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# MERC TIMES



MEDIA EDUCATION RESEARCH CENTRE,  
UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

# HEALTH

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## Jammu and Kashmir has the highest number of accidental prone areas

Mehvish Dilshad

Srinagar

**T**he valley is becoming prone to the daily road accidents. Every year there is an increase in the number of the deaths due to road accidents. Regardless of the awareness campaigns conducted by many organizations in collaboration with the Traffic Police department, there seems to be no improvement.

According to a survey carried out by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the state of Jammu and Kashmir has topped the list of high accidental death-prone areas. As per the survey an accident in the state has 64 percent chance of causing death in contrast with 36.4 percent for all other states of India. The maximum being the young people of age group between 15-34 years.



The Traffic Police department is seriously working over this and almost every day challans are issued for not wearing seat belts, helmets and triple seating on bikes

While talking to MERC Times, a parent said, "The growing craze for the stunts especially on bikes among the youngsters of the valley is a major reason for the cause of accidents. Teenage boys can be seen doing dangerous stunts on roads and highways."

Pertinent to mention here, the licensing authorities allegedly are providing licence without a proper driving test. However, now that online systems have been introduced, the traffic department is more cautious about the issue and the checking of the licences.

On asking about the bike stunts Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Traffic Srinagar,

Tahir Gilani said that teenagers find this thrilling, television shows drive them towards the bike stunts as well the parents being responsible for giving their children motor bikes.

"Human life is very precious and you should not risk your life for fun, requesting the parents to look after their children and not give them things they are not capable of handling", Gilani added.

He further said, "the Traffic Police department is seriously working over this and almost every day challans are issued for not wearing seat belts, helmets and triple seating on bikes".

## Conditions worsen for the residents of Wanbal due to battered roads

Fajar shora

Srinagar

**D**espite constant complaints by the residents of Al-Noor colony Wanbal, Rawalpura they are forced to hire a space where they keep their boots and overcoats every time they leave their houses to avoid getting soaked in mud.

Having a severe impact on the mundane, inefficiency and negligence on part of the authorities can be witnessed in the lanes of this area.

The residents are up in arms against the Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED) for failing to complete the drainage project in the area which according to locals has forced them to adopt 'anti-mud gear'.

Due to recent rains and snowfall, there was water logging in the lanes of Al-Noor Colony due to which they had to face major inconvenience. The situation of the streets turned so bad that the residents had to hire a space just outside the colony where they keep the long boots and over coats they use while going out and coming back to their houses.

Expressing disappointment over the dilapidated condition of the lane, Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat, a local said two weeks ago the UEED officials dug out the road in the colony and since then nobody was seen to repair the road.

"We approached the officials concerned many times, but there was not any response from them. During emergencies we have to face a tricky situation," Bhat said. He also said the school going children and senior citizens cannot come out of their houses, as the 500-metre lane is fully waterlogged and needs urgent attention. The locals said after the recent rains the potholes and ditches remain filled with mud and water.

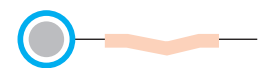
"Some employees of UEED department started the repairing process but after some time they too went absconding," he said.

The residents demanded that the lane road in the colony be repaired as soon as possible so that their sufferings end.

They said the authorities didn't repair the drainage properly, which is causing severe inconvenience to the residents. They appealed Governor Satya Pal Malik and Chief

Engineer R&B to look into the matter.

Chief Engineer R&B Sami Arif Yesvi said he will direct the concerned AEE to look into the matter so that the road is repaired and people's sufferings end.



Some employees of UEED department started the repairing process but after some time they too went absconding

# CEO NITI Aayog visits aspirational districts Baramulla, Kupwara

**Hyder Ali**  
Baramulla

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) NITI Aayog Amitabh Kant today visited north Kashmir districts of Baramulla and Kupwara to take stock on implementation of various schemes under Aspirational Districts Programme. He was accompanied by Joint Secretary NITI Aayog, Rakesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary Planning, Development & Monitoring, Rohit Kansal, Secretary, Social Welfare, Cooperatives and Tribal Affairs, Dr Farooq Ahmad Lone, Secretary Youth Services & Sports and Information, Sarmad Hafeez, Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K, Bhupinder Kumar, Director School Education Kashmir Dr G N Itoo and other concerned officers. At Baramulla Kant inaugurated Dialysis Centre under Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme at District Hospital Baramulla and a smart classroom with Computer Laboratory at Government Boys Higher Secondary School Baramulla. The CEO convened a meeting at Dak Bungalow Baramulla to take stock of the progress made in Baramulla under the Central Government's 'Aspirational Districts' programme. During the meeting, DDC Baramulla, Dr Nasir Ahmad Naqash presented a detailed overview of the achievements made in various sectors. He said the district has achieved 100% progress in almost all the given sectors under the said programme. The CEO expressed satisfaction over the overall performance achieved by the district and impressed upon officers to ensure 100

per cent achievement of targets under all performance indicators for each sector defined under the programme viz health and nutrition, education, basic infrastructure, financial inclusion, skill development, agriculture and water resources. He directed all concerned officers to identify gaps at village level and prepare an action plan at village level/micro level.

Moreover, he exhorted them to work with added zeal and



dedication so that the district is placed at the top slot. The CEO also assured full support from the central government for implementation of the activities identified for both the districts under the Aspirational District programme. During his visit to Kupwara, NITI Aayog CEO visited various sites and inspected the developmental projects in Machil and Handwara areas. He also inspected the Water Reservoir constructed at Badkoot Wadipora. The reservoir has

been constructed for irrigation and other purposes. DDC Kupwara Khalid Jahangir briefed CEO about the features of the reservoir. The CEO also visited Pashmina Kani Shawl Weaving Center at Baharderpora Wadipora and interacted with the trainees there. CEO suggested the concerned officers to market products through online platforms for better returns. The CEO also inspected High-Density Nursery at Khirhman Wadipora spread over an area of 5 Kanals of land. He was informed that the high-density programme has been initiated to boost the Horticulture sector in the district. The DDC and the concerned officers highlighted the need for construction of deep bore wells at various places in the district which will be helpful for dipping and irrigation purposes. The CEO assured full support for such initiatives and asked the DDC to submit a comprehensive proposal for approval. Later, the CEO also chaired a meeting of the Officers at Sheikh-ul-Alam Environment Centre Handwara during which threadbare discussion was held on the developmental works taken up under Aspirational District Programme in Kupwara. The CEO appreciated the district administration for improvement of indicators under Aspirational District Programme. He impressed upon the officers to work with added dedication and ensure that the district Kupwara achieves set targets. He urged officers to ensure completion of all the ongoing developmental projects within stipulated time period. He offered full support and said that all the requirements will be fulfilled to promote every sector including Horticulture, Agriculture, Handloom, and Irrigation.

## Post 2014 floods, water purifiers still dysfunctional at SMHS hospital

**Muneeb Naqeeb**  
Srinagar

The water purifiers at SMHS Hospital damaged during 2014 floods are still defunct.

The attendants are compelled to fetch the water from washrooms for drinking and therefore leaving them apprehensive of catching infections due to the defunct purifiers.

Ghulam Mohammad, who attends her mother at hospital's ophthalmology ward had come all the way from Baramulla but turned furious when he went to tap water at a dysfunctional purifier.

"This is very unfortunate. If a hospital can't provide drinking water then what is the purpose of this facility. There is no drinking water. We are compelled to bring water from washrooms and purchase from the market," he said.

A 850-bed general-speciality hospital, only two water purifiers have been installed years back. Now four years since 2014 floods the facility has not been restored.

One purifier is lying outside the ophthalmology ward in the hospital's ground floor while another defunct purifier lies opposite to Ward-8 on the first floor. Both are useless and gathering dust over the years with no

clean potable water for people.

Over the years the hospital authorities have failed to make the prime facility functional. Attendants said they can't bring drinking water from the market as they can't afford.

"Hundreds of people visit here daily, there must be drinking water facility in every block. Authorities must restore the facility," demanded Zahoor Ahmad of Pulwama an attendant.

Medical Superintendent, SMHS, Dr Saleem Tak said that the water purifiers were damaged during the floods in September 2014 and the authorities are "mulling to restore the facility."

"We do not have the record of when and who had installed the facility. We have communicated it to the mechanical wing. They are on it and will repair it within two weeks," he added.



Hundreds of people visit here daily, there must be drinking water facility in every block. Authorities must restore the facility

## Two day athletic meet starts at KU

**Fazil Buchh**  
SRINAGAR

**A** two-day inter college athletic meet, organised by Department of Physical Education and Sports, University of Kashmir, started here at varsity ground on Tuesday.

Vice Chancellor University of Kashmir, Prof Talat Ahmad who was the chief guest on the occasion, officially declared open the annual athletic meet.

Prof Talat expressed his thrill over the huge participation of students from different colleges across the valley, in the event.

Speaking on the occasion, VC said there is a dire need of good teams for participating in all sports categories and stressed that participation in sports is important than winning and losing.

He assured that KU would look into the demand of synthetic turf for university ground and provide all the facilities to the athletes so that they bring laurels to the

university and the state.

Director Physical Education KU, Dr Nisar Khan in his welcome address said the meet is a regular feature of Directorate.

“Annual athletic meet has been revived after a long time and now it is being conducted regularly from last three years,” he said.

He said a total of 25 colleges having more than 200 athletes across the valley are participating in the event this year and the inter college event will culminate into inter university event.

Inter college athletic meet comprises 18 events out of which 9 belong to men section and 9 to women section. Best performers are sent to All India Athletic Championship which will be conducted at Mangalore University this year.

Four events took place in the meet including track race of 100 metres men, 200 metres men and 400 metres women along with shotput men, a KU statement issued here said.

## Kashmir University orders ‘anti corruption’ cell in varsity’s examination wing

**Sadaf Masoodi**  
Srinagar

**T**he Kashmir University Vice Chancellor, Prof Talat Ahmad, Wednesday ordered to form a ‘anti corruption cell’ in the varsity’s examination wing to fight corruption in the institution and to make the dealings in varsity transparent.

Named as “Campaign Against Corruption” as per University officials the cell will have Controller of Examinations as its chairman and will address the complaints relating to examinations against any “person or officer working in or outside the University of Kashmir.”

“The cell shall institute complaints on the University portal exclusively meant for examination purposes for which only its chairman will have access,” said a University official.

A separate email address, to which the chairman shall have an exclusive access will be kept available to the general public, “more particularly it is for the ease of students for registering their complaints against any form of corruption.”

All the concerned students, NGOs and other stake holders are given an email



**The cell shall institute complaints on the University portal exclusively meant for examination purposes for which only its chairman will have access**

campaignagainstcorruption@rediffmail.com for registering their complaints, if any, against any corrupt practice in the examination wing.

Students sharing their elation on the move said that it is a historical step taken by the University for the ease of students and transparency in the institutional matters, however the rules that have been formulated should be streamlined and applied with equal honesty and zeal by the concerned authorities.

## Workshop On Mental Health Exercises held at KU

**Wasfi Amin**  
Srinagar

**A** two-day workshop on Enhancing social, problem solving and self confidence skills through mental health exercises was organized by the Department of Home Science, University of Kashmir.

According to the organizers of the workshop, the objective of the two day deliberation was to break silence on mental health issues and generate awareness among the participants about its various dimensions.

Inaugurating the workshop, Prof. Nilofer Khan, Registrar and Dean College Development Council KU, emphasized on the importance of mental health awareness and strategies.

She highlighted the need of training and educating teachers and scholars so that they can disseminate the information in the community and promised every help from all the quarters of the university.

Prof. Naheed Vaida, Director Institute of Home Science KU, said, “More workshops need to be conducted on similar grounds and students should be encouraged to use the information in the field and help people at grass root level.”

Speaking on the occasion Prof. F A Masoodi, Dean School of Applied Sciences and Technology, elucidated the sensitivity of the human brain and its consequences on mental health.

Dr. Aparna Khanna, Associate Professor Lady Irwin College New Delhi, who was guest speaker on the occasion stressed upon the alarming situation of mental disorders and discussed the mental issues: signs, symptoms and coping mechanism and stressed youngsters to become mental health advocates.

While interacting with the participants Dr. Khanna said “Conversation on mental health is to be carried forward as it is a taboo subject for many people. Mental diseases are not communicable. They are curable, if necessary measures and proper consultation are sought at the initial stage, otherwise they can lead to long term impacts.”

Referring to the overall health scenario at national level and support from the governmental institutions, she said “The annual expenditure on health in India is inadequate whereas it should have been the first priority.”

She added that new mental health tools were devised to make the message interesting and easily comprehensible for those who can’t read or write.

The awareness program was followed by an activity session in which mental health tools and games were introduced to inform the participants. Story telling techniques were also enunciated to sensitize the participants on few mental disorders.

Later there was also a question and answer session in which participants raised issues pertaining to mental health.

## Kashmir University organises one day awareness programme on cancer prevention and early detection

Mir Tanveer  
Srinagar

One day programme on Cancer prevention and Early Detection was held at Law Department, Kashmir University in collaboration with Cancer Society of Kashmir. NGO SAAYA also participated as partner in supporting the programme.

The coordinator of the programme and in charge of the Law Society of Kashmir, Showket Bhat told MERC Times that these types of events are important in order to create awareness among people regarding such chronic diseases.

“These types of programmes act as alarm to us regarding deadly diseases and their impact”, He said.

Large number of students and staff members

from other departments also participated in the programme.

“Such events are of great importance for every one of us. We got to know many things we weren’t aware of before”, Said Aamir Mir, a student from Economics Department.

While talking to Merc Times, Dean and HOD Law Department, Professor Mohammed Hussain said that such initiatives should be appreciated and are the need of the hour.

“These events act as a bridge between medical experts and people and we all should take part in these types of events”, He said.

Two guest speakers from the Oncology department of SKIMS, Soura presented a power point presentation that included knowledge about multiple factors responsible for an increase of the disease in Kashmir.

## Allama Iqbal library gets ISO certification

Gowhar Iqbal  
Srinagar

Allama Iqbal Library (AIL), Kashmir University (KU) has been awarded with ISO-9001:2015 certification, an official spokesman said in a statement issued here on Wednesday.

“The certification has been done for ‘Quality Management System’ of the libraries in compliance with the scope - Provision of Library Services to address Academic and Research Needs of the Scholar, Students and Teaching Fraternity of University of Kashmir,” he said.

The certification has been provided by ISO-Certifying Authority, UAE.

“It is a great achievement for the

University and J&K that Allama Iqbal Library is one of a few University Libraries in India which has been awarded with ISO-9001:2015 certification,” said Librarian Prof GM Peerzada.



## Vehicle ban in KU restricted to students only

Students allege authorities of selective discriminative implementation

Sahil Iqbal  
Srinagar

In view of ban on the vehicular moment inside Kashmir University campus some students have alleged university authorities of ‘favouritism’ while others have welcomed the move in order to keep the inside campus eco-friendly and free from too much of traffic load.

The vehicular ban order came in the month of August this year following the complaints received by various students about the heavy unnecessary vehicular moment inside the university as well as keeping the campus eco-friendly.

Authorities of Kashmir university have decided not to allow vehicle inside the campus to keep the varsity clean and green.

The move was later on supported by a large number of students. However some students alleged that few other students are allow to run their vehicle inside the campus.

Talking to MERC Times Afnan a research scholar said, “it was a good step to ban vehicular moment inside the campus but they should have sort out any alternative to this”.

Though authorities claim to run pollution free vehicle inside the



campus to counter this challenge but suspense lingers as when to introduce them on roads inside the campus Suhail a student of Linguistic department sharing his views said that, “environmental pollution is becoming a challenge now a days all over the world so to counter this challenge vehicular ban is a good move but it should apply both to students as well as staff members”.

Proctor Kashmir University Mr Naseer Iqbal, talking to MERC Times said, “we are planning to create more parking slots for our teaching and nonteaching staff vehicles, as

far as the student vehicle entry is concerned its hardly possible but I admit there may be some cases but we are 80% successful to stop vehicles at the entrance.”

Adding to this Iqbal said university has witnessed many accidents inside the campus because of the rash driving of students and we now have no record of any major or minor accidents from August, we have two eco friendly vehicles running inside the campus and the number will be increased decided to provide bicycles to students in case of emergency.

# Youth society inaugurates it's maiden office in Rajbagh

**Minya Tufail**  
Srinagar

In an unprecedented move, All Jammu & Kashmir Youth Society, an organisation of students studying throughout the state institutions have opened it's first office in Rajbagh Srinagar. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Sajid Yousuf, the head of the organisation.

The office was inaugurated by Mumbai based writer Ritu Sharma followed which a meeting took place of its core members. Ritu highlighted the role of students in awakening the society & said, "Students play a vital role in today's world. It's from this stage where doctors, politicians, professionals & philosophers emerge".

The participants of the meeting held threadbare discussions over the smooth functioning and fulfilling the Society agenda.

The participants who had come from length and breadth of Kashmir valley including Kupwara, Anantnag, Shopian, Ganderabal, Tral and Srinagar assured to work with

dedication and integrity towards fulfilling the Society goals.

Youth from different shades of life including renowned social activist Syed Aijaz Kashani, Mohd Haleem Khan, Sumaira wani, khair ul Nisa, Suhail Khan, Sheeraz mir, Tantry Firdous, Khubaib Mir, Owais Raza and other members including some members from law fraternity spoke on the occasion and assured to extend support to the Society cause.



**Students play a vital role in today's world. It's from this stage where doctors, politicians, professionals & philosophers emerge**



# Another youth mauled to death by Leopard attack

**Fazlu Rehman**  
Budgam

**A**mir Ahmad was mauled to death by leopard in his courtyard at his home, he died on spot.

The attacks on human lives by wild animals are instilling fear among the inhabitants of Central Kashmir's Budgam district. Two months before, a 6-year-old boy was also mauled to death by a leopard in Khag area. The body of the minor boy was retrieved from clutches of the leopard in critical conditions and immediately rushed to the primary health Centre (PHC) where doctors declared him brought dead.

Again in the district a leopard managed to enter into a residential area of Daffpora and mauled 10 livestock to death.

Khag, Chadoora, Khansahib, Charar I Sharief and Beerwah of Budgam district areas are on the constant prowl of wild animal attacks.

Officials at wildlife department admitted that this year alone more than seven times leopards have been found in residential areas and immediately were caught up with equipments like tranquilizer guns and trapping cages.

Meanwhile, According to recent reports, Budgam district is recording maximum increase in the green footprint of forest (61 km<sup>2</sup>).

But the subsequent increase of forest cover has not reduced the fear of locals; in return many villagers feel to shift their dwellings to safer place.

A resident of Khag says, "We feel scary to move out of our homes during late evening, because wild animals roam freely here and wildlife department is turning blind eye to catch them on time," said Abdul Razaq, a local resident.

Bashir Ahmad a local resident of Chari sharief says, "Whenever I visit my farmland which is near to Yusmarg, I take extra care, I

return home very early because I don't want to be prey of wild animals," he said.

To tackle conflict situations of wild animals, two wildlife control rooms have been set in Budgam district; one is being operated in Chadoora and another in Beerwah Township.

While talking to Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat, RTI activist, he says, "Budgam was considering as a hot bed for timber smuggling due to its proximity to Srinagar, but post 2005 has changed the scenario and situation turned for good because the rate of deforestation came down drastically because of strict efforts of the Forest department especially of former DFO Ghulam Hassan Bhat, The concept of PSA came into practice," he said.

He further said that, "I believe wild animals enter into residential areas because human intervention and the creation of border fencing forced. The construction of concrete roads into forests is also the reason of wild animals barging into residential areas," he said.

"I believe in Suthharan, Keswari and Brenwari are the most affected areas where the stumps of deforestation could be seen," he said.

Meanwhile, Officials in forest department say due to continuous encroachment in forests, wild animals especially Leopard and Bear manage to hunt in residential areas. "We time and again appeal masses to keep their farmlands clean, they should not sow trees unnecessarily, because unnecessarily sowing of trees can turn dense habitat for these wild animals," said a wild life official, Bashir Ahmad.

While talking to Divisional Forest offer Budgam, Ghulam Hassan Rafique, he told MERC Times "See the present forest cover of Budgam district is 480sq kms, you will not find any single case of deforestation, there are strict rules against the timber smugglers, we every time keep eye on them in-fact we have recently booked a person from Arizal under Public safety act".



## Coffee Espresso Pattan organizes artists' interactive session Hunar

**Maleeha Irshad**  
Baramulla

Hunar, an interactive session among various artists, scholars, writers, civil service officers and budding artists of north Kashmir was held at Pattan on Sunday.

The interactive programme was organised by an entrepreneur and owner of Coffee Espresso and Grills, Muzaffar Ahmad Rather from Pattan, where many artists and writers narrated their journey in their respective fields.

On the occasion, Aijaz Hussain Malik, District Information Officer Baramulla said that north Kashmir possessed an extraordinary talent, which he said needs to be showcased.

During the event he interacted and listened to the life experiences of various participating artists and writers.

"A person can become successful only when he will follow his dreams with honesty. I see a lot of artists,

writers, singers, academicians here, which even inspired me to follow my creative bent," Malik said.

Writer and author, Hamid Rather also shared his experiences regarding his first book titled "Marginalisation in Kashmir" with the participants.

"It was a part of my research during my university days and after passing my masters I thought to study this topic deeply. The subject gave me an insight about various marginalised groups with our valley and their problems, which needs attention at most," he said.

Sagar Nazir, young Kashmiri poet during the event recited his few couplets and urged participants to revive Kashmiri language.

Rababist Yawar Nazir also shared his life experience with the participants and played his composition of Kashmir music.

The event was also attended by calligraphy artist, Arif Badoo, academician, Isaq Rather, scholar Farhat Lone and painter, budding singers.

## Untimely snowfall causes massive damage to apple orchards in South Kashmir



Apple farmers are decrying the delay in assessment of crop and tree damages from the government.

**Haris Arshid**  
Shopian

The first snowfall of this season that came too early causing serious damage to apple orchards across the valley mostly in South Kashmir. The area largely dependent on horticulture was hit badly by snowfall, which not only damaged the fruits in orchards, but also damaged a number of trees in orchards.

Some Orchardists from Shopian District while talking to MERC Times, asked when the government was going to begin the assessment, and when would they get the compensation.

According to official figures, over 90 percent of people in the district are directly dependent on horticulture sector, particularly apple farming.

Large scale damages by snowfall have been reported from the entire district, with farmers

complaining of uprooted, broken and sliced trees.

Orchardists told MERC Times that no official, either from Revenue or Horticulture department, has reached to them to assess the damages.

Mudasir Ahmad, a resident of Trenz village of Shopian said that "farmers are not able to pick up the repairing process of trees, since they want authorities to assess the damages first."

Another orchardist from the area said that the trees have broken into pieces "while the authorities are in slumber".

"We want to bind the trees back with the support of ropes, if we don't do that soon, the broken branches will dry with the exposure of sunlight,"

An estimated 2.5 million out of Kashmir's seven million people are believed to be directly or indirectly dependent on horticulture, which has an annual turnover of Rs 5,000 to 6,000 crore.

Shareef ud Din Raina, a private school teacher called the snowfall "a catastrophe" I lost my 30% of trees in my orchard and these trees were the main source of income for me, A tree takes two decades to mature and the snowfall has ruined our hard work of years." Raina said.

## Karwan-e-Islami leads massive Milad (SAW) procession from Srinagar To Shadipora

**SHEIKH ABID**  
Srinagar

A massive rally was organized by Karwan-e-Islami to mark Eid-e-Milad celebrations in Kashmir. About one lakh devotees participated amid recitation of verses and praises in favor of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

The rally began from Karwan-e-Islami Central office Shaheed Gunj Srinagar and passed through various areas of Srinagar and later culminated at Jamia Qadria Sumbal Shadipora, where at least one lakh adherents assembled to have the glimpse of holy relic of Prophet (PBUH).

According to a statement issued by Karwan-e-Islami emotional scenes were witnessed at Jamia Qadria when the glimpses of holy relic was



e-Islami patron Alama Ghulam Rasool Hami said "success of life lies in the footsteps of beloved prophet (SAW) and the solution to the all issues also lies in the same path."

Alama Hami said that Kashmiri people are presently suffering from very sensitive situation.

He expressed grief for every eye that sheds tears and every heart that wails. He prayed for ultimate divine relief by invoking Allah's blessings.

He also called for the intensifying the drive against the eradication of growing liquor and drug abuse in Kashmir stating that the mission launched by the Karwan-e-Islami to root out liquor consumption should achieve success on all fronts and people should cooperate for that.

He thanked thousands of volunteers facilitating journey of Milad procession including the one organized from Shaheed Gunj and also those held at various district headquarters that include Kupwara, Baramulla, Ganderbal,

shown to devotees.. Addressing the mammoth gathering there, Karwan-Sopore, Budgam and other places.



## KU dean students welfare department organises interaction meet

**Imania Imtiyaz**  
Srinagar

The Department of Dean Students Welfare (DSW), University of Kashmir organised a general interaction meet with all the class representatives from different departments to address different grievances headed by the Dean Prof Raies Ahmed Qadri. The general interaction meet was held for different issues that were faced by the students and were represented by the class representatives to dean. The meeting was almost of three hours where every class representative from every department was given a fair chance to speak about different

issues like infra structure, heating system, stray dogs in campus, cleanliness facilities and provided many suggestions as well.

The course of the meeting was very fruitful and assured by the dean students welfare that he will take all the representations of the students to the honourable Vice chancellor and make sure that all the grievances are addressed within proper time and better implementation of the suggestions given by the students.

Moreover it was further said that such kind of general interaction meetings will be held for good and healthy results for students to speak about different things.

## KU Observes National Education Day

**Saima shakeel**  
Srinagar

The Moulana Anwar Shah Kashmiri boys hostel in collaboration with Kashmir university celebrated the National Education Day. Students and scholars from different departments participated in the quiz and debate organised by hostel proctor, Mir Suheel Rasool. The programme was convened by Dr. Mehrajuddin of Sanskrit department. Professor G.N Khaki, Chairman Centre of Central Asian studies and provost boys hostels chaired the programme. The role of the university in "development ethics" was highlighted.

"Students & scholars should employ their learning experiences in developing the proper ethics and morality", said professor Khaki.

Chief Proctor, professor Naseer Iqbal, said that, "the objective of celebrating National Education Day is to strengthen Our educational institutions and to raise the quality of education to greater heights".

## Roads turning into streets in Bandipora

**Tahir Hussain**  
Bandipora

The continuous traffic jam in the main town Bandipora is effecting the lives of people on daily basis, as the traffic jam has been one among the serious problems that the people of Bandipora are facing.

The people can be seen stuck in the long queues of traffic jam, as the main road has been occupied by street vendors and shopkeepers on both sides from last many years.

Locals alleged that the local administration has miserably failed to tackle the problem of traffic jam

and the other problems faced by the people related to market. We have approached the local administration hundred times to take some concrete steps to tackle the problems, but besides repeated assurances the administration has not been successful in solving the problems faced by the people. The Municipal Committee Bandipora is taking bribe from street vendors and shopkeepers which adds to the problems of traffic jam, blamed a local Waseem Khalid of Plan Bandipora. It takes me half an hour to travel distance of a kilometer from the main road due to continuous traffic jam and I always reach late on my duty, said Mubashir Bashir Mir of Nusso, Bandipora.

The main road connecting Nusso and Kaloosa is not wide

enough to manage the smooth two sided vehicular traffic. The lack of the parking facility in the main town, the road sides and the foot paths occupied by the street vendors and the shopkeepers, the lack of professional traffic police in the town are also some among many reasons which are adding to the daily traffic jam in the town.

The making of a bypass from Nusso to Kaloosa has been a long pending demand of the locals, which can practically ease the problem of traffic jam and a few days earlier the government has given its consent to construct the bypass, but the administration needs to take some practical and concrete steps and devise a plan to mitigate the traffic jam problem, until the bypass is constructed.