

Javid Dar lays foundation stone for beautification of Ziyarat Hazrat Nizam-ud-Din (RA) at Ladoora

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 30

Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, today laid the foundation stone for fencing and beautification works at the revered Ziyarat Hazrat Nizam-ud-Din (RA) at Ladoora, Bara-mulla.

The project, being executed by the PW(R&B) Rafiabab Division, has an estimated cost of ₹30 lakh. It is aimed at improving the overall infrastructure, appearance and surroundings of the revered shrine, besides facilitating devotees and visitors.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that the life and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) provide timeless guidance to humanity and embody the values of peace, compassion, tolerance, mutual respect and brotherhood. He emphasised that promotion of brotherhood and social harmony remains one of the fundamental teachings of the Prophet (PBUH). He



added that these values are essential for creating a peaceful, cohesive and progressive society.

Javid Dar called upon the people to draw inspiration from the noble life and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and contribute towards strengthening communal harmony, mutual respect and the spirit of collective responsibility in society.

The Minister said that religious and heritage sites

are an integral part of the social and cultural fabric of Jammu and Kashmir. He directed the concerned agencies to ensure that the development works are executed with due regard to quality, aesthetics and the sanctity of the site.

Javid Dar stressed upon the executing agency to maintain strict quality standards and ensure timely completion of the project so that the benefits of the development reach

devotees and the local community at the earliest.

The Minister also interacted with they local residents and representatives and had feedback regarding developmental issues in the area, assuring that their genuine concerns would be examined and addressed on priority. The officers of the concerned departments, local representatives and prominent citizens were present on the occasion.

NSS SMVDU organizes 2-week Fitness Drive under Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat Abhiyan

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The National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) organized a two-week Morning Fitness Drive under the Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat Abhiyan to promote physical fitness, a healthy lifestyle, and awareness about the importance of staying away from substance abuse.

The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from NSS volunteers, who actively took part in various morning fitness activities and exercises. The drive aimed to encourage students to adopt a disciplined and healthy routine while highlighting the vital role of physical and mental well-being in building a drug-free and developed India. Throughout the two-week



programme, the volunteers participated in various outdoor fitness activities, promoting the message that a healthy and active youth is essential for the progress of the nation.

The initiative also provided an opportunity for students to develop qualities of discipline, teamwork, consistency, and perseverance. The Nasha Mukh Yuva

for Viksit Bharat Abhiyan emphasizes the collective responsibility of young people in creating a substance-free society and contributing positively towards the vision of a developed India. The Morning Fitness Drive served as a meaningful step towards spreading this message among the youth and encouraging them to choose a healthy, disci-

plined, and responsible lifestyle. The drive concluded with the active participation and enthusiasm of the NSS volunteers, Prof. R. K. Mishra, Dean of Students' Welfare, and Dr. Rajiv Kumar, NSS Programme Coordinator, reaffirming their collective commitment towards the vision of a fit, healthy, drug-free, and developed India.

PM Modi highlights Shri Amarnathji yatra's sanitation, waste management model in 'Mann Ki Baat'

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 30: The comprehensive sanitation and scientific waste management system implemented during the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026 has received national recognition, with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi highlighting the Yatra's sanitation arrangements and scientific waste management model in the latest episode of "Mann Ki Baat".

The Prime Minister's mention comes shortly after conclusion of the Yatra on August 28, 2026. It appreciably recognises the co-ordinated efforts undertaken to manage sanitation and waste across the challenging Himalayan terrain.

The Directorate of Rural Sanitation, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, J&K, implemented a comprehensive sanitation and waste management framework across the Baltal and Pahalgam axes, base camps and key Yatra locations. The system had been designed to cater to the requirements of lakhs of pilgrims while ensuring that cleanliness and environmental protection remained central to management of the pilgrimage.

As part of the extensive sanitation arrangements, over 8,000 sanitation facilities and supporting infrastructure were deployed across the Yatra ecosystem. These included prefabricated sanitation structures, toilets, bathing facilities and pucca bases, providing pilgrims with clean, safe and dignified sanitation facilities during the pilgrimage.

The infrastructure was backed by dedicated sanitation personnel deployed across the Yatra routes, camps and high-footfall areas. Their responsibilities extended beyond routine cleaning and included the continuous upkeep of sanitation facilities, cleanliness of public spaces, prevention of litter accumulation and maintenance of hygienic conditions along the pilgrimage routes.

A robust scientific solid waste management system was simultaneously operationalised to manage the substantial quantum of waste generated during the Yatra.

The system ensured end-to-end waste management, covering segregation at source, collection, transportation, processing and

scientific disposal. It ensured that waste generated at base camps and along the Yatra routes was systematically channelled for appropriate processing.

Under the Zero Waste to Landfill approach, a total of 414.46 metric tonnes of waste was collected and processed during the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026.

The intervention assumed particular significance given the fragile ecological character of the Himalayan terrain through which the Yatra passes. Integrating sanitation infrastructure with scientific waste management helped minimise the environmental footprint of the large-scale pilgrimage while maintaining essential public health and hygiene standards.

Similarly, IEC interventions were undertaken to encourage the pilgrims to adopt responsible waste management practices, use designated sanitation facilities and contribute towards maintaining cleanliness of the Yatra environment.

The emphasis was on promoting a "Swachh Yatra" culture, positioning cleanliness and responsible

waste disposal as a shared responsibility involving the administration, sanitation workforce, pilgrims, service providers and other stakeholders. The technology-enabled monitoring and field-level supervision further strengthened the system by supporting oversight of sanitation services and waste management operations across the Yatra routes and camps.

Prime Minister's mention of the sanitation and waste management efforts in Mann Ki Baat provides national recognition to the concerted efforts undertaken by the administration and sanitation teams to establish a sustainable framework for managing the waste and sanitation during one of the country's major annual pilgrimages.

"With over 8,000 sanitation facilities deployed and 414.46 MT of waste collected and processed, the Yatra has demonstrated how infrastructure, manpower, technology and behavioural change can work together to create a cleaner and more environmentally responsible pilgrimage experience," said Director General Rural Sanitation, J&K, Anoo Malhotra.

Ladoora Legends lifts cricket title; Javid Dar lauds sporting spirit of people

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, AUG 30

Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar, today attended the final match of the Ladoora Legends League Cricket Tournament, organised by the Ladoora Legends League Cricket Committee at Ladoora.

MLA Sopore, Irshad Rasool Kar was also present on the occasion.

The much-awaited final witnessed an exciting contest between Ladoora and Rohama, drawing enthusiastic participation and a large gathering of cricket enthusiasts and local youth.

Displaying an impressive performance, Ladoora emerged victorious to clinch the championship title, sparking celebrations among players, supporters



and organisers.

Congratulating the winning team, Javid Ahmad Dar appreciated the players for their dedication, discipline and competitive spirit. He also commended the Rohama team for putting up a spirited performance and contributing to an exciting final.

The Minister said that sporting events provide an important platform for Legends and youth to

showcase their talent, build confidence and develop qualities of discipline, teamwork and leadership. He stressed the importance of promoting grassroots sports and creating more opportunities for young people to participate in sporting activities.

Javid Dar appreciated the Ladoora Legends League Cricket Committee for organising the tournament and providing local

youth with a meaningful platform to demonstrate their sporting abilities. He expressed hope that such initiatives would continue to gain momentum and inspire more young people to take up sports, pursue excellence and contribute positively to society.

The Minister also conveyed his best wishes to the organisers and participating teams for their future endeavours.

Bukhari urges KPs to return their homecoming is vital to reclaiming glory of our past

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 30: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Sunday urged the people of Srinagar's Shehr-e-Khaas not to fall prey to the decades-long exploitation by traditional political parties like the National Conference. He called upon them to become aware of their political and democratic rights and assert them to bring about a change in their present difficult situation.

He was addressing a workers' convention in Habba Kadal, Srinagar, which was attended by a large gathering of local residents and party workers.

Addressing the gathering, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari expressed serious concern over the continued poor condition of Srinagar city and the hardships faced by its residents. He said that to change this situation, people must take responsibility and stop falling prey to the exploitative politics of the National Conference and its leadership.

He said, "Marhoom Sheikh Sahib successfully earned the unconditional loyalty of the people of the city and built a political empire for generations of his family. However, this blind following by the people paved the way for a prolonged lack of development and prosperity in the city. Even today, decades later, people continue to blindly follow the party, often at the cost of their own future and that of the coming generations."

He went on to say, "There are around nine lakh people living in this historic city, yet a large number of them are struggling even for basic amenities. Look at the plight of our

youth. They are educated but remain jobless, with many forced to take up petty jobs, like working as street vendors. How long can this situation continue?"

"Unfortunately, the existing reservation policy has also adversely affected the people of the city by further reducing employment opportunities for local youth. The residents of the city do not fall under any reserved category, except the Economically Weaker Section (EWS), whose reservation has also been reduced from 10 percent to 3 percent," he added.

He went on to say, "This beautiful and historic city still lacks even basic amenities, like drinking water. There is a serious shortage of housing, and livelihood opportunities. Many of our daughters in the city, despite having crossed marriageable age, are unable to get married because of the severe financial difficulties faced by their families."

"We must seriously think about how to change this pathetic situation. The first step is for the people to distance themselves from the political forces that have kept them in this condition despite receiving their support for decades," he added.

Apni Party president said that by continuing to support the NC, the people of the city are, in fact, compromising their own interests and development.

He said, "Why don't you understand this simple fact? Despite remaining in power for decades, this party allowed the city to remain in such a pathetic condition and, even worse, damaged its natural infrastructure."



"Take Nallah Mar, for instance. It was an ancient waterway that connected Dal Lake and the Brari Nambal lagoon with the River Jhelum and Anchar Lake. Filling up this historic canal was one of the greatest acts of damage inflicted on this city and its people. It not only destroyed an important part of Srinagar's natural drainage and waterway system but also robbed the city of a vital part of its historical heritage," he said.

Remembering the days when Kashmiri Pandits and Muslims lived together in harmony in the city, Syed

Mohammad Altaf Bukhari said, "I vividly remember the days when, as children, we used to attend tuition classes taught by some of the finest Pandit teachers. I also fondly remember the time when Muslims and Kashmiri Pandits lived together happily and prosperously, sharing a bond of mutual respect, trust, and brotherhood."

Making a heartfelt appeal to the Kashmiri Pandit community, he said, "I urge my Kashmiri Pandit brethren to return so that, together, we can rediscover the past glory of our beautiful

shared culture and work towards restoring peace, prosperity, and harmony."

Apni Party President urged the people of the city to remain vigilant and ensure that, whenever the ULB polls are held, they vote wisely and choose their representatives thoughtfully, so that their developmental issues are addressed effectively.

He also urged the people to support Apni Party to enable it to implement its pro-people manifesto in the city and ensure sustained prosperity and development in this historic and beautiful city.

Speaking on the occasion, former Cabinet Minister and Apni Party Senior Vice President Ghulam Hassan Mir said that the "people of Srinagar city are facing severe hardships due to inadequate housing, limited livelihood opportunities, and a lack of developmental infrastructure."

He said that "even the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) does not allow people to construct houses or commercial establishments on their own land, causing them further hardship and inconvenience."

He said, "It is painful to see our youth struggling today. They do not have enough job opportunities, and many of them also face problems in getting passports and completing verification processes for jobs and passports."

Lashing out at the government Mir said, "These people have placed their trust in you, given you their mandate, and voted you to power. How can a government refuse to address the issues and concerns of the very people

who elected it?"

Party's Provincial president Mohammad Ashraf Mir addressed the occasion and urged the people of the city to support Apni Party.

He said, "Unlike the traditional parties, this party does not belong to any family or any individual. This party belongs to people and its primary agenda is to serve the people. I urge you to make this party strengthen so that it will be able to implement its agenda for peace, prosperity and development of Jammu and Kashmir and its people."

Besides Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari and Ghulam Hassan Mir, the prominent party leaders who spoke in the convention or who were present on the occasion included party's Vice President Haji Mohammad Syed Akhoun, Provincial President Kashmir Mohammad, Chief Spokesperson & State Secretary Muntazir Mohi-uddin, District President Srinagar & Constituency In-charge Central Shaltang Zaffar Habib, Provincial Secretary Kashmir Malik Aftab, Provincial Secretary Kashmir Peer Wajahat, Provincial Joint Secretary Kashmir & Constituency In-charge Habba Kadal Jeelani Hamid Kumar, Provincial Joint Secretary Aamir Ashraf Bhat, Provincial Joint Secretary Kashmir Aijaz Rather, Organiser Central Kashmir Mohammad Shafi Mir, Vice President Srinagar Mohsin Zaffar Shah, Provincial Youth President Kashmir Jibran Dar, Joint Secretary District Srinagar Khursheed Ahmad Makhdoomi, Joint Secretary District Srinagar Sameer Ahmad Lone, Constituency In-charge Khanyar Amir Bhat, and others.