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LG, CM Urge People To Uphold Ideals of Karbala

Pay Tributes To Imam Hussain (AS) On Ashoora

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday paid rich tributes to Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and the martyrs of Karbala on the eve of Ashoora, recalling their unparalleled sacrifice for truth, justice and human dignity.

In his message, the Lieutenant Governor said the supreme sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions at Karbala remain a timeless beacon for humanity.

"The supreme sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions at Karbala remain a timeless beacon for humanity, upholding truth, justice and human dignity," Sinha said. He urged people to imbibe these universal ideals and work together to build a peaceful, progressive and equitable society.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, in his message, described the tragedy of Karbala as an eternal symbol of courage, steadfastness and resistance against tyranny.

He said Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS), along with his devoted family members and companions, upheld the | [More on P6](#)

Valley Unites In Mourning As Ashura Procession Winds Through Srinagar Today

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As the first light of the 10th of Muharram breaks over Kashmir on Friday, the Valley will once again immerse itself in remembrance of the tragedy of Karbala, with thousands of mourners expected to participate in the historic Zuljinah procession from Bota Kadal to Imambargah Zadibal.

For generations, the procession has been more than a religious gathering. It is a solemn public reaffirmation of Imam Hussain's (AS) timeless stand against injustice, drawing men, women and children who walk in mourning alongside the symbolic riderless horse—Zuljinah—reciting elegies and nohas that echo the grief of Karbala.

To facilitate the smooth conduct of one of the Valley's largest Muharram congregations, authorities have put in place elaborate security and traffic arrangements across Srinagar, particularly in the old city and Zadibal, where movement is expected to remain heavily regulated for several hours.

The Srinagar Traffic Police on Thursday issued



MOURNERS TAKE OUT A TRADITIONAL BOAT procession through the interiors of Dal Lake in Srinagar on the 9th of Muharram. KO Photo by Abid Bhat

a comprehensive advisory, informing commuters that traffic movement in Zadibal and adjoining localities will remain affected as the procession proceeds from Bota Kadal

to Imambargah Zadibal. According to the advisory, all vehicles heading towards Zadibal from different directions will be diverted at Firdous Cinema, Mill Stop,

Lal Bazar and Bota Kadal. Commuters travelling towards Hawal Road have been advised to use the Firdous Cinema—Ali Masjid—Sazgaripora route. Traffic moving from Karan

Nagar and Nallamar towards Soura will be diverted via Ali Jan Road, while no right turn towards Sazgaripora will be permitted at Ali Masjid.

Vehicles approaching from Kalai Andhar will not be allowed to proceed towards Zadibal through Firdous Cinema and will instead be diverted via Sazgaripora or Nowhatta. Likewise, traffic from Soura will not be permitted beyond Nallabar towards Zadibal, with motorists advised to use alternate routes through Zoonimar and Awantibhawan Road.

Authorities further said that vehicles coming from Lal Bazar will not be allowed to proceed towards Bota Kadal and should instead take Mallabagh and other interior roads to reach Soura and adjoining areas.

Officials have appealed to commuters to plan their journeys well in advance, avoid non-essential travel through the affected areas and cooperate with traffic personnel deployed along the route.

"Public cooperation is vital for ensuring smooth traffic management | [More on P6](#)

J&K's First NCOE To Come Up At Awantipora

LG Thanks PM Modi, Sports Minister

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir is set to get its first National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) in Sports at Awantipora in Pulwama district, a landmark project that aims to transform the Union Territory into a hub for high altitude sports, elite athlete development and world-class sports training infrastructure.

The approval for the project was accorded by the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya for sanctioning the Centre, calling it the beginning of a new era of sporting opportunities for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

"This state-of-the-art Centre will bring world-class infrastructure and elite coaching right to our Union Territory, training the next generation of Olympic and international champions," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The proposed National Centre of Excellence has been envisioned as a premier national facility for high | [More on P6](#)

JKP Launch 'Hawk Eye' To Guard Amarnath Yatra

416 CCTV Cameras, Drones, Sniper Teams Deployed

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Police have launched "Project Hawk Eye", a technology-driven surveillance initiative to ensure round-the-clock monitoring of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra route as security agencies stepped up preparations for the annual pilgrimage beginning on July 3.

The initiative, unveiled by Anantnag Police, forms part of an expanded multi-layered security grid put in place for the yatra.

Under the project, five drone units have been deployed for aerial surveillance along the pilgrimage route, while 28 elevated observation posts, or Machan Morchas, have been established at vulnerable locations. In addition, 22 sniper teams have been strategically positioned to strengthen the

security network.

Police have also installed 416 high-resolution CCTV cameras and facial recognition system infrastructure at key locations to facilitate real-time monitoring and early detection of any suspicious activity.

As part of the security build-up, multiple mock drills and preparedness exercises were conducted across Jammu and Kashmir to test the response capabilities of various agencies.

In Bandipora, police, the CRPF, SSB and Army jointly conducted an exercise at Shadipora Camp focusing on convoy protection, emergency evacuation, rapid response operations and coordinated action during crisis situations.

A similar high-intensity drill was carried out by Ganderbal Police at Malshahi Bagh, Sonamarg | [More on P6](#)

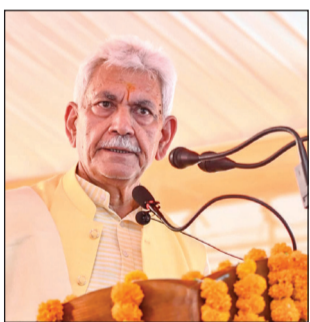
Zero Tolerance For Operational Lapses During Yatra: LG

Inspects Nunwan Base Camp, Reviews Yatra Preparedness | Says All Preparations Finalised for Safe, Smooth Pilgrimage Beginning July 3

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday directed officials to adopt a "zero tolerance" approach towards operational lapses during the forthcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra as he chaired a high-level review meeting in Pahalgam and inspected the Nunwan base camp to assess preparedness for the annual pilgrimage beginning on July 3.

Chairing the meeting



attended by senior civil, police and security officials, the

Lieutenant Governor undertook a comprehensive review of arrangements for the pilgrimage, including logistics, accommodation, healthcare, sanitation, power and water supply, road connectivity, RFID cards, functioning of joint control rooms, track maintenance and widening, construction of footbridges, setting up of langars, creation of holding areas, traffic management and security.

Directing all departments to ensure | [More on P6](#)

Amarnath Yatra A Model Of Unity In Diversity: LG

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday described the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra as a living embodiment of India's spiritual consciousness, cultural heritage and humane values, saying the annual

pilgrimage stands as a unique model of coexistence and unity in diversity. Addressing the valedictory session of an international conference on Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, organised by the Government Degree | [More on P6](#)

Gulmarg Gondola Reopens After Month-Long Closure

CM Rewards Rescue Team With ₹50,000 Each

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Thursday reopened the Gulmarg Gondola to the public, nearly a month after a technical snag forced the suspension of services and left more than 300 tourists and local guides stranded mid-air.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah flagged off the resumption of operations by taking a Gondola ride to Phase I at Kongdoori, where he inspected the system and reviewed the restoration work carried out following the May 25 malfunction.

Officials of the J&K Cable Car Corporation briefed the Chief Minister on the technical restoration of the ropeway and the comprehensive safety audits conducted before the service was cleared for public use.



The Chief Minister commended the corporation staff for their round-the-clock efforts in restoring one of the country's premier tourist attractions within a short period. In recognition of their work, he announced a reward of 50,000 each for the officials and crew members who participated in the rescue and relief operations during the | [More on P6](#)

Centre Lifts LPG Curbs As West Asia Crisis Eases

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Centre on Thursday restored commercial liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) supplies to pre-crisis levels, lifting sector-specific restrictions imposed during the recent West Asia conflict as domestic production improved and imported cargoes became available.

In a statement, the Petroleum Ministry said restrictions on commercial LPG supplies to hotels, restaurants and other businesses had been withdrawn following an improvement in the domestic supply situation and the expected arrival of imported LPG cargoes.



The government also partially resumed the supply of bulk LPG, which had been suspended at the onset of the crisis, restoring it to 50 per cent of pre-crisis consumption levels.

The decision marks the latest rollback of emergency measures introduced after the West Asia conflict disrupted LPG imports from the region, which accounts for nearly 90 per cent of India's cooking

gas imports. To safeguard household consumption, the government had diverted available supplies to domestic consumers by curbing commercial LPG distribution.

Commercial supplies were later restored in phases to about 70 per cent of normal levels, although several sectors continued to face restrictions until now.

"In a major relief to industrial and commercial LPG consumers, the government has removed all sectoral restrictions on the supply of non-domestic packed LPG and restored supplies to the levels prevailing prior to the West Asia crisis," the ministry said. During the | [More on P6](#)

₹2.13 Cr Scam: ACB Chargesheets 2 Retired PHE Officials

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has filed a chargesheet against two retired officials of the erstwhile Public Health Engineering (Hydraulic) Division, Bandipora, for their alleged involvement in the embezzlement and misappropriation of government store material worth over 2.13 crore.

The chargesheet was filed before the Court of the Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Baramulla, against Bashir Ahmad Sheikh, then Senior Assistant and Storekeeper, and Mukhtar Ahmad Mir, then In-charge

Executive Engineer of the PHE (Hydraulic) Division, Bandipora.

According to the ACB, the case stemmed from source information alleging large-scale embezzlement of government store material procured by the division during the 2011-12 financial year. An open verification conducted by the then Vigilance Organisation Kashmir reportedly revealed substantial shortages and deficiencies in the divisional stores, leading to the registration of the case.

During the investigation, the Bureau alleged that the two accused entered into a criminal conspiracy and dishonestly | [More on P6](#)

Govt Mulls Summer Vacation For Schools In July

Agencies

Srinagar: The government Thursday said that it will consider announcing summer vacations for schools of Kashmir division in the month of July.

Jammu and Kashmir Education Minister Sakina Itoo said, "As of now we have no plans of announcing summer vacations, weather is good for now. The government will think about it in the month of July."

Itoo also said that the Jammu and Kashmir government interacted with the Education Minister of Himachal Pradesh. "The education minister of Himachal Pradesh is here in J&K and we shared insights of the school and higher education system | [More on P6](#)