

# MERC TIMES



MEDIA EDUCATION RESEARCH CENTRE  
UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

## Tral Wild Life Sanctuary: Only the name remains



INSIDE {STORIES}



International Monetary Body (WB)  
unhappy over pace of infrastructure  
works in J&K  
P02



Road safety awareness programme  
held at Boys Degree College  
Anantnag  
P04



Restricted hours for HGV to ply on roads;  
not taken seriously  
P06

# Young Kashmiris aggrieved over Vajpayee's death

Syed Mudawar  
Srinagar

After the breaking of the news about the death of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the former Prime Minister of India everybody was seen reacting to it with utmost sorrow. The grief could also be felt among the young Kashmiri population who went on social media to express their grief.

While speaking to few youngsters at Lal Chowk, most of them expressed their sadness as they believed Vajpayee to be one of the few sane voices on Kashmir.

Syed Rahil Qadri an engineer said, "Vajpayee made Kashmiris to believe in the possibility of a positive solution but unfortunately his plans were not carried on by the succeeding governments". The news of Vajpayee's demise effected most of the political class of the world. The youth also stressed upon the revisiting to the Vajpayee Policy on Kashmir. Hizb Zargara, resident of Hyderpora said, "Vajpayee had given the roadmap, it

is high time to work on it".

Shifa Masood an 11th class student on Vajpayee's demise said, " Vajpayee got everyone on the table and was able to create the conducive atmosphere of peace in Kashmir".

The impact of Vajpayee's death was worldwide and Kashmiri youth appreciated the role that he played in understanding Jammu and Kashmir. They lauded him for the opening of the trade ties between India and Pakistan through the Line Of Control and also made prayers on his demise.

Vajpayee got everyone on the table and was able to create the conducive atmosphere of peace in Kashmir"

# 11 years on land dispute with the locals has left Degree College Bandipora in shambles

Tahir Hussain Mir  
Bandipora

The Degree College Bandipora is left in shambles due to the unending land dispute between the government and the locals which was given to the government by the people of Potashay area of Bandipora for the construction of college in 2007.

The degree college was established in 2007, as the locals of the Potshay area of Bandipora donated about 80 kanals land to the government on the conditions of proper compensation and the appointment of local villagers on college CP fund.

The land dispute with the locals has given rise to a number of problems in the college as the villagers are not allowing the concerned authorities to build other infrastructure and permanent fencing around the college. The authorities are not also allowed to build a canteen inside the college from last 11 years thus creating a lot of problems for to students as the college is located on a hilltop.

The lack of fencing permits the outsiders to enter the college premises which leads to eve teasing, harrasment and violent scuffles, we prefer to remain at home rather to come college regularly said a second semester BSC student Asifa Rehman.

Locals alleged that we were promised promised compensation and the appointment of local villagers on local CP fund, but neither we received any



compensation nor the local villagers were appointed in the college on temporary basis only five out of 18 class IV employees are locals and rest are from other places and other districts which is injustice with locals said a local ghulam rasool mir of Potshay Bandipora.

While talking to the MERC TIMES, the principal of the college Professor Ghulam Mustafa said, "we have already informed the higher officials about the land dispute and the problems that the college and students are facing,we have been assured by the authorities to solve all the problems in a time bound manner."

# International Monetary Body (WB) unhappy over pace of infrastructure works in J&K

Only Rs 30 Cr spent from 1500 Cr available for the project funded post 2014 floods



Abid Aleem  
Srinagar

A whopping Rs 1500 crore program funded by the World Bank (WB) in J&K for infrastructure building and enhancing state's disaster management capabilities has been marred by slow implementation and administrative misgivings.

In its latest rating for the project released on June 27, the WB has termed progress of implementation for the project as "moderately unsatisfactory". This is not the first time the financial institution is unsatisfied with progress of the project. In the previous report, the progress of the project was termed as 'unsatisfactory'. During the last more than two years, not more than Rs 30 crore has been spent out of the total of Rs 1500 crore available for the project.

"The total expenditure would be around Rs 25 to Rs 30 crore," Chief Executive Officer of the project, Vinod Sharma told.

He said work on different components of the project has now been expedited.

"Due to improvements, the World Bank has improved rating of the project to moderately unsatisfactory from unsatisfactory," Sharma said.

The project was approved in 2015 for reconstruction of the infrastructure hit by 2014 floods and also for enhancing the state's disaster management capacities. The project became effective from April 19, 2016 and it will close on June 30, 2020. An official said that at administrative inefficiency and incompetence was responsible for slow progress of the project. "The preparation of DPRs (Detailed Project Reports) and tendering consumed a lot of time. The consultant recruitment process for risk management studies, flood management studies is also marred by slow progress," the official said, frequent shifting of administrative secretaries of the disaster management department and Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) also hampered progress of the project. "Around 15 officers were posted as administrative heads and CEOs of these departments in the past three years," he added.

## Poor PET Scan quality at SKIMS mars patients



Hyder Ali  
Srinagar

**P**atients at Sheri Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) alleged the hospital authorities for showing inaccurate Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scan.

In the process, patients had to travel to Delhi for getting it done at exorbitant rates. The PET scan that was made functional at SKIMS some time back is drawing criticism from patients and attendants because of "high cost" of the scan and limited operations.

Doctors said that PET scan is used to detect cancerous cells and tissues in the body that may not always be found through computed tomography (CT) or Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). The facility was not available in the state even though Kashmir is reporting a huge number of cancer patients off late.

"I was advised by a senior oncologist of the valley to take my wife to Delhi for PET scan who is suffering from lung cancer, as the one at SKIMS does not show accurate results due to some technical problems. I am running a shop in my village and do not have any other source of income. It was costly for us but there was not any other option left for us", said Farooq Ahmad husband of the patient.

Anonymously a doctor at the hospital said that there are technical problems with the PET scan as the technicians operating it are not fully trained and have little knowledge about the machine.

The doctor further added that the hospital authorities need to get trained and experienced technicians as a small error can prove fatal in this regard.

Director SKIMS Dr Omar Javed Shah said, "The PET scan was doing well and we do have the best technicians available in the hospital for PET scan".



## Hundreds of forest trees chopped down in Ganderbal

### People aghast over the mass destruction of Alpine trees

Sheikh Abid  
Srinagar

**P**eople of Ganderbal have alleged uncontrolled mass destruction of forest pinus in Sindh Forest Division for laying 220KV Srinagar (Alasteng)-Leh power transmission line.

The power transmission line project is a decade old project that got its work started in 2017 and this power transmission line covers approximately 300 KM long distance passing through mountains and forest across Sindh river.

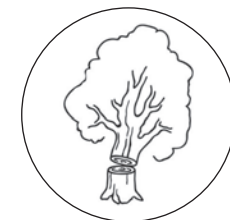
"They have started the work in kangan area from the last two months in July by chopping almost 400-500 forest trees mercilessly. These trees were hundreds of years old adding to our rich forest heritage," Babar Bashir a resident of Kangan said.

It is pertinent to note that, where said mass destruction of trees took place comes under highly forest protected zone monitored under Department of Forestry Jammu and Kashmir.

"We received an order from the higher authorities of government, we informed our departmental forest officer but he too could not do anything in halting this adverse action," an employee working in forest department said in anonymity.

Meanwhile MLA Ganderbal Sheikh Ishfaq Jabbar

too has expressed concern over the unfortunate incident. He said, "It is heart wrenching to see the company is axing and uprooting hundreds of forest trees during laying of transmission line. Under the banner of development, the environment is being put on jeopardy. I am not sure if government has gone through Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) process before sanctioning the cutting down of trees." Jabbar has also requested newly appointed governor S.P Malik to interfere into the matter.



They have started the work in kangan area from the last two months in July by chopping almost 400-500 forest trees mercilessly. These trees were hundreds of years old adding to our rich forest heritage

# Road safety awareness programme held at Boys Degree College Anantnag

**Saima Shakeel**  
ANANTNAG

**O**n the eve of National Bone and Joint day, Department of Orthopedics & Spine Surgery, Mirza Mohammed Afzal Baig Memorial hospital Anantnag (MMABMH) in collaboration with Boys Degree College Anantnag, organised a one-day awareness programme on 'Road Safety' at Boys Degree College Anantnag.

On the occasion, speakers from Mirza Mohammad Afzal Baig Memorial Hospital Anantnag, GDC Boys Anantnag and Civil society Anantnag, stressed upon the need to create awareness among people regarding the benefits of safe driving and the consequence of harsh driving.

While speaking, ADDC Anantnag Riyaz Ahmed sofi said, "we need to ponder upon the basic reasons behind the road accidents so that a sustainable mechanism is devised to ensure road safety".

He further added that Administration & public should work shoulder to shoulder in finding an everlasting solution to all such problems. He advised the students to know and understand their responsibilities towards the society and play their role in making it a better.



"There are scores of reasons behind the road accident ranging from harsh driving, use of cell phone while driving and alcoholism", said Principal Boys Degree college

Anantnag.

We can't blame only a single entity like the driver for frequent road accidents but other factors are also equally responsible, he added.

Medical Superintendent, Mirza Mohammad Afzal Baig Memorial Hospital Anantnag, Dr. Abdul Majeed Mehrab while detailing the role of the hospital is equipped with the latest infrastructure and technology to tackle any kind of road accident".

He said, "choosing the theme as 'Road safety' on the National Bone & Joint Day, indicates that bones & joints are the most vulnerable organs of the body during road accidents and need of the hour is to create a mass awareness among people regarding road safety awareness".

We need to ponder upon the basic reasons behind the road accidents so that a sustainable mechanism is devised to ensure road safety

## Encroachment of footpath by iron dealers at Bijbehara, pedestrians aghast

**Wasfi Amin**  
Bijbehara

**T**he residents of Iqbal Mohalla in Bijbehara town have expressed resentment over the occupation of pavement on the highway by local iron dealers. They said that the dealers have occupied the path for the past many years, much to the annoyance of pedestrians.

The locals said that the dealers unloaded trucks filled with iron on the roadside, forcing them to walk on the main road.

"We have to either jump over the huge piles of iron or walk on the road as the footpath is fully occupied by trucks and iron. It becomes more difficult to walk at night due to darkness", said the locals.

Sadaf Hussain, a student said that he received minor injuries after his foot slipped while crossing the iron piles.

"My parents are worried about me after the incident. They rarely allow me to play with my friends. Children and older people are more vulnerable", he added.

Despite the fact that Police Station

and Tehsil Office Bijbehara are just few meters away from the area, they have failed to address the issue, the residents complained.

"I approached the concerned authorities and brought the matter to their notice many times but they always paid a deaf ear", a local said preferring anonymity.

Tehsildar Bijbehara, Sajjad Ahmad Wani denied of having received any complaint regarding the issue but assured that necessary action would be taken as soon as possible.



## Aalam Qureshi day celebrated by Karnah Pahari Cultural club in collaboration with JK's Cultural Academy

**Sahil Iqbal**

**A**alam Qureshi day was celebrated by Pahari session of Jammu Kashmir academy of art culture and languages, (JKAACL) in collaboration with Karnah Pahari cultural club.

The program was presided over by Zaffar Iqbal Manhas, Vice Chairman of cultural academy and member of legislative council. Mr. Ab Rashid Qureshi, famous Pahari singer, who is also the president of Karnah cultural club, famous film maker Mushtaq Ahmed Ali Khan was guest of honor

The program started with the Welcome speech by Mohammad Ashraf Tak Chief editor of Urdu session.

Speaking on the occasion Zaffar Iqbal Manhas throwing light on the life and achievements stressed on the adaptation of the scientific ways of learning so that our institutions become stronger and our generations can prosper. And we should be equipped with modern technologies and scientific techniques in the learning process. And highlighted the achievements of Aalam Qureshi. He mentioned that Aalam Qureshi is the name of a revolution which played the front role for promotion of his language culture, while addressing the Pahari speaking

people he said that Pahari language is undergoing a transformation and has many quibbles regarding the promotion of the language and to promote our language and culture we need to stress on education perceptiveness.

Mushtaq Ali Khan said that Pahari community is like a galaxy to me and I am always ready to serve this community.

Dias was managed by Nayeem Ayoub Karnahi, editor section Pahari, the president Karnah cultural club Abdul Rashid Qureshi presented a paper highlighting the life and achievements of Late Alam Qureshi, later Karnah cultural club honored famous Pahari singer Fayaz Ahmed Khan with Singeet Allam Qureshi Award 2018, who later amused audience with Allam Qureshi Songs.

A good number of Pahari speaking people and the lovers of Alam Qureshi were present Including Khawaja Abdul Quyum, sheikh Mohammad Maqbool, Mir Gh. Nabi, ab Majeed Zinda Dil, Mohammad Ashraf Bhat, Haji Ali Zaman Khokhar, Mohammad Azeem Khan, Dr Javeed Rahi, Shahnawaz Khatana, Ab Salam Kosri, Nishat Afrooz Khan, Kaneez Fatima, Syed Aasif Shah, Syed Mohammad Ismail.

Chief editor Pahari session Mr Farooq Anwar Mirza, presented the vote of thanks.

# Traditional food colors replaced by cancerous dyes

Tahil Ali  
Srinagar

Colouring agents used in Kashmir's world famous multi-cuisine, Wazwan and other delicacies continue to imperil human health at large. Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) has claimed that toxic crude dyes meant for colouring clothes are laying adverse impact on our food.

DAK president Dr Nisar ul Hassan said that instead of using traditional products to colour foods, harmful synthetic non-permitted colouring agents are commonly used to make Wazwan more appealing and colourful.

"Acid Orange, a poisonous industrial dye, is being used to turn dishes reddish for presentation in multi-course Wazwan," he said. "The dye is not meant for use in food. It is basically used in various textiles, plastic and leather industries to dye wool, silk and other protein fibre," he added.

Health experts have warned that prolonged use of these colouring agents can have severe health effects. Some of them can cause malignancy. According to the study published in The Lancet, food colours showed an increase in hyperactivity after kids consumed foods containing artificial food colours.

"Presence of these synthetic colours in food have been found to cause allergies, organ damage, indigestion and other issues hence should be avoided," said a doctor.

Traditionally, Wazas (chefs) would use natural colours like sundried chilies, turmeric, caramel colouring and cockscomb flower for colouring but nowadays dyes that find their way into Wazwan are Orange Red, Sun Red and Sun Yellow replacing traditional dyes.

Meanwhile the food safety and standards authority permits eight synthetic colours in specified foods at a uniform level of 100mg/kg, while the acceptable daily intake for food colours varies from 0.1 to 25 mg/kg body weight per day, however, they may still be under scrutiny.

"Eight food colors permitted are Tartrazine, Sunset Yellow for yellow; Carmosine, Ponceau - 4R and Erythrosine for red; Brilliant Blue and Indigo Carmine for blue and Fast Green for Green," Dr Nasir said.



# Tral Wild Life Sanctuary: Only the name remains

RooH Yaseen Shah  
Tral

The wild animals of Tral Wild Life Sanctuary are on the verge of extinction, courtesy human interference.

Once a heaven for different species of wild animals and trees, is slowly turning into a dumping ground. This can be gauged from the fact that several events take place inside the ecologically fragile zone.

An official from the wild life department, wishing anonymity said, " Disposable items consisting of non- bio-biodegradable wastes are dumped during these events and the authorities continue to turn a blind eye to the destruction. "

Another official who did not wish to be named said, "The sanctuary has literally turned into a garbage dumping station with negligible fauna."

To make the matters worse, the dumping of garbage has affected the life in the sanctuary creating a source of dangerous diseases for the wild animals.

"This is a small wazwan-party nothing else," said one of the guards of the sanctuary while serving food in disposable plates and glasses to the people

who were enjoying the feast outside the office of the Tral Wild Life Sanctuary.

He added, "The waste will be taken out soon and all will be cleared out".

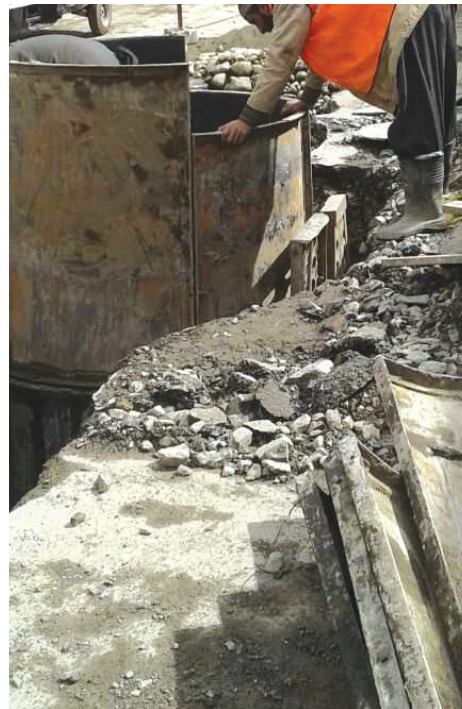
The surrounding reveal different story. The waste is never dumped. On the contrary, it is dumped inside the sanctuary.

On contacting Divisional forest officer Shopian, Mansoor Ahmad Bhat said, "I will look into the matter and assure you with no such activities in future."



The sanctuary has literally turned into a garbage dumping station with negligible fauna

# Anantnag Residents Decry Over Haphazard Pipe Lines



Mir Afshan  
Anantnag

Anantnag is given to a construction company to dig roads to which locals and experts are not positive due to wastage of resources. The construction agency, (name withheld) has dug several roads in the main town to lay an underground sewerage system pipes under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) at an estimated cost of 16.81 crore rupees for Urban Environment Engineering Department (UEED)

“If we already have a deep drainage system running on both sides of the K P Road, which was built no more than a decade, what is the point in digging the road which is the identity of the Anantnag town? The already existing deep drainage system does not let the water remain stagnant then what purpose will these small pipes serve.

It is an utter wastage of money and the sane people in the administration are expecting a tiny 12 inch pipe to carry the sewerage of thousands of houses,” says a local

Assistant Executive Engineer, for UEED Sub Division Anantnag, Shameem Ahmed maintains that the project has been designed by nationally approved consultants and this particular project can tackle the sewerage of entire main town properly.

“All our projects are designed by well known consultants who take all the technical parameters and specifications into consideration. Anybody may have doubts regarding the diameter of the pipes being laid for this sewerage system but for this project we have tied up with a consultant of national repute who knows their business.

It is not under our jurisdiction to use or suggest the pipes as per our liking and whatever is being executed currently that has been approved and recommended by the consultant, by the chief engineer and the commissioner secretary. The project has been designed in a scientific manner and the pipes will be sufficient to carry the sewage up to the sewage treatment plant in Anantnag, which will be constructed as part of this project. All the sewerage will flow under a proper mechanism, which will include motors at some places for maintaining the proper flow,” says AEE UEED, sub Division Anantnag.

# Restricted hours for HGV to ply on roads; not taken seriously

Sheikh Arsh  
Srinagar

Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) violate the traffic rules set for their movement on roads while entering Srinagar causing inconvenience to the by passers.

The movement of trucks and tippers in Srinagar is restricted till 8pm yet they are found plying on the roads not following the traffic norms.

The traffic department has failed to streamline vehicular movement in Athwajan and adjoining areas as trucks and tippers ply unrestricted hours. The commuters remain stranded in traffic jams for hours due to the off time movement of HGV.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Baseer Ahmad Khan said they have ordered restrictions on entry of tippers, trucks and load carriers from Pantha Chowk, Nowgam, Hyderpora, Bemina and Bypass from 7 am to 8 pm.

Expressing grievances, the commuters said that truck

and tipper drivers who wait till 8 pm for the movement park their vehicles on the roads, hours before, which also creates traffic jams in the area.

“Everyday I used to close my cart at 7:30 pm and reached Pandrethan at 8 pm. Now the tipper and truck drivers there have created a mess by occupying half of the road due to which commuters get stuck in traffic jam for hours,” said vegetable seller Irshad Ganai of Pampore town.

“In the absence of traffic cops, drivers of heavy vehicle who have been restricted to enter the city limits before 8 pm continuously violate traffic rules, followed by parking on roadsides”, said a regular commuter.

Heavy traffic jams are also witnessed during closing hours of schools and colleges in Athwajan, Pantha Chowk



and its adjacent areas.

“IGP Traffic, J&K, Basant Kumar Rath has been monitoring the areas himself and there has already been considerable decrease in the plying of heavy vehicles during restricted time” said a traffic official.



## FC Real Kashmir to get home ground ready by October

**Schnian Meer**  
Srinagar

**N**ew 1st division I-League entrants Real Kashmir FC are to be ready to host matches at the TRC Ground in Srinagar by October, officials said. The 2nd division I-League top team travelled to Srinagar to check if things are in order ahead of the state hosting top division matches for the first time.

The All India Football Federation senior vice-president Subrata Dutta and CEO Sunando Dhar met the advisor to Jammu and Kashmir governor Satya Pal Malik among other top government officials.

“We had a meeting with all authorities concerned. The Work is going on at a rapid pace and it has exceeded our expectations. They have told us that all work related to the renovation of the TRC Ground will be completed between October 15-20. The deadline is October 25,” Dutta told over

phone from Srinagar on Thursday”.

Weather conditions generally turn hostile during winter in Srinagar but the management remains hopeful that they will be able to host games in the months of December and January.

“It will be snowing in Srinagar in the winter. But we will be taking necessary precautions to protect the surface so that games can be hosted during that time as well,” the official said.

## Stray dogs on prowl in Karan Nagar

**Sheikh Ahsaan Ellahi**  
Srinagar

**T**he menace of stray dogs here in Karan-Nagar area of city has become a cause of concern not only for residents but also for the authorities who have so far failed to put a check on their growing population.

“This is a major problem for all of us. Stray dogs bite people, chase them when they go to prayers early in the morning, and scare away children,” Faraaz Ahmad, a resident of Balgarden said.

Stray dogs can be seen in large groups around garbage dumps in this residential area.

“These dogs have made the life difficult for women and old age persons”, Rizwan, a local said.

People here said that though the stray dogs were captured in the area by the Municipal Corporation, their number just keep increasing. They said that even after making several complaints to the authorities nothing much has changed.

“Some of the dogs living in our area are rabid. They not only bite but follow the motorists that is becoming the cause of several accidents,” said Shahid Ahmad and added that many children have been bitten in the last one month, making the others too scared to go out and play.

Talking to this MERC Times, Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Peerzada Hafizullah said, “the matter is brought into his notice and he has directed his concerned staff for immediate necessary action under rules.”



# Amar Singh College wins debate competition at KU

**Shahid Bashir**  
Srinagar

**D**ebating team from Amar Singh College Srinagar lifted the Annual IIPA-DSW Debate Rolling Trophy after defeating around 50 participants who were divided into 25 teams.

The debating team from Amar Singh College which included Asma Syed and Malik Moen Abas won the title for Amar Singh College whereas Safiya Mehraj from the Dept of Clinical Biochemistry Kashmir University won the first position and Mehak Mushtaq from Islamia College, Srinagar and Asma Syed from Amar Singh College secured the second and third positions respectively.

The first consolation prize was bagged by Malik Moen Abas from Amar Singh College and the second consolation

prize went to Taimum Qasir from the Department of Mathematics.

The Annual Debate Competition was organized by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), J&K Regional Branch in collaboration with Division of Youth Affairs, Department of Students Welfare, the University of Kashmir in which students from various degree colleges and universities of Kashmir division and from various PG departments of KU participated.

The topic for the day-long debate was "Our Youth is not taking full Advantage of Online Information Systems".

In his presidential remarks, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir Prof. Talat Ahmad expressed happiness the way the Division of Youth Affairs of KU is providing a platform to the students of Kashmir.

While interacting with the students, Prof Talat also assured the DSW to provide sufficient space in the Convocation Complex to undertake art, theatre, and cultural activities.

He also expressed the happiness the way students articulated their views on the topic.

In his address the Guest of Honour on the occasion, Prof Mehraj-ud-din Mir, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir while stressing upon the judicious use of online information systems said "there is absolutely no doubt that technology has provided mankind access to unlimited information but at the same time it has isolated families, friends, and neighbors And each one of us today lives in a virtual world where personal visits and face to face interaction has become thing of the past."

Earlier, the Dean Students Welfare, Prof. Raies Ahmad Qadri welcomed the guests and apprised the Vice Chancellor and audience about the forthcoming events and programmes of DSW

The Vice Chairman, of IIPA J&K Regional Branch Mr. A. M Watali and Director Seminars IIPA Prof. SM Afzal Qadri also spoke on the occasion.

Joint Secretary, IIPA J&K Chapter, GM Andrabi, Dr. Muheet Ahmad from Computer Science KU and Prof. B.A Zargar from the Department of Mathematics were the Judges for the Debate. The organizing Secretary of the debate, Mr. Shahid Ali Khan said, "Students of Kashmir have a lot of talent and we have the responsibility to proved them opportunities so that their personalities are honed". Mr. Khan also conducted the proceedings of the Debate.

# Workshop to enhance reading, writing initiated in Pulwama

**Wajeeha Ali**  
Srinagar

**A** 2-day workshop on 'Enhancing' Reading & Writing Skills: Methods & Techniques' was organized at Govt. Degree College (Boys) Pulwama on Tuesday.

The purpose of the workshop was to enlighten the students by providing them a platform not only to comprehend the basic rules, methods and techniques of reading and writing, but to help them in articulating and exploring their skills, abilities, and potential as 'emerging' writers in their various interesting fields.

The workshop concentrated on two important themes, viz. 'Reading-Rightly' and 'Write -Right'.

Principal, GDC Pulwama, Prof B A Mir emphasized the significance of reading



and writing.

"Reading requires a person to think and process information in a way that watching television may not. The more

you read, the deeper your understanding becomes of what you are reading and its application."

"Developing writing skills can help

you strengthen your ability to make reasoned arguments on a variety of subjects, which is useful in college and on the job", Prof Mir said.

Prof Imran Ahmad spoke on 'Reading Comprehension (Reading Skills)'; and three resource persons, namely Prof Jon Mohammad, Mushtaq Ahmad Wani and Prof Ab Gani Kumar spoke on different aspects of on "How to Write an Article" (in English and Urdu languages).

Dr Tauseef Ahmad Parray shared his experiences on 'Guiding Principles of Writing a Book Review'.

In valedictory session, the participants gave their feedback highlighting the importance of organizing such events in the college, and then certificates/mementoes were distributed among the participants, resource persons, and organizers of the workshop.