

JAMMU

@spvaid
Civil defence mock drill is scheduled in Delhi today. This is clearly for preparedness for Operation Sindoor 2.0. I think this is just one of many such drills we will see in the coming weeks, including in J&K and other border states. The civil defence department in J&K is also being proactively upgraded and reactivated. As citizens, it is our responsibility to cooperate, know the civil defence setup in our area, who to contact in an emergency, and follow instructions. God speed, gentlemen!



@UdhampurPolice
SSP Udhampur Amod Ashok Nagpure-IPS held an introductory meeting with 55 probationary PSIs at DPL Udhampur, briefing them on security & policing priorities while stressing discipline, integrity, public-friendly policing & strong investigation skills. @ZPHQJammu @igp_jammu @UHqrs



REBELLION:

On this day in 1948: A rebellion began on the island of Jjju, eventually a fight between various groups struggled between 14,000 and 30,000 persons and the South Korean army violently suppressed the rebellion.



12 TEHSILS:
In the entire Anantnag district of Kashmir division, 12 are the total tehsils.



NO STOPPING OR STANDING

Some roads demand continuous flow of traffic and stopping of one vehicle disrupt the whole traffic flow. At these areas No Stopping signs are installed. Any vehicle stopping at these places could meet an accident and also a penal action.



Shrine Board conferred with Jal Yodha Samman

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KATRA: In recognition of its exemplary initiatives in water management and conservation, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) has been conferred with the prestigious 'Jal Yodha Samman'. The award was presented at Vishalakshi Mantap during a National Level Programme organized by the Art of Living Foundation in Bengaluru in the presence of renowned spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and other dignitaries.



vision of "Atmanirbhar Jal Bharat."

On behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Assistant Conservator of Forests received the award at the function.

Supported by NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Jal Shakti, the award recognises individuals and organizations making significant contributions to water conservation and the

The Shrine Board, under the chairmanship of Manoj Sinha, Lt Governor, JK-UT

has been making sustained efforts to provide best-in-class facilities to pilgrims while adopting efficient water management and conservation practices. Guided by its mission "From Shraddha to Seva - Save Water, Seek the Blessings of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji," the Board has implemented a comprehensive,

multi-pronged strategy.

The key initiatives encompass rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge, wastewater treatment and reuse, adoption of water-use efficiency measures and smart water management systems, installation of water ATMs, development of a high-tech nursery and large-scale afforestation coupled with ecosystem restoration. In addition, sustained and coordinated efforts have been undertaken by the Shrine Board for river conservation, strengthening sanitation measures and undertaking plantation drives involving over 1.5 lakh saplings annually in forest areas for enhancing water retention capacity and preventing soil erosion.



Delegation calls on LG Sinha

JAMMU: A delegation of Shiv Mandir Charitable Trust led by Anil Gupta, Senior Vice President, Chamber of Commerce and Industries Jammu called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, on Thursday.

Hardcore criminal held with weapon

JAMMU: Police on Thursday arrested a hardcore criminal in the RS Pura area of Jammu district and recovered a sharp-edged weapon from his possession, officials said.

Acting on inputs, a police team arrested Davinder Kumar alias Rahul, a resident of Chak Mohd Yar in Jammu, they said.

On seeing the police, the accused attempted to flee, but the officers overpowered him, they added.

The police recovered a sharp-edged weapon ('toka') from his possession.

The accused has more than 13 FIRs registered against him at various police stations across Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, police said.

Police have booked Kumar under the Arms Act, and further probe is underway, they said.

Govt employees mandated to complete competency-linked courses: Dr Jitendra

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI: All central government employees have been mandated to complete competency-linked courses relevant to their role or level on a dedicated online platform annually, which will reflect in their annual performance appraisal reports, the Rajya Sabha was informed on Thursday.

The government has adopted a competency-based capacity building approach, focusing on role-based learning, continuous skill development, and alignment of training with role requirements, Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh said in a written reply. "The

Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has mandated all central government employees and officers of the all-India services to complete competency-linked courses mapped to their role/level and comprehensive assessments prescribed by their ministries/ departments/organisations (MDOs) or cadre controlling authorities (CCAs) on iGOT (integrated government online training) portal annually, which is to be also reflected in their annual performance appraisal reports (APARs)," he said. The minister was responding to a query about the government's plans to incorporate competency-based scores for promotion and appraisal processes of its employees. A

framework of roles, activities and competencies (FRAC) aims to align all positions in government with clearly defined roles, activities, and required competencies (behavioural, functional, and domain), Singh added. In a separate reply, the minister said that details of the engagement of consultants are maintained by respective ministries and departments. The General Financial Rules (GFR), 2017, administered by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, provides for the fundamental principles applicable to all ministries or departments concerning the engagement of consultants and external professionals or consultancy firms for specific jobs, he said.

Budget Session 2026

527 stone crushers active in J-K: Dy CM

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary on Thursday informed that 527 stone crusher units are operational in Jammu and Kashmir following due process, with development works unaffected by the non-functional units.

The Deputy Chief Minister stated this while replying to a Calling Attention Notice moved by Legislator Balwant Singh Mankotia in the Legislative Assembly.

He said that, of 691 stone crusher units, 527 are operational and 164 are non-functional, including 48 that have been sealed or closed. These units have been operating in compliance with the set regulations and their closure has not significantly impacted any ongoing development project in the Union Territory.

The Deputy Chief Minister stated that the department has taken necessary measures under current rules and provisions of the Jammu & Kashmir Minor Mineral Concession, Storage, Transportation of Minerals and Prevention of Illegal Mining Rules, 2016, along with Pollution Control Committee guidelines, to curb illegal mining and ensure smooth operation of stone crushers across the UT. He added that the department ensures availability of finished material to the executing agencies for development works, serving a dual purpose of preventing revenue loss and curbing the illegal mining activities.



He said that the compliant stone crusher units are operating smoothly while those violating the prescribed norms like lacking consent, environmental clearance or pollution control measures have been shut. Despite sufficient notice, non-compliant units failed to rectify deficiencies and were closed, he added.

Dardpora WSS nears completion; JJM to benefit 2,165 households: Minister

JAMMU: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, on Thursday informed that Water Supply Scheme for village Dardpora has been taken up under the Jal Jeevan Mission at an approved cost of Rs 980.19 lakh.

The Minister said that the scheme, covering 2165 households, is presently under execution with approximately 80 percent physical progress achieved. He stated this while replying to a Calling Attention Motion moved by MLA Mir Saifullah.

Javed Rana said that completion of the scheme for Dardpora will ensure adequate and sustainable drinking water supply to all the panchayat halqas.

Govt places 136 Senior Lecturers as in-charge Principals: Sakeena

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Minister for Education, Sakeena Itoo, on Thursday informed that 136 Senior Lecturers were placed as in-charge Principals in the months of December-2025 and January-2026. Besides, the process of promotion of 114 ZEOs as in-charge Principals is in the final stage to fill all vacant posts of Principals in the School Education department (SED) across Jammu and Kashmir.

The Minister said this while replying to a Calling Attention Notice moved by Legislator Javid Hassan Baig in the Legislative Assembly.

She informed that with regard to subject specific teachers in Baramulla constituency, 27 Teachers/Masters/Lecturers have been placed to these Higher



Secondary Schools in addition to their own duties to teach the subject where they hold expertise.

The Minister further said that, out of 15 Higher Secondary Schools functioning in Baramulla constituency, 09 are without Principals and the process for filling up of the posts of Principals is being made through promotions.

She added that in December-2025 and January-2026, 136 Senior Lecturers were placed as I/c Principals while the

HUDD embraces digital processes for seamless building permissions: Govt

JAMMU: The government on Thursday informed that significant governance reforms with automated scrutiny and end-to-end digital processing has been embraced by the Housing and Urban Development department (HUDD) under Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) and Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) for seamless submission of building permission applications.

This was stated by Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, while replying to a Calling Attention Notice in the House today on behalf of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, moved by Legislator Mir Saifullah.

Rs 136.67 lakh spent on sports infra in past 3 yrs in Billawar: Satish

An amount of Rs. 136.67 lakh has been spent on promotion and upgradation of sports infrastructure in Billawar constituency during the past three years.

This information was given by Minister for Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma, while replying to a question

raised by Legislator Satish Kumar Sharma in the Legislative Assembly today.

He said that the department has already distributed 149 sports kits in different schools and clubs in the said constituency. He added that the department also conducts trail/selection camps and talent hunt programmes

at school and zone level on a regular basis.

"During the current financial year 2025-26, playfields have been developed in the constituency including construction and upgradation of playground at HS Lohai with an allotted cost of Rs 5.48 lakh and construction of Synthetic Volleyball Court at Government HSS Dhar

Dugnoo with an allotted cost of Rs 8.81 lakh", informed the Deputy CM.

He added that several works are under execution like construction of practice pitch, competition pitch and volleyball court and allied works at playfield Billawar amounting Rs. 35.00 lakh approved under CAPEX. Besides, construction of a play-

field at Ridi ward number 7 Panchayat Malti block Billawar district approved under CAPEX worth Rs 20.00 lakh is also being done on war footing.

The Minister further said that 53 awareness programmes, sports activities and other competitions have been held in the constituency in the past three years.

'Govt adopts zero-tolerance against violation'

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, on Thursday said that funds amounting Rs. 344.10 lakh have been authorized for permanent restoration of Koteranka-Khawas Road damaged due to flash floods last year.

The Deputy Chief Minister was replying to a question raised by Legislator, Javid Iqbal in the Legislative Assembly.

He informed that the government has adopted zero-tolerance approach towards violations of any kind while executing various developmental projects across Jammu and Kashmir. He added that the departments have been strictly directed to ensure strict enforcement of quality execution of work and action is being taken against the concerned for use of sub-standard material, wherever reported.

Rs 68.34 lakh approved for infra in nine schools of Ramgarh Constituency: Itoo

Minister for Education, Sakeena Itoo, on Thursday informed the House that nine schools in Ramgarh Constituency have been approved for creation of various infrastructure facilities with a financial implication of Rs. 68.34 lakh under Samagra Shiksha.

The Minister said this while replying to a question raised by Legislator Balwant Singh Mankotia on behalf of MLA Dr. Devinder Manyal in the Legislative Assembly regarding status of schools in border areas.

She informed that the School Education department has initiated numerous measures to bring children to schools and ensure 100% enrolment at Primary level.

Machil-Z-Gali Tunnel gets approval, DPR proposed for annual plan: Dy CM

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary announced that a tunnel connecting Machil Sector to hinterland at Z-Gali has been sanctioned under the 'Other than Capital Acquisition' head with preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) is underway for its inclusion in the Annual Works Plan (AWP) 2026-27.

The Deputy Chief Minister was replying to a question raised by Legislator, Qaysar Jamshaid

Lone in the Legislative Assembly today.

He said that the Machil (Machhal) area experiences heavy snowfall during winter months, which affects the connectivity and poses difficulties for the residents. He added that an institutional mechanism is in place to address the essential requirements during winters, with advance planning and necessary arrangements made to ensure availability of basic services, including healthcare and essential supplies.

Kalakote-Sunderbani sees boost in PHE, I&FC works

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, on Thursday informed the Legislative Assembly that significant progress has been achieved in execution of works under various funding schemes like UT CAPEX, SDRF, BDC, CDF and District CAPEX in Kalakote-Sunderbani constituency of district Rajouri.

He stated this while replying to a question raised by MLA Randhir Singh regarding fund utilization in Kalakote-Sunderbani constituency. The Minister said that

under the UT CAPEX, an amount of Rs 350.15 lakh has been released, against which an expenditure of Rs 107.18 lakh has been incurred, so far, on PHE Jammu works in respect of the Kalakote-Sunderbani constituency. Elaborating, the Minister said that under district CAPEX, CDF, BDC and SDRF funds to the tune of Rs 110.47 lakh have been released and all the approved works have been completed.

The Minister further apprised the House of the status of works under execution in Kalakote-Sunderbani constituency by the Irrigation and Flood Control

(I&FC) Department, stating that several projects are at different stages of implementation. He informed that a list of damages to the infrastructure projects in Kalakote-Sunderbani constituency has been submitted to the Finance Department for necessary consideration.

Regarding SASCI proposals, the Minister said that works amounting Rs 226.16 lakh have been submitted for Kalakote-Sunderbani constituency in respect of I&FC Jammu. He also stated that separate proposals have been submitted to the Finance Department for works under I&FC Jammu.

Calling Attention Motion

Question Hour