

## JJB Shopian conducts inspection of Juvenile Observation Home Harwan Srinagar

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS  
JAMMU, JUNE 29

In a significant step toward reinforcing the protective framework for children in conflict with the law, the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) Shopian led by Principal Magistrate, Bazila Bashir, conducted a comprehensive, unannounced inspection of the Juvenile Observation Home (JOH) at Harwan, Srinagar today.

The inspection delegation comprised a multi-disciplinary team of legal and welfare professionals, including Rafie Ahmad Ganie, Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel, Shopian; Amir Ayoub, Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel; Farooq Ahmad, Special Juvenile Police Officer, and Sumaira Imtiyaz, Legal-cum-Probation Officer.

The visit was meticulously organized in strict compliance with the provisions and mandates of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, along with the model rules.

The primary objective was to conduct a rigorous, ground-level assessment of the living conditions, rehabilitative measures, and procedural adherence at the observation home, thereby ensuring that the rights and well-being of every juvenile resident remain inviolable.

Upon arrival, the Superintendent of the Observation Home facilitated an exhaustive, room-by-room tour of the facility. The inspection team methodically evaluated all critical infrastructure components, including residential dormitories, educational and vocational training class-



rooms, indoor and outdoor recreational spaces, and the in-house medical unit. Special attention was devoted to assessing the standards of hygiene and sanitation, nutritional quality of the kitchen and meal preparation areas, structural integrity of the buildings, and robustness of existing safety and emergency response protocols, including fire safety equipment and child-proofing measures.

In a particularly poignant segment of the visit, the Principal Magistrate and her team engaged in extended, empathetic, one-on-one conversations with the juvenile residents. These confidential interactions were designed to elicit unfiltered feedback on their daily treatment, the progress of their individual rehabilitation and reintegration plans, and their actual access to essential support systems.

The team probed into the availability of legal counsel,

the continuity of educational instruction, the regularity of psychological counseling sessions, and the quality of healthcare services extended to each child.

Concurrently, the visiting team undertook a painstaking, desk-by-desk verification of all legal and administrative records pertaining to every juvenile currently housed in the facility. This exhaustive audit was aimed at cross-verifying strict adherence to statutory procedures, including the timely production of juveniles before the JJB, prompt disbursement of legal aid through the Legal Services Authority, proper maintenance of individual case histories, and timely disposal of pending proceedings as mandated by law.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal Magistrate, JJB Shopian, Bazila Bashir, stated, "This surprise inspection is a reflection of the Board's unwavering zero-tolerance stance to-

wards any form of negligence, indifference, or procedural lapse in the care of juveniles. We are not merely inspectors; we are the custodians of their future. Every child residing in this observation home is entitled to dignity, compassionate protection, and meaningful rehabilitative support—precisely as enshrined in the Juvenile Justice Act."

At the conclusion of the inspection, the Board issued a detailed set of on-the-spot directives to the Observation Home administration, emphasizing the urgent need for enhanced recreational infrastructure, strengthened psycho-social counseling frameworks, and improved coordination with the District Child Protection Unit to ensure seamless after-care support. The Board has also scheduled a follow-up review within the next thirty days to verify the implementation of its recommendations.

## Commissioner SMC reviews major capacity augmentation project at WTP Nishat

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Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb, today conducted a comprehensive inspection of the ongoing Development of Allied Infrastructure for the 3 MGD Rapid Sand Filtration Plant (RSFP) at the Water Treatment Plant (WTP), Nishat, and reviewed the progress of the project aimed at enhancing the city's potable water supply infrastructure.

During the inspection, the Commissioner was briefed by officers of the Water Works Division on the scope and progress of the project, which is being executed at an approved cost of ₹406.00 lakh under the Sustainable Infrastructure Fund (SMC CapEx).

The Water Treatment Plant, Nishat, commissioned in 1895, is Srinagar's most vital water supply facility, presently serving nearly 6.38 lakh population across major residential, commercial, institutional, administrative and tourism areas. The plant currently has an installed treatment capacity of 19 Million Gallons per Day (MGD) through five Rapid Sand Filtration Plants commissioned between 1935 and 2000.

Given the rapid urban expansion and increasing water demand across the city, the Commissioner observed that augmentation of the plant's treatment capacity has become essential to bridge the existing supply gap and ensure reliable drinking water services for the growing population.

The project includes the commissioning of a 3 MGD Rapid Sand Filtration



Plant, laying and restructuring of supply and trunk mains, strengthening of treated water conveyance systems, upgradation of electro-mechanical equipment, and construction of allied infrastructure, including protection walls and sluice chambers. Upon completion, the project will enhance the treatment capacity of WTP Nishat from 19 MGD to 22 MGD, marking the first major capacity augmentation of the facility in 26 years.

The upgraded infrastructure will significantly improve potable water supply to the existing command areas of Nishat, Brein, Boulevard, Gupkar, Sonwar, Shivpora, Lal Chowk, Karan Nagar, Babarshah, Munawarabad, Khayam, Khanyar, Rainawari,

Saidakadal, Dal habitations, Mir Behri, Dal Bund and other adjoining localities. Besides augmenting water supply to the existing 6.38 lakh population, the project will bring nearly one lakh additional population under the ambit of safe and reliable potable water supply with improved service levels.

The Commissioner emphasized that the project will substantially strengthen Srinagar's water supply network by improving both the reliability and efficiency of drinking water services. He directed the executing agency to maintain the highest standards of quality and workmanship while ensuring timely completion of all components of the project within the stipulated time-

frame. The Commissioner reiterated that strengthening essential urban infrastructure remains a key priority of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

He stated that the Corporation is committed to developing resilient and sustainable public utility systems capable of meeting the city's growing needs and ensuring uninterrupted access to safe drinking water for residents, institutions, tourist destinations, government establishments, security installations, and other critical service areas.

Senior officers of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation and the Water Works Division accompanied the Commissioner during the inspection.

## Over 4.49 lakh Stakeholders participate in 4th Round of mass PTMs across Kashmir

SRINAGAR, JUNE 29: Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) today organized the fourth round of Valley-wide Mass PTMs, witnessing a significant participation of 4,49,141 stakeholders, including students, parents, teachers and community members.

Expressing sincere gratitude to parents and the wider community for their active and enthusiastic participation, Director School Education Kashmir, Naseer Ahmad Wani, lauded the successful conduct of the fourth round of

Mass Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTMs) held across all schools in the Kashmir Division.

Held as per the academic calendar for the session 2026, a total of 5,333 PTM events were conducted simultaneously across the Valley.

According to official figures, participation included 3,10,890 students, 1,05,673 parents and community members and 32,578 teachers and school heads, reflecting a strong and growing commitment towards collaborative educational development.

The impressive turnout across districts highlights the strengthening bond between schools and communities and underscores the increasing trust in the education system. The PTMs served as an effective platform for meaningful interaction between parents and teachers, focusing on students' academic progress, behavioural aspects and overall well-being.

Senior officials, including Chief Education Officers (CEOs), actively monitored and participated in the meetings, engaging di-

rectly with parents, addressing their concerns and ensuring timely redressal of issues.

Reiterating his appreciation, Director School Education Kashmir, thanked all stakeholders for their continued support and co-operation in building a responsive, inclusive and progressive education system. He further directed all officers and teaching staff to act promptly on the feedback and suggestions received during the PTMs, ensuring accountability and sustained improvement.

## Power Shutdown by KPDCL

SRINAGAR, JUNE 29: Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCL has informed that the Shutdown of 33 kV Safakadal-Wanganpora line will be observed due to which power supply to Noorbagh, Safakadal, Eidgah, Rathpora, Saidapora, Safakadal, Baghwanpora, Ganderpora, De-addiction & Rehabilitation Centre and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 30 June and 02 July 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Budgam line will be observed due to which power supply to Ompora, SIDCO, Nasrullahpora, Bemina, Budgam Town and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 30 June 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Potushai-Bandipora-Ajar line will be observed due to which power supply to Panzigam, Kuloosa, Kazipora, Khayar, Ajar, Town Arin, Arin, Aham Sharief and

adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 28 June 2026.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Potushai Ajar line will be observed due to which power supply to Nishat, Papchan, Ajas, SK Bala, Sadunara, Bazipora, Nadihal, Guroora, Argam and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 28 June 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Manigam Tapline will be observed due to which power supply to Manigam, Gutlibagh, Wayil & PTS and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 30 June 2026.

Further, shutdown of 33 kV Kani-pora-IGC Aglar line will be observed due to which power supply to IGC Aglar, Mega Fruit Mandi and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 05 July 2026.

Similarly shutdown of 33 kV Kani-

pora-Pinjoora line will be observed due to which power supply to Pinjoora, Puhnoo, Trenz, Mohanpora, Imam Sahib, Kiloora, Arhama, Zawoora, Chowdri-gund, Reshinagar, Vehil, Palpora, Benimpora and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 30 June & 02 July 2026.

Likewise, shutdown of 33 kV Awantipora- Tral-2nd line will be observed due to which power supply to Batagund, Lurgam, Nanar, Taki, Lam, Jawaharpore, Aripal, Khangund, Satoora and adjoining areas will be affected from 29 June and 01 July 2026 from 08 AM 02 PM.

Similarly, shutdown of 33 kV Wangapora-Takenwari line will be observed due to which power supply to Shanglipora, Sangam and adjoining areas will be affected from 08 AM to 02 PM on 30 June 2026.

## IIM Jammu organises 'Somnath Swabimaan Parv' celebrating India's Timeless Civilizational Heritage and Cultural Values

JAMMU, JUNE, 29: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu, under the aegis of Anandam - The Centre for Happiness in collaboration with Student Affairs, organised Somnath Swabhimaan Parv, a vibrant cultural and intellectual programme celebrating India's rich civilizational heritage, spiritual values, and artistic traditions on 29th June 2026 at Mandapam Auditorium. The event brought together faculty members, officers, staff, students, and distinguished guests for an evening of reflection, music, dance, and cultural expression. Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, presided over the inaugural ceremony. Prof. Shyam Narayan Lal, Chairperson, Anandam - The Centre for Happiness, IIM Jammu, along with Prof. (Brigadier) (Retd.) Neeraj Soni, Prof. Lt Gen (Dr) Sunil Kant (Retd.), SM, VSM, Chairperson Healthcare, Prof. Sanjay Gupta, and Prof. Pankaj Maheshwari, Professors of Practice, graced the momentous occasion and shared their thoughts on the significance of Somnath as a symbol of resilience, faith, national con-

sciousness, and cultural continuity.

The programme commenced with the welcome of the dignitaries, followed by the traditional lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolising the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom. The audience was then enthralled by a series of soulful Bandish performances that beautifully blended devotion with Indian classical music.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, highlighted Somnath temple as a timeless symbol of India's civilizational resilience, cultural continuity, and national self-respect. He remarked that the celebration of Somnath Swabhimaan Parv, envisioned by Shri Narendra Modi, The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, is a tribute to India's enduring heritage and serves as a powerful reminder of the nation's unwavering spirit, faith, and collective resolve. He noted that the observance encourages every citizen, especially the youth, to reconnect with India's rich civilizational roots while drawing inspiration from its glorious



legacy to build a stronger and more confident nation. He emphasized that Somnath is not merely a sacred temple but an enduring symbol of resilience, reminding generations that while challenges may arise, determination, faith, and collective will always pave the way for renewal and progress. Referring to the reconstruction of Somnath temple, he observed that it represents the triumph of national self-confidence and cultural consciousness, demonstrating that civilizations rooted in strong values continue to flourish despite adversity.

Highlighting the role of higher educational institutions in nation-building, he re-

marked that IIM Jammu is committed to nurturing leaders who combine knowledge with character, innovation with ethics, and modern management with India's timeless wisdom. He stressed that Virasat (heritage) and Vikas (development) are not opposing forces but complementary pillars of a strong nation and that India's progress must always remain anchored in its cultural ethos and civilizational values. Calling upon the youth to become the architects of a developed India, he urged students to actively contribute towards the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047, as envisioned by Shri Narendra Modi, The Hon'ble Prime Minis-

ter of India, by embracing innovation, responsible leadership, self-reliance, and a deep sense of cultural rootedness. He observed that realizing the aspirations of 2047 requires a generation that harmonizes Pragati (progress) with Sanskriti (culture) and Netrutva (leadership) with national values. Concluding his address, he encouraged young minds to draw inspiration from India's civilizational heritage, transform challenges into opportunities, and emerge as responsible global leaders committed to building a confident, inclusive, and prosperous India for generations to come.

Delivering an insightful session on the History and Signifi-

cance of Somnath Temple, Prof. Shyam Narayan Lal, Chairperson, Anandam - The Centre for Happiness, IIM Jammu, presented a concise overview of Somnath's historical, cultural, and spiritual significance. He described Somnath as a timeless symbol of India's resilience, civilizational continuity, and collective self-respect, highlighting its association with Prabhakar Patan, Lord Shri Krishna, and its significance as the first Jyotirlinga. He noted that despite being destroyed several times throughout history, the temple was repeatedly rebuilt, reflecting India's indomitable spirit, unwavering faith, and enduring cultural identity. He concluded that the nation's timeless civilizational values continue to inspire resilience, ethical leadership, and a progressive society rooted in its rich heritage.

The programme was further enriched with captivating dance and solo musical performances by children from a partnering NGO, whose enthusiasm and talent received heartfelt appreciation from the audience. A lively groove dance perfor-

mance and a melodious music recital added colour and vibrancy to the celebration, reflecting the spirit of inclusivity and cultural diversity.

As a mark of appreciation, Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu felicitated the child performers from the NGO (Guidance and Counselling Cell for Youth Development, Gurha Slathia) for their inspiring cultural presentations and encouraged them to continue pursuing excellence in their artistic and academic endeavours.

The event concluded with a spiritually uplifting Somnath Aarti, followed by the Vote of Thanks, a group photograph, followed by the National Song and the National Anthem, bringing the celebration to a dignified and patriotic close.

Through Somnath Parv, IIM Jammu once again reaffirmed its commitment to holistic education by integrating academic excellence with India's cultural ethos, promoting value-based leadership, happiness, and a deeper appreciation of the nation's enduring civilizational legacy.