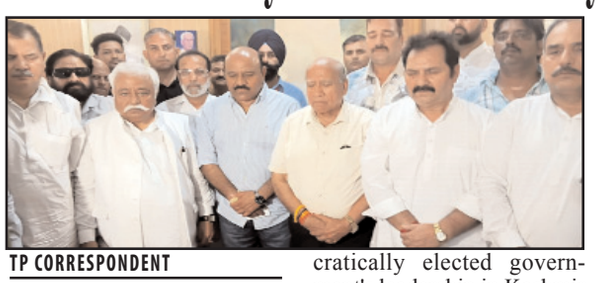
MLA Shri Sham Lal Sharma praised the Trust's spirit of service, stating that Shri Kailakh Trust is playing a leading role not only in the propagation of Devvani Sanskrit but also in social welfare. "Sanskrit is the soul of our culture," he said, "and under the leadership of Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji, the Trust is committed to the welfare of Sanskrit, culture, and society." He further emphasized that public health is a fundamental need, and such medical camps help make society physically, mentally, and intellectually aware and empowered. "Every person deserves good health, and public awareness is essential for that. The Trust is doing commendable work in this direction." Mahant Jagdish Mehta also commended the Trust, stating that in rural areas-where many people are deprived of healthcare due to lack of resources-such free camps prove extremely beneficial. "This is true service to humanity," he said. He added that the work the Trust is doing to bring the divine language Sanskrit to every village is admirable. "Young Sanskrit-sevaks like Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji are truly worthy of praise," he said.

The free camp featured a team of experienced doctors who conducted medical checkups and provided proper advice and medicines free of charge. The attending physicians included Dr. Vishav Gupta, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Dr. Vinod Khajuria, and Dr. Vidyupt Gupta-all of whom participated in the camp with a spirit of service and benefitted the rural populace.

At the conclusion of the camp, medicinal and Ayurvedic plants were distributed, reinforcing awareness about environmental protection. By combining the themes of Sanskrit and environmental preservation, Shri Kailakh Trust presented an inspiring example.

Many distinguished persons from various sections of society were also present at the event, including Rakesh Singh, Mannu Mehta, Bhuvanesh Mehta, Yogesh Mehta, Dil Bahadur Singh, former Sarpanch Sham Lal, former Sarpanch Dhanatar Singh, former Sarpanch Prem Chib, Hardatt Mehta, Pramod Sharma, Bhushan Singh, Sunil Singh Raipuria, Lucky Sharma, Kuldeep Singh, among others.

NC pays Glowing Tributes to July 13 Martyrs; condemn LG Admin for forcibly House Arrest of Party leaders in Kashmir



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, JULY 13 : The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) today paid glowing tributes to the valiant martyrs of July 13, 1931, in a solemn function held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, Jammu. The event was chaired by Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President Jammu and witnessed the participation of Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, Ajay Sadhotra, Additional General Secretary JKNC and former Minister, Babu Rampaul former minister and Central Zone President and Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu and a large number of party workers who gathered to remember the supreme sacrifices made in the struggle for justice and democracy.

At the beginning of the programme, the senior NC leaders strongly condemned the undemocratic move of the LG-led administration for forcibly place the democratically elected government's leadership in Kashmir Valley under house arrest. They denounced this as a blatant and arbitrary infringement on fundamental rights. They asserted that the LG Administration is intentionally disrupting the peaceful atmosphere in Jammu and Kashmir, warning that detaining people's representatives not only stifles democracy but also deepens alienation among citizens-an act that undermines both stability and trust in governance.

Addressing the gathering, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary said that July 13 marks a pivotal moment in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, symbolizing the people's collective yearning for democracy, social justice, and equality. "The martyrs of 1931 were not fighting against any religion or community. They were demanding their basic rights and dignity," he asserted . He further stated, "If they admire Nathuram Godse, who killed Mahatma Gandhi, then what's wrong in remembering the martyrs of July 13 who sacrificed their lives for the rights of the people?"

Surinder Choudhary also highlighted that Maharaja Hari Singh had convened an official inquiry-the Glancy Commission-into the killings, which underscores that those who fell were not criminals but victims of oppression and injustice.

The Deputy Chief Minister strongly criticized the BJP for attempting to distort history and target the July 13 martyrs. He said: "Instead of launching divisive campaigns, BJP should explain its silence on the deteriorating condition of the J&K's hotel industry, transport sector, industrial sector and other burning public issues in Jammu and Kashmir." Remembering martyrs, the former minister and Additional General Secretary Ajay Sadhotra said that the best way of paying tributes to them was to strengthen democracy and secularism in Jammu andKashmir, which showed the shining example of pluralistic ethos during the most testing times of the history.

Rattan Lal Gupta in his address, said that 1931 was the turning point for Sheikh Abdullah in his political history.

Pawan Condemns Glorification of Islamist Rioters as Martyrs

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, JULY 13 : Senior leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu and Kashmir and former state secretary, Pawan Sharma, strongly condemned the attempts to distort historical facts and glorify aggressors and fundamentalists as martyrs on July 13, a date historically misrepresented by certain political figures.

Sharma stated that "July 13 serves as a stark reminder of a dark chapter when communal violence was given a false narrative of martyrdom. The recent remarks by Omar Abdullah, equating Islamist rioters with freedom fighters, are not only highly condemnable but also an insult to the nation and its true freedom struggle."

He further added that such statements are part of a dangerous communal propaganda aimed at legitimizing violence and destabilizing peace in Jammu and Kashmir. "Equating rioters with freedom fighters is an attempt to rewrite history and sow discord in a region that has suffered for long," Sharma emphasized.

Recalling the events of the day, Sharma highlighted that innocent Kashmiri Hindus were subjected to atrocities, looting, and communal hatred at the hands of religious fanatics. He pointed out that Abdul Qadeer, the figure often eulogized on this day, was not even a resident of Jammu and Kashmir. "He was an outsider, planted by the British to incite unrest and weaken the rule of Maharaja Hari Singh. He provoked and misled the local population under false pretenses," Sharma said.

He also accused Omar Abdullah of Glorifying Perpetrators of Hindu Atrocities

"By glorifying those responsible for the atrocities committed against innocent Kashmiri Hindus, Omar Abdullah is exposing his true colours," Sharma said. "Honouring the butchers of Hindus as martyrs is not just historically inaccurate, it is morally reprehensible and an insult to the collective memory of the victims."

Sharma further stated that such remarks are not only divisive but also reveal a deliberate attempt to provoke communal sentiments and undermine social harmony in Jammu and Kashmir. "This kind of selective remembrance is a form of dangerous appeasement politics, and the nation must stand united against it," he added.

He reiterated that July 13 should be remembered as a day of pain for the Kashmiri Hindu community, who faced unspeakable horrors at the hands of fanatics.

Kargil Vijay Diwas Commemorated with Patriotism and Pride at GHS Kundian

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, JULY 13 : The Indian Army's under the aegis of the Rashtriya Rifles Battalion Keran, commenced a three-day celebration of Kargil Vijay Diwas at Govt. High School Kundian, beginning on July 12, 2025. The event was inaugurated by the Coy Commander of the Rashtriya Rifles Battalion at Kundian, setting the tone for a deeply patriotic and inspiring tribute to the heroes of the Kargil War.

Kargil Vijay Diwas, observed annually on July 26, commemorates the Indian Armed Forces' historic victory over Pakistani intruders in the Kargil sector in 1999. This local celebration aims to instill in the youth a deep sense of national pride, respect for the sacrifices of our soldiers, and awareness of India's military history.

The first day of the celebration featured a special screening of the acclaimed war film Shershaah, which chronicles the life and bravery of Captain Vikram Batra, Param Vir Chakra (Posthumous).

The movie left a profound impact on the students, evoking a strong emotional response and reinforcing the values of courage, selflessness, and patriotism. The story of Captain Batra - his unflinching resolve and ultimate sacrifice - served as a powerful source of inspiration for the young minds present.

The venue echoed with patriotic slogans, and students engaged in discussions about the Kargil War, its significance, and the indomitable spirit of the Indian Army. The Rashtriya Rifles personnel interacted with the students, sharing real-life stories from the battlefield and motivating them to contribute positively to the nation.

The celebrations will continue till July 14, 2025, featuring cultural performances, debates, and an exhibition showcasing military equipment and stories of gallantry.

Through this initiative, the Indian Army continues its noble mission of nation-building, fostering civil-military harmony, and nurturing the next generation with values of bravery and dedication.

Natrang presents Hindi play 'Tauba-Tauba' in Sunday series



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, JULY 13 : Natrang presented Hindi play 'Tauba-Tauba' here today under Natrang's weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre'. The play has been written by Rajinder Kumar Sharma and directed by Neeraj Kant. Coated with humor, the play presented some debatable issues which are faced by many theatre groups because of lack of commitment of a few artists which spoil the whole performance. But still it was more inclined towards comedy than being didactic.

The play opens at the home of one 'Anokhe Lal' who has converted it as rehearsal space as he is the director of the play which is scheduled to be staged within a few days. The drama erupts as the play proceeds as it appears that no one is serious in doing rehearsal other than the director. The artists who used to plead for a single entry in the play have turned pricy now and come up with different excuses to skip rehearsals. At the top of it, the newly appointed servant adds to the confusion as he comes up with a new problem every time he enters the room. 'Anokhe Lal' was very much worried about the performance of the play as nothing was going right, actors were forgetting the lines, people were coming late in the rehearsal and on the top of it, the tickets of the show have already been sold. The ultimate crisis occur when the director comes to know that the actor who was doing the role of father of hero is not doing the play as he has to go out of station for some personal work.

Shattered by this untoward news, he decides to prepare his newly appointed servant to do the character of father in the play, who reluctantly agrees but real trouble erupts when the real father of 'Anokhe Lal' arrives to whom the servant introduced himself as the father of 'Anokhe Lal' on which both the servant and Anokhe Lal received a thorough beating from the real father.

Natrang actors who performed in the play included Aadesh Dhar, Adaksh Bagal, Kushal Bhat, Aryan Sharma, Vandana Thakur and Kartik Kumar. The lights of the play were executed by Kananpreet Kaur whereas the sound of the play was scored by Kartik Kumar. The presentations were done by Priyal Ashok Gupta and the show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

Madhu Paramhans spread nectar of spiritism among devotees

TP CORRESPONDENT



JAMMU, JULY 13 : Sadguru of Sahib's worship Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, while delighting the congregation with the nectar of his discourses in Rakhbandhu, said that if a person always remembers that one day he will have to leave this world, then half of his troubles will end. This is the land of death. Death is always sitting above his head. It can kill him anytime. Man spends his entire life like this. No one is happy in this world.

Sahib's words are a warning. Sahib is saying that everyone is unhappy here. No one is happy. Look at the biography of those whom we respect. Time is passing by. Man deliberately shows impudence. Death strikes him. This is applicable to everyone. The body is fragile. First, the waist will be affected, the food eaten will not be digested, gas will form in the stomach. The legs will stop working while walking. Eyesight will become weak. Teeth will break. In this way, death will slowly come near. We all are seeing this. The pot which is leaking, which is cracked, will slowly finish. Man is unaware of death. Slowly everything will keep decreasing. Later man takes to bed. Death comes near. If he takes to bed then he will die. Body's capacity will weaken. There will be new diseases. Lungs will become weak. Memory will become weak. Kidney will not work properly. Like the sun goes towards the west, the light decreases. Mind and Maya will not give time for Bhajan. Be alert from now. You will not get a chance for Bhajan later. The reality is that after 37 years middle age begins. Even in that the strength decreases. Death is so cunning that it comes restlessly. Many diseases come. Like thunderbolt strikes, mind and Maya attack this body. One day you will have to leave this body. This is the mortal world. Be careful. Nothing is yours here. No one belongs to anyone. This is the intoxication of Maya that this is mine, that is mine. This death comes slowly like a lioness. Niranjan himself has said that in Kaliyug there will be many diseases. If you are thinking that you will do bhakti after getting old then it is your mistake. You will not be able to do it then. Start from now itself.

Harman Cultural & Educational Society and Nazamiya Welfare Trust Poonch Felicitated Ajaz Siddiqui for Outstanding Social Work



TP CORRESPONDENT

POONCH Jul 13: In a joint initiative, Harman Cultural & Educational Society and Nazamiya Welfare Trust Poonch today felicitated Mr. Ajaz Siddiqui, a dedicated social activist known for his tireless service to society. Mr. Siddiqui has made remarkable contributions in various fields, particularly in promoting voluntary blood donation and supporting underprivileged individuals across the region.

The felicitation ceremony was attended by a number of prominent members of civil society and fellow social workers who came together to acknowledge Mr. Siddiqui's consistent efforts in serving humanity. Whether it is arranging life-saving blood for patients or extending support to those in financial distress, Mr. Siddiqui has emerged as a symbol of compassion and commitment in the community. Among the dignitaries present on the occasion were Ms. Gurvinder Kour, Founding Head of the Harman Group; Chairman of Nazamiya Welfare Trust Shaban Raza, Prof. Fateh Mohammad Abbasi of GDC Poonch; Ms. Abhilove Kour Mehta, social worker; and Mr. Ikhlaq Mehmood Parray, also a committed social worker.

Speaking at the event, the guests praised Mr. Siddiqui's unwavering dedication and highlighted the importance of such individuals in fostering a more empathetic and socially responsible society. The event concluded with a message encouraging youth to take inspiration from Mr. Siddiqui's work and play an active role in community development.

Indian Army Pays Tribute to Bravehearts of Jammu & Kashmir on the 26th Anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: On the solemn occasion of the 26th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, the Indian Army paid heartfelt tribute to the valiant sons of Jammu & Kashmir who displayed unmatched courage and made the supreme sacrifice during the 1999 Kargil War. Commemorative events were held across Jammu, Kathua, RS Pura, Hiranagar and Mendhar to honor these heroes and acknowledge the unwavering spirit of their families.

From the 13 Jammu & Kashmir Rifles (Kargil), Major Ajay Singh Jasrotia, Sena Medal, Lance Naik Harish Pal, Sena Medal and Havildar Jagan Nath laid down their lives in the treacherous heights of Kargil. Fighting against all odds they led from the front and carved a legacy of heroism that continues to inspire generations.

From the 12 Jammu & Kashmir Light Infantry, Havildar A.B. Kareem, Havildar Daler Singh, Havildar Rajinder Singh, Rifleman Ravinder Singh, Lance Havildar Yougal Kishore, Rifleman Rattan Chand, Naik Surjeet Singh and Naik Pawan Kumar displayed extraordinary valor across various battlefronts. Their bravery, unity and sacrifice played a crucial role in turning the tide of the war.

The 8 Sikh Regiment's Subedar Ravail Singh, Sena Medal and Sepoy Balwinder Singh fought fiercely at strategic locations such as Tiger Hill, forcing the enemy into retreat. Their valor remains etched in the collective memory of a grateful nation.

From the 9 Mahar Regiment, Sepoy Raman Kumar made the ultimate sacrifice during intense enemy offensives, standing tall in the face of danger.

In the 18 Grenadiers, Havildar Madan Lal, Vir Chakra and Gunner Swaran Singh, Sena Medal, fought till their last breath, defending the motherland with unmatched devotion and courage.

From the 28 Rashtriya Rifles, Rifleman Manzoor Hussain laid down his life in counter-terror operations, exemplifying the spirit of duty beyond the battlefield.



Special outreach and tribute events were held in the hometowns of these bravehearts. The Indian Army visited their families, presenting them with mementoes and letters of gratitude-symbols of a nation's everlasting respect. These moments were not mere ceremonies but profound gestures of remembrance and honor.

An Army officer remarked, "These stories of valor are not just a part of history-they are the soul of our nation." As India marks 26 years of Kargil victory, the sacrifices of Major Jasrotia, Subedar Ravail Singh, Havildar Madan Lal and all their comrades remain a living flame of courage, duty and patriotism.

On Martyrs' Day, Rajesh Gupta meets Dy CM Surinder Chowdhary, slams LG's restrictions



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: Senior National Conference (NC) leader Rajesh Gupta has strongly condemned the imposition of restrictions and house arrests by the Jammu and Kashmir administration on the occasion of Kashmir Martyrs' Day (July 13). He criticized the Jammu and Kashmir Police for what he termed as a "complete intelligence failure," citing the example of Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Chowdhary's official residence being locked despite him being in Jammu.

Rajesh Gupta today attended the Martyrs' Day function held at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhavan in Jammu and also called upon Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Chowdhary to discuss the arbitrary restrictions imposed by the Lieutenant Governor's administration, including the house arrests of NC and Opposition leaders in Srinagar.

While interacting with the media, Gupta said, "This administration has crossed all democratic limits. Preventing leaders from paying homage to the 1931 martyrs exposes the fear and insecurity of those in power. Even the Deputy Chief Minister was locked out of his own official residence due to the police's intelligence failure. This is not governance, it's paranoia."

In a significant crackdown, several ministers from the Omar Abdullah-led government, sitting MLAs, and top leaders from both the ruling and opposition parties were either detained or placed under house arrest to stop them from observing Kashmir Martyrs' Day.

The administration under Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha denied permission for any commemorative event, marking the anniversary of the July 13, 1931 killings an uprising against Maharaja Hari Singh's rule during British paramountcy. Strict restrictions were enforced across parts of Srinagar, and the administration warned of stern action against anyone attempting to march towards the Martyrs' Graveyard.

Gupta expressed anguish over the suppression of remembrance activities, stating, "The people who laid down their lives did so in defiance of British oppression. Kashmir was under British paramountcy then. It is shameful that our real heroes, who fought colonial rule in all its forms, are now vilified merely because of their identity."

He concluded with a solemn message: "Our leaders may be denied the opportunity to visit their graves today, but we will not forget their sacrifices. Their legacy lives on in our hearts and in the conscience of every right-thinking citizen."

ABVP protests outside CM residence, demands for removal of compulsory Urdu requirement in Naib Tehsildar recruitment



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: : Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Jammu-Kashmir staged a strong protest outside the Chief Minister's residence in Jammu, demanding the removal of the compulsory Urdu requirement in the Naib Tehsildar recruitment process.

The protest, led by ABVP members and Naib Tehsildar aspirants, was organized under the banner of "Basha Bachao Yatra" (Save Language Movement), aiming to ensure equal opportunities for all candidates regardless of their linguistic background.

ABVP contends that making Urdu compulsory for Naib Tehsildar recruitment is discriminatory and violates the Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Act 2020, which recognizes Dogri, Hindi, Kashmiri, Urdu, and English as official languages.

State Secretary of ABVP Jammu Kashmir Sannak Shrivats said, "This is a final warning to the Omar Abdullah government on behalf of ABVP Jammu-Kashmir. All candidates deserve equal opportunities in the Naib Tehsildar recruitment process. Making Urdu compulsory is not only unjust but also a clear-cut discrimination that can impact the future of thousands of talented young individuals."

ABVP Jammu-Kashmir, emphasized that the organization's fight is not against the Urdu language but against the discriminatory policy of Omar Abdullah Govt. that seeks to marginalize certain groups.

He stated, "We are not against Urdu, but against the policy that ignores other languages.

We demand equal weightage for all five official languages - Dogri, Hindi, Kashmiri, Urdu, and English - in the recruitment process. Our fight is for merit-based selection, inclusivity, and fairness."

Aryans BA LLB students shine in Punjabi University Patiala Results

TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, Jul 13: Law students of Aryans College of Law, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh, brought laurels to the college in the examinations conducted by Punjabi University, Patiala.

In BALLB, 7th semester examination, Himanshu bagged 1st position with 85.4%, Naresh Kumar bagged 2nd position with 73.2% respectively and Anmol Shahi bagged 3rd position with 71.6% marks.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group congratulated the students and faculty for the hard work. He said that Aryans students are doing well not only in academics but in sports, innovations, cultural also. Such excellent results by the students add more name and fame to the College, added Kataria.

Blood Donation Camp Organized By Sant Nirankari Mission



TP CORRESPONDENT

RAMBAN, July 13: : Today in Ramban district of J&K,about 100 persons donated their blood in Blood Donation Camp organised by the Sant Nirankari Mission at Batote,in collaboration with the Government Medical College,Jammu.

The Blood Donation Camp was inaugurated by the President,Gandhi Global Family,J&K, Padam Shri,Dr SP Verma in presence of Zonal Incharge,Sant Nirankari Mission,BP Singh and Sanyojak,Sant Nirankari Mandal, Batote.

A ten member team from the Department of Immuno-Haematology & Blood Transfusion, Government Medical College,Jammu led by Dr Anshu Mahajan collected the donated blood and the preserved blood was taken to GMC,Jammu.

On the occasion a Satsang presided by BP Singh was also organised wherein devotees enthralled the devotees with their Bhajans.

At last a Langar was also served to the devotees.

KCPS continues faculty development program on child counselling

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: KC Public School proceeded with the continuation of its Faculty Development Program focused on child counselling, reinforcing its commitment to fostering a supportive and nurturing educational environment.

This initiative, designed to equip educators with essential skills in child psychology and counselling, underscores the school's dedication to holistic student development.

The ongoing program, launched in the year 2023 in response to the growing need for mental health awareness in schools, provides faculty with specialized training in understanding and addressing the emotional, social, and psychological needs of students.

Conducted by Saloni Priya, Director, Ummeed Counselling and consulting Services, Kolkata, a counselling psychologist with over 25 years of experience in the field, the sessions covered topics such as identifying signs of distress, effective communication techniques, and creating a safe space for students to express themselves.

The Faculty Development Program included interactive workshops, case studies, presentations by the teachers on interventions provided to the students and practical strategies tailored to the unique needs of students across different age groups.

By enhancing teachers' abilities to recognize and respond to emotional cues, the program aimed to create a stronger support system within the school community.

KC Public School remains steadfast in its mission to promote academic excellence alongside emotional resilience, ensuring students thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

The continuation of this program reflects the school's proactive approach to addressing modern educational challenges and preparing students for a balanced and successful future.

"Empowering our teachers with the tools to support our students' mental, social and emotional well-being is a priority at KC Public School," said Raju Chowdhary, Chairman of the school.

"This program ensures our faculty is well-prepared to guide students through challenges, fostering a positive and inclusive learning environment."

Arti Chowdhary, the Managing director, Arjun Chowdhary, the Vice Chairman and Amarendra Kumar Mishra, Principal of the school also echoed the similar sentiments regarding the training program.

JKTF demands earned leave/Cash-in-Lieu for teachers who served during summer vacations

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: In meeting convened on Sunday in Jammu, Ganesh Khajuria, Chief Patron of the Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum (JKTF), along with senior executive members, strongly demanded the granting of Earned Leave (EL) or Cash-in-lieu benefits to teachers who served during the summer vacations.

The meeting focused on addressing pressing issues affecting the teaching community in the School Education Department.

Khajuria specifically highlighted the contribution of teaching faculty-Teachers, Masters, and Lecturers-who participated in the "Bhartiya Bhasha Summer Camp" held for seven days during summer vacations in compliance with official directives.

Citing Order No. DSEJ/Coord/32681-32702 dated June 14, 2025 issued by the Director School Education Jammu, along with SCERT orders No. SCERT/J/2025/2596-2600 dated June 3, 2025 and SCERT/Acad/2025/E-7708027 dated June 5, 2025, Khajuria argued that these educators, who worked diligently under the framework of the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020, deserve due recognition and compensatory benefits.

"These teachers sacrificed their vacation time in the interest of students. Their service must not go unnoticed. They are rightfully entitled to Earned Leave or Cash-in-lieu as per service norms," stated Khajuria.

He urged the Director School Education, Jammu, to immediately issue instructions to all concerned Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) to reflect the summer camp duty period in the service books of the teachers, confirming their eligibility for the benefits.

Among others who attended the meeting included Surat Singh Toofani, Gopal Singh, Rajinder Gupta, Darshan Sharma,Jamat Ali Agah, Ravinder Singh, Raj Singh, Kuldeep Singh Bandral, Surinder Sharma, Kuldeep Verma, P.D. Singh, Gautam Singh, Bharat Bhushan, Pawan Sharma, Narinder Chib, Ashwani Sharma, Subash Sharma, Subash Singh, Bishan Sharma, Jatinder Singh, Balraj Singh, Gurbachan Singh, Ashwani Sharma, Ravinder Singh Chib, Krishan Suberrwal, Iqvinder Pal Singh, Devinder Singh, Bupesh Choudhary, Sanjeev Sharma, Tirath Choudhary, Jatinder Sharma, Ashwani Raina, Ravi Kaith, Kanchan Menia, K.D. Manhas, Ajit Singh, Surender Kaith, Rashpal Lakhotra, Bachan Lal, Surender Choudhary, Dharam Pal, Harbans Singh, Pawan Kumar, Sanjay Sharma, Rakesh Singh, Parveen Kumar, Abhishek Khajuria, Ajay Manni, Subash Chander, Mohd Shahnaz, Raman Deep Sharma, Naresh Gupta, Gurmeet Singh, Qayoom Lodhi, Yashpal Sharma , Kewal Kumar, Mohan Lal, Mohinder Saini and others.

IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL MOBILE MAGISTRATE, ELECTRICITY, JAMMU

Case No : /2025
CNR No. : JKJM030072762025
D.O.I. : 08.07.2025
D.O.O. : 08.07.2025

State through SHO, P/S Bus Stand, Jammu
V/S
Nemo

In the matter of:- Complaint u/s 503 BNSS

CORAM: Arti Devi Koushal.
JO Code: JK00214

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, police of P/S, **Bus Stand,** Jammu seized vehicle Motorcycle bearing registration No. JK02BX-3008, Chassis No. MBLHA10A30MH105, black in colour, in terms of Section 106 BNSS in suspicious circumstances.

Now it is for the information of public in general that any person/s who has any objection in disposal of the aforesaid vehicle may approach this court for filing his/her claim, either personally or through authorized agent within a period of six months from the date of publication of this notice after that no claim will be entertained.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 8th day of July, 2025.

Announced: 08-07-2025

Spl. Electricity Magistrate, Jammu.

Copy of Order forwarded to SHO, P/S **Bus Stand**, Jammu for publication in daily newspaper on or before 18-7-2025 and compliance.

Sub-Judge Electricity Magistrate

DIP/J-3398/25

Migrant Auto Driver Beaten On Camera Days After "Hindi Bolunga" Remark



PALGHAR: A migrant auto-rickshaw driver in Maharashtra's Palghar district was assaulted in full public view by supporters of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) and Raj Thackeray's Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) after a prior confrontation over Marathi language had gone viral on social media.

A few days earlier, an argument between a man named Bhavesh Padolia, a migrant from Uttar Pradesh, and an auto-rickshaw driver -- himself a migrant -- at Virar station went viral on social media

The video showed the rickshaw driver declaring, "Main Hindi bolunga" ("I will speak in Hindi") repeatedly when asked why he was not speaking in Marathi. According to Mr Padolia's version of events, he had questioned the driver about his failure to use Marathi in public. The driver responded by saying he would rather speak in Hindi and Bhojpuri.

On Saturday, the rickshaw driver was confronted by a group of Shiv Sena (UBT) and MNS supporters near Virar railway station. Visuals from the site show the driver being slapped multiple times, including by women members of the groups. He was then compelled to apologise publicly to Mr Padolia, his sister, and to the state of Maharashtra, for what the attackers claimed was an insult to the Marathi language and cultural icons.

Uday Jadhav, the Virar city chief of Shiv Sena (UBT), who was seen at the location, later confirmed that the group had "responded in the true Shiv Sena style."

"If anyone dares to insult the Marathi language, Maharashtra, or Marathi people, they will get a reply in the true Shiv Sena style. We will not sit silent," Mr Jadhav said. "The driver had the audacity to speak ill of Maharashtra and Marathi manoos. He was taught a befitting lesson. We made him apologise to the people of the state and to those he had offended."

No Police Complaint Yet

Despite the public nature of the assault, the Palghar district police have yet to register an official case.

"We have seen the viral video and are verifying the facts, but as of now, no complaint has been received from either party," the police said, as quoted by news agency agency.

The Context

The incident is the latest in a string of attacks fuelled by language politics in Maharashtra. On July 1, MNS workers in Thane slapped a street food vendor for refusing to converse in Marathi. That incident also drew widespread criticism and led to the arrest of seven party workers.

In response to that episode, traders in Bhayander organised a counter-protest, accusing MNS activists of moral policing. Tensions escalated, prompting the MNS and several aligned groups to organise a protest march on July 8, defending what they called Marathi "asmita" (pride).

That march, held in the Mira-Bhayander area, saw the participation of leaders from the Shiv Sena (UBT), the NCP (Sharad Pawar faction), and other opposition groups. Police had earlier denied permission for the protest, citing intelligence reports of possible unrest.

"If Anything Happens...": Why Indore Man Fitted A Huge Camera On Helmet



In a bizarre yet alarming episode from Indore's Gauri Nagar, a young man has taken law and protection into his own hands — quite literally on his head. Dubbed the "Helmet Man" on social media, this resident has begun roaming the streets wearing a helmet fitted with a camera, claiming it's his last resort after repeated threats and no police action.

The man alleges that he and his family have been harassed and threatened with death by their neighbours — Satish Chauhan, Baliram Chauhan, and Munna Chauhan — over a property dispute. Despite filing multiple complaints with the local police, he says no concrete action has been taken. "We've pleaded for protection. When nothing happened, I decided to record everything, everywhere I go," he said

"This helmet camera is not a gimmick — it's my shield."

The man's helmet-camera setup has now gone viral, drawing widespread attention on social media. Videos of him walking through his neighbourhood, head covered in black headgear with a small mounted lens, have prompted both amusement and outrage online. But behind the oddity lies a deep sense of insecurity and institutional failure. "If anything happens to me or my family, at least there will be video evidence," he says, his voice reflecting both fear and frustration.

Police officials confirmed that the dispute between the families is ongoing, and has already escalated to physical altercations. "We have tried to mediate between the parties," said a senior police officer. "The case is being reviewed and any new facts will be taken into account."

Theft At 'Bigg Boss 18' Fame Kashish Kapoor's House, Rs 4.5 Lakh Stolen

Kashish Kapoor, Bigg Boss 18 contestant, has been robbed of Rs 4.5 lakh in cash from her house in Mumbai's Andheri. Ms Kapoor has registered a First Information Report (FIR) against her domestic help, Sachin Kumar Chaudhary, who has been missing ever since the robbery, for allegedly stealing money from her cupboard.

Actor Kashish Kapoor had kept Rs 7 lakh in cash in her cupboard. She was to send it to her mother in her hometown. However, one day, when she opened the cupboard to take out the cash, over half of it was missing. Only Rs 2.5 lakh was present there.

The suspicion fell on Sachin, Ms Kapoor's domestic help, who went missing after the incident. The actor has registered a complaint at the Amboli Police Station. The police are investigating the case and searching for Sachin.

The initial investigation suggests that Sachin had planned to flee the house immediately after taking some cash.

"I am very hurt by this incident. I trusted that person, but he has hurt both my feelings and trust," Ms Kapoor said. "I hope the police will catch him as soon as possible and justice will be served," she added.

Veteran Telugu Actor And Ex BJP MLA Kota Srinivasa Rao Dies At 83

HYDERABAD: Veteran Telugu film actor and former BJP MLA Kota Srinivasa Rao died at the age of 83 due to prolonged illness at his residence in Filmnagar in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad. The actor died in the early hours of Sunday, two days after his 83rd birthday.

Born in Kankipadu in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh, Mr Rao made his debut with 'Pranam Khareedhu' in 1978. Over a career spanning more than four decades, he acted in over 750 films across Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, and Hindi languages, gaining fame for his versatile performances, particularly in villainous and character roles.

Some of his notable films include 'Aha Naa Pellanta!,' 'Pratigatana,' 'Khaidi Number 786,' 'Shiva,' and 'Yamaleela.'

He was a recipient of numerous awards, including the Padma Shri in 2015 for his immense contribution to Indian cinema, and nine Nandi Awards.

Beyond his acting career, he also served as a BJP MLA from the Vijayawada East Assembly constituency from 1999 to 2004. The Telugu film industry is mourning the loss of the legendary actor, with tributes pouring in from colleagues and fans.

Mumbai Blasts Lawyer, Ex Foreign Secretary Among 4 To Get Rajya Sabha Pass

NEW DELHI: Top lawyer Ujjwal Nikam and former Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla are among the four people President Droupadi Murmu has nominated to the Rajya Sabha. Besides Mr Nikam and Mr Shringla, the President has nominated social worker C Sadanandan Master and historian Meenakshi Jain to the Upper House of Parliament.

A gazette notification said the new nominations follow the retirement of previously nominated members. The President can nominate up to 12 members to the Rajya Sabha and these nominees must be from the fields of literature, science, art and social service. Four seats in the Upper House were vacant.

Seventy-two-year-old Ujjwal Nikam has worked as a special public prosecutor on key terrorism cases such as the 1993 Mumbai blasts and the 26/11 attacks. He has also worked on the high-profile murder cases of music mogul Gulshan Kumar and BJP stalwart Pramod Mahajan. In the Lok Sabha election last year, the BJP had fielded Mr Nikam from the Mumbai North Central seat, but he lost to Congress's Varsha Gaikwad. Mr Nikam was awarded the Padma Shri in 2016.

Mr Shringla served as the Foreign Secretary between January 2020 and April 2022. He was also the Chief Coordinator of the G20 Summit that India hosted in 2023. Earlier, he served as India's Ambassador to the US and as High Commissioner to Bangladesh.

C Sadanandan Master is an educator and activist from Kerala whose legs were hacked off three decades ago in an attack by CPM workers. He contested the 2016 Kerala polls from Kuthuparamba, but finished third.

Meenakshi Jain is a political scientist and historian who was awarded the Padma Shri in 2020 for her contribution to the field of education. She has earlier served as a member of the Indian Council of Historical Research.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the four Rajya Sabha nominees. He said Mr Nikam's devotion to the legal field and the Constitution is exemplary. Praising C Sadanandan Master, he said his life is the epitome of courage and refusal to bow to injustice and wished him the best. Mr Shringla, he said, excelled as a diplomat, intellectual and strategic thinker and has made key contributions to India's foreign policy. Dr Meenakshi Jain, the Prime Minister said in a post, has distinguished herself as a researcher and historian and her work has enriched academic discourse.

Bihar Survey Finds Many Voters From Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar: Sources



PATNA: The door-to-door survey part of the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of Bihar's voter lists has found that many people originally from Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar are currently living in the poll-bound state, sources in the poll body have said. The sources have said these people managed to obtain Indian documents such as Aadhaar, domicile certificates and ration cards in their name, apparently through illegal channels.

Block Level Officers going house to house for the survey have identified many such individuals, and these cases will be probed in detail between August 1 and August 30. If the allegations are proved, the names of these voters will be struck off the voter list, the sources said.

The development is likely to stoke further the raging debate in the poll-bound state over the ongoing revision of voter rolls months ahead of the Assembly election.

Launched on June 24, the Special Intensive Revision aims to add the names of eligible citizens to the voter list and weed out ineligible voters. The last such revision for Bihar was carried out in 2003. The Election Commission has said multiple reasons, such as rapid urbanisation, frequent migration, young citizens becoming eligible to vote, non-reporting of deaths, and the inclusion of names of foreign illegal immigrants, have made this revision necessary.

The Opposition has raised questions on the timing of the exercise and said it won't be completed in time for the polls. The RJD and the Congress have also alleged that the Special Intensive Revision was a conspiracy aimed at the willful exclusion of voters. The BJP and hit back and questioned why the Opposition was pained if genuine voters were being verified and fake voters removed. The matter has reached the Supreme Court. Multiple petitions challenging the poll body's revision of voter lists have been filed.

The petitioners are Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) MP Manoj Jha, poll watchdog Association for Democratic Reforms, rights body People's Union for Civil Liberties, activist Yogendra Yadav, Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra and former MLA Mujahid Alam.

In the top court hearing on Thursday, key questions about the timing of the exercise and the accepted documents came up. After the Election Commission contended that Aadhaar is not proof of citizenship, the court said Aadhaar, ration cards, and an identity card issued by the Election Commission should be considered valid documents to re-verify voters' identities. The court has not paused the exercise.

The court said it had "serious doubts" that the poll body can complete the task - without excluding genuine voters and allowing individuals the right to appeal - in time for the election.

Odisha To Copyright Jagannath Temple Rituals



BHUBANESWAR: The Odisha government has started working on securing copyright for the rituals of Lord Jagannath temple in Puri to protect its traditional cultural expressions, Gajapati Maharaja Dibyasingha Deb, the titular king of the pilgrim town, said.

The statement came amid resentments among the devotees of Lord Jagannath over the untimely celebration of Lord Jagannath's rituals by the ISKCON abroad and the West Bengal government's declaration of a temple in Digha as "Jagannath Dham".

These are "gross violations" of sacred scriptures and ancient tradition, the Gajapati Maharaja, considered the first servitor of the Lord Jagannath, told PTI in an interview.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee inaugurated a temple at the seaside town of Digh on April 30 and called it 'Jagannath Dham', much to the chagrin of the Odisha government, the Shankaracharya of the Puri Govardhan Peeth Nischalananda Saraswati and a large number of devotees.

International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) is entrusted with the job of performing the rituals and puja of the sibling deities – Lord Jagannath, Lord Baladev and Devi Subhadra – in the Digha temple.

The ISKCON has faced criticism recently for holding the Rath Yatra festival in foreign countries on dates different from those traditionally observed in Puri. "The ISKCON celebrating Rath Yatra and Snan yatra (bathing ritual) at random times of the year and the declaration of the Digha temple as Jagannath Dham - these are matters of great concern for every devotee of Lord Jagannath around the world. These are gross violations of our sacred scriptures and ancient tradition," Deb said.

After objections were raised, ISKCON in India has decided to honour the established tradition of Lord Jagannath for performing the 'Snan Yatra' and Rath Yatra on the prescribed dates by the scriptures, he said.

"But, so far as the festival held outside India is concerned, the untimely celebration continues. We have taken up the matter with Mayapur," Deb said.

Radhika Yadav's Murder: Psychology Of Pride, Patriarchy, And Prejudice

NEW DELHI: Many Indian households idolise male control over vulnerability, or else how do you go from being your daughter's biggest cheerleader to her killer? But that's what happened in Gurgaon, where Deepak Yadav allegedly murdered his daughter, 25-year-old tennis ace Radhika. Everybody's still trying to wrap their heads around it. Cops have Deepak in custody now. He's admitted to everything, right down to the detail-sent his son out to buy milk so he'd have a clear shot. Why? Villagers kept sneering at him, calling him "shameless" for funding Radhika's career. He was even thinking about ending his own life, but instead, he turned all that anger on the one person who defied him-Radhika, who flat-out refused to close her tennis academy.

A police investigation is underway. Radhika's phone has been recovered. Police say right before everything went down, Radhika deleted all her social media. Was she hiding? Escaping? Her WhatsApp chats with her old coach, Ankit, are a cry for help-she felt stuck, wanted to bolt to Dubai or Australia. Her mom, Manju, was home too, but she says she was sick that day and refused to give a police statement.

While forensics dig through Radhika's phone, psychiatrists like Dr Pavitra Shankar and Dr. Pooja Verma are weighing in on what might've pushed Deepak over the edge-bottled-up rage, patriarchy squeezing the life out of everyone, and the pressure to keep up appearances.

Pride, Shame, and a Father's Ego Meltdown

One possible cause, according to Dr Pavitra Shankar, Associate Consultant in Psychiatry at Aakash Healthcare, is displaced anger. She explains that "displaced rage is when anger from one source-like social humiliation or loss of control-is redirected toward a'safer' target, often family." It's possible that the villagers' insults to Deepak's status and masculinity festered and found a release in Radhika. "Perceived disrespect or ongoing stress are trigger points," Dr Shankar says. "A weak sense of self-worth is exacerbated in Gurgaon by social scrutiny and status anxiety.

BJP Leader Shot Dead In Patna, Week After Businessman Gopal Khemka's Murder



PATNA: A week after prominent businessman Gopal Khemka was shot dead outside his Patna home, the Bihar capital has reported another chilling murder, this time of a BJP leader. Two men on a bike shot BJP leader Surendra Kewat dead in Sheikpura and sped away. The 52-year-old suffered four bullet injuries in the attack. He was rushed to the AIIMS in Patna, where he died during treatment.

MLA Gopal Ravidas and former Minister Shyam Rajak reached the hospital and met Mr Kewat's family members and asked the hospital administration to ensure the swift completion of formalities. Police have started their investigation into the murder and forensic teams have been called in. Raids are being conducted to nab the accused.

"Surendra was working in the fields when unidentified men shot him dead. He was rushed to AIIMS, but he died during treatment. We have recorded statements of his relatives and action is being taken," police officer Kanhaiya Singh said. Surendra Kewat has earlier served as a BJP Kisan Morcha leader and his shocking murder has sparked panic in the area, especially because it comes days after businessman Gopal Khemka was shot dead.

The BJP leader's murder comes as another challenge for the Nitish Kumar government in the election year as it struggles to counter the Opposition's narrative on Bihar's law and order situation. Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav, targeted the state government with a post on X. "And now, a BJP leader shot dead in Patna! What to say, and to whom? Is there anyone in the NDA government willing to listen to the truth or admit their mistakes?" "Everyone knows about the CM's health, but what are the two useless BJP deputy chief ministers doing?" he asked. The RJD-Congress alliance has been trying to corner the BJP-JDU combine on the law and order issue ahead of the polls, and these political attacks have intensified in the aftermath of the Gopal Khemka murder right outside his Patna home. Earlier, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, had said the BJP and the Nitish Kumar government collaborated to make India's crime capital. "Bihar is today living in the shadow of loot, bullets and murder. Crime has become the new normal and the government has completely failed," he said in a post on X.

Actor Vijay To Lead Massive Protest Over Tamil Nadu Custodial Death Case

Chennai: Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) chief and actor-turned-politician Vijay is set to lead a major public protest today demanding justice for Ajith Kumar, a private security guard who allegedly died in police custody in Sivagangai district. This marks Vijay's first public agitation since launching his political party.

Ajith Kumar, who worked as a temple guard at the Madapuram Temple, died in police custody last month. A sessions court judge's report confirmed illegal custody and torture, and the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has directed the CBI to file a final report by August 20.

Following mounting outrage, the Tamil Nadu government transferred the case to the CBI, which officially took over the probe yesterday. Chief Minister MK Stalin, who apologised to the family, ordered CBI probe saying, "there should be no doubts over the investigation". The original jewellery theft complaint filed by a woman named Nikita-based on which Ajith Kumar was picked up-has also been handed over to the central agency.

The state has already taken action against local police officials: five police personnel have been arrested, the DSP suspended, and the Sivagangai SP has been placed under compulsory wait. TVK is demanding a High Court-monitored Special Investigation Team to probe the case further.

Myanmar Nationals Who Sought Refuge In Mizoram Return Home

Around 2,500 Myanmar nationals, who had sought refuge in Mizoram following violent clashes between the Chinland Defence Force-Hualngoram (CDF-Hualngoram) and the Chin National Defence Force (CNDF) on July 5, began returning to their country.

Intense fighting between two armed Chin groups in Myanmar had forced civilians to flee to Mizoram's Champhai district on July 6. According to officials, around 2,845 people from Khawmawi and Rihkhawdar villages - both bordering Mizoram - had begun seeking refuge in Zokhawthar village since the morning of July 5. Most of the displaced joined relatives residing in Zokhawthar, while others took shelter at a local community hall, where civil society groups provided food and basic necessities.

The armed conflict reportedly began around noon (Myanmar time) on July 5 in the villages of Satawm, Lianhna, and Tuichirh. According to reports, the CNDF forces launched a major offensive at approximately 8:30 am, with heavy gunfire continuing until 2:30 pm. The CNDFseized all eight CDF-Hualngoram camps, including their main base at Tuichirh. Five CDF-Hualngoram members were injured and evacuated to Zokhawthar, with one of them, who suffered a bullet injury on his face, being taken to Champhai District Hospital. Local leaders of Young Mizo Association in Zokhawthar also confirmed that two wounded CNDF fighters received treatment in the village.

Iran's President Was Injured In Israel's Nasrallah-Style Assassination Plot: Report



TEHRAN: Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian was lightly injured in an Israeli airstrike on June 16, Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)-affiliated Fars News Agency reported on Sunday. Pezeshkian sustained a leg injury when an Israeli missile landed on a building in the western part of Tehran, where a meeting of Iran's Supreme National Security Council was taking place.

Apart from President Pezeshkian, Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, Judiciary chief Mohseni Ejei, and other senior officials were also attending the meeting, the report said.

According to the report, the Israeli operation was modelled after the assassination of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in Beirut. Six missiles targeted the building's entry and exit points to block escape routes and disrupt airflow.

The Iranian officials were present on the lower levels of the building. After the explosions, power to the floor was cut. However, an emergency hatch was prepared in advance, and the officials managed to escape through it after the attack, the Fars report said.

Along with Pezeshkian, some other officials also sustained minor injuries while exiting. The Iranian authorities are now reportedly looking into the possibility of an infiltrator, given the accuracy of the information used in the attack.

Iranian President Pezeshkian had earlier accused Israel of trying to assassinate him. "They did try, yes...They acted accordingly, but they failed," he told Tucker Carlson in an interview.

According to an Iran International report, Israel attacked an area near Shahrak-e Gharb in western Tehran on June 16.

Over the course of the 12-day war, Israeli forces killed several top Iranian military leaders and nuclear scientists. Among them were-- IRCG commander Hossein Salami, Iranian Armed Forces Chief Mohammad Bagheri, IRGC air force commander Amir Ali Hajizadeh and other senior IRGC air force officials. Earlier reports said that Israel planned to assassinate Iran's top leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, during the 12-day war, but the right moment never came.

US Autopsy Technician Reveals Bizarre Ways Patients Have Died, Shares 6 Things To Avoid

An autopsy technician in the US has warned elderly people to avoid eating steak due to the choking hazard it poses. According to her experience at a Colorado morgue, she has seen multiple cases where individuals have died from choking on meat. The technician attributes this to the difficulty older adults may have in chewing and swallowing properly, which can lead to fatal consequences.

"You can't chew anymore. You're going to choke and die, and then you end up in the morgue. And I have to retrieve it from your oesophagus. It is disgusting," Dolly told Newsweek. The autopsy technician also advised people to avoid getting into physical altercations, citing her experience with numerous cases where individuals have ended up dead after violent confrontations. She specifically warned against taunting others with phrases like "What are you gonna do? Stab me?" or "What are you gonna do? Shoot me?", as she has seen cases where those exact words became a grim reality, resulting in fatal consequences.

Dolly further shared that her patients have died in a wide range of unusual and tragic circumstances. Her experience includes performing autopsies on victims of steamrolling accidents, skydiving incidents, plane crashes, mining disasters, and even decapitations, showcasing the diverse and often unexpected nature of her work.

Her list highlights everyday behaviours that can have fatal consequences, serving as a warning to be more aware and cautious in daily life.

Avoid Provocative Phrases

Skip Steak in Old Age

Don't Lean Into Washing Machines

Never Trust Cheap Car Jacks

Avoid Loose Clothing Near Machinery

Wear Proper Gear on Motorcycles

Her work spans both private autopsies and complex homicide cases. She now travels frequently, assisting with various cases, including forensic, hospital, and coronial matters.

"I've basically seen it all, but then something new pops up and surprises me. It's so fragile but so resilient...

Trump Assassination Attempt The Result Of Secret Service Missteps: Report



The Secret Service "failed to implement security measures" that could have prevented the July 13, 2024, assassination attempt on US President Donald Trump, according to a newly released report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO).

The report, requested by Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Chuck Grassley, outlines a series of critical failures by the agency during Trump's campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania. It highlights poor planning, communication breakdowns, insufficient agent training, and a lack of clear operational guidance.

While senior Secret Service officials were reportedly aware of a potential threat to Trump ahead of the event, the report noted that the information was not specific to the rally or the gunman. Due to the agency's "siloed practice for sharing classified threat information," agents on the ground and local law enforcement were left unaware.

"Making changes to Secret Service policies to require it to proactively share threat information internally could help ensure its agents and partners will have information needed to provide effective protection," the GAO recommended. In a statement accompanying the report's release, Grassley said the failures were the result of "a series of bad decisions and bureaucratic handicaps."

"The Secret Service's failure on July 13th was the culmination of years of mismanagement and came after the Biden administration denied requests for enhanced security to protect President Trump," he said. "Americans should be grateful that President Trump survived that day and was ultimately reelected to restore common sense to our country."

The report also noted that several Secret Service officers experienced limited cellphone service during the rally, which may have impacted their ability to communicate effectively in real time.

The attack killed one person, rally attendee Corey Comperatore, and two injuries. Trump was grazed by a bullet. The gunman was killed on site by a Secret Service sniper.

Grassley highlighted a $1.17 billion allocation to the Secret Service as part of the newly passed One Big Beautiful Bill Act, saying it would be used to address the agency's shortcomings.

US Aid Cuts Halt HIV Vaccine Research In South Africa, With Global Impact

JOHANNESBURG: Just a week had remained before scientists in South Africa were to begin clinical trials of an HIV vaccine, and hopes were high for another step toward limiting one of history's deadliest pandemics. Then the email arrived. Stop all work, it said. The United States under the Trump administration was withdrawing all its funding.

The news devastated the researchers, who live and work in a region where more people live with HIV than anywhere else in the world. Their research project, called BRILLIANT, was meant to be the latest to draw on the region's genetic diversity and deep expertise in the hope of benefiting people everywhere.

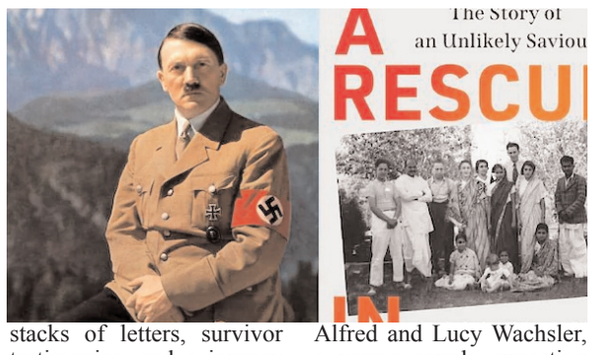
But the $46 million from the U.S. for the project was disappearing, part of the dismantling of foreign aid by the world's biggest donor earlier this year as President Donald Trump announced a focus on priorities at home.

South Africa hit hard by aid cuts

South Africa has been hit especially hard because of Trump's baseless claims about the targeting of the country's white Afrikaner minority. The country had been receiving about $400 million a year via USAID and the HIV-focused PEPFAR.

Glenda Grey, who heads the Brilliant program, said the African continent has been vital to the development of HIV medication, and the U.S. cuts threaten its capability to do such work in the future. Significant advances have included clinical trials for lenacapavir, the world's only twice-a-year shot to prevent HIV, recently approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. One study to show its efficacy involved young South Africans. "We do the trials better, faster and cheaper than anywhere else in the world, and so without South Africa as part of these programs, the world, in my opinion, is much poorer," Gray said.

How An Indian Businessman Outsmarted The Nazis, Rescued 5 Jewish Families



Long before the world came to know the story of Schindler's List, a businessman from Punjab was risking everything to quietly rescue Jewish families from the grip of Nazi persecution. His name was Kundan Lal, and for decades, his story remained hidden, even from his own family.

It was a single sentence that changed everything for his grandson, Vinay Gupta. "Let me tell you a secret. Your nana (grandfather) helped Jewish families escape the Nazis."

His grandfather, Kundan Lal? The same man who ran a matchstick factory, raised five kids, and rarely spoke of anything beyond business or family? It didn't seem possible.

But it was true. And it would take Gupta years, stacks of letters, survivor testimonies, and a journey across continents to uncover it. What he found became his book, 'A Rescue in Vienna', a memoir of one man's silent defiance of Hitler.

A Meeting That Changed Lives

In 1938, as Adolf Hitler's forces marched into Austria, Jewish families were hurled into chaos. One such family was that of Alfred and Lucy Wachsler, a young couple expecting their first child. At the same time, Kundan Lal, then 45, had travelled to Vienna from India seeking medical treatment for diabetes and haemorrhoids. During his recovery in a hospital, he met the Wachsler couple, and from them, he learned about the spiralling anti-Semitic violence consuming Austria.

A successful machine tools manufacturer from Ludhiana, Kundan Lal could have walked away. But instead, he offered what he could: a job, a visa, a way out.

He didn't stop there. He went on to save a total of 14 Jewish lives from the Nazis.

Austria To India

Kundan Lal returned to Ludhiana, a dusty industrial city in Punjab, with something more urgent than factory blueprints. He had promises to keep.

One by one, he arranged job offers for Jewish professionals, sometimes for businesses that didn't even exist.-He placed a job advertisement in a local Austrian newspaper, seeking skilled workers in woodworking and textiles who would be willing to relocate to India.

Spiked Drinks And Stolen Plans: Chinese Employee Jailed Over Bizarre Truth Serum Plot

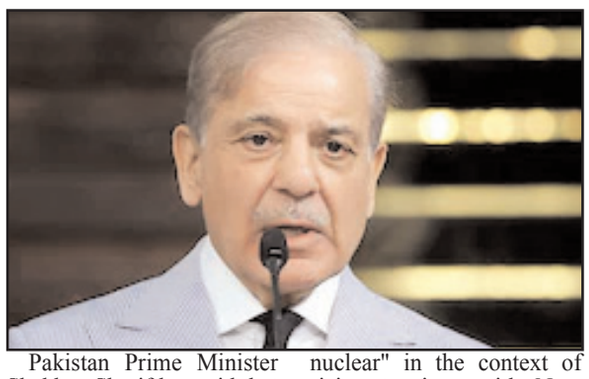
A man in China has been sentenced to prison after secretly drugging a colleague with a so-called "truth serum" in an attempt to steal his work-related plans, according to the South China Morning Post. The accused, identified by the surname Li, discovered the sedative during a business trip and was told by the seller that "just a few drops" would make someone reveal the truth. Intrigued by the claim, Li decided to test the substance on his colleague, Wang. He spiked Wang's drink on three different occasions, starting on August 29, 2022, during a dinner in Shanghai's Xuhui District. The "truth serum" was mixed into alcoholic beverages like yellow wine and beer.

Subsequent medical tests revealed the presence of central nervous system depressants in Wang's urine and hair. Authorities confirmed that the substances used were powerful sedatives. The court sentenced Li to prison for endangering public safety and violating workplace ethics.

According to an SCMP report, Li drugged his colleague Wang three times in 2022 using a so-called "truth serum" mixed with drinks during dinners. Wang suffered dizziness, vomiting, and unconsciousness. After the third incident, he connected the episodes and suspected foul play, realising all symptoms followed meals shared with Li.

Medical tests confirmed Wang's samples contained clonazepam and xylazine, strong sedatives and central nervous system depressants. Clonazepam is a regulated Class II psychotropic drug. Investigations showed Li's "truth serum" contained both substances.

Pakistan's Nuclear Backtrack Weeks After "Full Spectrum" Threat To India



Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that the country's nuclear programme is intended strictly for "peaceful purposes and self-defence", drawing a contrast to earlier statements by senior Pakistani officials who had openly threatened nuclear retaliation in the event of conflict with India.

Mr Sharif's remarks, delivered on Saturday while addressing a group of Pakistani students, come less than two months after a senior Pakistani diplomat explicitly warned of using "the full spectrum of power, both conventional and nuclear" in the context of rising tensions with New Delhi. The Pakistani Prime Minister's attempt to tone down nuclear escalation marks a shift following heightened tensions due to Operation Sindoor, a military response by India to the April 22 terror attack Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, which killed 26 people.

"Pakistan's nuclear programme is solely for peaceful purposes and national defence, not for aggression," Mr Sharif said.

The prime minister's statement, though made in a civilian context, directly contradicts remarks made in May by Muhammad Khalid Jamali, Pakistan's ambassador to Russia. Speaking to Russian state broadcaster RT, Mr Jamali warned of imminent Indian military strikes and vowed Pakistan would respond with the "full spectrum of power". He alleged that Islamabad had intelligence pointing to India's plans to target specific areas within Pakistan, adding that any such attack or disruption of Pakistan's water supply would invite nuclear retaliation.

"Any attempt to usurp the water of the lower riparian, or to stop it, or to divert it would be an act of war," Mr Jamali said.

"It would be responded to with full force of power, including full spectrum of power."

The remarks were widely interpreted as an official Pakistani signal that nuclear options were being kept on the table in the event of escalation.

Lahore Man Wanted To Fly To Karachi. Pak Airline Sends Him To Saudi Instead

KARACHI: A passenger has sent a legal notice to a private airline after being mistakenly flown from Lahore to Jeddah instead of Karachi, ARY News reported. Shahzain, the affected passenger, claims that despite showing his ticket to the air hostess, he was not informed that he had boarded the wrong flight.



According to Shahzain, two planes were parked at the domestic terminal gate, and he was not aware of the mistake until it was too late. The passenger alleges that the airline's negligence caused him distress in Saudi Arabia, as per ARY News.

In the legal notice, Shahzain demands that the airline cover the additional travel expenses he incurred and respond to the matter. He is seeking compensation for the inconvenience and trouble caused by the airline's alleged mistake.

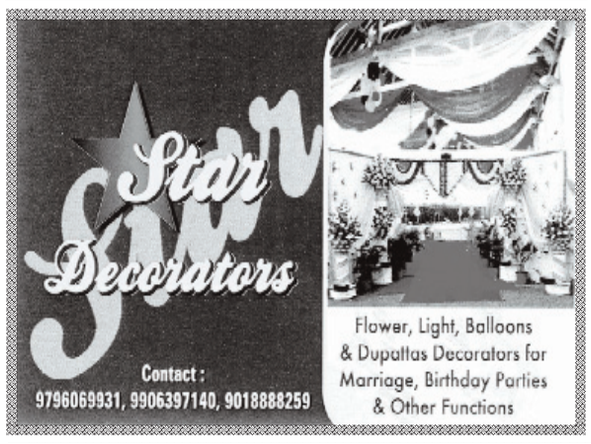
According to ARY News, the passenger confirmed he did not have a passport or visa for international travel.

"Two hours into the flight, I questioned why the plane had not yet reached Karachi. This caused panic among the crew, who then blamed me for the mistake," he added.

The passenger said that when he asked the airline to take him to Karachi, he was told it would take two to three days. "I was told that the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) would conduct an inquiry to which I assured to cooperate," he added. The private airline has come under scrutiny after a passenger bound for Karachi from Lahore was mistakenly flown to Jeddah without a passport and a visa. The Pakistan Airport Authority had already taken notice of the incident, with the Lahore Airport Management holding the private airline responsible. The manager said that the passenger's arrival in Jeddah instead of Karachi was a result of the airline's 'negligence and carelessness'.

He said that a request for action against the airline has been submitted to the authorities.





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Michelin-Starred Restaurant In South Korea Serves Dish Topped With Ants, Lands In Legal Trouble

A two-star Michelin restaurant in Seoul's Gangnam district is under investigation for serving dishes topped with ants, violating South Korea's Food Sanitation Act. According to The Korea Times, the restaurant served a sorbet dish topped with ants, a signature offering at the fine dining venue known for its innovative Korean cuisine. The restaurant allegedly imported dried ants from the US and Thailand and used them as a garnish in around 12,000 dishes, generating approximately 120 million won ($87,400) in revenue from April 2021 to January 2025.

While South Korea permits certain insects like locusts, grasshoppers, and mealworms as food, and silkworm pupae (beondegi) is a common street food, ants are not approved as an edible ingredient.

"To use ants as food, businesses must obtain temporary approval for standards and specifications under food safety regulations. We have shared the results of this investigation with the relevant local government and requested administrative action," a ministry official said.

The South Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety launched an investigation into a restaurant after discovering social media and blog posts featuring the dish. The ant-topped dish has gained popularity among customers, with many describing it as an "upgraded experience". The restaurant's owner claims they were unaware that ants are not legally recognised as a food ingredient in South Korea.

The restaurant allegedly imported two types of ants from the US and Thailand via express mail between April 2021 and November 2024. In various parts of the world, insects are valued as a nutritious and sustainable food source. For example, in Thailand, fried insects like crickets, ant eggs, grasshoppers, and termites are popular street foods. Similarly, in Mexico, chapulines (grasshoppers) and escamoles (ant larvae) are commonly used in tacos and sauces.

South Korea first approved insects as a food source in 2015. By 2021, the country's insect-farming industry had generated an estimated 44.6 billion won ($32.5 million) in sales. Other countries, including the European Union, Singapore, have also approved certain insect species for consumption.

Disappointed by Admin's conduct to stop us from Commemorating Martyrs Day: Bukhari

TP CORRESPONDENT



SRINAGAR, Jul 13 Apni Party President Altaf Bukhari on Sunday has strongly condemned the Jammu and Kashmir administration for allegedly preventing him and his party from paying homage to the 1931 martyrs on Martyrs' Day.

In a statement issued here, Bukhari said that after being denied permission to visit Mazar-e-Shuhada at Naqshband Sahib-where they intended to offer prayers for the 1931 martyrs-the administration further escalated its actions by locking the Apni Party headquarters in Srinagar to block a planned memorial event.

"Police personnel in large numbers were deployed near my residence in Sheikh Bagh to stop me from reaching the party office and participating in the peaceful prayer meeting," Bukhari said. He also revealed that police were stationed outside the homes of several senior leaders and workers of the party, thereby obstructing their participation in today's commemorations. Calling these measures "clear and blatant examples of highhandedness and authoritarian behaviour," Bukhari questioned the rationale behind the restrictions. "What is the purpose of stopping us from commemorating Martyrs' Day, and how does it serve the authorities?" he asked.

He emphasized that the Apni Party had no intention to disturb public order and only sought to remember the martyrs through peaceful prayer and reflection. "As peace-loving and law-abiding citizens, we would have carried out these activities quietly, without causing any disruption to law and order," he asserted.

Expressing deep disappointment with the administration's conduct, Bukhari affirmed that no act of suppression could erase the memory of the 1931 martyrs. "Their memory lives on in our hearts, and no barriers can prevent us from honouring them from the depths of our hearts," he said, leaving it to the public to judge the fairness of the government's actions.

Kavinder slams Omar for distorting history, calls Jallianwala Bagh victims true Freedom Martyrs

Says J&K paying the price for Nehru's historical blunders

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta today came down heavily on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for his controversial remarks equating the July 13, 1931 incident in Kashmir with the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, calling it an outrageous comparison and a deliberate attempt to rewrite history for political gain.

Reacting sharply to Omar Abdullah's tweet, the BJP stalwart said, "Omar Abdullah's statement lacks wisdom and responsibility. To call those who rose against the then Maharaja's rule 'martyrs' and compare them with the brave Indians who lost their lives in the Jallianwala Bagh massacre-true martyrs of India's freedom struggle-is not just misleading, it is deeply disrespectful."

He added, "On one hand, people sacrificed their lives fighting British colonialism, and on the other, some chose the path of rebellion that sowed the seeds of separatism. Glorifying them as national heroes is not only factually wrong but also dangerous."

Referring to Omar Abdullah's tweet that stated "13th July massacre is our Jallianwala Bagh…", the senior BJP leader said such rhetoric is aimed at reviving a divisive narrative based on communal identity.

"It is unfortunate that the Chief Minister of a sensitive region is drawing communal lines in the name of history. The sacrifices that built this nation were made in the name of India, not religion. We must not confuse acts of rebellion against the state with the freedom movement."

Kavinder said the real tragedy is that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have suffered for decades because of the historical blunders made by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. "Had Nehru taken a firm stand in 1947, the situation in Jammu and Kashmir would have been different. It is the Modi government that is now correcting those grave errors and leading J&K towards a path of peace, progress, and integration."

Kavinder further said that the BJP stands firmly by its decision to remove July 13 from the list of official holidays in Jammu and Kashmir, stating that national observances should unite, not divide. "There is no place in New India for the glorification of anti-national elements.

Our heroes are those who fought for India's independence and unity-not those who fueled discord and unrest."

The former deputy Chief Minister asked Omar Abdullah to withdraw his remarks and refrain from pushing a narrative that can mislead the youth and disturb communal harmony. "We must rise above outdated politics and work together for a united, developed Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

MLA Rajiv Jasrotia reviews status of agricultural schemes in Jasrota constituency



TP CORRESPONDENT

KATHUA, Jul 13: MLA Jasrota, Rajiv Jasrotia on Sunday chaired a comprehensive review meeting at District Agriculture office, Kathua. The meeting was convened to review the progress on fund utilization under CAPEX, Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) and NABARD for the financial year 2025-26 besides assessing the status of issuance of fertilizer and pesticide licenses across the Union Territory.The meeting was attended by department employees and officers of District Kathua.

The Chief Agriculture Officer District Kathua presented detailed updates on scheme implementation, challenges encountered and strategic measures to expedite the pending activities. Jasrotia underscored the need for timely execution, optimal fund utilization and enhanced inter-departmental coordination to ensure the benefits of these schemes reach the grassroots level.

Jasrotia reviewed the advancements made under HADP, which has been instrumental in promoting sustainable agricultural practices and improving the farmers livelihoods.

He observed that special attention should be given to ensure the expenditure under HADP, CSSs and CAPEX projects align with the overall goal of infrastructure development in the sector in Jasrota constituency.

He also had detailed discussion on CSS projects-Krishonnati Yojana, focusing on key flagship schemes like PMKSY, PDMC, SMAM, RAD, RKVY, PKVY, ATMA, NFSM and others aimed at boosting the rural prosperity.

Jasrotia speaking on the occasion suggested establishing a Centre of Excellence for Entrepreneurship in Precision Vegetable and Floriculture Farming in Kathua district, accelerating bee hive insurance coverage, prioritizing completion of Kathua District unit tracking through the KSOT App and developing a comprehensive calendar for national and international exposure visits for the farmers of Kathua District.

Jasrotia also emphasized for resolving the fertilizer and pesticide licensing issues, particularly those faced by krishiudyamis, strengthening district-level enforcement wings, ensuring GPS-based tracking of fertilizer movement and intensifying regular monitoring of pesticide manufacturers and retailers.

The meeting concluded with formulation of a time-bound action plan focused on fast-tracking project implementation and strengthening the agricultural ecosystem in Jasrota constituency. Jasrotia emphasized the need to create awareness among farmers about the various schemes available to them, ensuring they can benefit from these initiatives.The meeting discussed the schemes currently running in the Jasrota constituency, including those that have been completed and those that are still underway.

The MLA instructed the department officials to ensure that farmers are well-informed about the various schemes and their benefits, improve the implementation process to ensure that the schemes are effectively reaching the farmers besides regularly monitoring the progress of the schemes and address any challenges or issues that arise.

The meeting underscored the importance of prioritizing farmer welfare and ensuring that they have access to the resources and support they need to thrive. By creating awareness about the available schemes and streamlining their implementation, the government aims to empower farmers and enhance their livelihoods, added Jasrotia.

Rajiv Jasrotia's commitment to the welfare of farmers and the agricultural sector was evident in the meeting. His efforts to review and improve the implementation of agricultural schemes will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the lives of farmers in the Jasrota constituency and beyond.

Akash slams BJP for failing to fulfill aspirations of J&K people during 11 yrs of Governance

Says BJP MLA miserably failed to initiate Salmay Bridge, people suffering



TP CORRESPONDENT

UDHAMPUR, July 13: Akash Verma, Additional Spokesperson of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (NC), today launched a scathing attack on the BJP leadership, accusing it of failing to meet the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir during its 11 years of rule at the Centre.

Addressing media persons here, Verma expressed deep concern over the lack of basic amenities in the Udhampur district despite the fact that the people had elected four BJP MLAs from the region. "Rather than delivering on development and public welfare, these BJP legislators have resorted to baseless criticism of the present NC Government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah," Verma said.

Targeting the BJP MLA from Chenani constituency, Akash challenged him to present his own performance report. "Instead of indulging in hollow rhetoric against the NC Government, the MLA should explain why basic projects like the Salmay bridge have remained stuck. Why hasn't the tender process been completed in the last two years despite his position as an elected representative?" he asked.

Akash Verma highlighted that in just nine months of governance, the NC Government has fulfilled several key promises from its election manifesto. "From providing 200 free power units to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, increasing marriage assistance from Rs 50,000 to Rs 75,000, offering free bus travel to women, to doubling the ration quota for AAY beneficiaries—these are concrete steps towards social justice and empowerment," he said.

The NC leader further underlined that while the BJP-led Centre failed to create two crore jobs annually as promised, the Omar Abdullah-led Government has initiated major recruitment drives to fill vacancies across various departments. "Most recently, the CM launched the 'Mission Yuva' scheme, under which 1.5 lakh enterprises will be established, generating employment opportunities for around 4.5 lakh youth across J&K," he added.

He questioned the logic behind BJP's criticism of the NC Government's performance in just nine months, asking, "If the BJP couldn't fulfill the aspirations of J&K in 11 long years, what right do they have to point fingers at the NC which is already delivering results in such a short span?"

Akash Verma urged the people of Udhampur to judge leaders based on their work, not their words, and to support a government that believes in action, not blame games.

Sat asks BJP cadre to strengthen Booth structure in Jammu Border District meet



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: J&K BJP President Sat Sharma addressed an organizational meeting of District Jammu Border at Sunderpur under the Suchetgarh Assembly Constituency.

MLA Suchetgarh Prof. Gharu Ram, BJP Treasurer Prabhat Singh, District Prabhari Rajinder Singh Chib, District President Rinku Choudhary, Mandal Presidents Mittal Choudhary, Devi Ditta, Parveen Choudhary, Ex-Chairman Arnia Ramesh Saini, Rakesh Pant, and several senior party activists from the area participated in the meeting.

In his address, Sat Sharma emphasized the importance of intensifying grassroots organizational efforts, especially at the booth level. He highlighted the vital role played by BLA1 and BLA2 in ensuring the party's electoral success. "The Booth Level Agents are the backbone of our electoral structure. Their responsibility in maintaining accurate voter rolls, including additions, deletions, and corrections are critical to our booth management strategy," he stated.

He asked the cadre to gear up and ensure effective coordination for the BLA2 nomination process.

Sharma further asked the entire party cadre to bolster BJP's presence at the grassroots and prepare the organization for the upcoming electoral challenges.

Prof. Gharu Ram lauded the BJP's commitment to inclusive development and underscored the need for unity and discipline within the ranks. "Our strength lies in our ground-level workers. It is they who connect the party to the people, and we must continue to empower and support them," he remarked.

Prabhat Singh called for better coordination between the party leaders and the ground level workers to streamline organizational functioning.

Rinku Choudhary, while welcoming the leaders and workers, pledged to expand the party's footprint across all mandals under the Jammu Border District. "We are committed to strengthening every booth and connecting with every voter. Our team is working relentlessly to achieve this," he assured.

Tony seeks stern action against officials for civic negligence in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu

Listens to Public Grievances at Ward No. 54



TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: Senior Congress leader and DDC Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony has urged the administration to take strict action against officials responsible for the poor civic infrastructure in Trikuta Nagar, particularly Ward No. 54.

He made these remarks during his visit to the area following repeated complaints from local residents about the declining state of basic amenities. The meeting was facilitated by prominent youth leader Narinder Sharma (Happy) and witnessed a strong turnout of concerned citizens.

Residents voiced serious grievances including irregular water supply, frequent power outages, dysfunctional street and high-mast lights in public parks, deteriorating road conditions, overflowing drains, and a growing sense of insecurity due to rising theft incidents. They alleged that despite several complaints, the authorities have failed to take corrective action, leaving the locality in neglect.

Expressing concern over the situation, Tony assured residents that he would personally take up the matter with the concerned departments and press for urgent remedial measures. He stated that areas like Trikuta Nagar, which are among the prominent residential localities of Jammu, deserve better attention and timely civic services.

"This kind of administrative apathy is unacceptable. The officials responsible for this negligence must be held accountable. I urge the Chief Secretary to immediately intervene and initiate disciplinary action against those who have failed in their duties," Tony said.

The senior Congress leader emphasized that development must be inclusive and consistent, and no locality should be made to suffer due to indifference or inefficiency of government machinery. He reaffirmed his commitment to the people of Jammu and urged residents to remain united and vocal in their demand for better governance and infrastructure development.

Among those who were present included Shiv Kumar Sharma, OP Sharma, Parmod Sabarwal, Dr. Manjit Arora, Vinod Gupta, Kuldeep Raj Mangotra, Kuldip Arora, Vijay Sharma, Vijay Gandotra, Surinder Gandotra, Sandeep Sharma, Manu Gupta, KK Khajuria, Ramit Abrol, Raj Pal, Rinku Manchanda, RP Sharma, Ramnik Dubey, Vishal Jolly, Rajesh Gupta, Shashi Digra, Sanju Sarmal, Vicky Sarmal, Joginder Sarmal, and others.

Pritam Saini appointed as J&K President of Bharatiya Kisan Union (Sarv)

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: In a significant move aimed at strengthening the voice of farmers in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Pritam Singh Saini has been appointed as the President of the Jammu and Kashmir unit of Bharatiya Kisan Union (Sarv).

The appointment was officially announced by Pandit Rajkishore Sharma, National President of BKU (Sarv), and Satish Bharatraj, National Youth President. The Union, which stands as a non-political platform for farmers across India, expressed confidence that Shri Pritam Singh Saini will work with full dedication to address the pressing issues faced by the farming community in the region.

Hailing from Lower Muthi, Akalpur Morh, Jammu, Shri Pritam Saini has been entrusted with the responsibility of raising farmer-related concerns, striving for their resolution, and enhancing the reach and popularity of BKU (Sarv) among the farming population of J&K. He has been urged to remain in constant touch with farmers and lead initiatives that reflect the aspirations and welfare of the agrarian community.

Bharatiya Kisan Union (Swaraj) has wished Shri Pritam Saini great success in his new role and expressed hope that he will play a pivotal role in realizing the vision of the Union's leadership.

Erring FBOs fined Rs.35000 by Food Safety Department

TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, JULY 13: In order to ensure safe and hygienic food to consumers, a special drive has been initiated by the Department of Food Safety in Kashmir Division.

During the drive, the enforcement officers from intelligence cum legal cell and concerned districts inspected various paneer manufacturers in Village Nowgam of district Pulwama besides butchers and restaurants in main town Baramulla.

In the pursuit, various Food Business Operators (FBOs) were found violating sanitary and hygienic requirements of Food Safety and Standards Act and an amount of Rs 35000 was recovered as fine from them. Moreover, some non-food grade utensils were destroyed on the spot and food business operators were directed to maintain high standards of hygiene within their premises.

Inter-zonal district level Yoga, Handball, Basketball and Badminton competition begins in Doda



TP CORRESPONDENT

DODA, JULY 13: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, under the supervision of DYSSO Doda Jaffar Haider Sheikh, inaugurated the inter-zonal district level competitions in Yoga, Handball, Basketball and Badminton. Events are being conducted at various venues across Doda, marking a vibrant return of competitive sports in the district.

A total of 280 participants are competing in the four disciplines, highlighting the remarkable talent and commitment of local youth. The competitions aim to provide a platform for young athletes to demonstrate their skills and promote sportsmanship. Matches in all categories will continue until JULY 22, offering an exciting display of youthful energy, teamwork and healthy competition.

Three-day Blind Cricket Tournament concludes in Bhaderwah



TP CORRESPONDENT

BHADERWAH, JULY 13: The three-day Blind Cricket Tournament concluded today at the Sports Stadium, Government Degree College Bhaderwah. Held from JULY 11 to 13, the event brought together visually impaired players from various regions, celebrating the spirit of inclusive sports.

Organised by the Cricket Blind Association J&K in collaboration with District Administration Doda, Bhaderwah Development Authority (BDA) and the Social Welfare Department, the tournament aimed to empower visually impaired athletes and promote equal opportunities in sports.

The tournament was inaugurated by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhaderwah, Sunil Kumar Bhutyal, who highlighted the administration's commitment to supporting specially-abled sportspersons. The opening match featured a thrilling contest between the Blue and Red teams, with the Blue team emerging victorious.

Over three days, players impressed spectators with their coordination, skilled batting and sharp fielding—proving that passion for the game knows no boundaries.

In his message, Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh praised the organisers and applauded the players' spirit. "This tournament is a reminder that disability is not inability. These players are an inspiration for everyone," he said. The closing ceremony included trophy and certificate distribution, with appreciation from attendees, volunteers and officials. The organisers expressed their commitment to making this an annual event to promote inclusivity, sportsmanship and unity.

Bihar to Amarnath, Vaishno Devi 'on wheels'



VISHAL BHARTI

JAMMU, July 13 (UNI) An old adage 'ek aur ek gayarah' (two heads are better than one) fits for 16-year-old Amit Kumar and 22-year-old Shravan Kumar, both hailing from Bihar and 'on wheels' to Amarnath Cave and Shri Mata Vaishno Shrine from their respective hometowns.

Skater Amit met cyclist Shravan at Meerut. The duo was on its way to the holy destinations of Amarnath Cave in the South Kashmir Himalayas and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in the Trikuta Hills of Reasi district in the Jammu region.

The duo, who coincidentally met each other en route, joined hands to chase their dreams of reaching the holy places on skates and by bicycle.

The duo, while speaking to UNI on meeting this correspondent near Jagti in Nagrota area here in the city outskirts, expressed gratitude to the almighty and hoped that they will successfully fulfil their dream.

A student of the ninth standard, Amit Kumar (16), said, "So far I have completed my 26-day journey (by Saturday) on skates that started from Bihar. Destinations are Shri Amarnath Cave and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi."

Amit, who learnt skating some 18 months back, said, "I have visited Kedarnath and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine earlier also on skates and this time after visiting Amarnath Cave will again visit to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi."

Sharing his daily routine, Amit said, "I am always on the move with intervals and take halts at religious places and dhabas for meals."

Born to Gopal Dass and Munni Devi and a younger son in the family, Amit said, "I want to create a world record and have a plan to visit Dubai on skates."

"I have a dream to visit Dubai on skates after a few months but before that, I have to practice a lot," he opined, appreciating people from all walks of life for extending support to him during his journey in his mission.

He said his family always supported his initiative, and without their support and trust, he could not have succeeded.

Shravan, 22, also from Bihar, said, "I started my journey to Amarnath Cave and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi by bicycle. I have a firm belief that God always has different plans and I met Amit on the way."

"For the first time, I am visiting Jammu and Kashmir and previous to that, I have completed 'Char Dham Yatra' and 12 Jyotirlinga Yatra riding a bicycle. It was a next level experience," said a smiling Shravan.

Shravan, who completed 14000 kilometres by bicycle so far, covering 14 states of India, said, "I always wanted to explore beautiful India, meet people, know their cultures and traditions."

"We are in Jammu and people here are amazing and loving. We will carry a message of peace and harmony along with us when we return to our places," they both expressed.

Inter-zonal district level U/14 and U/17 tournament held at Indoor Sports Stadium Doda



TP CORRESPONDENT

DODA, JULY 13: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) Doda today conducted the second phase of the inter-zonal district level tournament for U/14 and U/17 boys and girls at the Indoor Sports Stadium Doda.

The event was organised as per the approved 2025–26 activity calendar issued by the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, J&K UT. It was held under the direction of Director General Youth Services and Sports, J&K UT, Anuradha Gupta, and guidance of Joint Director Jammu Vinakshi Koul, with overall supervision by DYSSO Doda, Jaffar Haider Sheikh.

The tournament featured high-energy competitions in Boxing, Karate, Judo, Wushu, Thang-ta, Fencing and Badminton. These events serve to identify top performers for participation in higher-level competitions. Young athletes competed with notable skill, determination and enthusiasm.

The DYSSO expressed gratitude to participants, officials and supporters for their role in the event's success. He stressed the importance of promoting a culture of sports excellence and holistic development among youth.

Indian Army Organizing First Ever Pan Kashmir Cricketing League in Baramulla

TP CORRESPONDENT

BARAMULLA,July 13: In yet another initiative for carrying out constructive activities for the AWAM and providing wings to the aspirations of young cricketer's hopeful of donning the Indian blues, 1st Edition of Chinar Premier League & 3rd Edition of General Bipin Rawat Memorial Cricket Tournament 2025 is set to captivate cricket enthusiasts in the picturesque town of Baramulla as it pays homage to the Late CDS Gen Bipin Rawat.

The event is being organised under the aegis of Dagger Division.

The uniqueness of this years' tournament is the Pan Kashmir participation which is unprecedented. Over 64 Teams from all over Kashmir region will be vying for the coveted trophy this year.

The T20 cricket championship being organised from 21 Jul to 23 Aug 202 promises to be a fitting tribute to the former Chief of Defense Staff and aims to promote the values of discipline, teamwork, and patriotism, which General Bipin Rawat exemplified throughout his illustrious career.

The zeal and enthusiasm of the youth is overwhelming and the same is visible with the number of participating teams.

Jammu Motor Mahindra Launches XUV 3XO 'REVX' Series

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: Jammu Motor Vehicles LLP, an authorised dealership of Mahindra & Mahindra, officially launched the much-awaited XUV 3XO REVX series at its BC Road, Rehari showroom on Saturday.

The new series, known for its bold styling and premium features, starts at an attractive ex-showroom price of Rs 8.94 lakh.

The unveiling was done by Vikram Randhawa, Member of the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly, in the presence of Swatantar Aggarwal, Chairman of Aggarwal Group, Vineet Aggarwal, Nitin Aggarwal, directors and family members of the Aggarwal Group, officials from leading banks and NBFCs, customers, and staff members of the dealership. Speaking on the occasion, Vineet Aggarwal, Managing Partner, Jammu Motor Vehicles LLP, said, "The XUV 3XO has become Mahindra's fastest SUV to reach the 1 lakh sales milestone. With the launch of the REVX series, we aim to provide our customers with a new level of sophistication, performance, and style.



"Each variant is crafted for those who want their vehicle to reflect their individuality. At Jammu Motor Vehicles, we are proud to bring this premium product to our customers."

Highlighting the features of the top variant, Aggarwal added, "The REVX A offers best-in-class power, a panoramic sunroof, leatherette seats, twin HD screens, and connected car technology with built-in Alexa. It truly blends innovation with comfort for the modern-day driver."

Swatantar Aggarwal, Chairman of the Aggarwal Group, remarked, "This launch reflects our commitment to offering cutting-edge products and expanding our footprint in the region. Jammu Motor Vehicles has become a trusted name for Mahindra in Jammu, and we are proud of its growth." In his address, MLA Vikram Randhawa said, "I am delighted to be a part of this historic launch. The XUV 3XO REVX represents not just a vehicle but a leap in design and technology.

It is heartening to see such automotive innovation taking place in Jammu, and I congratulate Jammu Motor Vehicles for their consistent contribution to the region's automotive landscape." The dealership also operates showrooms in Kunjwani, Banihal, Reasi, Poonch, and Kishtwar, and maintains a state-of-the-art workshop at Gangyal.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) ELECTRIC DIVISION JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

xenpwdelecdiv.jammu@gmail.comf

e-NIT No.EDJ/48 of 2025-2026 Dated 09-07-2025

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (`in lacs)	Cost of document (in `)	Earnest Money (in `)	Time Allowed for complete-on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	**Re Electrification in Office of Joint Director Agriculture Extension Talab Tillo Jammu.**	PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu	47.82	600/-	95640/-	Linked with Civil Works	**22-07-2025 At or after (12 : 00 A.N)**	"A" Class Electrical Contractor

The Bidding documents 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/downloaded from the departmental website **http://jktenders.gov.in** as per below schedule.

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	**10-07-2025**
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	**From 10-07-2025 to 21-07-2025, 4:00 P.M**
3	Bid submission **Start Date**	**10-07-2025**
4	Bid Submission **End Date**	**21-07-2025 up to 4:00 P.M**
5	Pre Bid Meeting Date	**xxxx at or after xxxxx in the Office of the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu**
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids **(Online)**	**22-07-2025 at or after 12:00 A.N in the Office of the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu**
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids **(Online)**	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1. **Position of Administrative Approval = Accorded**
2. **Position of Technical Sanction = To be accorded as per Job Orders.**
3. **Position of Funds = Awaited.**

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of **e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date and also indicating the name of work and NIT No. duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favouring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu. uploading a copy of treasury challan/receipt**. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, and relevant documents of **L1** be submitted to the **Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu.** at the time of allotment.
2. **Bid Security Declaration should be kept in the Bid documents as per tendered.**
3. The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The **Financial-bids of Responsive bidders** shall be opened online in the **Office of the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Electric Division Jammu.** The date for same shall be intimated separately.
4. The bids for the work shall remain **valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.**

No :- EDJ/ 5031-39
Dated :-09-07-2025

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Electric Division
Jammu

DIP/J-3366/25

LG Sinha hands over appointment..

- **I am committed to ensure that these families receive the justice, jobs, recognition and support they deserve after years of suffering. It is a historic step to finally recognize and honour the thousands of innocent civilians in J&K: LG Sinha**
- **Truth about Terror Victim families was deliberately suppressed. No one came to wipe their tears. Everyone knew Pakistan-backed terrorists were involved in brutal killings but no one provided justice to thousands of elderly parents, wives, brothers or sisters: LG**
- **For almost three decades conflict entrepreneurs were ruling the roost and even threatened these families. These conflict entrepreneurs had cleverly crafted a singular narrative that painted India as the aggressor and terrorists as victims. This false narrative has been completely demolished. The real victims of terrorism have now exposed Pakistan and terror outfits and unmasked the conflict entrepreneurs: LG**
- **I warn the conflict entrepreneurs to stop spreading narratives that harms the sovereignty and integrity of the country. By propagating the narrative of terror outfits in Jammu and Kashmir, they are disrupting the peace established with blood and sweat: LG Sinha**
- **Under the leadership of Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji, J&K UT is scripting a golden chapter of inclusive development, peace and social justice. He has paved the way for efficient, transparent and people-centric governance: LG**
- **LG Says, the administration will now reach the doorsteps of all the families who have been waiting for justice for decades and jobs, arrangements for their rehabilitation and livelihood will be ensured**
- **I assure the people that those days are over when the family members of dreaded terrorists used to get jobs and the killers of common Kashmiris were rehabilitated. We are identifying those elements and removing them from government jobs. We will rehabilitate the genuine victims of terrorism: LG Sinha**
- **There are certain elements who, at the behest of terrorist-country Pakistan, are still working to nourish the terror-ecosystem. Appropriate action as per the law will be taken against them and we will realise the dream of terrorism-free J&K: LG**
- **Helplines have been set up in districts to register grievances of terror victims. We are receiving hundreds of complaints from 90s also. In many cases, FIRs were not registered, lands were encroached and properties demolished. I assure the people that culprits will not be spared: LG Sinha**

"Terror victim families, forsaken and forgotten, suffered silently for decades. Stories of their loved ones, brutally killed by Pakistan-backed terrorists are being brought to forefront.

Truth about these families was deliberately suppressed. No one came to wipe their tears. Everyone knew Pakistan-backed terrorists were involved in brutal killings but no one provided justice to thousands of elderly parents, wives, brothers or sisters," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor issued a stern warning to the conflict entrepreneurs and asked them to stop spreading narratives that harms the sovereignty and integrity of the country. By propagating the narrative of terror outfits in Jammu and Kashmir, they are disrupting the peace established with blood and sweat, he said.

"For almost three decades conflict entrepreneurs were ruling the roost and even threatened these families. These conflict entrepreneurs had cleverly crafted a singular narrative that painted India as the aggressor and terrorists as victims. This false narrative has been completely demolished. The real victims of terrorism have now exposed Pakistan and terror outfits and unmasked the conflict entrepreneurs," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor assured the people that those days are over when the family members of dreaded terrorists used to get jobs and the killers of common Kashmiris were rehabilitated.

"We are identifying those elements and removing them from government jobs. We will rehabilitate the genuine victims of terrorism. There are certain elements who, at the behest of terrorist-country Pakistan, are still working to nourish the terror-ecosystem. Appropriate action as per the law will be taken against them and we will realise the dream of terrorism-free J&K," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor said that the administration will now reach the doorsteps of all the families who have been waiting for justice for decades and jobs, arrangements for their rehabilitation and livelihood will be ensured. He also assured thorough investigation into the cases of Kashmiri Pandits who were killed by Pakistan-sponsored terrorists.

"Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, J&K UT is scripting a golden chapter of inclusive development, peace and social justice. He has paved the way for efficient, transparent and people-centric governance.

Helplines have been set up in districts to register grievances of terror victims. We are receiving hundreds of complaints from the 90s also. In many cases, FIRs were not registered, lands were encroached and properties demolished. I assure the people that culprits will not be spared," the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the families of victims of terrorism and shared their pain and grief.

He recounted the horrific incident of June 9, 1992, when Wali Mohammad Lone's son, Bashir Lone, was shot dead by terrorists while returning home from a nearby mosque in Fatehgarh village, Baramulla. A year later, terrorists kidnapped Wali Mohammad Lone's two other sons, Ghulam Mohiuddin Lone and Abdul Rashid Lone; their bodies were never found.

Raja Begum of Lilam village in Kupwara waited 26 years for justice. In 1999, terrorists brutally murdered her husband, Ghulam Hassan Lone, sons Javid Ahmed and Irshad Ahmed, and daughter Dilshada after they refused to shelter them.

We stand firmly with Raja Begum and all the families of terrorism victims. Efforts are underway by the administration to identify all families who have suffered due to Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir, media fraternity and every citizen of the country to support the administration in restoring the dignity of the real terror victim families and securing justice for them. He also appealed for their stories of suffering and injustice to be shared with the world.

Chief Secretary, Shri Atal Dulloo; DGP, Shri Nalin Prabhat; Principal Secretary Home, Shri Chandrakar Bharti; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Shri Vijay Kumar Bidhuri; Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla, Shri Minga Sherpa; Shri Wajahat Farooq Bhat, Chairman, Save Youth Save Future Foundation and other members of the Foundation, senior officials and family members of victims of terrorism were present.

Dy CM acts against poor road work..

The executing contractor, M/S Rafiq Construction, has been served a formal notice to explain their position within three days, failing which action will be initiated under the NIT conditions and relevant laws. Samples of the laid macadam and bituminous material have been collected and sent to the DIQC laboratory for analysis. The Deputy Chief Minister reiterated the Government's commitment towards ensuring transparency, accountability and quality in public infrastructure, emphasizing zero tolerance for negligence. He encouraged the citizens to continue voicing their concerns, underscoring the importance of public participation in ensuring effective governance.

Prominent Kashmiri leaders allege..

forms are today projected as villains only because they were Muslims,' the chief minister said on X.

In 1919, hundreds of people protesting peacefully against the Rowlatt Acts, which granted the colonial administration repressive powers, were gunned down by British forces without any provocation at the Jallianwala Bagh in Punjab's Amritsar.

Abdullah said, 'We may be denied the opportunity to visit their graves today but we will not forget their sacrifices.'

In an earlier post, Abdullah criticised the house detention of the leaders as a 'blatantly undemocratic move'.

'In a blatantly undemocratic move homes have been locked from the outside, police & central forces deployed as jailers & major bridges in Srinagar blocked. All to stop people from visiting a historically important grave yard containing the graves of people who laid down their lives to give Kashmiris a voice & to empower them. I will never understand what the Law & Order government is so afraid of,' he said.

Opposition PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said the mistrust between Delhi and Kashmiris will truly end only when India accepted Kashmiri "martyrs" as their own.

'The day you accept our heroes as your own just as Kashmiris have embraced yours, from Mahatma Gandhi to Bhagat Singh that day, as Prime Minister Modi once said, the 'dil ki doori' (distance of hearts) will truly end,' she said in a post on X.

The former chief minister posted pictures of a locked gate to her residence.

'When you lay siege to the Martyrs' Graveyard, lock people in their homes to prevent them from visiting Mazar-e-Shuhada, it speaks volumes. July 13th commemorates our martyrs those who rose against tyranny, much like countless others across the country. They will always be our heroes,' she said.

The former chief minister claimed several leaders of her party who managed to sneak out of their homes have been detained at various police stations.

'Continuing with its regressive policies many of our party leaders like Khurshid Allam, Zohaib Mir, Hamid Kohsheen, Arif Liagroo, Sara Nayeema, Tabassum, Basharat Naseem and others who managed to sneak out of their homes have been detained in police stations. They were on their way to Mazar e shuda. It seems we are getting back into the oppressive times that our 13 July Martyrs fought against,' she claimed.

Peoples Conference president Sajad Gani Lone also claimed that he has been stopped from leaving his residence.

'Not allowed to move out of home. Detained. I don't know why the union government is so keen to redefine what is sacred for the people of Kashmir.The sacrifices rendered on July 13 are sacred for all of us,' he said.

Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, who has been under house arrest since Friday, said Kashmir bears witness to the painful saga of the sacrifices made by its sons and daughters.

'The Martyrs of July 13, 1931 led this quest by standing up to the tyranny of the rulers of the day, laying down their lives. Today, Kashmir remembers and honours them. We may be put in jails or under house arrests and threatened with dire consequences, and the martyrs' graveyards may be sealed and blocked, but they live in our hearts and in our memory and will continue to, generation after generation,' he posted on X.

The leaders claimed they were placed under house arrest to prevent them from visiting the Naqshband Sahib Martyrs graveyard near Nowhatta in the old city.

The Srinagar district magistrate on Saturday rejected the ruling National Conference's plea seeking permission to pay homage to the 22 people.

The party, in an application sent to the district magistrate, stated that NC president Farooq Abdullah and other senior functionaries intend to visit the graveyard of 'martyrs' at Naqshband Sahib near Nowhatta on Sunday.

'The District Administration Srinagar has denied permission to all applicants intending to proceed towards Khawaja Bazar, Nowhatta on 13th July 2025 (Sunday),' Srinagar Police said in a public advisory posted on its handle on X on Saturday.

July 13 used to be a public holiday in Jammu and Kashmir before the reorganisation of the erstwhile state into two Union territories in August 2019. However, the administration dropped the day from the list of gazetted holidays in 2020.

On the day, mainstream political leaders used to visit the 'martyrs' graveyard' to pay homage to the Kashmiris who fell to the bullets of the Dogra army while protesting against the rule of the Maharaja.

'Decades of suffering ended today'..

For over two decades, her story remained buried like those of many others, under silence, fear and institutional neglect. But that changed when LG Manoj Sinha, moved by the plight of terror victims across the region, initiated a fast-tracked process of justice and rehabilitation.

Speaking in Baramulla, the LG acknowledged that families like Raja's were not only ignored but actively suppressed, while sympathisers of terror networks managed to secure jobs and influence.

"Today is a day of healing and accountability," the LG said during the event, adding, "Victims like Raja Begum are not just statistics - they are our responsibility, our family."

For Raja Begum, this appointment letter is more than just a job. It is recognition of her loss, her endurance, and her truth. "Thank you, LG sahib," she said. "Decades of suffering have come to an end today."

Security forces conducting...

Kishtwar, Basantgarh, Rajouri and Poonch, with ground-level intelligence playing a critical role in directing troop movements.

Security has been significantly stepped up, with reinforcements deployed across high-sensitivity areas and higher reaches in the region. "Higher reaches in the region have been brought under the effective control of forces and are being fully dominated.

Night surveillance has been intensified using night vision devices and other modern equipment," a source said.

Routes previously exploited by terrorists to enter the Kashmir valley have been plugged and preventive measures are in place to block infiltration attempts. "Cross-border activity continues and reports suggest that terrorists are being staged along the border. However, our troops are fully alert to foil any such design," the source added.

The anti-terror strategy has been revised with increased emphasis on night operations and tactics aimed at denying terrorists the opportunity to regroup or seek shelter and carry out night movement in the hill ranges.

However, the sources maintained that there are no credible reports suggesting that Pakistani regulars are operating alongside terrorist ranks as of now.

The sources also cited a recent encounter in the Chatroo area of Kishtwar, where a terrorist group was caught off guard by Army personnel already dominating a strategic hilly area.

The terrorists retaliated by hurling a grenade at the troops, confirming their growing unease in operating in the high-altitude belts now under tight surveillance. "We are tightening the noose.

They are finding it increasingly difficult to move and we will hunt them down, sooner or later," the sources said. Dozens of attacks, operations and encounters have been witnessed in several hilly districts of the Jammu region during the past three years resulting in casualties to troops.

Amarnath Yatra: Fresh batch..

hours of the day, they said. While 4,158 pilgrims are heading for Pahalgam base camp in a convoy of 148 vehicles, 2891 pilgrims on board 138 vehicles have preferred the Baltal route, the officials said.

The 38-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre high cave shrine started from the two routes on July 3 and is scheduled to end on August 9, coinciding with the Raksha Bandhan festival. Nearly 1.83 lakh pilgrims have so far visited the shrine, which houses a naturally formed Shivlingam.

Authorities seal roads leading..

Khawaja Bazar, Nowhatta on July 13, 2025 (Sunday)," the Srinagar Police said in a public advisory posted on X.

The police said that the public is advised to comply with these instructions and refrain from violating the orders issued by the district administration.

"Any violation of these orders shall invite strict legal action under relevant provisions of law," the police warned. The NC termed the denial of permission "deeply unfortunate." NC chief spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq said that July 13 is not a routine date. "It is a solemn reminder of the sacrifices made in the pursuit of dignity, justice, and rights," Sadiq said on X.

Sadiq further said the people of Kashmir will continue to "honour their martyrs" peacefully, with dignity, and with unwavering resolve. July 13 used to be a public holiday in Jammu and Kashmir before the reorganisation of the erstwhile state into two Union territories in August 2019. However, the administration dropped the day from the list of gazetted holidays in 2020. On the day, mainstream political leaders used to visit the "martyrs' graveyard" to pay homage to the Kashmiris who fell to the bullets of the Dogra army while protesting against the rule of the Maharaja. Meanwhile, Sadiq in a fresh post on X claimed that several party leaders have been placed under house arrest. "Since last night, I like many of my colleagues, including the party leadership at Gupkar, the Advisor to the Chief Minister, and a majority of sitting MLAs have been locked inside my home," he said.

He said this is not just unfortunate but a deliberate attempt to suppress remembrance and deny the right to honour the martyrs of July 13. "Such actions are not only unnecessary they are unjustified, deeply insensitive, and reveal a troubling disregard for history," he added.

Mehbooba Mufti slams curbs..

own just as Kashmiris have embraced yours, from Mahatma Gandhi to Bhagat Sing, that day, as Prime Minister Modi once said, the 'dil ki doori' (distance of hearts) will truly end," the PDP chief wrote on X.

"When you lay siege to the Martyrs' Graveyard, lock people in their homes to prevent them from visiting Mazar-e-Shuhada, it speaks volumes. July 13th commemorates our martyrs, those who rose against tyranny, much like countless others across the country. They will always be our heroes," she added.

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also alleged that homes had been "locked" from the outside, central forces deployed like "jailers," and major bridges in Srinagar "blocked" to prevent people from visiting the historically important graveyard.

"In a blatantly undemocratic move homes have been locked from the outside, police & central forces deployed as jailers & major bridges in Srinagar blocked. All to stop people from visiting a historically important grave yard containing the graves of people who laid down their lives to give Kashmiris a voice & to empower them. I will never understand what the Law & Order government is so afraid of," Abdullah posted on X.

In another post, Abdullah claimed the July 13 incident was similar to the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, arguing that the sacrifices of those who stood against British rule should not be forgotten.

"13th July massacre is our Jallianwala Bagh. The people who laid down their lives did so against the British. Kashmir was being ruled under the British Paramountcy. What a shame that true heroes who fought against British rule in all its forms are today projected as villains only because they were Muslims. We may be denied the opportunity to visit their graves today but we will not forget their sacrifices," he said.

Abdullah's remarks were in response to a post by Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) chief spokesperson and Zadibal MLA Tanvir Sadiq, who also alleged that several party leaders had been confined to their homes to stop them from paying tribute.

"Since last night, I like many of my colleagues, including the party leadership at Gupkar, the Advisor to the Chief Minister, and a majority of sitting MLAs have been locked inside my home. This is not just unfortunate; it is a deliberate attempt to suppress remembrance and deny us the right to honour the martyrs of July 13. Such actions are not only unnecessary they are unjustified, deeply insensitive, and reveal a troubling disregard for history," Sadiq posted on X.

'Should I Speak In Hindi..

laughed. Then he spoke to me in Marathi and told me that the President wanted to assign me a responsibility, and he informed me of her decision," Nikam said.

"I immediately said yes. I thank the party leadership and also Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis," said Nikkam who had earlier contested from Mumbai North Central on the BJP ticket in the Lok Sabha polls held last year," the Prosecutor added.

Rajya Sabha Nominations

Ujjwal Nikam, along with former Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla, C Sadanandan Master, a veteran social worker and educationist from Kerala, and Meenakshi Jain, a noted historian, were nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the President. These individuals were nominated under the powers conferred by Article 80(1)(a) of the Constitution, read with clause (3) of the same article. The nominations fill vacancies created by the retirement of previously nominated members.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) announced the nominations through an official notification. These appointments are seen as a recognition of significant national contributions in the fields of law, diplomacy, social service, and historical scholarship.

Lotus beds reappear in Wular Lake after 3 decades

TP CORRESPONDENT

BANDIPORA, July 13: After nearly three decades, the lotus has bloomed once again in the Wular Lake in north Kashmir - the second largest fresh-water lake in Asia - thanks to conservation efforts after the devastating floods in 1992 had wreaked havoc with its rich ecosystem.

A sea of pink lotuses -- not just crucial for ecology but for the livlihoods of locals -- can be seen in a part of the lake, which is spread in a total area of 200 square km, covering almost 24 km in length, stretching from the foothills of the Haramukh mountain range in the Bandipora district to Sopore town in the neighbouring Baramulla district.

"This is nothing short of a miracle," Abdul Hameed, a resident, said. He said that earlier, the locals used to disperse the lotus seeds into the lake, but they achieved nothing. "It did not work.

They could not grow because of silt," Hameed said Kashmir Valley witnessed a devastating flood in 1992 that caused damage to the rich ecosystem of Wular Lake, situated about 70 km from Jammu and Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar.

The flood deposited a large quantity of silt in the lake that buried the lotus vegetation over the years. However, owing to the conservation efforts by Wular Conservation and Management Authority (WUCMA) - including desilting of the lake - in the last few years, the lotus beds have appeared once again.

"Last year, there were signs of revival of lotuses. Then this year, the WUCMA dispersed lotus seeds in the lake, and there was a bloom," said Mudasir Ahmad, an official of the lake authority.

Ahmad, who is the zonal officer at WUCMA, said the bloom has spread to nearly three sq km of the lake, and the turnaround was achieved by desilting the lake as part of the restoration of the water body. Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir Division, Irfan Rasool, said the return of the lotus is a strong indicator of the improving ecological health of the lake, which had suffered significant degradation over decades, with heavily silted area reported up to 27 sq kms, impacting its water holding capacity, ecological functions and the livelihoods of communities. He said WUCMA embarked on the major project by utilising Cutter Suction Dredgers.

Rasool said the project aimed to restore the critically silted-up area by undertaking dredging. "As of July 2025, around 80 lakh cubic metres of silt has been cleared by WUCMA from Wular lake. By removing vast quantities of silt, the project has successfully restored nearly five sq km of the lake's area, significantly increasing its water holding capacity," he added.

The desilting initiative has been instrumental in restoring the lake's original depth and improving water flow, the official said. Rasool said it restored sunlight penetration to the lake bed and revitalised conditions, allowing the dormant root structures of the lotus plant to regrow.

The return of lotuses has renewed hopes among the locals of harvesting their edible stems, known as 'nadru' in local parlance. The water body was once a major source of income for hundreds of families. 'Nadru' is one of the popular delicacies in Kashmir, and its harvesting provided seasonal employment to many.

The harvesting involves diving neck deep into the water to retrieve the stem. "Nadru was non-existent in the lake for all these years," Ahmad said, adding that it can now be grown and harvested.

The economy of the local population would get a boost now, he said. Hameed expressed gratitude to the WUCMA for the dredging undertaken in the lake, saying it contributed to the revival of the aquatic plant. "It is all because of dredging and desilting that we are seeing lotuses blooming once again. This is a blessing from God," Hameed said.

He implored the people to safeguard the biodiversity of the lake and stop polluting it. "We have to mend our ways now. It was taken away from us once, and if we do not change, it may be taken away again," he added. And it is not just the comeback of lotuses.

The increased water depth and improved water quality in the lake have also created a more hospitable environment for diverse aquatic flora and fauna, Rasool said.

"This ecological revival has thus contributed to attracting a greater variety of migratory birds, enhancing the lake's biodiversity," the chief conservator of forests said.

The rare migratory birds sighted in the lake in the last two years include Great Bittern, Long-tailed Duck, Falcated Duck, Horned Grebe, Western Reef Heron, Smew Duck, Pacific Golden Plover, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Marbled Teal, Pallas's Fish-eagle, Common Pochard, and Greylag Geese.

Erring FBOs fined Rs.35000 by Food Safety Department

TP CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, JULY 13: In order to ensure safe and hygienic food to consumers, a special drive has been initiated by the Department of Food Safety in Kashmir Division.

During the drive, the enforcement officers from intelligence cum legal cell and concerned districts inspected various paneer manufacturers in Village Nowgam of district Pulwama besides butchers and restaurants in main town Baramulla. In the pursuit, various Food Business Operators (FBOs) were found violating sanitary and hygienic requirements of Food Safety and Standards Act and an amount of Rs 35000 was recovered as fine from them. Moreover, some non-food grade utensils were destroyed on the spot and food business operators were directed to maintain high standards of hygiene within their premises. The food business operators were also directed not to sell any stale or perished food items which shall attract strict action as per the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act which may include imposition of heavy fine and imprisonment also.

Also, an awareness program for butchers was conducted in main town Baramulla in which they were made aware about the Good Hygienic Practices to be adopted within their premises. The drive against processing and sale of food articles under unhygienic conditions shall be intensified in coming days. Commissioner Food and Drugs Administration Smita Sethi has impressed upon the enforcement officers of the department to be vigilant and to adopt proactive approach for ensuring safe and wholesome food to consumers.

CS assesses progress on logistics infra projects to be raised by NHLML

Govt to takeover approach roads constructed by Railways for USBRL project

TP CORRESPONDENT



SRINAGAR, July 13: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today took a comprehensive review of the modalities for significant projects to be raised by the National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) including Inter Modal Stations (IMS), Ropeways and Multi-Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs) in the UT.

Those who attended the meeting included Principal Secretary, Finance; Commissioner Secretary, Tourism; Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD; Commissioner Secretary, Forests; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/Jammu; Secretary, PWD; Secretary, Revenue; DC, Srinagar; CEO, NHLML and other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon the concerned to make a headway on all these significant infrastructure projects by laying a framework for execution of works at an earliest. He emphasized on the PWD to take earnest steps necessary for creation of SPV for establishment of different ropeway projects at various tourist spots of J&K including the one at Shankaracharya Temple.

He also enjoined upon the Finance, Law and Housing & Urban Development Department to put their heads together with the experts of the NHLML for fastracking the grounding of projects like IMS Katra and Multi-Modal Logistics Park at Samba, Jammu.

Regarding the projects, it was given out by the NHLML that the planned Inter Modal Station at Katra, a crucial project set to serve approximately 2.5 crore pilgrims visiting the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Holy Cave, will feature a robust transport zone including a bus terminal with 88 bays, parking for approximately 500 ECS, three helipads and a ropeway station. The commercial zone will comprise of commercial spaces across multiple floors and five hotel towers.

The Shankaracharya Temple Ropeway project, with a length of 1.05 km and a bid project cost of Rs. 109 crore, is moving forward utilizing the Mono-Cable Detachable Gondola (MDG) technology. It will have a capacity of 700 PPHPD (Persons Per Hour Per Direction) and a travel time of approximately 5 minutes, connecting two stations with 15 cabins. The construction duration is estimated at two years.

Additionally, NHLML is undertaking Detailed Project Report (DPR) bids for several other ropeway projects across Jammu & Kashmir, including Sonamarg – Thajiwas Glacier, Bhaderwah to Seojhdar, Baltal – Amarnath Cave, Doodpathri from Parihas to Diskhal and Nasri Tunnel to Sanasar Ropeway.

The development of a Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) at Vijaypur also came up for discussion. This project, to be developed on a PPP-DBFOT (Design, Build, Finance, Operate, Transfer) basis, will include facilities such as an ICD (Inland Container Depot) for export/import, Container Freight Station, warehousing, cold storage and truck terminals.

Later, another crucial meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary held to review the progress and modalities for takeover of approach roads constructed by the Indian Railways for Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) Project by the Jammu & Kashmir Public Works Department (PWD).

This move aims to ensure regular maintenance and upkeep of these vital roads links in the twin districts of Reasi and Ramban benefiting the local populations and facilitating connectivity.

These 29 approach roads spanning cumulatively 201.46 Kms were constructed by Railways in the Katra-Banihal section of the USBRL project. These roads were crucial for transporting labor, material and machinery during the project's execution.

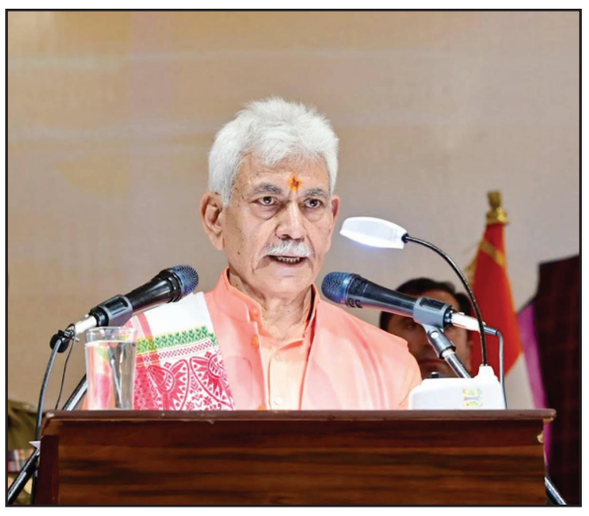
During the meeting, it was highlighted that these roads are to be handed over to the J&K PWD for regular maintenance and upkeep. The land acquisition proceedings for these roads are largely complete, with no court cases currently pending, the meeting was informed.

To facilitate a smooth transition a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed between the Railways and J&K PWD to formalize these arrangements.

The Chief Secretary emphasized the importance of these roads for local connectivity. He directed both the stake holding departments to expedite the handover process to ensure their sustained upkeep for benefit of the public.

'LG brought light to our darkest chapter': Terror victim families break decades of silence

Say 'someone finally understood our pain', urge reservation for families affected by terror; thank Lieutenant Governor for outreach, bringing hope, rebuilding their lives



TP CORRESPONDENT

BARAMULLA, Jul 13 : For the first time in over two decades, families devastated by terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir stood with tears, not in mourning, but in gratitude as the long-ignored voices of pain were finally heard.

At an emotionally charged event in Baramulla, where Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha handed over appointment letters to the next of kin (NoKs) of terror victims, survivors, shared their long-suppressed grief and thanked the administration for bringing them justice and dignity.

Among them was Suhail Yousuf Shah from north Kashmir's Kupwara district, who lost his mother and uncle to terrorist bullets in 2002. "So many governments came and went, but no one cared about us. No one even asked what happened to my family," he said, holding back tears. "But today, we are very thankful to LG Manoj Sinha, who took this initiative. For the first time, it feels like someone is truly our own."

Recalling the horrific day, Suhail shared that his mother was blinded by terrorists before succumbing to her injuries. "I told my siblings, she's just hurt and will be fine. But since then, no one has even asked about us. Today, someone finally understood our pain."

His words echoed with Fayaz Ahmed Sheikh from Sheeri Baramulla, who lost his 40-year-old father to a terror attack.

"He stepped out in the evening and was shot dead on the spot. No one knows what we have gone through since," he said. His family, including a 7-year-old sister, lived in helpless silence for years. "All we got was a promise from a 12-year-old government. The system made a joke out of our verification," he added bitterly.

Sheikh also made an earnest appeal to the Lieutenant Governor, "Just as ST and SC communities have reservations, please consider the same for the families of terror victims. Let our children know that their loved ones sacrificed for this nation and the nation stood by them."

He also requested the audience to remember the name of the man who finally made them feel heard. "Please remember the name of a great man who brought light to our darkest chapter-Manoj Sinha Ji."

Similarly, Irshad Ahmad from Vilgam in Kupwara spoke with heavy emotion about his brother, a Special Police Officer (SPO), who was abducted from his home by terrorists in August 2004 and later found dead in a nearby orchard. "They took him away in front of us, and we were helpless," Irshad said. "We searched all night. His body was found dumped the next morning. Until now, no one came to ask us what we lost. But today, LG Manoj Sinha heard us, gave us space to speak and delivered justice."

Another victim, Asha Begum, a grieving widow from Taratpora Handwara, shared that her husband was taken away by terrorists in 1994 and shot dead near their home. "I was left with four daughters, alone and devastated. For 30 years, no one looked for us, no one remembered we existed," she said with tears. "But now, I thank the LG from my heart. For the first time, someone heard our voice."

It is noteworthy that this outpouring of grief, gratitude, and long-suppressed truth comes as part of LG Manoj Sinha's ongoing initiative to provide jobs, financial support and social dignity to families who have suffered due to terrorism.

The administration has committed to addressing unregistered FIRs, restoring confiscated properties, and ensuring a structured rehabilitation process for every verified victim family

Panjvaktar Mahadev Mandir to celebrate Sawan Mahotsav 2025 with weekly Bhajan Sandhyas

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: Marking the auspicious month of Sawan, the ancient Panjvaktar Mahadev Mandir is all set to revive a cherished spiritual tradition through Sawan Mahotsav 2025, which will feature a series of Bhajan Sandhyas every Monday throughout the month.

This was announced during a press conference held at the temple premises earlier today.

Commencing from 14th July 2025, these sacred gatherings aim to restore the temple precincts as a vibrant hub for devotional music and classical dance. The Mahotsav stands out as the only festival of its kind in the "City of Temples."

The press conference was graced by several distinguished personalities and cultural contributors, including Suresh Kumar Sharma, Retired Sessions Judge and Receiver, Panjvaktar Mahadev Mandir; noted singers and musicians Ashutosh Sharma and Pankaj Pradhan; Sanjay Tickoo, Retired Senior Architect; Deepak Kumar, Founder and Director Rangyug; Anil Gupta, Ashish Sharma, and a large number of prominent devotees and cultural patrons from Jammu.

As part of this cultural and spiritual revival, renowned national artists will perform soulful bhajans rooted in Indian classical music traditions. The evenings will also feature graceful Kathak dance performances by Dr. Priya Dutta and her disciples from the esteemed Nrityanjali Academy. To further enhance the spiritual experience, Vidarthis (students) of the Panjvaktar Mahadev Ved Pathshala will recite sacred Vedic chants. These devotional evenings will be enriched by the musical brilliance of eminent accompanists: S. Amarjeet Singh (Violin), Sh. Parshotam Kumar Ji (Pakhawaj), Sh. Rakesh Anand (Flute), and Sh. Vinay Ji (Tabla), whose collective talent promises to create a mystical and immersive musical atmosphere.

The Panjvaktar Mahadev Mandir, one of Jammu's oldest and most revered temples, holds immense historical and spiritual significance. It is believed to have been visited by spiritual luminaries Adi Shankaracharya and Guru Nanak Dev Ji, and remains a living testament to the region's devotional and cultural heritage. The temple continues to serve as a sacred space for cultural and spiritual revival.

Traditionally, the month of Sawan draws large gatherings of devotees and music lovers to the temple. This year also, Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma, along with the Mandir's Cultural Committee, extended a warm invitation to all residents of Jammu and devotees across the region to attend these spiritually enriching evenings.

"We urge the people of Jammu and devotees everywhere to join us in large numbers for these sacred Bhajan Sandhyas," stated Suresh Sharma. "Immerse yourself in the divine atmosphere, experience the revival of our glorious traditions, and be part of creating spiritually uplifting moments during this holy month."

M.K Ajatshatru Singh vigorously condemns Faisal Khan's misleading remarks on Maharaja Hari Singh

Demands public apology or faces Legal Action

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, July 13: M.K. Ajatshatru Singh, former Minister and scion of the Dogra royal family, has strongly condemned the baseless and misleading statement made by Faisal Khan, also known as Khan Sir, a Patna-based educator, for his derogatory reference to Maharaja Hari Singh Ji.

In a press statement issued here today, M.K Ajatshatru Singh, grandson of Maharaja Hari Singh Ji, said it is deeply unfortunate and unacceptable that an educator of such a public platform has chosen to speak without understanding historical facts. "Maharaja Hari Singh Ji was not only a progressive and visionary ruler but also played a pivotal role in shaping the destiny of Jammu and Kashmir by choosing to accede to the Union of India at a critical moment in history," he said.

The former minister emphasized that Maharaja Hari Singh Ji signed the Instrument of Accession to India on October 26, 1947, at a time when Pakistan-backed tribal raiders had invaded the state. "Faced with a brutal assault on his people and territorial integrity, Maharaja Hari Singh Ji took a firm and courageous decision to join India—guided by his commitment to secularism, national integrity, and the welfare of his subjects. His decision was rooted in principle, not pressure."

"It is shameful for any educator to distort such a significant historical contribution," he remarked. "Faisal Khan, being in the teaching profession, carries a responsibility to educate, not mislead. Making unverified and inflammatory remarks about a respected figure like Maharaja Hari Singh Ji sets a dangerous precedent and disrespects the legacy of the man who ensured that Jammu and Kashmir became an integral part of India."

M.K Ajatshatru Singh demanded a public apology from Faisal Khan for his irresponsible statement and warned of legal action if he fails to retract and express regret. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir, and especially the Dogra community, will not tolerate any attempt to malign the image of their Maharaja who made the historic and constitutional decision to side with India during its most critical hour."

Raju Jandyal organizes Langar at Tirupati Balaji Temple Jammu

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: A grand langar was organized today at the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu, bringing together devotees and volunteers in a spirit of devotion and community service. The initiative was led by well-known social activist Raju Jandyal Ji, who has been actively involved in such religious and charitable efforts.

The Langar, held on Sunday, saw the participation of Tirupati Balaji Temple Authority Superintendent R.C. Subramaniam and Temple Inspector Sai Krishna, who graced the occasion and extended support to ensure its smooth organization.

The event began with the sacred Darshan of Lord Venkateswara, followed by the distribution of Prasad and meals to the devotees.

Raju Jandyal, speaking on the occasion, shared that the Langar is organized every Sunday with the dedicated involvement of the temple administration. He emphasized the importance of such initiatives in promoting unity, service, and religious harmony among the devotees.

Devotees who visited the temple expressed heartfelt gratitude to the temple authorities and Raju Jandyal Ji for continuing this weekly tradition. Many appreciated the effort to maintain the sanctity and inclusiveness of the gathering, noting that such events offer spiritual nourishment alongside physical sustenance.

The atmosphere at the temple was filled with devotion and a sense of collective community service.

Axiom-4 mission crew to undock from ISS on July 14, arrival on July 15: Dr. Jitendra

TP CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, July 13: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh on Sunday, providing an update on the Axiom-4 mission, informed that Indian astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla and three other crew members are scheduled to undock from the International Space Station (ISS) on July 14 at 4:30 pm. He further added that their arrival is scheduled for July 15 at 3:00 pm "Update: Axiom 4 International Space Station ISS Mission: As of now, undocking has been scheduled for tomorrow, 14th July at 4:30 PM IST. Arrival back to Earth.... Splashdown scheduled for 15th July at 3:00 PM IST. These timings have a margin window of approximately 1 hour. Further updates, if any, shall be shared accordingly," Jitendra Singh wrote on X.

he crew was slated to embark on a return journey on July 10. However, the crew will not return to Earth according to the original schedule, extending their stay on the International Space Station by at least four days, according to the European Space Agency (ESA). Axiom Mission 4 was launched on June 25 aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida.

The Dragon spacecraft successfully docked with the ISS on June 26 at 4:05 pm IST, ahead of schedule, connecting to the space-facing port of the station's Harmony module.

The crew include Indian astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, veteran NASA astronaut Commander Peggy Whitson, European Space Agency (ESA) project astronaut Slawosz Uznanski-Wisniewski of Poland, and Hungarian to Orbit (HUNOR) astronaut Tibor Kapu.

Free Medical Camp organized at Baba Jitto Devsthan; 355 patients benefited, Ayurvedic plants distributed

TP CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, Jul 13: Dedicated to the promotion of Sanskrit culture and social service, Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust, Raipur (Thather), Jammu organized a one-day free medical camp at the historic Shri Baba Jitto Devsthan in the Jhiri temple complex, falling under the Marh Assembly constituency, as part of its "Sanskrit Month" celebrations.

A total of 355 patients availed of health consultations, diagnostic services, and free distribution of medicines at the camp. Additionally, Ayurvedic plants were distributed, conveying a strong message of environmental protection.

The camp was inaugurated by BJP's dynamic orator and MLA of Jammu North, Sham Lal Sharma. Special guests present on the occasion included Mahant Jagdish Mehta of the temple, Trust President Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji, and a large gathering of local residents, social workers, and devotees.

MLA Sham Lal Sharma praised the Trust's spirit of service, stating that Shri Kailakh Trust is playing a leading role not only in the propagation of Devvani Sanskrit but also in social welfare. "Sanskrit is the soul of our culture," he said, "and under the leadership of Mahant Rohit Shastri, the Trust is committed to the welfare of Sanskrit, culture, and society." He further emphasized that public health is a fundamental need, and such medical camps help make society physically, mentally, and intellectually aware and empowered. "Every person deserves good health, and public awareness is essential for that. The Trust is doing commendable work in this direction."

Mahant Jagdish Mehta also commended the Trust, stating that in rural areas-where many people are deprived of healthcare due to lack of resources-such free camps prove extremely beneficial. "This is true service to humanity," he said. He added that the work the Trust is doing to bring the divine language Sanskrit to every village is admirable. "Young Sanskrit-sevaks like Mahant Rohit Shastri Ji are truly worthy of praise," he said.

The free camp featured a team of experienced doctors who conducted medical checkups and provided proper advice and medicines free of charge. The attending physicians included Dr. Vishav Gupta, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Dr. Vinod Khajuria, and Dr. Vidyupt Gupta-all of whom participated in the camp with a spirit of service and benefitted the rural populace.

At the conclusion of the camp, medicinal and Ayurvedic plants were distributed, reinforcing awareness about environmental protection. By combining the themes of Sanskrit and environmental preservation, Shri Kailakh Trust presented an inspiring example.

Many distinguished persons from various sections of society were also present at the event, including Rakesh Singh, Mannu Mehta, Bhuvanesh Mehta, Yogesh Mehta, Dil Bahadur Singh, former Sarpanch Sham Lal, former Sarpanch Dhanatar Singh, former Sarpanch Prem Chib, Hardatt Mehta, Pramod Sharma, Bhushan Singh, Sunil Singh Raipuria, Lucky Sharma, Kuldeep Singh, among others.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Mahant Rohit Shastri, who expressed gratitude to all dignitaries, doctors, police officers, social workers, and the dedicated members of the Trust.