

“Unveiling the Truth, One Headline at a Time!”

THE GLOBALKASHMIR

TUESDAY / 04 AUGUST 2026 / ISSUE / 182 / VOL: 16

(RNI NO: JKENG/2011/38364 RS. 3/-ALL SURCHARGES FOR JAMMU/LEH POSTAL REGD. NO:- JKNP-160/SKGPO-2012-14

Protect natural systems to safeguard future: LG Sinha to people

CALLS ON SCIENTISTS, EXPERTS TO USE MODERN TECHNOLOGIES TO TRACK GLACIER RETREAT, SPRING FLOW, SOIL HEALTH, FOREST COVER; ATTENDS IUST’S CONFERENCE; STRESSES ON NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN HIMALAYAS; INAUGURATES VARSITY’S CIVIL, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING BLOCK, LAW SCHOOL

Jahangeer Ganai

Awantipora, Aug 03: Urging people to protect the natural systems to safeguard the future, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday called on scientists and experts to use modern technologies like remote sensing, geospatial mapping, and AI to track glacier retreat, spring flow, soil health, and forest cover.

Addressing a conference

on ‘Strengthening Climate Resilience and Livelihoods in the Himalayan Region through Nature-based Solutions’ at Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST) here in South Kashmir LG Sinha, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, “I believe that when we destroy natural systems, we are playing with the future. But when we conserve and restore these natural systems, we are investing in a bright future.”



The Lieutenant Governor urged the scientists and domain experts to bring

‘nature-based solutions’ out of the margins of development planning and place

them at its Centre. 6 MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

LG Sinha also placed six major recommendations before policymakers, scientists, and engineers. “Use modern technologies like remote sensing, geospatial mapping, and AI to track glacier retreat, spring flow, soil health, and forest cover. This data should inform every development project in the region. Nature-based Solutions must be embedded into project budgeting, appraisal, and monitoring. Farmers, shepherds, orchard owners, and tribal commu-

nities must be equal stakeholders. Their generational knowledge of rivers, mountains, and forests is invaluable. Annual budget reviews should include whether forests and ecosystems have grown richer or weaker, ensuring accountability for environmental wealth. Establish platforms for long-term cooperation among scientists, policymakers, and communities. Move beyond concrete embankments to restore

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Cabinet to meet today

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 03: The Jammu and Kashmir cabinet will meet on Tuesday afternoon to discuss various administrative proposals, sources disclosed.

Sources told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will chair the cabinet meeting at 4:00 PM to deliberate

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2 die as multiple cloudbursts, flash floods wreak havoc across J&K

DOZENS RESCUED FROM FLOOD-HIT SHOPIAN AS HOUSES, ROADS, BRIDGES, ORCHARDS SUFFER EXTENSIVE DAMAGE

TRAFFIC SUSPENDED ON NH-44, MET WARNS OF MORE HEAVY RAIN OVER NEXT 5- DAYS

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Aug 03: Two persons were killed as multiple cloudbursts and intense rainfall battered several parts of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, triggering flash floods, damaging



roads, bridges, houses and agricultural land. Meanwhile, the traffic on

the strategic Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was

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In 2026, 35 cloudbursts claimed 31 lives across J&K

CHENAB VALLEY WORST HIT; EXPERTS CALL FOR STRONGER EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS, HAZARD MAPPING, STRICTER LAND-USE REGULATIONS TO CURB CLOUDBURST DEVASTATION

Sajid Raina

Srinagar, Aug 03: Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed at least 35 cloudburst incidents this year so far, claiming around 31 lives and causing widespread destruction to homes, roads, bridges and public infrastructure.

Official data accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) shows that at least 22 cloudbursts were reported between June 1 and mid-July, while persistent heavy rainfall during the second half of July and the beginning of August triggered several more incidents, pushing the total number of reported cloudbursts beyond 35.

The fatalities have largely resulted from cloudbursts,

flash floods and rain-triggered landslides, with the Jammu division accounting for the highest number of deaths. The worst-hit districts include Poonch, Rajouri, Kathua, Doda and Kishtwar, while several parts of Kashmir, particularly Shopian and Kupwara, have also witnessed repeated flash floods in recent weeks.

The latest spell of extreme weather on Monday left two persons dead after multiple cloudbursts struck different parts of the Union Territory, including Kupwara, Shopian, Bandipora and Anantnag, while heavy rainfall disrupted normal life across both Kashmir and Jammu divisions.

Officials said recurring cloudbursts have damaged dozens of residential houses, shops, schools, roads, bridges, irrigation channels and agricultural fields this year. Several villages have witnessed inundation following sudden flash floods, forcing authorities to evacuate residents

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CM Omar to preside over main Independence Day function at Bakshi stadium

MINISTERS, ADVISOR TO CM, DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS TO LEAD CELEBRATIONS ACROSS J&K DISTRICTS

Rehan Qayoom Mir

Srinagar, Aug 03: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah will preside over and take the salute at the main Independence Day function to be held at Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar.

According to a communiqué issued to divisional commissioners by the General Administration Department, a copy of which is in possession of news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the Chief Minister will lead the

proceedings in the summer capital.

As per details, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary will take the salute at the main Independence Day function in Jammu, while Sakina Masood Itoo will preside over the event in Anantnag.

Cabinet ministers Javid Rana, Javid Dar, and Satish Shar-

ma will respectively take the salute at Independence Day functions in Poonch, Baramulla, and Kathua.

Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, who holds cabinet status, will take the salute at the main Independence Day function in Kupwara, his home district. This will be the first time since his ap-

pointment that the Advisor to the Chief Minister will preside over an Independence Day function.

According to the communiqué, deputy commissioners will take the salute in 13 other districts, apart from those where ministers will preside over the functions.

Sub-divisional magistrates will take the salute at respective sub-divisional headquarters, while tehsildars or the senior-most civil officers will

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J&K Open Golf Championship can inspire new generation: CEO Johl

SAYS PGTI EYES LONG-TERM GOLF REVIVAL IN J&K

Mubashir Alam Wani

Srinagar, Aug 03: Asserting that revival of the J&K Open Golf Championship after a gap of several years is expected to boost sport in the Union Territory, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of DP World Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), Amandeep Johl on Monday said that the tournament would inspire youngsters to dispel the notion that the



golf is only meant for the elite.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of the DP World India Championship Lotus Trophy

unveiling at the Royal Springs Golf Course, Johl, as per the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said one of the biggest challenges facing golf in the region is the misconception that the game is inaccessible to ordinary people.

“Many people believe golf is only for the rich or senior officials, but that is not true. Golf courses are open to everyone. Anyone can pay the green fee,”

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J&K sees sharp rise in bank fraud amount to Rs 193.49 crore in FY 2025-26: Centre

103 FRAUD CASES REPORTED, RS 6.92 CRORE RECOVERED, LOK SABHA INFORMED

Raja Syed Rather

Srinagar, Aug 03: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 103 financial fraud cases involving Rs 193.49 crore during the financial year 2025-26, with Rs 6.92 crore recovered, the Ministry of Finance informed the Lok Sabha on Monday.



According to State/UT-wise data provided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), J&K reported 467 fraud cases involving Rs 47.55 crore in FY 2023-24, of which Rs 3.23 crore was recovered. The number of reported cases declined to 298 in FY

2024-25, while the amount involved rose to Rs 81.27 crore. Of this, Rs 2.65 crore was recovered, the data, accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), showed. In FY 2025-26, the number of reported fraud cases stood at 103, but the amount involved surged to Rs 193.49 crore, with Rs 6.92 crore recovered.

The Ministry said banks are required to immediately

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J&K records 5,908 small companies, 585 LLPs, 1,231 startups in five years: Centre

SAYS SIMPLIFIED COMPLIANCE MEASURES BENEFIT SMALL BUSINESSES

Raja Syed Rather

Srinagar, Aug 03: Jammu and Kashmir registered 5,908 small companies during the last five financial years, including 1,558 in 2025-26, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs informed the Lok

Sabha on Monday. According to the Ministry data, accessed by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), J&K registered 923 small companies in 2021-22, 886 in 2022-23, 1,301 in 2023-24, 1,240 in 2024-25, and 1,558 in

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J&K speedster Auqib Nabi gets India Test cap call-up for Sri Lanka tour

Mubashir Alam Wani

Srinagar, Aug 03: In a landmark achievement for Jammu and Kashmir cricket, fast bowler Auqib Nabi has received his maiden call-up to the Indian Test squad after replacing injured pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah for the upcoming series against Sri Lanka.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), as reported by the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), on Monday announced Nabi's inclusion after Bumrah was ruled out due to an incomplete recovery from a left knee injury, rewarding the UT pacer for his exceptional domestic performances that helped J&K clinch its first-ever Ranji Trophy title

last season.

BCCI's Men's Selection Committee named Auqib Nabi as Bumrah's replacement. The Jammu and Kashmir fast bowler earns his maiden call-up to the senior national team. Nabi claimed 104 wickets across the last two Ranji Trophy seasons, including 60 wickets in the 2025-26 campaign, playing a pivotal role in Jammu and Kashmir's



maiden Ranji Trophy triumph. He was also part of the India A squad that toured Sri Lanka recently, where he claimed six wickets in two first-class matches.

India's updated squad for the Test series against Sri Lanka: Shubman Gill (Captain), KL Rahul (Vice-Captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rishabh Pant

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MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF UZBEKISTAN CALLS ON THE PRESIDENT

New Delhi AUG 03(PB): H.E. Mr Saidov Bakhtiyor Odilovich, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, called on the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan Monday. Welcoming Mr Odilovich and his delegation to Rashtrapati Bhavan, the President said that India and Uzbekistan share deep historical, cultural, and civilizational ties, rooted in ancient trade routes. She highlighted that the shared heritage in architecture, language, cuisine, music, and religious traditions has further strengthened bilateral partnership.

The President said that the presence of high-level leaders in the visiting Uzbek delegation and the organisation of an India-Uzbekistan Business Forum on the sidelines of the visit reflect the growing confidence of businesses of both sides in each other's markets. She also highlighted the immense potential for cooperation between India and Uzbekistan in the mining sector, particularly in rare earth minerals, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, and information technology.

The President was happy to note that more than 3,000 officials, professionals and students from Uz-



bekistan have benefited from our ITEC training courses and other scholarship programs. At the same time over 16,000 Indian students are pursuing higher studies in Uzbekistan. She underlined that they act as a bridge between the two countries and foster mutual understanding and strong people-to-people ties.

The two leaders agreed that discussions held during this visit will further strengthen the bonds of friendship, trust, and co-operation between our two nations.

Dr. Jitendra Singh appreciates CVC's sustained reforms in strengthening vigilance ecosystem, says pendency in disciplinary cases brought down sharply through systemic improvements

- Disciplinary case pendency reduced from over 4,000 to nearly 700 through sustained reforms: Dr. Jitendra Singh
- Outgoing Central Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Kumar Srivastava calls on Dr. Jitendra Singh; discusses key reforms in vigilance administration
- Praveen Kumar Srivastava briefs Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh on key achievements and future priorities of CVC

New Delhi AUG 03 (PIB): Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh Monday said that sustained institutional reforms, technology-driven governance and continuous monitoring have significantly strengthened the country's vigilance framework, leading to a sharp reduction in the pendency of disciplinary cases from more than 4,000 to nearly 700 in about three to four years.

Dr. Jitendra Singh made these remarks when the outgoing Central Vigilance Commissioner Shri Praveen Kumar Srivastava called on him on the completion of his tenure and briefed him on the major initiatives undertaken by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) in recent years to modernise vigilance administration through technology, process reforms and capacity building.

The Minister said that transparent and time-bound vigilance mechanisms are essential for good governance and inspire greater public confidence in institutions. He said the significant reduction in



pending disciplinary cases demonstrates the impact of sustained administrative reforms and closer coordination among Ministries, Departments and vigilance authorities.

During the meeting, Srivastava apprised the Minister of the Commission's efforts to simplify and modernise vigilance administration by reviewing more than 600 vigilance-related circulars and instructions, resulting in the issuance of nine Master Circulars, two Public Notices and an updated Vigilance Manual to provide a consolidated and user-friendly framework for vigilance officials and organisations.

The Minister was also briefed on the launch of the Vigilance Status Portal (VSP), which enables end-to-end digital processing of vigilance clearance proposals and is expected to substantially reduce the turnaround time for granting vigilance clearances. He was informed that the revamped Vigilance Case Management System (VCMS) has introduced end-to-end digital processing of vigilance cases while facilitating real-time monitoring and data-driven decision-making.

Discussions also covered the Commission's initiatives to strengthen public procurement through updated Procure-

ment Manuals prepared in collaboration with the Department of Expenditure, bringing various procurement guidelines under a unified framework to promote greater consistency, transparency and ease of implementation across government organisations.

The meeting reviewed the Commission's increasing emphasis on technology-enabled vigilance through initiatives relating to digital governance, fraud prevention in banking and financial institutions, cyber security and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence. Dr. Jitendra Singh said that emerging technologies have the potential to make vigilance administration more preventive, predictive and efficient, while ensuring greater transparency and accountability in public institutions.

Shri Srivastava also shared details of the Commission's online Complaint Management System, which has streamlined the receipt, processing and tracking of complaints, besides expanding training programmes for vigilance officers through specialised courses, digital learning modules and collaboration with Mission Karmayogi to strengthen institutional capacity.

The Minister was in-

formed that the Commission has continued to deepen public engagement through Vigilance Awareness Week by promoting integrity and ethical governance across educational institutions, Gram Sabhas and public organisations, while encouraging citizen participation in the fight against corruption through nationwide outreach programmes.

The discussions further covered the Commission's future roadmap, including wider adoption of the Probit Portal for monitoring disciplinary cases, undertaking Time and Motion Studies to streamline vigilance processes, and leveraging Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies to further strengthen predictive vigilance and improve the efficiency of vigilance administration.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the Government remains committed to building a governance ecosystem driven by transparency, accountability, technology and simplified procedures. He conveyed his appreciation to Praveen Kumar Srivastava for his contribution towards strengthening the country's vigilance framework and extended his best wishes for his future endeavours.

Mandaviya Honours CWG 2026 Weightlifting Medallists with Cash Rewards

New Delhi AUG 03 (PIB): Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, on Monday, felicitated India's Commonwealth Games 2026 weightlifting medallists, lauding their historic performances in Glasgow. Indian weightlifters competed in 11 weight categories and returned with eight medals – one gold, six silver and one bronze. The Indian contingent registered multiple Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth records, while several athletes also achieved personal-best lifts.

The Hon'ble Minister presented cash awards of 30 lakh to gold medallists, 20 lakh to silver medallists and 10 lakh to bronze medallists in recognition of their outstanding achievements at the Commonwealth Games,

where Indian weightlifters delivered one of the country's strongest campaigns.

Congratulating the lifters, Dr. Mandaviya said that the entire nation had celebrated their achievements. "In Parliament too, announcements were made every time you won medals. Those moments made every Indian proud," he said.

The Hon'ble Minister paid rich tributes to the coaches, including Dronacharya awardee Vijay Sharma, who was present on Monday during the felicitation, emphasising their indispensable role in shaping champions. "The guru has the biggest role in an athlete's journey. There is nothing greater than a coach's contribution in creating champions," he added.

Olympic silver medallist Mirabai Chanu

created history by becoming the first Indian weightlifter to win three consecutive Commonwealth Games gold medals, while Rishikanta Singh and Valluri Ajay Babu set new Commonwealth Games records in the Snatch. Several lifters, including Gyaneshwari Yadav and Harjinder Kaur, registered personal-best performances.

Out of the 11 weightlifters who competed, six of them are Khelo India Athletes (KIAs). Among the medallists, Gyaneshwari is a Khelo India athlete, while Bindyarani Devi, Harjinder and others train at the Sports Authority of India's National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) in Patiala, which plays an instrumental role in the success of India's grassroots and elite athlete development ecosystem. Calling upon athletes

to become ambassadors of sport, the Hon'ble Minister also urged the weightlifters to visit schools and colleges to inspire young people to embrace sports. "Your stories can motivate thousands of children to dream big. Together, we are taking decisive steps towards building a truly sporting nation," he said.

Dr. Mandaviya engaged with the weightlifters in conversations about their struggles, journeys to the podium and aspirations for future competitions, particularly the Asian Games 2026. The athletes shared stories of overcoming hardships, the support received through national coaching camps, international exposure and scientific training, and their determination to continue winning laurels for the country.

Piyush Goyal Calls for Doubling India-Uzbekistan Trade

New Delhi AUG 03 (PIB): Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal Monday invited businesses from India and Uzbekistan to co-invest, co-manufacture and co-innovate, while calling for concerted efforts to double bilateral trade between the two countries over the next three

years. Addressing the India-Uzbekistan Business Forum in New Delhi, the Minister said the strategic partnership between the two countries, founded on mutual trust, respect and a shared vision for prosperity, offers tremendous opportunities for expanding trade, investment and economic

cooperation. Welcoming the delegation, Shri Goyal said India and Uzbekistan are bound not only by a rich shared history and deep cultural connect, but also by immense business potential that remains largely untapped. He observed that while bilateral trade has crossed approximately

USD 1.5 billion, it represents only a fraction of what the two economies can achieve together. The Minister said India offers Uzbekistan not only a large and growing market but also a reliable partner, a skilled and youthful workforce and a platform for innovation-led growth.

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

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NIT No: 72/EEA/R&B of 2026-27/4077-87

Dated: 01-08-2026

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost	Cost of T/D	E/M	Time of compl	M.H of Account	Class
1.	Making of necessary arrangements on the eve of Independence Day on 15th August 2026 at District Police lines Jawbrara Awantipora and Additional Mobile Magistrate Awantipora.	3.11	200/-	2% of Adv cost	03 days	Relevant head of Account	DEE
2.	Making necessary arrangements on the eve of Independence Day on 15th August 2026 at Sub District Head Quarter Tral.	2.88	200/-	2% of Adv cost	03 days	Relevant head of Account	DEE

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	01-08-2026
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	01-08-2026
3	Bid submission Start Date	01-08-2026
4	Bid Submission End Date	07-08-2026 4:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	08-08-2026 12:00 PM

1. Every participating contractor to mandatorily disclose the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payments shall be released by the Government Department/Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidder. (As per circular No. 01(ADM) FD of 2025 Dated 08-07-2025 of J&K Finance Department) (The participating contractor may disclose his Bank Account as per the format, devised as Annexure- A of the NIT and submit/upload the same accordingly at the time of submission of the bid).

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document/Tender Fee to be deposited in Cash in Centralized Designated Pooling JK Bank Account Bearing No: 0470010200000099, IFSC: JAKAOLALANG) (In case the participating bidder wishes to deposit the requisite amount physically at any branch of the Bank other than using UPI or any other mobile application, the said bidder has to upload the Transaction Receipt as per devised format forming Annexure-Z to this NIT, duly signed by the concerned Branch Manager with proper seal.)

3. All the bidders must deposit Earnest money /Bid security equal to 2% of advertised cost in Cash in Centralized Designated Pooling JK Bank Account Bearing No: 0470010200000099, IFSC: JAKAOLALANG) (In case the participating bidder wishes to deposit the requisite amount physically at any branch of the Bank other than using UPI or any other mobile application, the said bidder has to upload the Transaction Receipt as per devised format forming Annexure-Z to this NIT, duly signed by the concerned Branch Manager with proper seal.)

4. The Successful bidder will have to provide performance security @ 5% of contract value to be deposited in Cash in Centralized Designated Pooling JK Bank Account Bearing No: 0470010200000099, IFSC: JAKAOLALANG), which shall be released after successful completion of DLP /maintenance period.

(In case the successful bidder wishes to deposit the requisite amount physically at any branch of the Bank other than using UPI or any other mobile application, the said bidder has to upload the Transaction Receipt as per devised format forming Annexure-Z to this NIT, duly signed by the concerned Branch Manager with proper seal.)

5. The date and time of opening of 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 bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora (tender receiving authority).

6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids

Sd/-
Draftsman
DIPK/ 4027/26

Sd/-
Technical Officer
7

Sd/- Executive Engineer
R&B Division Awantipora

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES KASHMIR BEMINA SRINAGAR

Subject: 2nd Tentative Seniority List of Health Educators, Division Cadre Kashmir
NOTIFICATION

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that the 2nd Tentative Seniority List of Health Educators (Divisional Cadre Kashmir) working under the administrative control of the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir has been prepared on the basis of the service records available in this Directorate and the information furnished by the subordinate offices.

Whereas, representations received from various officials in response to the 1st Tentative Seniority List of Health Educators, circulated vide this office Circular No. Est-II/NG/7907711/2583-2615 dated 07-07-2026, have been examined, and the requisite corrections, wherever found justified, have been incorporated in the present list.

Accordingly, the 2nd Tentative Seniority List of Health Educators (Divisional Cadre Kashmir) is hereby circulated for the information of all concerned and for inviting objections, if any. All Health Educators are advised to carefully verify the particulars recorded against their names.

In case of any discrepancy, the concerned official may submit a representation, duly supported by documentary evidence, through the proper... channel to this Directorate within seven (07) days from the date of issuance of this notification.

No objection received after the stipulated period shall be entertained, and no claim shall be considered without supporting documentary evidence.

The 2nd Tentative Seniority List shall also be uploaded on the official website of the Directorate, www.dhsk.gov.in, and published in two leading newspapers of the Kashmir Valley for wider circulation.

DIPK/ 4030/26
No: Est-II/NG/E7907711/3434-61
Dated: 03/08/2027

4

Sd/- Director Health Services Kashmir

Director Information reviews preparations for 1st International Film Festival of J&K

**Directs fool-proof arrangements; calls for seamless coordination among stakeholders
Over 1100 film entries received from more than 50 countries for grand festival**

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: Director Information, Shreya Singhal chaired a review meeting at Media Complex here Monday to take stock of the preparations for the forthcoming 1st International Film Festival of Jammu & Kashmir (IFFJK).

The meeting was attended by Joint Director Information (Hqr), Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Raina; Joint Director Information Kashmir, Syed Shah Nawaz Bukhari; Joint Director Information Jammu, Deepak Dubey; Deputy Director Information (PR/AV), Javid Ahmad Rather; Deputy Director Information (Hqr) Jammu, Aashu Kumari; Deputy Director Information (PR) Jammu, Moksha Dogra; Deputy

Director Information (Hqr) Kashmir, Zubair Ahmad; Film Production Officer, Afaaq Rasool Gadda; District Information Officers of various districts, Information Officers and other officials of the department, either in person or through video conferencing.

During the meeting, the Director conducted a comprehensive review of the arrangements being put in place for the festival, including venue management, delegate facilitation, hospitality, media management, transportation, cultural programmes, technical support, logistics and other allied arrangements.

Addressing the officers, the Director stressed upon the officers that all preparations should be completed well within the



stipulated timelines, leaving no scope for lapses. "Ensure fool-proof arrangements and seamless coordination among all stakeholders for the successful conduct of the prestigious event", she said.

Emphasizing that the inau-

gural edition of the International Film Festival marks a significant milestone in Jammu & Kashmir's cultural and cinematic landscape, Shreya Singhal said the event will provide a global platform to showcase the J&K's rich heritage, scenic splen-

dour, artistic excellence and immense potential as a preferred destination for film production and creative collaborations.

The Director Information directed all officers and committees concerned to maintain close coordination and ensure effective synergy among the departments and agencies associated with the festival. "Meticulous planning, prompt execution and continuous monitoring of preparations are essential for organizing the event in a smooth, professional and befitting manner", she maintained.

Shreya Singhal further instructed the officers to regularly review the progress of works assigned to them and address emerging issues expeditiously

through coordinated action. She also laid emphasis on robust media and publicity arrangements to ensure extensive outreach and wider visibility of the festival at the national and international levels.

The Director reiterated the commitment of the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) to host the festival to the highest professional standards, making it a landmark celebration of cinema that reflects the cultural vibrancy, creative aspirations and growing global profile of Jammu & Kashmir.

During the meeting, officers briefed the Director Information on the status of preparations in their respective sectors and informed that the arrangements are progressing as per schedule.

DC Budgam reviews preparations for Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2026

BUDGAM, AUGUST 03: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Monday chaired a meeting at the Conference Hall to review preparations for the smooth and successful implementation of the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2026 across the district.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the arrangements being made by the concerned departments and stressed the importance of coordinated efforts for the successful observance of the campaign. He said the initiative aims to strengthen the spirit of



patriotism, national unity and respect for the National Flag. He directed all departments to ensure effective inter-departmental coordination, wide public outreach and timely execution of activities to encourage maximum public participation and celebrate the campaign with enthusiasm across the district.

The DC reiterated the District Administration's

commitment to the successful implementation of the campaign and expressed confidence that, through collective efforts, it would be celebrated in its true spirit across Budgam.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Budgam Vivek Agarwal, POICDS, JD Planning, CEO, CMO, CHO, all Tehsildars, Principals of Higher Secondary Schools and other concerned officers.

ADDC Shopian reviews Youth Engagement Programme

Stresses coordinated grassroots implementation to Maximize Youth participation

SHOPIAN, AUGUST 03: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone Monday chaired a comprehensive review meeting on the implementation of the Youth Engagement Programme in the district.

The meeting reviewed the progress of activities being undertaken by various departments and deliberated on the roadmap for ensuring greater youth participation across the district.

During the meeting, the ADDC directed all departments to prepare and implement systematic, well-coordinated and time-bound action plans. He emphasized that youth engagement initiatives should be decentralized and organized at the zonal and grassroots



levels to ensure maximum outreach.

The ADDC stressed the need for establishing facilitation centres and ensuring active coordination among line departments. He called upon officers to involve teachers, AWWs, ASHAs, Panchayat representatives and other

grassroots functionaries in mobilizing youth for different activities.

He instructed departments including Education, Social Welfare, Agriculture, Horticulture, Sheep Husbandry, Skill Development, Youth Services & Sports, DIC and other stakeholder departments

to work in close coordination for effective implementation of the programme.

The meeting also discussed scheduling of sports, skill development, awareness and career-oriented activities. Departments were directed to upload event details regularly and maintain proper documentation of all activities.

The ADDC emphasized that every youth should be meaningfully engaged through constructive activities aimed at building skills, leadership qualities and positive community participation. He underscored that the programme should serve as an effective platform to channelize the energy of youth towards nation-building while protecting them from drug abuse and other social evils.

CAO Srinagar Flags Off 60 Progressive Farmers for Exposure Visit under PKVY

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: In a significant initiative to promote organic farming and strengthen farmers' capacity through experiential learning, the Department of Agriculture, Srinagar, Monday flagged off a contingent of 60 progressive farmers and field officials for an exposure visit under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY). The group was flagged off by the Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO), Srinagar, Mir Ajaz Hassan, who highlighted the importance of exposure visits in equipping farmers with practical knowledge of successful organic farming models, sustainable agricultural practices, and innovative technologies. He said such visits provide an excellent platform for farmers and field functionaries to interact with experts, progressive growers, and leading institutions, enabling them to replicate proven practices in their own areas. Addressing the participants before the flag-off,

Mir Ajaz Hassan urged them to actively engage during the visit, observe the best practices being adopted in organic agriculture, and disseminate the knowledge gained among fellow farmers to accelerate the adoption of sustainable farming techniques across the district.

The PKVY is a flagship programme aimed at promoting organic farming through cluster-based approaches, capacity building, and market-oriented production systems. The visit is expected to enhance the participants' understanding of organic cultivation, certification processes, value addition, and marketing strategies.

The Department of Agriculture remains committed to empowering farmers through knowledge-sharing initiatives, field demonstrations, and exposure programmes that foster innovation, sustainability, and improved livelihoods in the agricultural sector.

ACD Anantnag calls for robust PRI Participation in VB-GRAM-G Act implementation through District-Level Panch Sammelan

ANANTNAG, AUGUST 03: A District-Level Panch Sammelan was organized Monday at the Block Headquarters, Khoveripora, to sensitize elected representatives and functionaries of the three-tier Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) on the provisions and implementation framework of the Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025 (VB-GRAM-G)

The Sammelan was chaired by the Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), Anantnag, Shafiq Ahmad Wani, who addressed former Panchs, Sarpanchs and other PRI functionaries. In his address, the ACD elaborated on the vision and objectives of the VB-GRAM-G Act, 2025, emphasizing the pivotal role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in its effective implementation.



DLSA Ganderbal commences 3-Day Training Programme for Community Mediators

GANDERBAL, AUGUST 03: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Ganderbal Monday commenced a Three-Day Training Programme for newly selected Community Mediators at the Conference Hall, District Court Complex, Ganderbal. The programme is being conducted from 3rd to 5th August, 2026 under the NALSA SOP on Community Mediation Towards Litigation Free Rural India. The inaugural session was attended by Abdul Nasir, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority (Principal District & Sessions Judge),

Ganderbal, and Sheikh Babar Hussain, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Ganderbal, besides trained mediators, newly selected Community Mediators as well as Para Legal Volunteers. Addressing the gathering, Chairman, DLSA Ganderbal, stressed upon the growing importance of mediation in the justice delivery system and encouraged the participants to actively engage in the training programme so that they could effectively serve their communities as impartial and competent mediators in community

Mediation. Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal, emphasized the importance of community mediation as an effective, accessible and people-centric mechanism for amicable settlement of disputes at the grassroots level especially in rural areas. He highlighted that trained Community Mediators would play a significant role in strengthening access to justice, fostering social harmony and reducing avoidable litigation as well as providing training to the newly selected Community Mediators as per Community Mediation Training Man-

ual. The training sessions on the first day were conducted strictly in accordance with the NALSA Community Mediation Training Manual and the NALSA Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Community Mediation Towards Litigation Free Rural India. The participants were imparted comprehensive training on the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, the Mediation Act, 2023, communication and negotiation skills, vision and objectives of community mediation,

JK SEHAT App strengthening digital healthcare services across J&K

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: The JK SEHAT App, developed by the Health & Medical Education Department, government of Jammu and Kashmir, has emerged as a unified digital platform for providing citizen-centric healthcare services across the Union Territory. It has emerged as a One stop healthcare solution for J&K citizens.

The App supports the vision of accessible, transparent and technology-enabled healthcare

by bringing multiple health services together on a single platform. It also complements the objectives of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) by integrating key digital health services for the benefit of citizens.

The JK SEHAT App offers a comprehensive range of digital healthcare services through a single platform. The citizens can book online appointments in public hospitals, generate digital

OPD tokens through the Scan & Share service, access tele-consultation and home healthcare services, place medicine orders through registered pharmacies and view their digital health records through ABDM-enabled services.

The App also provides access to blood bank information, ambulance services (102 and 108), health helpline, AI chatbot, health insurance information, drug store

services, immunization centres and de-addiction centres among other health care services. In addition, dedicated facilities for medical students, including course information, access to medical resources and references are available on the application making the JKSEHAT App a comprehensive digital health platform for the citizens and healthcare stakeholders across Jammu and Kashmir.

The people are availing health

services across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with 15.60 lakh citizens registered on the platform. The ABDM-enabled Scan & Share service has facilitated more than 12.37 lakh digital-online OPD tokens being generated, indicating its increasing use by citizens for hassle-free OPD registration. A total of 3,077 healthcare professionals are registered in the App to provide Home Healthcare and Tele-Consultation services resulting in

4,805 services already delivered.

The above mentioned public centric services have exponentially improved due to sustained monitoring, periodic reviews and timely gap redressal under the guidance of Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo.

More than 4000 pharmacy orders raised in the App have been successfully delivered, highlighting the focus on the citizen centric health care delivery.

THE GLOBAL
KASHMIR
EDITORIAL

SAFETY FIRST
FOR TOURISTS

Every year, thousands of tourists visit Jammu and Kashmir to enjoy its lakes, rivers and mountains. A shikara ride on Dal Lake or a rafting trip through mountain streams offers unforgettable experiences. However, these activities also involve risks if basic safety measures are ignored. Wearing life jackets and other essential safety gear should never be optional. It must be compulsory for every tourist, operator and service provider.

Tourism thrives on trust. Visitors choose destinations where they feel safe and well cared for. A single accident caused by negligence can damage the reputation of a tourist destination and affect the livelihoods of thousands of people who depend on tourism. Preventing such incidents is far easier than dealing with their consequences.

Many tourists avoid wearing life jackets because they feel uncomfortable or believe a short ride is completely safe. Some operators also fail to insist on safety gear, especially during busy tourist seasons. This attitude is dangerous. Water conditions can change without warning. Strong winds, sudden waves or fast currents can quickly create life threatening situations.

A life jacket is a simple piece of equipment, but it can save lives. It helps keep a person afloat and gives rescuers valuable time during emergencies. During rafting, helmets and proper footwear also reduce the risk of serious injuries. These basic precautions should become a normal part of every water activity.

Authorities must ensure that every licensed shikara operator and rafting company follows safety rules without exception. Regular inspections, proper training and strict action against violators are essential. Clear safety instructions should also be displayed at tourist spots in different languages so that visitors understand the importance of following guidelines.

Tourists also share responsibility. They should refuse to board a shikara or join a rafting trip if safety equipment is not provided. No scenic ride or adventure is worth risking a life. Taking a few moments to wear a life jacket is a small effort that can prevent a major tragedy.

J&K is known for its stunning natural beauty and warm hospitality. Protecting visitors must remain a top priority. Every stakeholder, including authorities, tour operators and tourists, should work together to build a strong culture of safety.

A memorable holiday should be remembered for happy moments, not avoidable accidents. Making safety gear compulsory during every shikara ride and rafting trip will protect lives, strengthen public confidence and help J&K maintain its reputation as a safe and responsible tourist destination.

Editor's
Note

Global Kashmir invites original, well-researched, and insightful articles from writers, researchers, academicians, professionals, and informed citizens on issues of public interest. Articles should be factual, balanced, unpublished, and between 800 and 1,000 words.

The views expressed in contributed articles are solely those of the respective authors. Global Kashmir neither endorses nor assumes responsibility for the opinions, claims, or interpretations expressed therein. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit, accept, or reject any submission in accordance with editorial and legal standards.

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India Tightens the Noose on Paper Leaks

THE ISSUE OF PAPER LEAKS HAS PERSISTED IN INDIA FOR LONG, AND HAVE BEEN HAPPENING AGAIN AND AGAIN, STATE AFTER STATE

Tens of thousands of students sit for government exams, each year, across India. The majority of them come from diverse backgrounds. These students work hard for months, sometimes years to qualify, they carry along the hope for a better future. Then comes paper leaks and a racket changing the outcome of the results. Everything falls apart.

Students start feeling dejected about the democratic process, the trust deficit grows and everything stops mattering, especially their own hard work.

The issue of paper leaks has persisted in India for long, and have been happening again and again, state after state. Denying the qualified and eligible students a fair chance and hampering the social mobility of underprivileged.

Two years back, Parliament tried to fix this with the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act. In 2014, it was India's first strong law against paper leaks and organised exam fraud. Though it was a good start. But a good start is not the same as a solution, and the leaks persisted.

Following the four week-long student protests, the government has reciprocated and brought a new Bill, the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, to close the gaps.

As per the new bill the three clear mandates are: punish the culprits harder, investigate faster, and deliver justice on a deadline.

Strict Punishment

The old law's punishments were deemed to be lenient to stop the organised rackets across the country.

As per the formal provision, an individual caught cheating or involvement in fraud was punished for 3 to 5 years in jail and additional fine of up to INR 10 lakh. Now the punishment has gone harsher, i.e. the punishment is up to 5 to 10 years, and an additional INR 50 lakh fine.

Earlier, any service provider who ran or enabled the fraud could get a INR 1 crore fine and a 4-year ban, but as per the new bill up to INR 5 crore fine and an 8-year ban will be imposed on the service provider.

Directors and senior managers who look away while their company cheats students now face up to INR 5 crore in fines. And for organised exam-fraud syndicates, the fine floor has jumped from INR 1 crore to INR 10 crore, with jail terms starting at 7 years instead of 5.

The increase in the punishment matters in a way that earlier soft fines were not acting as a deterrent for people involved in cheating. The government is becoming tougher for other illegal operations

especially in drug trafficking and terror-related cases. Authorities demand the cost of cheating and fraud in public examinations should be higher than the profit.

About Investigation

The 2024 law allowed police (in some cases a central agency), investigate exam fraud. The process was vague in a way that it had no clear deadline. Often these cases could get dragged on for months with no end in sight.

However, the mandate of the 2026 Bill is to fix these gaps.

Firstly, the new bill will allow the Government to set up a dedicated Special Task Force just for these cases, so one team owns the investigation instead of the file getting passed around. Secondly, it will put a hard two-month limit on finishing the investigation, no matter what.

These two provisions of the time-bound will allow state and union territory to set up a Special Fast Track Court, just for exam fraud cases. These courts have to hear matters day after day, without long gaps, and finish the trial within three months of the chargesheet being filed.

Even old cases already pending elsewhere will be moved here and the verdict finalized within three months of the transfer. Each state will also appoint a Special Public Prosecutor whose only job is arguing these cases.

If the accused faces other related charges too, everything is tried together in the same court, so the case does not get split up and delayed across different benches.

A Fair, Fast Appeal

For the first time, the law also spells out how appeals work. Any decision from a Special Fast Track Court, including bail orders, can be appealed to the High Court, heard by two judges, who must try to finish it within three months.

Appeals must normally be filed within 30 days, with an outer limit of 90 days even with a good excuse. No other court can be approached, which keeps the process quick and final.

None of this brings back a lost exam attempt or a wasted year. But it changes what happens next. A racket that once got away with a fine and a slap on the wrist now faces real prison time and crushing penalties.

A case that once dragged for years now has to move through investigation and trial within months.

For the student who studies honestly, this Bill is a promise: cheat the system, and the system will find and penalize you, fast.

Courtesy- PIB Srinagar

WHEN NATURE TESTS US

A Message of Unity, Responsibility, and Hope for Kashmir

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The recent floods in Kashmir have left behind more than submerged roads and damaged homes, they have left countless hearts heavy with pain. Families have watched helplessly as water entered their homes, shopkeepers have seen years of hard work washed away, farmers have feared for their crops, and many people have spent sleepless nights praying for the safety of their loved ones. In these moments, we are reminded that when nature unleashes its force, it recognizes no boundaries of wealth, status, religion, or region. It affects everyone alike.

Nature is both beautiful and powerful. The same rivers that nourish our fields can overflow within hours after relentless rainfall. The same mountains that adorn our valley can witness storms beyond imagination. Despite modern science, sophisticated weather forecasting, and advanced technology, no nation on earth can claim complete control over nature. Unexpected floods, earthquakes, wildfires, hurricanes, and cloud-bursts continue to challenge even the world's most developed countries. Such events are a reminder that human beings can prepare for nature, but they cannot command it.

In times like these, blaming one another serves no purpose. Every disaster should unite us rather than divide us. Our first responsibility is to protect lives, support those who have suffered, and cooperate with the authorities working tire-



lessly to restore normalcy.

Behind every rescue operation are countless individuals who leave the safety of their own families to save others. Government officials, district administration, SDRF, NDRF, police personnel, healthcare workers, municipal staff, firefighters, and volunteers work day and night in difficult conditions. They rescue stranded families, clear blocked roads, restore electricity and communication, provide food and medical aid, and help communities recover. Their efforts deserve our patience, cooperation, and heartfelt gratitude.

However, while we cannot stop torrential rain, we can certainly prevent our own actions from making disasters even worse. One painful reality is the careless disposal of waste. Every plastic bottle thrown into a stream, every shopping bag dumped into a drain, every disposable diaper left on a roadside, and every pile of garbage discarded carelessly contributes to blocked drainage systems. When drains and waterways are clogged, rainwater has nowhere to flow, increasing waterlogging and worsening the impact of floods.

Let us ask ourselves an honest question: If we expect clean roads, clear drains, and a healthy environment, are we fulfilling our own responsibilities as citizens? Keeping Kashmir clean is not only the duty of government departments; it is a shared responsibility that begins with every home, every family, every shopkeeper, every student, and every citizen. A cleaner environment today can mean fewer hardships tomorrow.

Yet, amid every tragedy, Kashmir has always shown the world its greatest strength, its humanity. During these floods, people opened the doors of their homes to strangers, young volunteers carried children and elderly people to safety, neighbours shared food and blankets, and countless individuals worked selflessly without expecting recognition. These acts of kindness remind us that even in the darkest hours, compassion shines brighter than fear.

As we move forward, let these floods not only be remembered for the destruction they caused but also for the lessons they taught us. Let us respect nature instead of taking it for granted. Let us protect our rivers instead of polluting

them. Let us dispose of waste responsibly instead of leaving it for someone else to clean. Let us support the government and disaster-response agencies by following advisories, maintaining cleanliness, and encouraging environmental awareness in our communities.

A resilient Kashmir is not built by governments alone, nor by citizens alone, it is built when both work hand in hand. Progress begins with cooperation, responsibility, and a shared commitment to the welfare of our society.

May these difficult days strengthen our resolve to care for our environment, support one another in times of need, and value the blessings we often overlook. The floodwaters will eventually recede, roads will be rebuilt, homes will be repaired, and life will move forward. But let us ensure that the lessons learned remain with us forever.

When nature tests us, let our response be stronger than the storm, through unity, compassion, responsibility, and hope. Together, we can protect the paradise we proudly call Kashmir.

When Children Ask for Books Instead of Violence

THE IMAGES REMAINED WITH ME LONG AFTER THE VIDEO ENDED BECAUSE THEY CHALLENGED MANY ASSUMPTIONS PEOPLE OFTEN MAKE ABOUT REGIONS AFFECTED BY POLITICAL DISPUTES AND PROLONGED TENSIONS.

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Very few demands do children make of their surroundings. They wish to study in an environment undisturbed by any kind of interruption, they want to play in a ground with friends laughing away and also parents safe in the evenings when they come back home after work. Such is a very common demand that all of us tend to forget. However, there are certain areas of the world where children have no hope at all.

A couple of days ago, while scrolling through social media, I chanced upon a video that left me glued till its end. The video was not captivating due to any music or images. The video was compelling because of the kids' voices.

These were a bunch of children dressed in their school uniforms who had come together to speak in front of cameras. Their faces were innocent, but there were emotions and experiences in their voices that every child should never have.

They talked one after another about education, peace, dignity, justice, and freedom of expression. They talked about the classroom and not about war, and about books and not about fear. Some asked why children in schools and women with babies should be treated with suspicion. Others called on the international community to listen to them.

Their message was simple and

direct. "We are students. We want education. We want peace. We want freedom of expression."

There was no anger in their voices and no call for confrontation. Instead, there was a quiet determination and a desire for normalcy. They were asking for the same things that children in every part of the world ask for every single day.

The images remained with me long after the video ended because they challenged many assumptions people often make about regions affected by political disputes and prolonged tensions. Too often, conversations about such places revolve around borders, diplomacy, military developments, and political narratives. Somewhere in the middle of these debates, the voices of children become faint and sometimes disappear altogether.

Yet children are often the ones who pay the highest price.

Interrupted schooling, psychological stress, separation from family members, damaged educational infrastructure, and uncertainty about the future leave lasting effects that can continue for years. A missed school year can be recovered. A childhood shaped by fear and insecurity is much harder to restore.

The reports and the issues that have been raised by the people of Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir through the years have raised a lot of questions about freedom of expression, right to education, and human rights. These issues need to be taken into account since the rights of the children cannot come second to politics.

What struck me most about those children was the contrast between what they were asking for and what the world often expects to hear from conflict zones.

They were not speaking about



revenge.

They were speaking about classrooms.

They were not asking for weapons. They were asking for books.

They wanted teachers, schools, opportunities, and the chance to shape their future through education and hard work.

Perhaps that is what made their appeal so powerful. Their demands were neither political nor ideological. They were deeply human.

Education is much more than attendance in a classroom or success in examinations. Education gives children confidence. It teaches them to ask questions, solve problems, understand different perspectives, and participate meaningfully in society. It allows a child from a remote village to imagine becoming a doctor, teacher, engineer, writer, scientist, or entrepreneur.

Education that has been denied to children results in lost opportunities even before they realize what they have missed out on.

Effects are not only felt at individual levels but also by the com-

munities where people from successive generations are denied opportunities for proper education. Development becomes slower, poverty becomes harder to escape, and social divisions often deepen.

Another part of the children's message was even more difficult to ignore.

Some asked questions about missing family members and wondered when their fathers would return home. Their words were not political slogans. They were the questions of sons and daughters waiting for answers.

No child should have to carry such uncertainty.

Childhood should be filled with curiosity about science experiments, sports competitions, favourite books, school friendships, and future ambitions. Children should argue about cricket matches and examination results, not worry about loss, absence, or fear.

It cannot be left to one institution alone to take the protection of children seriously. The responsibility lies with governments, civil organisations, humanitarian organisations, educators, and even the international com-

munity to see that children get to exercise their basic rights without any discrimination or prejudice whatsoever.

Whenever there is a claim of violation or abuse, such claims should be examined in an unbiased manner based on solid facts and sound legal principles. The issue of child protection must not be seen in political terms.

Sometimes history will judge societies not by the successes they have achieved in terms of economics and infrastructure but by how they have treated their weaker members.

Roads can be built.
Buildings can rise.
Economies can grow.

But all this becomes meaningless when children are not provided with safety, respect, education, and hope.

A peaceful future does not get established just because of the treaties being made in the boardroom or announcements made on the stage. A peaceful future is created in the classroom, library, playground, and at home, where children are safe enough to dream about the future.

The words of those students keep ringing in my ears.

Their request was not something difficult or unreasonable.

What they were asking for was just a place to study, books to read, family to stay with, and a future without fear.

In truth, they were asking for nothing extraordinary.

They were asking for childhood itself.

Every child deserves a pencil instead of fear, a classroom instead of conflict, and hope instead of despair. When children raise their voices for education, dignity, peace, and justice, the world has a responsibility to listen. And perhaps even more importantly, it has a responsibility to respond.

LIFE SAVERS IN REMOTE BORDER AREAS

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If we talk about plain areas, life is easy. Everything is smooth, easily available, and accessible. From groceries to public services, everything is within easy reach, to say the least. But things change when we talk about remote border areas. Life there stands in contrast to life in the plains. The geography is different, the terrain is tough, and amenities like emergency medical services are not available as easily as they are in plain areas. One may then wonder, that what invisible helping hand and lifesaver is in those border regions. I am from Kashmir, a Himalayan region in northern India with a vast population living in remote border areas. My district, Kupwara, is a frontier district in Kashmir that shares a long border with Pakistan, and I have had many friends and classmates from those border areas who used to share their day-to-day lives during our friendly chats.

Being someone from Kashmir, particularly Kupwara, I feel I am in a great position to say that in remote border areas, which remain cut off from urban centres during harsh winters and have limited access to facilities and infrastructure, the true lifesaver and invisible helping hand is undoubtedly our security forces, especially the Indian Army. They risk their lives to protect Kashmiris not only from bullets but also from natu-

ral calamities. One may imagine the Army as men in uniform carrying guns with a strict attitude, but in Kashmir's case, it is different. More than guns and uniforms, it is about compassion, civility, humanity, and help. Over the years, apart from its security role, the Army has earned deep admiration in Kashmir for its helping nature. Even in the plains, the Army has remained a crucial support during natural, man-made calamities or in daily life, but in remote border areas, its role becomes even more significant. This piece will focus solely on the Indian Army as the lifesaver in remote border areas.

Remote Border areas in Kashmir like Karnah, Gurez, Uri and Keran presents an entirely different reality. High mountains, dense forests, heavy snowfall, landslides, and difficult terrain make everyday life a constant challenge. During winter, such areas remain cut off from the rest of the valley for days or even weeks. Access to healthcare, transport, education, and emergency services becomes extremely limited. In such places, where every minute can mean the difference between life and death, one institution has consistently stood as the first responder and the strongest support system for the people: the Indian Army.

I have personally witnessed how, during heavy snowfall, the Army helps clear roads and restore electricity by erecting damaged power poles. I have seen the Army provide shelter, food, and medical assistance to local residents during emergencies. There are numerous videos showing Army personnel carrying stranded people on their shoulders to safer places and using their own vehicles, equipment, and manpower during rescue operations. There are countless instances where Army personnel, along with local volunteers, have carried pregnant women through deep snow to the nearest medical facility, ensuring



timely treatment. In some cases, they have even helped transport the bodies of deceased persons from hospitals to their homes when civilian transport was unavailable. The Army has also extended helicopter services to evacuate critically ill patients from remote areas to cities during medical emergencies. During harsh winters, it distributes relief food packets, medicines, blankets, and other essential supplies to isolated villages. In addition, the Army regularly organizes free medical camps, health awareness programmes, and free medicine distribution in remote areas where healthcare facilities are limited. Army medical facilities in these regions often remain accessible to the local population, providing vital support whenever required. In the field of education, Army Goodwill Schools have left no stone unturned in providing quality

education at affordable fees to children from remote areas. I have personally met several alumni of these schools, and they were exceptionally talented, speaking highly of the education and opportunities their local Army Goodwill Schools had provided.

If we talk about border tourism, the Army has played a tremendous role in promoting tourism in places like Gurez, Bangus, and Keran. These once remote and lesser-known destinations are now witnessing a significant influx of tourists, which has boosted the local economy by creating livelihood and employment opportunities for residents. The growth of tourism has also increased the exposure of these border communities to different cultures, encouraged local entrepreneurship, and improved the overall prospects of these regions.

From a cultural perspective, the Army has also played an important role in preserving and promoting the rich heritage of Kashmir's border regions. It has established cultural centres, such as the one at Sadhna Top in Kupwara and another in Uri, Baramulla. These centres showcase the unique traditions and customs of the border communities, giving visitors an opportunity to experience the region's rich cultural heritage. The Army has also acted as a talent scout in these remote border regions by organizing talent hunt programmes in education, sports, and cultural activities. These initiatives have provided local youth with opportunities to showcase their abilities and emerge at district, national, and even international levels. To encourage participation and nurture talent, the Army regularly organizes festivals, sports tournaments, cultural events, debates, quizzes, and other competitions. Such programmes not only help identify and develop young talent but also boost the confidence of local youth, promote healthy competition, and provide them with a platform to pursue their aspirations. Not only this, initiatives like Sadbhavana Tours and scholarships have shaped the future of countless border youth by providing them exposure, encouragement, and opportunities, making them more competitive in education. The Army also distributes sports kits and equipment to promote the all-round development of young people in these areas.

Not only those living in remote border areas, but even people residing along JK national highway have received immense support from the Army during emergency situations. The same spirit of service can be seen across other parts of Kashmir as well. This is why I often say that the Army in Kashmir is different; it is associated with compassion, assistance, and service to the people whenever they need help.

Protect

floodplains and wetlands, combining built structures with natural systems," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted the alarming pace of climate change in the Himalayan region. He noted that between January and August last year, the Himalayas witnessed a natural disaster almost every day. "In Jammu Kashmir alone, flash floods and cloudbursts have damaged public infrastructure, disrupting roads, water supply schemes, and power feeders," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that there is no dichotomy between development and conservation and the nature itself is infrastructure.

"For example, constructing a watershed is also an effective flood-control system. It is infrastructure that also serves as a water purification system and forms the basis of an irrigation system. Similarly, a wetland is nature's vast reservoir because it absorbs excess water during the monsoon and then slowly gives life to surrounding areas during the dry months. A dense forested mountain slope is in fact like a strong wall that protects the entire mountain from collapsing onto the villages below," he said.

Cabinet

on 17 proposals submitted by different departments.

The meeting will be held at the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar—(KNO)

2 die

suspended, while as rescue teams evacuated dozens of stranded residents in different areas.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) a woman was killed after a cloudburst triggered flash floods in the Himli area of Lolab in North Kashmir's Kupwara district, while another man drowned in a water body in Singhpora area of Baramulla amid the inclement weather, officials said. The deceased were identified as Naseema Begum, wife of Mohd Ayub, a resident of Warnow and Murtaza Bashir son of Bashir Ahmad Lone a resident of Boniyar area of Baramulla district.

The worst-hit district in Kashmir was Shopian, where cloudbursts in the upper reaches triggered flash floods in Zawoor, Badrhamma and Kijarsinda villages.

Officials said floodwaters entered several residential houses in Badrhamma within minutes, forcing residents to flee to safer places. Household belongings were damaged and agricultural fields were inundated.

The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) launched rescue operations and safely evacuated around 80 people, including schoolchildren and staff members, from the affected areas.

"Relief and rescue teams were immediately pressed into service after the flash floods. Evacuation has been completed successfully and assessment of the damage is underway," an SDRF official said.

A district official said no fatalities were reported from Shopian, but several houses and public infrastructure suffered damage.

In neighbouring Anantnag district, another cloudburst struck Batkoot in Pahalgam, triggering flash floods and damaging a kacha house belonging to a poor family. No injuries were reported.

Heavy rains also caused the collapse of the rear concrete wall of the Nunwan base camp in Pahalgam, allowing water to enter the camp and damage several accommodation tents. Officials said the situation was later brought under control.

The rain fury also disrupted connectivity in the tourist des-

tination, with the Aishmuqam-Pahalgam road blocked near Langnai Bridge due to flooding, while another bridge at Batkoot sustained damage under the force of the rushing water.

In North Kashmir's Bandipora district, another cloudburst was reported in the Arin-Dardpora area, damaging roads at several locations and disrupting movement, officials said.

In Ganderbal district, strong winds blew away the rooftop of a residential house in Bakura village and damaged an electricity pole. No injuries were reported.

35 cloudbursts

and deploy rescue teams. JAMMU-SRINAGAR NATIONAL HIGHWAY FACES REPEATED DISRUPTIONS

The strategic Jammu-Srinagar National Highway has also faced repeated disruptions due to landslides, mudslides and shooting stones triggered by heavy rainfall, affecting the movement of passengers and essential supplies on multiple occasions.

Disaster management officials said mountainous districts in the Chenab Valley, particularly Kishtwar and Doda, along with upper reaches of Shopian, Kupwara and other hilly areas of Kashmir, remain among the most vulnerable regions because of their steep terrain and proximity to seasonal streams. Meteorologists define a cloudburst as an extremely intense and highly localised rainfall event in which precipitation exceeds 100 millimetres within an hour over an area of around 20 to 30 square kilometres. Such events often trigger sudden flash floods, debris flows and landslides, leaving little time for evacuation. According to meteorological experts, the growing frequency of cloudbursts in Jammu and Kashmir is being driven by the interaction of moisture-laden southwest monsoon winds with western disturbances over the Himalayas.

They said the region's steep mountain slopes force moisture-rich air to rise rapidly, a process known as orographic lifting, leading to the formation of towering cumulonimbus clouds. These clouds often become trapped within narrow valleys, where they continue accumulating moisture until they suddenly collapse, releasing massive volumes of rain over a small area within minutes.

Experts also attribute the phenomenon to intense atmospheric instability. Strong upward air currents keep raindrops suspended inside clouds, allowing enormous quantities of water to accumulate. Once these updrafts weaken under the increasing weight of the water, the cloud system collapses, resulting in an intense cloudburst.

IMD SUGGESTS STRENGTHENING EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

Recent assessments by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Geological Survey of India indicate an increasing trend in such mountain hazards and recommend

strengthening early warning systems through X-band Doppler weather radars, dense networks of automated weather stations and real-time community alert mechanisms.

CM Omar

preside at tehsil, block, and municipal headquarters, as decided by the concerned deputy commissioner—(KNO)

J&K Open

rent clubs and enjoy the game," he said.

Johl said the tournament is aimed not only at bringing professional golf back to Jammu and Kashmir but also at encouraging young boys and girls to take up the sport. Expressing hope that the J&K Open would become a permanent fixture on the national calendar, Johl said regular tournaments would help identify and nurture local talent. "Jammu and Kashmir has produced quality golfers in the past. With consistent exposure and annual tournaments, there is every possibility of producing more champions," he said.

J&K sees

report fraud incidents to concerned law enforcement agencies, including State/UT Police, SFIO, and CBI, depending on the amount involved. It added that there are no defined timelines for recovery due to the complexity of fraud cases and the involvement of multiple agencies, institutions, tribunals, and courts.

The Centre also said that financial fraud complaints reported through the National Cyber-crime Reporting Portal or helpline 1930 feed into the Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System, which enables coordination between police agencies, banks, and financial intermediaries for tracing money trails and placing lien holdings on defrauded funds.

J&K records

2025-26. The figures are as of 27 July 2026. The UT also recorded 585 Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) during the five-year period. The year-wise figures were 64 in 2021-22, 63 in 2022-23, 101 in 2023-24, 141 in 2024-25, and 216 in 2025-26.

In the startup ecosystem, Jammu and Kashmir recorded 1,231 startups during 2021-2025, according to data provided by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). The number of startups rose from 131 in 2021 to 170 in 2022, 246 in 2023, 273 in 2024, and 411 in 2025. The Ministry said the thresholds for classification of small companies have been revised over the years. The paid-up capital threshold was increased from Rs 50 lakh in 2014 to Rs 2 crore in 2021, Rs 4 crore in 2022, and Rs 10 crore from 1 December 2025. The turnover threshold was raised from Rs 2 crore in 2014 to Rs 20 crore in 2021, Rs 40 crore in 2022, and Rs 100 crore from 1 Decem-

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Grant of Registration of the Proposed Travel Unit under the name and style "SELECT KASHMIR HOLIDAYS" situated at MIR Complex, K.P. Road, Anantnag, J&K. Whereas, I Ms. NADIA NAZIR, W/o Showkat Hussain Shah, R/o Kadder, Kulgam, Kashmir intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for Registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style "SELECT KASHMIR HOLIDAYS" situated at MIR Complex, K.P. Road, Anantnag, Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12. Whereas, I will submit State Subject / Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate, PAN Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department), Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000), Site Plan, Non Conviction Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head / Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (indoor and outdoor) and Two Passport Size Photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general public / Financial Institutions / Bank / Organisation etc. for objection, if any, and the same should reach to the Assistant Director Tourism Pahalgam Registration (e-mail ID: jktourismpahalgam@gmail.com, Contact No. 01936243224) within a period of seven (07) days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/s of the valley. No objections beyond a period of seven (07) days shall be entertained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to general public, regarding this notice, that I Irshada Begum W/o Manzoor Ahmad Khan pathan R/o Awoora.I have applying for Schedule tribe (ST) Certificate. If any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the concerned authorities with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Irshada Begum w/o Manzoor Ahmad khan pathan R/o Awoora district kupwara

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as 15/03/2008 in the office of registrar birth and deaths of Seerat Jan S/o,D/o,Abdul Ahad Malik R/o warpora Hatmulla tehsil & district kupwara The case is under process before the office of The executive magistrate ist class kupwara The said birth event has happened at hospital / home on 15/03/2008 any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the executive magistrate ist class kupwara with in a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Abdul Ahad Malik

ber 2025. The Centre said these changes have enabled more companies to fall under the "small companies" category and benefit from reduced compliance-related disclosures.

J&K speedster

(WK), Sai Sudharsan, Dhruv Jurel (WK), Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Manav Suthar, Mo-

ammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Gurnoor Brar, Devdutt Padikkal, Saransh Jain, Auqib Nabi.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has congratulated Auqib Nabi. He described the selection as a matter of immense pride for Jammu & Kashmir and an inspiration for countless young

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to general public that i want to apply for legal heir certificate of my father namely Sakhi Mohammad khan died on 24/04/1993 at home/hospital R/O Manigah tehsil & dist.kupwara.If any body have any sort of objection in this regard he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the concerned authorities with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.After that no objection will be accepted. Name of the legal heir's applicants (1) Nazir Ahmad khan (son) age (33) (2) Abdul Hamid khan (son) age (32) (3) Mehboob Jan (wife) age (65)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to general public, that my ward's name & date of birth has been wrongly mentioned in his School records as Shabnum Bashir Shah DOB 02/01/2015 instead of Shabnum Bashir DOB 27/06/2014 as per documents. If any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the UPS waterkhani Drugmulla with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Bashir Ahmad Shah F/o Shabnum Bashir R/o waterkhani drugmulla district kupwara

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to general public that i want to apply for death certificate of my father namely Late Mohammad Hayat Sofee S/o Mohammad Saber died on 05/04/2015 at home/hospital R/O Arampora Bramri tehsil drugmulla dist.kupwara.If any body have any sort of objection in this regard he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the concerned authorities with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.After that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicants Zoona Begum (2) Gh Mohi ud din Sofi (3) Gh Ahmad Sofi (4) Mugli Begum

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as 12/12/2022 in the office of registrar birth and deaths of Usama Bin Hilal S/o,D/o, Hilal Ahmad Mir R/o Kuligam tehsil lalpora district kupwara The case is under process before the office of The executive magistrate ist class kupwara The said birth event has happened at hospital / home on 12/12/2022 any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the executive magistrate ist class kupwara with in a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Hilal Ahmad Mir

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as 12/01/2023 in the office of registrar birth and deaths of Ubaid Ahmad Chopan S/o,D/o,Mushtaq Ahmad Chopan R/o Guchipora Hayihama tehsil & district kupwara The case is under process before the office of The executive magistrate ist class kupwara The said birth event has happened at hospital / home on 12/01/2023 any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the executive magistrate ist class kupwara with in a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Mushtaq Ahmad Chopan

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as 22/08/2022 in the office of registrar birth and deaths of Rehaan Ahmad Pathan S/o,D/o,Riyaz Ahmad Pathan R/o Manigah tehsil & district kupwara The case is under process before the office of The executive magistrate ist class kupwara The said birth event has happened at hospital / home on 22/08/2022 any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the executive magistrate ist class kupwara with in a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Riyaz Ahmad Pathan

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of general public that I want to update details in my electricity consumer ID bearing number 0220010014431 Which is in the name of Ab karim khan Now i want to update in his palace Abdul Rasheed Mughal . In this regard, if anyone has any objection he/she may reach to Office of the Concern PDD department within 7 working days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection will be entertained. Name of the applicant, Abdul Rasheed Mughal R/o khan Mohalla Bumhama Tehsil & dist. Kupwara

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as .22/03/2018.in the office of registrar birth and Momin Fayaz S/o Fayaz Ahmad peer R/o Wavooralolab tehsil Lalpora lolab. District Kupwara. The case is under process before the office of executive magistrate 1st class Lalpora/khurhama.The said birth event has happened at home 22/03/2018.if any body having any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the Executive magistrate 1st class Lalpora/khurhama within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of Applicant Fayaz Ahmad peer

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to general public that I want to Register D.O.B in Favour of Qurratul Ain & Zenaib Jan & Naveed Ahmad Bhat D/o S/o Abdul Qayoom Bhat R/o Tekipora Lolab tehsil Sogam District Kupwara 01/02/2015 & 03/10/2013&07/03/2016 .Born home /hospital respectively.The case is under process before the office of Executive Magistrate ist class Sogam The said birth event happened at home on said dates respectively .Any body having any objection, may contact Executive Magistrate ist class Sogam. Within 7 days from this notice.After expiry of time no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant Abdul Qayoom Bhat

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as 07/08/1962.in the office of registrar birth and Mohd. Shafi lone S/o Wali Mohd lone R/o chandigam lolab tehsil Sogam. District Kupwara. The case is under process before the office of executive magistrate 1st class Sogam.The said birth event has happened at home 07/08/1962.if any body having any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the Executive magistrate 1st class Sogam. within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of Applicant Mohd Shafi lone

sportspersons across the region.

The Chief Minister wished the speedster every success on the international stage and expressed hope that he would make the most of this opportunity and bring laurels to the country—(KNO)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to general public that i want to apply for legal heir certificate of my brother namely Late Ab Rashid Pathan died on 03/09/2004 at home/hospital R/O Manigah tehsil & dist.kupwara.If any body have any sort of objection in this regard he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the concerned authorities with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.After that no objection will be accepted.

Name of the legal heir's applicants (1) Gulzar Ahmad pathan (Brother) age (33) (2) Bibi Leanthi (Sister) age (32) (3) Jana Begum (sister) age (65) (4) Bakhti Begum (sister) age (35) (5) konja Bano (Sister) age (26) (6) Bano Begum (Mother) age (65) (7) Ab Rahim Pathan (father) age (75)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to general public that i want to apply for death certificate of my wife namely Late Baktee Begum w/o Gh Mohi ud din sofi died on 28/07/2024 at home/hospital R/O Arampora Bramri tehsil drugmulla dist.kupwara.If any body have any sort of objection in this regard he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the concerned authorities with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.After that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicants Gh Mohi ud din Sofi S/o Mohammad Hayat Sofi R/o Arampora Bramri tehsil drugmulla district kupwara

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as 19/09/2022 in the office of registrar birth and deaths of Mohammad Umer Qureshi S/o,D/o, Mohammad Rafiq Qureshi R/o Zangli Kasheera tehsil & district kupwara The case is under process before the office of The executive magistrate ist class kupwara The said birth event has happened at hospital / home on 19/09/2022 any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the executive magistrate ist class kupwara with in a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Mohammad Rafiq Qureshi

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as 24/06/2022 in the office of registrar birth and deaths of Mantha Fayaz S/o,D/o,Fayaz Ahmad Ganie R/o Manzhad Hayihama tehsil & district kupwara The case is under process before the office of The executive magistrate ist class kupwara The said birth event has happened at hospital / home on 26/06/2022 any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the executive magistrate ist class kupwara with in a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Fayaz Ahmad Ganie

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as 05/04/2020 in the office of registrar birth and deaths of Ahsan ul Iqbal S/o,D/o,Mohd Iqbal lone R/o Tangecheck Sogam tehsil & district kupwara The case is under process before the office of The executive magistrate ist class kupwara The said birth event has happened at hospital / home on 05/04/2020 any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the executive magistrate ist class kupwara with in a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant, Mohd Iqbal lone

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to general public that I want to register D.O.B in Favour of Anum Manzoor & Aamina Manzoor S/O/D/o Manzoor Ahmad Ahanger R/o Manigah tehsil & Dist. Kupwara as 20/03/2020 & 01/04/2018 respectively. The case is under process before the office of the executive Magistrate ist class kupwara /BDO Hyhama. The said births have happened at hospital /home on said dates respectively .Any body having any objection, he/she may contact executive magistrate ist class kupwara/BDO Hyhama within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After expiry of time no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant , Manzoor Ahmad Ahanger

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as .08/03/1965.in the office of registrar birth and Mughli Begum D/o Mohd Sultan wani R/o chandigam lolab tehsil Sogam lolab. District Kupwara. The case is under process before the office of executive magistrate 1st class Sogam.The said birth event has happened at home 08 /03/1965. if any body having any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the Executive magistrate 1st class Sogam. within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of Applicant Mughli Begum

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to general public, that my daughters name has been wrongly mentioned in his Adhar card ,bearing (Aadhar no 9384 9844 5271)now I want to change his name from Nazmeena Akhter(old name) to Nazmina Shafi(new name) as per domicile certificate Document . if any body having any sort of objection in this regard, he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of Aadhar regional office musima Srinagar. Within period of seven days after that no objection will be accepted, Name of Applicant Mohammad Shafi Gojar F/o Nazmina Shafi R/o kigam Drugmulla kupwara

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, that i want to register date of birth as .01/10/2000.in the office of registrar birth and Sabreena Bano D/o Gh Ahmad Sheikh R/o Tekipora lolab tehsil Sogam lolab. District Kupwara. The case is under process before the office of executive magistrate 1st class Sogam.The said birth event has happened at home 01/10/2000.if any body having any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the Executive magistrate 1st class Sogam. within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of Applicant Sabreena Bano

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to general public that I want to Register D.O.B in Favour of Shahid Hameed& Seerat Hameed& D/o S/o Abdul Hameed Wani R/o Lalpora Lolab tehsil Lalpora District kupwara 26/06/2011 & 11/03/2010 .Born home /hospital respectively.The case is under process before the office of Executive Magistrate ist class Lalpora. The said birth event happened at home on said dates respectively .Any body having any objection, may contact Executive Magistrate ist class Lalpora. Within 7 days from this notice.After expiry of time no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant Abdul Hameed wani

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to general public, regarding this notice, that I Manzoor Ahmad khan pathan & my daughter namely Ruqaya Manzoor R/o Awoora.I have applying for Schedule tribe (ST) Certificates. If any body have any sort of objection in this regards he/she may file the objection regarding the same before office of the concerned authorities with in a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, after that no objection will be accepted. Name of the applicant Manzoor Ahmad khan pathan S/o Mohd Afsar Khan pathan & Ruqayq Manzoor D/o Manzoor Ahmad khan pathan R/o Awoora district kupwara

Sakeena Itoo leads mega outreach programme of Social Welfare department at Baramulla

JAVID DAR, NASIR ASLAM WANI, MLAS FROM NORTH KASHMIR JOIN TO STRENGTHEN GRASSROOTS AWARENESS

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 03: The Social Welfare department Monday organized a mega awareness camp at Baramulla for all the three districts of North Kashmir viz; Baramulla, Kupwara and Bandipora to promote awareness for saturation of more than 25 welfare schemes being implemented by the department.

Minister for Social Welfare, Education, Health & Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, was the chief guest during the camp, which was also attended by Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Cooperatives and Elections, Javid Ahmad Dar besides Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani.

The event was also attended by Members of the Legislative Assembly from North Kashmir,

including MLA Baramulla Javid Hassan Beigh, MLA Sopore Irshad Rasool Kar; MLA Wagoora-Kreeri, Irfan Hafiz Lone; MLA Uri Dr. Sajad Shafi, MLA Bandipora Nizam-ud-Din Bhat, MLA Langate Sheikh Khursheed Ahmad; MLA Sonawari Hilal Akbar Lone; MLA Pattan Riyaz Ahmad Bedar; MLA Karnah Javid Ahmad Mirchal; Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Dr. S.F. Hamid; MD POSHAN, Sajad Hussain Ganai; district and sectoral officers, anganwadi workers, helpers and a large number of local residents.

The awareness programme featured speeches, cultural performances and skits highlighting various flagship welfare initiatives and schemes being implemented by the Social Welfare Department, including Integrated Social Security Schemes



(ISSS), ICDS, Poshan and other beneficiary-oriented programmes. Speaking on the occasion,

Sakeena Itoo appreciated the overwhelming participation of the Anganwari workers and helpers in the awareness programme and highlighted the importance of saturation of various welfare schemes to ensure comprehensive social protection.

The Minister acknowledged the invaluable contribution of ICDS workers and helpers in reaching the most vulnerable sections of society. She said the government fully recognizes their role and is actively working towards addressing their concerns, including issues related to enhancement of the honorarium.

Emphasizing the need for greater public outreach, the Minister urged the legislators to organize similar awareness

programmes at the tehsil level in their respective constituencies to maximize awareness and ensure saturation of welfare schemes.

Addressing the gathering, Javid Dar congratulated Sakeena Itoo and the Social Welfare department for introducing significant reforms in the social welfare sector.

He underscored that the government has consistently prioritized the public welfare and has taken several people-centric decisions, including enhancement of assistance under various welfare schemes. He urged the field functionaries to actively educate the people about the schemes available so that every eligible beneficiary can avail government support.

Committee on Petitions vows zero tolerance against food adulteration

CHAIRMAN ADVOCATES SAFE, HYGIENIC FOOD FOR EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN J&K

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: With public health at the core of its agenda, the Committee on Petitions of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly met Monday at the Assembly Secretariat under the chairmanship of MLA Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah.

The Committee had a comprehensive review of the status report submitted by the Food & Drugs Administration, J&K on the alarming issue of adulteration in essential food commodities like milk, meat, fish, vegetables, spices and packaged food across the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by the committee members including Mir Mohammad Fayaz, Sheikh Ahsan Ahmad (Pardesi), Javid Iqbal and Shagun Parihar.

Voicing the concerns of every household, the Chairman said that no citizen should be forced to compromise on the quality of food they consume. He directed all the concerned departments to adopt a coordinated, zero-tolerance and



time-bound approach to root out adulteration and ensure that every plate served in J&K is safe, hygienic and of the highest quality.

Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah emphasized the need for regular market checking, public awareness campaigns and capacity building of Food Business Operators. He directed the department to conduct training programs for FBOs, food handlers and street vendors to promote hygiene and compliance.

Taking serious note of growing public health risk, the Chairman specifically directed that sale of antibiotics without a valid medical prescription by chemist shops must be strictly stopped and violators dealt with sternly. He also stressed that empowering the consumers through awareness on hygiene and food safety standards is equally important so that the people can make conscious and informed choices.

Rather holds public outreach camp at Banderpora Kremshore; assures priority redress of public issues

BUDGAM, AUGUST 3: Speaker Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly and MLA Charar-i-Sharief, Abdul Raheem Rather, Monday held an exclusive public outreach camp at Banderpora Kremshore in Charar-i-Sharief Constituency.

During the interaction, the residents from Banderpora and adjoining villages raised issues and demands related to road connectivity, drinking water, electricity, healthcare, education and other essential civic amenities.

The Speaker assured the people that all their



genuine demands would be taken up on priority with the concerned departments for early redress.

Addressing the gathering, the Speaker said that the areas of Banderpora and Kremshore, which were

recently included in the Charar-i-Sharief Assembly Constituency following the delimitation process, require focused attention and accelerated development. He reiterated his commitment to ensure that these areas receive adequate infrastructure and public welfare projects.

He said every effort is being made to bridge the developmental gaps and improve civic infrastructure in the newly included areas. "I am working tirelessly to ensure that these areas receive the attention and development they deserve."

DC Budgam rolls out Classes of Joy initiative to address learning outcome gaps in Numeracy and Literacy in school kids

AROUND 850 SCHOOLS AND 45000 CHILDREN BEING COVERED

BUDGAM, AUGUST 03: Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Athar Aamir Khan, Monday chaired a meeting on roll out of the Classes of Joy initiative in

Budgam district to address the gaps in learning outcomes among the kids in primary and middle schools of the District.

The initiative aims to adopt Teaching at Right Level (TaRL) approach in partnership with Pratham Foundation. The action

plan for elaborate capacity building and training of all primary and middle school teachers has been prepared. Appropriate teaching and learning tools are being made available.

The initiative will adopt 4 step process of baseline assessment of all children,

grouping on the basis of learning levels, play way teaching interventions over next three months and then the end line assessment. The cycles would be then repeated to ensure the gaps are filled and kids achieve the class appropriate learning outcomes.

JTGC Secretary Manav Gupta's team clinches PGTI Pro-Am title at J&K Open 2026

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: The four-player team led by Manav Gupta, Secretary, Jammu Tawi Golf Course, comprising Amarjeet Singh, Sameer Bakto and Arindham Soodan, a professional golfer from Jammu & Kashmir, clinched the PGTI Pro-Am title held alongside the prestigious J&K Open 2026 in Srinagar.

The Pro-Am event brought together the leading professionals of the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) and amateur golfers from across



the country. Demonstrating exceptional teamwork, consistency and composure, the team secured the championship against a strong field of competitors.

During the prize distribution ceremony, the winning team was felicitated by Farooq Abdullah, former Chief Minister and an avid golfer, in presence of Advisor to

the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani and Amandeep Johl, CEO, Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI). The team received the winners' trophy and accolades in recognition of their outstanding performance in the PGTI Pro-Am.

Over the past few years, Jammu has emerged as an important destination on India's golfing map, with successful hosting of three consecutive editions of the J&K Open at the Jammu Tawi Golf Course in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

These landmark tournaments played a significant role in showcasing the region's world-class golfing infrastructure, scenic beauty and organizational capabilities. Besides, it has given a major impetus to the growth of golf in Jammu and Kashmir and inspiring greater participation in the sports across the Union Territory.

Speaking after the victory, Gupta congratulated his teammates for their outstanding performance and team spirit.

Div Com Kashmir reviews progress of Ring Road, directs expedited execution

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Monday chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of the Srinagar Ring Road Phases-II and III falling in Ganderbal district and directed the concerned departments to expedite the execution of the prestigious infrastructure project.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore; Project Director, National Highways Authority (NHA), Chief Engineers of the Roads & Buildings (R&B) and Public Health Engineering (PHE) departments, besides other senior officers.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner reviewed the status of land acquisition, compensation disbursement, handover of acquired land, removal of trees falling along the project alignment, demolition



of private and government structures, court-related references, utility shifting, and other issues hindering the progress of the project.

Stressing the need for accurate documentation and timely resolution of pending issues, Anshul Garg directed the concerned officers to compile comprehensive details regarding acquired land, already handed over to the executing agency, and pending court references by Friday. He also instructed the officers to conduct a joint site

inspection on Saturday to assess the ground situation and evaluate issues affecting the project's execution.

To facilitate smooth progress, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned departments to expedite the process of removing trees falling within the project alignment in accordance with the prescribed procedures while considering transplantation wherever possible and ensuring compensatory afforestation in other cases.

Students of AGS Wayne, Kupwara shine in Inter AGS Quiz Competition at Hajinar, Tangdhar

GLOBAL KASHMIR DESK

Kupwara, Aug 03 : Students of Army Goodwill School Wayne, Kupwara once again brought laurels to the school by delivering outstanding performance in the Inter AGS Quiz Competition held at Army Goodwill School Hajinar, Tangdhar on Monday.

The quiz competition was organized with the aim of enhancing students knowledge



about the heroes of the Kargil War and to instill a stronger spirit of patriotism and national pride among the young minds of border areas.

A total of 40 students from

06 Army Goodwill Schools participated in the event. From AGS Wayne Kupwara 08 students participated divided into two groups. Group-I comprised students from Class VI to VIII and Group-II comprised students from Class IX and X.

Students of AGS Wayne showcased remarkable knowledge, confidence and team spirit in both categories and performed exceptionally well, making the school and the entire region proud.

MISSION'S LAUNCH

Quantum Technologies and India's Rise as a Deep-Tech Power

Dr. Shivesh Pratap
BTech(E&C), MBA(HR), PhD(h.c.),
IIM Calcutta Alumnus
National Convenor, Vision
Viksit Bharat Policy & Research Centre
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Recently, under the National Quantum Mission, India successfully demonstrated a 1,000-km quantum communication network in less than two years since the mission's launch. This is among the longest quantum communication networks in the world. The achievement is particularly significant because the mission originally aimed to develop a 2,000-km quantum communication capability over a period of eight years, whereas India has achieved this remarkable progress at an exceptionally rapid pace.

In the twenty-first century, technological capability is increasingly determining geopolitical influence, economic resilience, military preparedness, and strategic autonomy. Just as the industrial revolution shaped the nineteenth century and the digital revolution transformed the twentieth, the coming decades are expected to be defined by mastery over frontier technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), semiconductors, quantum computing, quantum communication, biotechnology, and high-performance computing. Among these, quantum technology is emerging as one of the most strategically consequential sectors in the world.

Quantum technology operates on the principles of quantum mechanics, including superposition, entanglement, tunnelling, and quantum interference, enabling computational and communication capabilities far beyond those of classical systems. Broadly, quantum technologies are divided into four major domains: quantum computing, quantum communication, quantum sensing, and quantum materials and devices. Their applications are expected to transform defence systems, cybersecurity, healthcare, logistics, climate science, finance, AI, and space technologies. Quantum systems can enable ultra-secure military communications, advanced cryptography, molecular simulations for drug discovery, high-resolution climate modelling, portfolio optimisation, and next-generation satellite communication systems.

The economic potential of quantum technology is equally enormous. According to McKinsey & Company, quantum technologies could generate economic value exceeding \$1 trillion globally by 2035, while industry estimates project the global quantum computing market to surpass \$125 billion by 2030. Meanwhile, Boston Consulting Group estimates that governments worldwide have already announced more than \$40 billion in public investments in quantum technologies. Major technology companies including IBM, Google, Microsoft, and Intel are investing billions of dollars into quantum research, infrastructure, and hardware development. IBM has already unveiled quantum processors exceeding 1,000 qubits, while countries such as China and the United States are rapidly expanding quantum communication and computing ecosystems.

Against this backdrop, India has begun positioning itself not merely as a technology consumer, but as a major participant in the global deep-tech ecosystem. Under the leadership of Narendra Modi, India's investments in quantum technologies, semiconductors, AI, supercomputing, and indigenous innovation reflect a broader strategic vision aimed at technological sovereignty and long-term national competitiveness.

India's National Quantum Mission

Recognising the transformative potential of quantum technologies, India approved the National Quantum Mission (NQM) with an outlay of approximately 6,003 crore for the period 2023–2031. The mission aims to develop quantum computers with 50–1000 physical qubits, satellite-based quantum communication systems, inter-city Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) networks, quantum



sensors and metrology systems, and advanced quantum materials and devices.

The National Quantum Mission represents one of India's most ambitious scientific and technological programmes since the country's space and nuclear initiatives. Its significance extends beyond scientific advancement because quantum technologies directly intersect with national security, cybersecurity, defence preparedness, and digital sovereignty. The mission seeks to reduce dependence on foreign technologies, strengthen indigenous intellectual property ecosystems, build sovereign cybersecurity infrastructure, and enhance India's long-term technological resilience.

A major strategic concern globally is that future quantum computers may eventually become powerful enough to break classical encryption systems currently used in banking, military communications, digital governance, and financial infrastructure. Consequently, countries capable of developing quantum-safe communication systems early may gain substantial geopolitical and cybersecurity advantages.

India's Quantum Communication Breakthrough

One of the most significant milestones achieved under India's emerging quantum ecosystem has been the successful demonstration of 1,000 km secure quantum communication, completed in less than half the originally projected timeline. This breakthrough is strategically important because quantum communication enables encryption systems that are theoretically resistant to interception, hacking, and cyber espionage.

Quantum communication derives its security from the laws of physics rather than computational complexity. Using principles such as quantum entanglement and photon-based transmission, these systems can automatically detect interception attempts, making them fundamentally more secure than classical communication systems.

The implications are substantial for secure military communications, defence intelligence protection, financial systems, digital governance, and critical infrastructure security. As cyber warfare increasingly becomes central to geopolitical competition, quantum communication is likely to emerge as one of the defining strategic infrastructures of the future.

India's Emerging Quantum Startup Ecosystem

India's National Quantum Mission is also catalysing a new generation of deep-tech entrepreneurship. Multiple startups have received support under the mission, including investments of up to 30 crore per startup in areas such as quantum computing, quantum sensing, quantum communication, quantum hardware, and quantum software stacks.

This is strategically important because globally successful innovation ecosystems are built through collaboration between academia, startups, government laboratories, industry, and venture capital networks. India has also witnessed the emergence of indigenous quantum hardware initiatives, including one of the country's first full-stack quan-

tum computing systems featuring superconducting qubits.

These developments reflect an important transition from India's traditional dependence on software services toward high-end hardware innovation and deep-tech capability building. Future industries such as quantum cybersecurity, quantum cloud computing, advanced semiconductor design, smart manufacturing, and precision healthcare are expected to increasingly rely on quantum-enabled systems.

Lessons from Global Quantum Powers

The global quantum race is intensifying rapidly, with major powers treating quantum technologies as strategic assets.

China's Quantum Strategy

China has emerged as one of the world's most aggressive players in quantum technologies. Its achievements include the launch of the Micius quantum satellite, the construction of large-scale quantum communication backbone networks, extensive military integration efforts, and massive state-led investments in quantum research infrastructure. China has already demonstrated satellite-based quantum communication over thousands of kilometres and reportedly invested billions of dollars in dedicated quantum laboratories.

China's model highlights several important lessons for India, including the importance of long-term state-led investment, domestic hardware ecosystems, civil-military integration, talent retention, and institutional coordination. Although India's democratic innovation ecosystem differs significantly from China's centralised model, India can still learn from China's scale, urgency, and strategic planning.

The United States and the National Quantum Initiative

The United States launched the National Quantum Initiative Act to coordinate federal quantum research and maintain technological leadership. The American ecosystem benefits from world-leading universities, strong defence research agencies, deep venture capital networks, Big Tech participation, and semiconductor leadership.

Companies such as IBM and Google have demonstrated major breakthroughs in superconducting and error-corrected quantum systems. The U.S. model demonstrates the strategic importance of public-private partnerships, research commercialisation, startup ecosystems, university-industry collaboration, and strong intellectual property frameworks.

Europe's Quantum Flagship Programme

The European Union launched the Quantum Flagship Programme with multi-billion-euro investments aimed at long-term quantum research and industrial development. Europe's strengths include collaborative research networks, advanced photonics research, regulatory preparedness, and strong emphasis on ethical governance and standardisation frameworks.

For India, the European model demonstrates

the importance of international collaboration, open innovation ecosystems, and coordinated research partnerships involving universities, government laboratories, startups, and industry.

Semiconductors, Supercomputing, and Computational Sovereignty

Quantum technologies cannot scale without strong semiconductor and high-performance computing ecosystems. The global semiconductor shortage during the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the strategic vulnerability of countries dependent on concentrated chip supply chains. Semiconductors now underpin AI systems, defence electronics, telecommunications, space technologies, electric vehicles, industrial automation, and medical devices.

Recognising this strategic reality, India has intensified efforts to build indigenous semiconductor capabilities through the India Semiconductor Mission and related manufacturing incentives. Semiconductor capability is increasingly viewed not merely as an industrial sector, but as critical strategic infrastructure.

Parallely, India's National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), jointly implemented by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Department of Science and Technology, aims to establish a nationwide network of more than 70 high-performance supercomputers interconnected through the National Knowledge Network.

High-performance computing (HPC) capability is becoming indispensable for AI model training, climate modelling, genomics, weather forecasting, defence simulations, aerospace research, vaccine development, and advanced materials science. Under the mission, India has already deployed indigenous systems under the PARAM series, including PARAM Siddhi-AI, which ranked among the world's leading AI-focused supercomputers.

The importance of computational sovereignty is growing rapidly because advanced AI systems and scientific simulations require enormous computing capacity. Countries capable of processing massive datasets, simulating complex systems, and accelerating scientific discovery gain major strategic advantages in defence, cybersecurity, industrial innovation, and scientific leadership.

The convergence of quantum technologies, AI, semiconductors, and supercomputing therefore reflects the emergence of a new strategic technology ecosystem in which national competitiveness depends increasingly on computational power.

India's Structural Advantages

India possesses several structural strengths that could support long-term leadership in frontier technologies. One of its greatest advantages is its large STEM talent base. India produces one of the world's largest numbers of engineers, scientists, and technology graduates annually. Institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology and the Indian Institute of Science are increasingly participating in advanced research in quantum computing, communication, and materials science.

India also benefits from its globally recognised digital public infrastructure ecosystem, including Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker, and large-scale digital governance systems. These initiatives demonstrate India's ability to execute technology-driven programmes at population scale.

Another important advantage lies in India's tradition of frugal engineering and cost-efficient innovation, which may prove strategically valuable in developing scalable and affordable quantum systems. Simultaneously, India has emerged as one of the world's largest startup ecosystems, with increasing participation in deep-tech sectors including AI, semiconductors, space technology, and quantum innovation.

Supporting these structural strengths is a broader policy direction focused on Atmanirbhar Bharat, indigenous R&D, strategic manufacturing, semiconductor capability, deep-tech innovation, and digital sovereignty.

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