

J&K Contractors Coordination Committee Urges Immediate Release of ₹1000 Cr JJM Payments Ahead of Eid-ul-Adha

GY CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR, JUNE 5

Hundreds of members from the Jammu and Kashmir Contractors Coordination Committee (JKCCC) staged a peaceful protest at the Engineering Complex, Rajbagh Srinagar, against the non-release of pending payments under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). The protest was led by JKCCC Chairman Gulam Jeelani Purza, who urged the government to release over ₹1000 crore of pending dues before Eid-ul-Adha.

Addressing the gathering, JKCCC Chairman Gulam Jeelani Purza said, "Our contractors have implemented the Jal Jeevan Mission across Jammu & Kashmir, installing pipelines, constructing pump sheds and ensuring water reaches every household. Yet, their rightful payments have been withheld since September 2024. This payment is not



just about contractors; it's about laborers, suppliers, mechanics, transporters and every family whose livelihood depends on this sector. If these payments are not released before Eid, we will be left with no option but to halt all ongoing JJM works across the Valley."

Purza also emphasized that during the Governor-led administration, payments were made on time, but under the current elected government, funds have been unjustly delayed – causing serious financial strain on the contractor community.

Bandipora Contractors Association President, Naseer Mir, said "The

government has pushed the contractor fraternity to the edge. Payments worth crores are pending for genuine work done. Contractors have mortgaged properties, taken loans and now face humiliation due to non-clearance of dues. We demand immediate financial justice."

Kupwara Contractors Association President, Hilal Farooq said "It's heartbreaking that ahead of Eid-ul-Adha, when families should be preparing to celebrate, our contractors are on roads, protesting for money they've rightfully earned. This delay is not just financial negligence – it's moral injustice."

Kupwara Marks World Environment Day with Green Initiatives by 7 J&K NCC

GY CORRESPONDENT
KUPWARA, JUNE 5

World Environment Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Kupwara through a series of awareness activities and eco-friendly initiatives spearheaded by the 7 J&K Battalion NCC under the aegis of the Vaj Division. The program witnessed active participation from over 70 NCC cadets



representing various schools and colleges across the district, all united by a shared mission to promote environmental awareness and community responsibility.

The day's proceedings began with an Environmental Awareness Rally, which started from the J&K Tourism Office and concluded at the 'Parcham-e-Hind' site under the Vaj Division. Cadets marched through the town carrying placards bearing impactful slogans related to environmental protection. To further amplify the message,

bilingual pamphlets in English and Urdu were distributed among locals, emphasizing the significance of World Environment Day and suggesting practical steps for sustainable living. One of the key highlights of the celebration was the "Clean Kupwara" campaign conducted in the town's central market area. Wearing gloves and



armed with garbage bags, cadets actively collected plastic waste and other litter, setting an exemplary standard of civic responsibility and environmental stewardship.

The observance not only demonstrated the NCC's commitment to environmental causes but also inspired local citizens to reflect on their role in preserving the natural surroundings. The initiative was widely appreciated by residents and civil authorities alike, reinforcing the ongoing efforts of the Indian Army and NCC in promoting sustainability and social responsibility.

PDA marks World Environment Day 2025 with Plastic Awareness and Cleanliness Drive



GY CORRESPONDENT
PATNIPOT, JUNE 5
ROHIT SHARMA

The Patnipot Development Authority, Department of Tourism, J&K, in collaboration with the Department of Wildlife Protection, J&K, and Government Higher Secondary School, Garhi, Udhampur, observed World Environment Day 2025 with a series of activities, aligning with this year's global theme – 'Beat Plastic Pollution.' The day commenced with a cleanliness drive in and around Patnipot, engaging local stakeholders, students, NCC cadets, tourists, staff and officials from the organizing institutions. Following this, an awareness walk along the circular road of Patnipot was held, featuring slogans and messages to encourage tourists and locals alike for adopting environmentally responsible behaviour. To reinforce behavioural change in the participants, cloth bags were also distributed along with informational pamphlets. During an interactive

session, Surinder Tripathi, Divisional Pollution Officer, and Vijay Kumar, Wildlife Warden, Jammu, sensitized the participants about the widespread permeation of plastics in daily life. They spoke about its far-reaching impacts on the ecosystems, economies, and health of variety of species. They highlighted proper disposal methods for different types of plastics, and the importance of adopting sustainable practices, with special emphasis on educational institutions and tourist places.

Speaking on the occasion, Devender Singh Bhau, CEO PDA, said, "Plastics have entered everywhere – even where they must not belong. They threaten the sensitive ecology and economy of the renowned Patnipot Tourism Circuit. Through our ongoing initiatives, namely, Clean Patnipot Green Patrol, 'Carry the Trash Back,' and 'Clean Mountains Save Future', we are working to preserve the ecological sanctity of this circuit. Today, we have renewed that

commitment and mobilized a few more individuals in this journey. Beating plastic pollution will take consistent effort from everyone, but the rewards – for nature, economy, and people – will be both beautiful and plentiful." Renu Kotwal, Principal, Government Higher Secondary School, Garhi, Udhampur, stressed the importance of involving youth in the cause. She noted that when students directly engage with plastic pollution, it makes them more conscious of their responsibility towards nature.

The event concluded with a pledge by all participants to be mindful of their plastic usage and disposal in their daily lives. It witnessed presence and participation of officials and staff from the Patnipot Development Authority, Department of Tourism, J&K, Department of Wildlife Protection, J&K Pollution Control Committee, along with the Government Higher Secondary School, Garhi, Udhampur.

GDC Kishtwar Observes World Environment Day with Theatrical Tribute 'Mei Dharti' in Collaboration with Kiru Hydro Electric Project, CVPL, DIPR & DD News



GY CORRESPONDENT
KISHTWAR, JUNE 5

Government Degree College (GDC) Kishtwar, in collaboration with the Kiru Hydro Electric Project, CVPL, DIPR & DD News, commemorated World Environment Day 2025 with a compelling theatrical performance titled "Mei Dharti", aimed at raising awareness about environmental degradation and the urgent need for action. Organized by the Department of Environmental Sciences along with NSS and NCC units, the event brought together students, faculty, and dignitaries in a shared commitment to environmental protection.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was Assistant Commissioner Revenue Kishtwar Sh. Idrees lone JKAS. Guests of Honour included Shri Ramesh Ojha (HOP, Kiru HE

Project), Shri Idrees Lone (J&K, Kishtwar), and Prof. Basharat Ghil (Principal, GDC Kishtwar). The event also saw the special presence of Prof. Dr. Tariq Tameen (GDC Chaitrow), Prof. Yaseen Sirwal (GDC Bhaderwah), Ms. Radha Rani (Principal, GGHSC Kishtwar), Dr. Nazir Hussain (Medical Officer, Kishtwar), and Mr. Satish Kumar Bhagat. The program was convened by Dr. Seharish Gazal (HoD, Environmental Sciences) and Dr. Ravi Sharma (Sr. Manager, Environment, Kiru CVPL), with support from co-conveners Dr. Tabassum Saleem and Prof. Ajeet Kumar.

The organizing team included Dr. Yasar Ahmed, Prof. Esar ul Ayub, Dr. Usman Sheikh, and Prof. Ashfaq Wani. A poem presented by Prof. Priyanka Raj added literary depth to the occasion.

crucial for creating sustainable sanitation models. Such workshops bridge the gap between research and implementation, enabling the development of field-ready solutions that are both effective and culturally appropriate," she added.

Ms. Malhotra further said World Environment Day is not just about speeches and slogans. It is about inspiring real change. It's about teaching our children the value of sustainability and leading by example in our communities. Institutes' Registrar, Prof. Atiqur Rehman said that the theme of this workshop resonates deeply with one of the most fundamental aspects of human dignity and well-being: sanitation. "Access to clean and safe sanitation is not merely an infrastructure challenge; it

Doda police cracks theft case. Stolen property worth lakhs recovered

GY CORRESPONDENT
DODA, JUNE 5

Doda Police has successfully solved a theft case reported under FIR No. 136/2025 U/S 331(4), 305 BNS, registered at Police Station Doda. Official sources have said that the case was lodged on the complaint of one Bilal Hussain S/O Gulam Hassan Batt R/O Bundoda, District Doda, who reported that during the night of 30-05-2025, a theft took place at his workshop situated near Smedan Morh, Doda, in which a large number of costly spare parts were stolen from his store room.

Accordingly case FIR No. 136/2025 U/S 331(4), 305 BNS got registered at PS Doda and investigation of the cases started. On the directions of SSP Doda Sandeep Mehta- JKPS a special team led by SHO Doda Inspector Parvaiz Ahmed khanday was constituted and the team acting swiftly launched investigation and rounded up several suspects.

During questioning, one suspect, Sameer Ahmed Batt S/O Late Showkat Ali Batt R/O Akramabad, District Doda, confessed his



involvement in the commission of crime and provided vital leads. Acting on his disclosure, a substantial quantity of stolen items was recovered and seized from various locations which includes Welding machine – 01, Patta Kamaniya – 09, Bullet and cycle chains – 04, Motorcycle – shockers 03, Back shockers (bike) – 02, Water radiator (truck) – 01, Truck bumper part – 01, Pumps – 02, Counter shafts – 04, Gear box (Focus) – 05, Self housing Late Showkat Ali Batt R/O Akramabad, District Doda, confessed his

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SSP Jammu holds crime/ security review meeting at DPL, Jammu



GY CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, JUNE 5

The Senior Superintendent of Police Jammu Sh. Joginder Singh-JKPS today on 05.06.2025 held a Crime/Security review at District Police Lines. The meeting was attended by all the Zonal SSPs, SDPOs, SHO's & I/C PP's of Jammu District. During the meeting, in addition to crime review, various security measures were discussed for controlling crime & ensuring peace and stability in the district. Various aspects of policing including quality investigation of cases, crime disposal, verifications, disposal of NDPS, UAPA cases, inquiry proceedings, history sheets, absconders, missing persons and other issues related to accountable policing were also discussed. Disposal of cases registered under Old as well as New Criminal Laws of each Police Station/Sub-division was discussed in detail, including disposal within time limit period of 60 & 90 days. Quality and speedy investigation and timely disposal of

NDPS cases including timely/sincere efforts to delay bail of drug peddlers, bail cancellations as well as unearthing of backward and forward linkages in such cases was also stressed. Progress on CCINS front, e-Sakshya, SID's, e-sumans was also taken up during the meeting. Progress on mandatory utilisation of FSL services & MedLeAP was also discussed. SSP directed officers to identify all the hardcore criminal elements including drug peddlers and take firm action against these elements. He also stressed for preventive detention of hardcore criminals/safety/security of general public. SSP Jammu also advised the police officers posted in the district in various capacities to provide good policing to the general public and give a tough time to anti-national and anti-social elements. SSP Jammu specifically mentioned that all drug peddlers should be identified & strict action needs to be taken against them. There is a clear

policy of ZERO TOLERANCE against drugs and whoever is involved in drug trafficking should be strictly dealt with. SSP Jammu emphasized upon the participating officers to ensure quantitative and qualitative disposal of under-investigation cases of various nature as a priority and to take stringent action against those who are involved in various social crimes. He also directed that there is zero tolerance to corruption, bunking of crime and indiscipline at any level. He said that the efficiency of police can be gauged from the time it takes to respond to day-to-day situations. He asserted that along with quickness in response, polite behaviour and sympathy at heart are required while dealing with the problems of general public. At the conclusion of the meeting, SSP Jammu directed all officers to maintain proper surveillance on all anti-social/anti-national elements and ensure foolproof security during the forthcoming VVIP visit.

NIT Srinagar hosts World Environment Day seminar on 'Ending Plastic Pollution'

GY CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR, JUNE 5

The National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar, on Thursday organized a day-long seminar on World Environment Day 2025, aimed at addressing critical environmental challenges, particularly those caused by plastic pollution.

The theme of the workshop was "Ending Plastic Pollution" and it was hosted by the Water Resource Management Centre (WRMC) of NIT Srinagar.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujiya, was the Chief Patron of the seminar. While as Dean Research and Consultancy, Prof. Roohie Naaz Mir was the patron of mega event. The event was presided over by Ms Anoo Malhotra, Director General, Rural Sanitation, J&K, who



served as the Chief Guest, and Mr. Haji Manzoor Ahmad, Chairman NICO Srinagar, who graced the occasion as the Guest of Honor.

The occasion also witnessed the presence of several esteemed dignitaries, including Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Atikur Rehman, HoD Engineering, Department, Prof. J.A. Bhat, Chairman Water Resources Management Centre (WRMC), Prof. A.Q. Dar,

and Dr. Khalid Muzamil Gani, who served as the Coordinator of the event. In her key speech, DG, Rural Sanitation, J&K, Ms Anoo Malhotra emphasized that technological innovation must be harnessed effectively to solve long-standing challenges in rural sanitation, especially in geographically diverse and sensitive regions like Jammu and Kashmir. "Collaboration between academic institutions and government departments is

essential for creating sustainable sanitation models. Such workshops bridge the gap between research and implementation, enabling the development of field-ready solutions that are both effective and culturally appropriate," she added. Ms. Malhotra further said World Environment Day is not just about speeches and slogans. It is about inspiring real change. It's about teaching our children the value of sustainability and leading by example in our communities. Institutes' Registrar, Prof. Atiqur Rehman said that the theme of this workshop resonates deeply with one of the most fundamental aspects of human dignity and well-being: sanitation. "Access to clean and safe sanitation is not merely an infrastructure challenge; it

Eid-ul-Adha shopping begins in Kashmir, but inflation dampens festive spirit

GY CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR, JUNE 5

With Eid-ul-Adha approaching, the markets across Kashmir are witnessing a gradual increase in the flow of shoppers as the people prepare for the grand festival. While the shopping frenzy is yet to reach its peak, analysts such as Lal Chowk in Srinagar, along with local markets in other districts, are witnessing a steady influx of shoppers.

Shops in Srinagar are witnessing a modest increase in customer footfall as families begin

preparations for the festival. While overall sales remain muted, traders are hopeful that business will pick up in the final days. "Sales are still slow, but we hope things improve by tomorrow," Mushtaq Ahmad, a local shop owner, told the news agency. "Alhamdulillah, business is picking up. We pray this trend continues across the Valley," Yaseen Khan, a trader, said. Some store owners are facing challenges due to competition from online shopping. "More customers are browsing in stores, but they eventually

prefer to purchase online, where they can find discounts. It's a growing concern for traditional businesses," said a footwear vendor in Srinagar. Despite this, local bakeries and confectioneries are seeing steady business as customers stock up on traditional sweets for the festival. The shopping fever, however, is not confined to Srinagar alone. Markets in Baramulla and other northern districts are experiencing a noticeable surge in activity, with shoppers hunting for last-minute essentials.