

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!
No family member...

'Waris Punjab De', was arrested in April 2023 in Punjab under the stringent NSA and subsequently shifted to Assam where he is lodged in Dibrugarh jail.

He recently filed nomination papers from the jail to contest the Lok Sabha election from Punjab's Khadoor Sahib seat. According to UNION HOME MINISTRY data, there were 228 terrorist initiated incidents in Jammu and Kashmir in 2018 and the number came down to around 50 in 2023. There were 189 encounters between security forces and terrorists in 2018 and it came down to around 40 in 2023. As many as 55 civilians were killed due to various terror incidents in 2018. The number came down to around five in 2023. In 2018, a total of 91 security personnel were killed in terror violence in Jammu and Kashmir; with the figure declining to around 15 in 2023.

IT Deptt tightens...

the supervision of Commissioner Secretary, Prerna Puri, on Monday conducted surprise check of various CSCs in twin districts of Samba and Jammu of Jammu division and Budgam in Kashmir division. The inspection was done to cross check and verify CSC's adherence to government notified rates.

The inspection teams were supervised by Aijaz Qaiser, Additional Secretary IT Department. During the surprise checks, 45 CSCs of Samba and Kathua districts (22 CSCs of District Samba and 23 CSCs of District Kathua) were inspected in Jammu division while 28 CSCs of Budgam district were inspected in Kashmir division. The inspection teams have recommended cancellation of licenses of 6 CSCs, 3 in Jammu division and 3 CSCs in Kashmir division.

Pertinently, the IT Department has notified rates to avail various online services which envisage Rs. 50 per service for government to citizen service and Rs. 75 for government to business services. Based on complaints of overcharging, 664 CSC licenses have been cancelled in the past 1 year (624 in 2023-24 and 40 in 2024-25).

Meanwhile, the Vice President CSC-SPV J&K has been directed to ensure that the notified rates are prominently displayed at a conspicuous place in each CSC sensitizing all Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) regarding notified rates.

Pertinently, aimed to achieve the goal of Digital India by providing seamless online services to the general public, Chief Secretary, Atal Dullo, had issued directions to set up new touch points for CSCs in various government offices, Colleges and Universities. Besides, directions have also been issued to all Deputy Commissioners to allocate the spaces in all such offices for setting up of new touch points. Additional Deputy Commissioners (ADCs) of all districts have been nominated as nodal officers to facilitate and accelerate the opening of new touch points.

As on date, 446 new CSCs have been established, and 13081 CSCs including 537 PACs and 2160 FPS are active and providing services on Digi-Seva Portal in the Union Territory of J&K. Deputy Commissioners, who are the Chairperson of District e-Governance Societies (DeGs) have also been asked to ensure strict enforcement of notified rates in their respective districts so that general public does not suffer on this account.

Modi congratulates Anantnag...

Lok Sabha elections, has recorded a turnout of 54.84 per cent. The Kashmir Valley has seen robust participation of voters in the polls, with even areas traditionally associated with low polling witnessing a good turnout -- a high in the last few decades. Modi said in a post on X, "A very special congratulations to my sisters and brothers of Anantnag-Rajouri for the record turnout in the Lok Sabha polls. Their enthusiastic participation is a vibrant testament to their democratic spirit."

J&K records highest...

-- which fall in the Jammu region, recorded 68.27 per cent and 72.22 per cent voter turnout respectively, it said.

The Election Commission said that an increasing number of young people have asserted their faith and embraced democracy in a big way.

Another interesting perspective is the people in the age group of 18-59 years who constitute over 80 per cent of the electorate in each of the five Lok Sabha seats of the Union Territory, it underlined.

The high poll percentage in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls is reflective of their faith in democracy, which is a positive and heartening development, the poll panel stressed.

Whenever an assembly election is held in Jammu and Kashmir, it will be the first since the August 2019 abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution and the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories with the other being Ladakh which has one Lok Sabha seat and no provision for a legislative assembly.

Following a delimitation exercise, the number of assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir has gone up from 83 to 90, excluding those allocated to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. In December, the Supreme Court directed the poll panel to hold assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30.

New power curtailment...

official said. The JPDCL officials said the power curtailment was necessitated by the spike in domestic requirement of electricity due to soaring temperatures over the past fortnight, especially after May 16 when the day temperature for the first time crossed the 40 degree Celsius mark in Jammu.

The JPDCL recently announced purchase of 200 MWs of power to overcome the power crisis created due to extreme hot weather conditions and distress power cuts.

Various parts of Jammu and other districts witnessed protests by people fuming over unscheduled power curtailment and water scarcity over the past two weeks.

Terror funding case...

persons, arraigned as such in the initial charge-sheet and the first three supplementary charge-sheets, had been almost completed by the time the fourth supplementary charge-sheet was filed, the finding in this order, regarding the framing of charges, is confined only to accused nos. A-1, A-2, A-4, A-6, A-7, A-8, A-9, A-10 & A-11. That said, it is noticed that the present case was registered, on March 31, 2022, in Police-Station: Gandhi Nagar, on the basis of an input received by the Officer Incharge, Police-Post: Nehru Market, Jammu that the accused no. 1 was coming from Kashmir to Jammu to hand over hawala-money to ceused no. 2 for the purpose of financing Jammu based separatists and secessionist groups/parties to carry out subversive activities against the Sovereignty, Integrity and Security of India.

Accordingly, a cordon (Naka) was laid at Bikram Chowk, Jammu and the accused no.1 was stopped and subjected to frisking and a sum of Rs.6,90,000/- only, comprising of Government Currency Notes (of India), was seized from his possession. The Currency Notes were concealed In a black coloured bag. It was In the said back-ground, that the case was registered In Police-Station: Gandhi Nagar, Jammu for offences under Sections 13/17/18 of UA (P) Act and the investigation was taken-up by SDPO, Gandhi Nagar.

Special Judge NIA Jammu Jatinder Singh Jamwal after hearing Special PP Anuj Gupta for the SIA, observed that As far as, question of commission of offences under Sections 16, 17 & 18 of the UA (P) Act is concerned, as already noticed, there is nothing in the vision-document or in the two videos relied upon by the Prosecution evidence that the accused no. 2 advocated the use of terrorism or any other kind of violence. Rather, he is seen advising all the groups to shun militancy and adopt peaceful means for resolution of the Kashmir issue. It Is, therefore, reiterated that there is nothing in the evidence to make out a credible case of conspiracy to commit the offence/s involving 'terrorist act' as contemplated under section 15 of the UA (P) Act and made punishable under Section 16 of the Act. In observing that reliance is placed on a ruling handed down by the Division Bench of High Court of J&K in: Peerzada Shah Fahad Vs UT of J&K And Anr (Criminal) A(D) No. 42/2022 connected with CRM. M. No. 472/2023; Decided on 17.11.2023', wherein the Hon'ble Division Bench quashed the charge framed for offences under section 18 of the Act by accepting the argument of the Counsel for the appellant that the offence under section 18 of the UA (P) Act can only be for committing the 'terrorist act' as defined under section 15 of the Act (supra) and that a 'terrorist act' is confined only to the acts mentioned In Section 15 (1) committed by using any of the substances mentioned In Section 15(1)(a) resulting in any of the consequences mentioned In Section 15(1)(a) (i), (II), (III), (iii)(a) and (iv) as also the acts mentioned in Section 15(1)(b) and 15(l)(c) of the UA(P) Act. In the Instant case, there is no accusation In the Charge-sheet that Accused persons had committed or conspired to commit 'terrorist act' as mentioned in Section 15 of the UA (P) Act. That being so, accused no. 2 is discharged of commission of offences under sections 16, 17 & 18 of the Act. Here it is seemly to advert to an argument put forth by the Ld. Spl. PP for the SIA that case of the accused no. 2 is covered under Explanation Clause (c) appended to Section 17 (supra), which provides that whoever raises or collects or provides funds. In any manner for the benefit of, or, to an individual terrorist, terrorist gang or terrorist organization for the purposes not specifically covered under Section 15 shall also be construed as an offence, it is noticed that offence under Section 17 of the Act is not established for the section (supra) is attracted only when funds are collected with the knowledge that the same are likely to be used in full or in part by a terrorist organization* or by a oterrorist gang* ('Vinit Agarwal @ Vineet Agarwal vs National Investigation Agency', as reported in Cr. Appeal (DB) No. 208 of 202; CLJ 2022 1258 (Jharkhand) (DB) followed). Since the Court has already come to the conclusion that the accused no. 2 is neither working for furtherance of the ter-

rorist activities of HM or for terrorism and the party founded by him cannot be categorized as 'terrorist gang', the commission of offence under section 17 of the Act is also not established. In the given situation it needs no emphasis to observe that commission of offence under section 20, which provides punishment for being a member of 'terrorist gang* or 'organization1, is also not established. Accused no. 2 is, therefore, discharged of commission of said offence as well. However, as already noticed, the accused no. 2 prima facie appears to have committed the offences made punishable under Sections 10(a) fly) of the UA (PI Act read with Section 10(a) III) of the Act (supra) & the offence made punishable under Section 13 11) (a) and (b) of the UA (P) Act. He is. therefore, formally charge-sheeted for the commission of said offences.

Going back to accused no. 1, it is reiterated that the only accusation against him is that he collected the amount in question from accused no. 11, at near Chanpora Masjid, Srinagar, under the instruction ot accused no. 2 and was bringing it to Jammu for delivery to the latter when he was caught by the Police. Taking that into account as also the discussions made here before, whilst returning the finding on the question of framing of charges against accused no. 2, in the considered opinion of this Court, the accused no. 1 has prima facie committed the offence under Section 13 (I) (b) of the UA (P) Act by abetting the commission of unlawful activity by the accused no. 2. The accused no. 1 is, therefore, formally charge-sheeted for commission of offence under Sections 13 (I) (b) of the UA (P) Act and he is discharged of commission of offences under section 17/18/20/21/39 & 40 of the UA (P) Act.

As far as accused no. 4, namely Fyaz Ahmed Bhat is concerned, it manifests from the record that he has been working as an Over Ground Worker, since long tor a militant group: Hizb-ul-Momnin, an offshoot of Hizb-ul-Nluzahideen, headed by accused no. 5, who is presently in POK. As per the case of the Prosecution, he is a part of the larger conspiracy and a regular member of the module/network involved in furtherance of terrorist-activities in Jammu and Kashmir. In nutshell, it manifests that the accused no.4 received huge amount from unknown persons and distributed the same among the families of killed terrorists on the directions of accused no.5 in order to promote terrorist activities in the valley. In the instant case, also he received a sum of Rs 4 laes from accused no. 11 and delivered Rs. 3.00 Laes to one Muneer and retained a sum of Rs.1.00 Lac which he distributed between the members of Tehreek-e-Wahadat-e-Islaml. Besides that he has also obtained pecuniary benefits from terrorist-organization and managed admission of his two children in a Medical College at Bahawalpur, Pakistan free of cost. The accused no. 4, therefore, appears to have raised funds for the benefit of terrorists, terrorist gang and terrorist-organization, as mentioned in Part C of the explanation Clause of Section 17 of the UA (P) Act and also associated himself with the terrorist organization - HM, besides setting up his own group. Taking that into account and the facts and circumstances of the case, accused no.4 prima facie appears to have committed the offences made punishable under Sections 13 , 17 & 38 of the UA (P) Act. He is, therefore, formally charge-sheeted for commission of said offences (supra). However, in the peculiar circumstances of the case and his role, as established by the Investigation Agency, commission of offences under Sections 18 & 21 (i.e. punishment for holding of proceeds of terrorism) of the UA (P) Act are prima facie not established. He is, therefore, discharged of the offences made punishable under Sections 18 & 21 of the Act (supra). .3.3 Adverting to accused nos. 6, 7 & 8, namely Mubashir Mushtaq Pafoo, Mohd Rafiq Najar and Aijaz Ahmed Sayam respectively, it manifests from the record that accused no. 6 received an amount of Rs. 89.95 laes from the accused no. 7 on the directions of accused no. 9, who was coordinating the movement of funds from Dubai under the instructions of accused no.12 based in Pakistan, for further distribution amongst the individuals identified by him (accused no. 9) in order to promote terrorist activities in J&K and the accused no. 8 facilitated and coordinated in delivery of the same. The said accused persons, therefore, prima facie appear to have committed offence under sections 13, 38 & 40 of UA (P) Act read with Section 120-B of IPC. They are, therefore, formally charge-sheeted for commission of said offences (supra) but discharged of the offence under Section 21 of the Act (supra).

Adverting to the accused no. 09, namely Farooq Naikoo, it manifests that the said accused always indulged in similar criminal activities not only in the state of J&K but even outside the State/ UT. As far as his role In the present case is concerned. It manifests that the entire collection of money from illegitimate sources was done and, thereafter, distributed, at his instruction/s through accused nos. 6, 7, 8 & 11. That apart, he also destroyed the cellphone used by him in the commission of offences (supra). Here it is in place to notice that the issue regarding generation of funds from Narco-Hawala transactions is still under investigation and a finding on that behalf shall be returned only after the additional charge-sheet/s are considered by the Court. Taking that into account and the facts and circumstances of the case, accused no. 9 prima facie appears to have committed the offences made punishable under Sections 13/38/398.40 of the UA (P) Act read with Section 120-B of IPC and Section 201 of the Code (supra). He is, therefore, formally charge-sheeted for commission of said offences (supra) but discharged of commission of offences under Section 21 of the Act (supra).

As far as the Accused no.10, namely Arshad Ahmed, is concerned, he had given his SIM Card (No.+971561098387) to Farooq Ahmed Naikoo (A-9) and the latter sent an OTP to accused no. 12, namely Tariq Murtuza, who was operating from Pakistan, for activation of Whats App on his mobile in Pakistan to maintain his anonymity and escape from Security Surveillance. In lieu thereof, the accused no. 9 directed the accused no. 6 to transfer a sum of Rs. 25,000/- into the account of the father of the accused no. 10. On the basis of the said allegations, the Prosecution has established offence under section 13 & 39 of the UA (P) Act read with Section 120-B of IPC against him. The precise accusation of the Prosecution is that by providing a Dubai based SIM Card to the accused no. 9, accused no. 10, facilitated him, in combination with terrorists, for carrying out terrorist activities. However, apart from the fact that he had handed over his SIM Card to the accused no. 9. there is no evidence manifesting his Involvement In furtherance of terrorist activities of the terrorist organization- HM - either prior to or after the handing over of the SIM Card to accused no. 9. The manner In which the accused no.10 got acquainted with accused no. 09 and developed good friendly relations with him is narrated In the charge-sheet In detail and is also admitted by the accused no.10 In his disclosure-statement and the statement under section 164 of Cr. PC, which was recorded during the investigation of the case as the Investigation Agency initially intended to cite him as a witness for the Prosecution in the instant case. Therefore, question of commission of offence under Section 39 of the UA (P) Act by the accused no. 10 does not rise. However, since it is the case of the Prosecution that the accused no. 10 handed over the SIM Card to the accused no. 9 despite of being full-well in knowledge of the fact that the accused no. 9 was not getting a new SIM Card as his permit (VISA) for his stay in Dubai was about to expire, the accused no. 10 can at the most, in the considered opinion of this Court, be charae-sheeted for the offence made punishable under Section 13 fII Ib) of the UA (P) Act for having abetted the commission of unlawful activities by accused no. 9. As far as the question of him being a part of the criminal-conspiracy is concerned it is noticed that neither there is anything on record to infer that he was a part of the module which the accused no. 9 was using to distribute the funds amongst the individuals identified by the latter nor the goods/the articles, SIM Card in this case, was an article/instrument which could not have been put to a lawful use. Had the accused no. 10 handed over, to accused no. 9, something which could not have been put to lawful use, in that eventuality an inference could have been drawn against the accused no. 10 and held liable for the offence of criminal- conspiracy. Having said that and reiterating that there is nothing on record to suggest that accused no. 10 was in any manner involved in furtherance of the activities of accused no. 9, he is formally charge-sheeted for offence under Section 13 (I) (b) of the UA (P) Act and is discharged of offences under section 39 of the Act (supra) and Section 120-B of IPC. 4.3.6 As far as the Accused no. 11, namely Ashiq Elahi, is concerned, it manifests from the record that the accused nos. 9 and 12 generated terror funds with ctive support of accused nos. 7 and 8 and delivered the same to separatists through the accused nos. 6, 7, 8 & 11 in order to strengthen terrorism in the State of J&K. That apart, the accused no. 11 also destroyed his cell-phone along with SIM Card in order to do away with the evidence against him. Accused no. 11, therefore, appears to have prima facie committed offence made punishable under sections 13, 39 & 40 of UA (P) Act read with Section 120-B of IPC and the offence under Section201 of IPC. However, he is discharged of offence under Section 21 of the UA (P) Act. 5. In the circumstances, the accused no. 1 Is formally charged with commission of offence under Section 13 (I) (b) of the UA (P) Act; accused no. 2 Is formally charged with commission of offences under Sections 10(a) (iv) of the UA (P) Act read with Section 10(a) (11) of the Act (supra) & offence under Section 13 (I) (a) & (b) of the UA (P) Act; accused no. 4 is formally charged with commission of offences under Sections 13, 17 & 38 of the UA (P) Act; accused nos. 6, 7 & 8 are formally charged with commission of offences under Sections 13, 38 & 40 of UA (P) Act read with Section 120-B of the IPC; accused no. 9 is formally charged with commission of offences under Sections 13/38/398*40 of the UA (P) Act read with Section 120-B of IPC and Section 201 of the Code (Supra); accused no. 10 is formally charged with commission of offence under Section 13 (I) (b) of the UA (P) Act; accused no. 11 is formally charged with commission of offences under Sections 13, 39 & 40 of the UA (P) Act and Section 120-B of IPC and Section 201.

J&K Govt, IIM...

He asked the officers to identify areas and focus on convergence of all available

resources in Jammu and Kashmir. He asked them to focus on those areas which have potential to attract industry where we can stitch the theory with actionable points. He said that the purpose of MoU is not to work in isolation but inclusive of all departments for development of J&K.

Pertinently, CITaG is an umbrella body encompassing innovative features like establishment of State Institute of Transformation, encouraging Public Private Partnership and ensuring Future Ready Governance in J&K. The same would be accomplished with a vision to foster innovation and positive changes in governance practices through introduction of cutting edge research, high quality education and collaborative initiatives to empower government institutions and policy makers to tackle complex challenges, drive sustainable development and enhance well-being of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Director IIM, while speaking on the occasion, said that our aim is to transform Jammu and Kashmir as one of the best performing UTs in the country. IIM Jammu shall be overall incharge of CITaG for deliverance of all assignments besides will collaborate with various stakeholders and knowledge partners.

Secretary (Planning), Aijaz Asad, highlighted the importance of MoU and gave an outline of the mission and goals of CITaG.

A detailed presentation was also given on the occasion highlighting focus areas of CITaG and devising the strategies for transformation of UT's economy. It was given out that focus area of CITaG will be formulating development vision of Jammu and Kashmir@2047 in alignment with India's vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. The presentation laid emphasis on strengthening Future Ready Governance in Jammu and Kashmir by capacity building of officials on emerging trends in governance and public administration.

The event also witnessed presence of Administrative Secretaries of Agriculture, Finance, Higher Education, H&UD, Tourism, I&C Departments, DGs from Planning and Finance and other senior officers and officials of the concerned departments.

23 TTP terrorists...

of Afghanistan. "Twenty-three terrorists were sent to hell by the security forces in three separate operations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province," the army said.

The army stated that an intelligence-based operation was conducted on Sunday in the Hassan Khel area near Peshawar in which six terrorists were successfully neutralised by the security forces and multiple hideouts were busted. However, an officer and a soldier were killed in the clash, it said.

In another operation conducted in the Tank district of the province on Monday, Pakistan troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location, as a result of which ten terrorists were killed.

The third clash occurred in the Bagh area of Khyber district, wherein the security forces killed seven terrorists while two were injured. However, during the intense exchange of fire, five soldiers were killed.

"A large quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives was also recovered from the killed terrorists, who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the security forces as well as the innocent civilians," according to the army.

It said that sanitisation operations are being carried out to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area.

The army said that the country's forces were determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism.

Pakistan has been facing a resurgent TTP which allegedly has a strong presence in Afghanistan and uses its territory to hide and train and also launch cross-border attacks. Pakistan has been pushing Kabul to take action against them but so far it has been of no avail.

KPDCL official arrested...

against the Cashier for demand of bribe.

As the contents of complaint prima facie disclosed the commission of offence punishable under section 7 of the PC Act 1988 (r/w its amendment Act 2018) by the accused public servant, namely Mohd Shaffi, Cashier in the office of the Executive Engineer, KPDCL Sub Transmission Division Sopore District Baramulla, a Case FIR No. 09/2024 under section 7 of the PC Act 1988 (r/w its amendment Act 2018) was registered against him at Police Station, Anti Corruption Bureau, Baramulla and investigations were initiated.

During the course of investigations the accused public servant was caught red handed while demanding and accepting bribe from the complainant by a specially constituted team of ACB headed by a DySP rank officer. He was immediately taken into custody after completing the legal formalities the bribe amount was also recovered from his possession in presence of independent witnesses.

Further investigations in the case are going on.

The ACB has urged the general public to desist from paying bribe to any government servant and in case of any demand from any government servant, they can immediately contact ACB on its given helpline number 9419678060 or e-mail on director.vigilance@j&k.gov.in for legal action.

Money laundering: Kejriwal...

incarceration from March 21 to May 10, the chief minister suffered a lot of health-related complications which are also "partly attributable to the negligent and callous behaviour of the jail authorities".

Kejriwal lost around six to seven kg of weight in the jail and has not been able to regain even after his release and renewing his earlier lifestyle to the extent possible, it said.

"In the meantime, recent test reports confirm that the Appellant has also developed an unusually high blood glucose level as well as high ketone levels in urine, which indicate that in addition to increased blood sugar level, the appellant may have also developed kidney related complications and kidney damage," it said.

Referring to his recent health check up at his residence by a senior physician of a private hospital, the plea said the doctor took note of Kejriwal's health complications and increased risk indicators and prescribed a host of full body tests, which are necessary to be carried out before he surrenders.

"It is important to note that unexplained weight loss which a person is not able to regain along with the other symptoms ..., can have a host of causes, including some potentially life threatening ones.

"It is on account of this that a senior physician from Max Hospital upon a detailed clinical examination of the appellant at his home on May 25, 2024 has directed a host of tests including but not limited to tests such as whole body PET-CT to rule out any malignancies and Holter Monitor Test, where the appellant will be required to wear a Holter monitor for a few days while going about his daily activities to identify any irregularities in his heart functioning," the plea said.

The PET-CT scan shows detailed pictures of organs and tissues.

These tests are to be done in a particular sequence and would require about five-seven days, it said, adding "sudden and unexplained weight loss, coupled with high ketone levels could be indicative of kidney damage, serious cardiac ailments and even cancer". Early detection of these ailments is essential for preventing further progress of the disease and associated life risk and Kejriwal needed to undergo these tests, otherwise his life is at "high risk", it said.

While setting him free for campaigning in the remaining phases of the Lok Sabha elections after 50 days of custody in the case, the court on May 10 had barred him from visiting his office or the Delhi secretariat, and signing official files unless absolutely necessary for obtaining the lieutenant governor's approval.

While imposing a strong of bail conditions on Kejriwal, the apex court had directed him to furnish bail bonds of Rs 50,000 with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the jail superintendent.

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta had rejected the argument of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) counsel that enlarging Kejriwal on interim bail to campaign in the elections will be without a precedent.

Later on May 17, the top court reserved its verdict on the main plea of Kejriwal seeking to declare his arrest as illegal.

The Delhi High Court, on March 21, had refused to grant him protection from arrest on his petition challenging summonses issued to him. The ED arrested Kejriwal shortly after that. The ED, on October 30, had sent first summons to Kejriwal in the money laundering case for appearance on November 2. Several summons were also issued subsequently. The matter relates to the alleged corruption and money laundering in the formulation and execution of the Delhi government's now-scrapped excise policy for 2021-22.

J&K Govt constitutes...

and Kashmir. Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC is critical in protecting public health policies from the vested interests of the tobacco industry. The empowered committees will be tasked with ensuring that the formulation and implementation of tobacco control policies are free from the influence of the tobacco industry, thus promoting a healthier, tobacco-free environment.

Meanwhile, Tobacco Control Cell of Directorate of Health Services working under the patronage of Director Health Services Kashmir, has expressed its deepest appreciation for this initiative and the strategic leadership of Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah. His vision and proactive approach have set a new benchmark for tobacco control efforts in the region.

This initiative marks a significant milestone in ongoing efforts to combat the tobacco epidemic and protect future generations from the harms of tobacco.

