

## Dr Jitendra updates Rajya Sabha about 'Bharat Forecast System' for rural weather

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a major technological leap aimed at grassroots weather prediction, the Ministry of Earth Sciences has operationalised the Bharat Forecast System (BharatFS) - India's first indigenously developed high-resolution weather forecasting model designed to deliver hyperlocal alerts down to clusters of panchayats, said Union Minister for Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr. Jitendra Singh in a written reply to a question to Parliament today. The system is expected to significantly enhance the accuracy and timeliness of weather forecasts, especially in the context of rising climate risks.

Elaborating further, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the BharatFS operates at an unprecedented 6-km horizontal resolution, making India the only country currently running a global weather model at this level of detail in real time. "This will allow distinct forecasts for every 6-km block across the country, helping communities receive localised advisories for agriculture, disaster management, and water resource planning," the Minister stated.

The system draws its computing power from India's recently installed



supercomputers - 'Arka' at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, and 'Arunika' at the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting, Noida - which have cut down the forecast generation time from nearly 12 hours to as little as 3 to 6 hours. These faster

turnarounds mean that alerts for extreme weather events, such as floods and heavy rainfall, can be issued more swiftly and with greater precision.

According to the Ministry, BharatFS has shown a 30% improvement in accuracy for forecasting extreme rainfall over the monsoon heartland in research trials. This enhanced skill is expected to reduce crop losses and improve resilience, particularly for small and marginal farmers who rely heavily on timely climate information for sowing and harvesting decisions.

Apart from agricultural benefits, the new system is

also expected to help authorities better manage reservoirs and respond more effectively to climate-induced disasters. The ability to issue granular alerts could prove critical in a year when extreme weather events - including flash floods and sudden droughts - have become increasingly frequent across states.

What sets BharatFS apart is its completely indigenous development. Built by Indian scientists and institutions, including the IMD, ITM-Pune, and NCMRWF-Noida, the model factors in India's complex geography - from the Himalayas to the

Western Ghats - to improve region-specific forecasting. "The launch of BharatFS is not just a scientific achievement, but a step toward strategic self-reliance in weather and climate services," Dr. Singh said, linking the initiative to the broader goals of the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Make in India' missions.

Beyond domestic use, the system's capabilities are also seen as a tool of regional cooperation, with India positioned to offer advanced meteorological services to neighbouring countries. This could help strengthen India's role as a regional leader in climate resilience.

## Nova IVF Fertility launches 100th Centre in Jammu



A dignitary inaugurating Nova IVF Fertility in Jammu.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Nova IVF Fertility, one of India's leading fertility chains, has achieved a major milestone by launching its 100th centre in Jammu. This expansion marks a strategic step to address the declining Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in Jammu & Kashmir, which has dropped to 1.4-well below the replacement level of 2.1.

Fertility issues are becoming increasingly common in the region, with couples often

delaying medical help due to lack of awareness and social stigma. However, attitudes are gradually shifting in Tier-2 cities like Jammu, with more couples now open to exploring fertility treatments, including IVF. Sameer Malik, Regional Business Head - North India at Nova IVF Fertility, highlighted the importance of the new centre: "Our presence in Jammu underscores Nova's commitment to expanding access to quality fertility care across

India. We now have 28 centres in 21 cities across North India." Dr. Sonia Malik, Chief Clinical Mentor, emphasized Nova's adherence to international standards: "We follow European clinical and embryology protocols. In 90% of IVF cases, we use the couple's own eggs and sperm, with outcomes driven by scientific precision and expert embryologists."

Dr. Poonam Pandotra, Fertility Specialist at the Jammu centre, cited lifestyle factors-such as sedentary habits, junk food, and substance use-as significant contributors to infertility. "Women frequently face issues like PCOS and fallopian tube blockages, while about 25% of male infertility is linked to substance abuse. Timely medical intervention is crucial," she said.

Equipped with state-of-the-art technology, the Jammu centre aims to provide world-class fertility treatment.

## Taekwondo, Archery, Rugby selection events held at Jammu



Players in action during taekwondo match.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) organised selection events to pick up probable for the next stages of the competition in the disciplines of Taekwondo, Archery and Rugby at different venues, here today. The selection competition held in all three age groups of under-14, under-17 and under-19 for the participants from different educational institutions falling in district Jammu.

The selection process took place under the overall supervision of District (DYSS) Officer Jammu, Sukhdev Raj Sharma. Earlier, the district officer, Sukhdev Raj visited the venues and appreciated the participants amidst motivation.

These selection events conducted by the technical penal including Hardev Singh,

Gurbachan Singh, Atul Pangotra, Sunil Abrol, Omeshwar Sanyal, Kamal Singh, Vishal Bharti and Rajesh Bandral.

The Results:

Archery Boys: Under-14: Indian Round: Paramjit Singh, Shourya International, Ist; Kirat Singh, Air Force, 2nd and Metansh Singh, KC Public, 3rd. Compound: Mrityunjay Singh, KC Public, Ist. Under-17 (Indian Round): Layak Dhar, SOS Herman School, Ist; Ariz Ahmed Bhat, APS Sunjwan, 2nd and Ishant Manhotra, Shourya International, 3rd. Compound: Angad Singh, R M Public, Ist.

Taekwondo Boys (selection): Under-14: Jagdish Kumar (BMS Maralia, U-21 kg); Aroush Bhagat (Dogra HSS, U-23 kg); Mrdul (Shishu Mandir, U-25 kg); Yaksmit (Doon International, U-29 kg);

## CS discusses key highway projects with NHA Chief

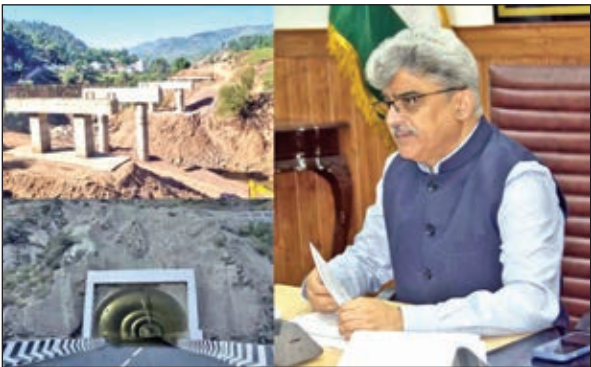
### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Thursday held a meeting with the Chairperson of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Santosh Kumar Yadav, to review the status and expedite the implementation of critical highway infrastructure projects in Jammu and Kashmir.

The NHAI Chairperson, who called on the Chief Secretary at the Civil Secretariat, was accompanied by the Regional Officer, NHAI Jammu, and other senior officials.

The deliberations focused on both ongoing projects and newly sanctioned road infrastructure initiatives aimed at enhancing all-weather connectivity, supporting regional development, and strengthening the strategic road network in the UT.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary underlined the immense importance of



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo at a meeting.

these vital road links for a region like J&K, which remains heavily dependent on external supply chains due to its geographically sensitive and climatically challenging terrain. He emphasized that uninterrupted road connectivity is essential for ensuring the smooth movement of essential commodities, especially during the harsh winter months when weather-related disruptions frequently impact mobility. Special attention was drawn to the NH-44 stretch between Banihal and Ramban, where the Chief Secretary stressed the need for timely completion of tunnels and viaducts to mitigate disruptions caused by adverse weather.

Highlighting the strategic and economic relevance of the region, Dulloo noted that J&K's key sectors tourism,

horticulture, and agriculture are closely tied to robust road infrastructure.

The Chief Secretary also called for accelerated implementation of flagship projects including the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway Corridor; Tunnel construction on the Jammu Ring Road, and Enhancing pace of work on the Srinagar Ring Road. He further impressed upon NHAI to take up the development of service roads along the Domel-Udhampur and Qazigund-Srinagar stretches of NH-44 on priority.

Reiterating the critical need for improved connectivity to remote and border areas, Dulloo advocated for the expeditious execution of key tunnel projects such as Sadhma Pass Tunnel for all-weather access to Gurez Valley, Singhpora-Vailoo

Tunnel, and Sudhmahadev Tunnel on NH-244 to establish a dependable alternate highway to the Kashmir Valley, especially benefiting the remote districts of Doda and Kishtwar.

The Chief Secretary also sought active support from NHAI in fast-tracking the approval of DPRs (Detailed Project Reports) for a number of strategic road projects that are vital to the region's development and economic growth.

These include Development of the Fourth Tawi Bridge, Upgradation of the Satwari-Suchetgarh (Old Jammu-Sialkot) Road to NH standards, Construction of Phase-II of the Jammu Ring Road, Expansion of the Chenani-Nashri Tunnel, Upgradation of the Samba-Mansar-Udhampur Road, Development of the Kathua-Bhasoli-Bani-Bhaderwah-Doda corridor, Bhaderwah-Chamba Road, Phase-III of the Srinagar Ring Road besides others.

The meeting concluded with a mutual commitment to enhance inter-agency coordination and ensure time-bound execution of all highway development works, with a shared vision of building a more connected, resilient, and economically vibrant Jammu and Kashmir.

## School level events by DYSS begins at Reasi



Participating teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: To raise the teams for upcoming inter-school zone level competitions as part of the annual calendar of activities, Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) organised events at PM Shri HSS Agharjitto in district Reasi.

To begin with, the opening day witnessed Kho-Kho and Kabaddi competi-

tion in under-19 age group of boys and girls. It will be followed by the events in Kabaddi and Chess.

Senior teachers of the school, Bandana Dogra and Sushma Devi interacted with the participants and laid emphasis on role of sports in nurturing discipline, teamwork, and character among students. The competition is being conducted under the guidance of Principal, Dara

Singh and coordinated by Devinder Kour (PEM) and Rahul Bakshi (PET).

Meanwhile, the competition in Badminton, Table Tennis, Volleyball and Athletics shall be played as per the already laid down schedule.

The Results (Girls): Kho-Kho: Eco Club defeated Nehru Club by three points. Kabaddi: Sarojini Club beat Manikarnika Club by one point.

NORTHERN RAILWAY				
E-Tender Notice				
Sr.DEN-I/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> with closing date- 18/08/2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. In place of Earnest money deposit, "Bid Security Declaration" is to be submitted or prescribed format as available in document section on the portal.				
Tender Type		Tendering Section		Bidding System
Open		Works		Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders		Bid Starting Date		Bid Closing Date/Time
23.07.2025		04.08.2025		18.08.2025/ 15:00 Hrs.
S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender		
1.	88-2025-26-ADEN-LDH	Conversion of BH-01, BTTN and MAUL from IBH to IBS on SNL-JUC Section & civil work for Interlocking of C-86 SNL-JUC & C-16 JRC-PTK Section) as per Type Plan No. HQ/01/02-2017/R-1 i.e.w. Interlocking of 5 No's manned L-Xing gates Over FZR division.		
Advertised Value (Rs.)		Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
29,76,507.04/-		59,500.00/-	60 Days	06 Months
Similar nature of work: "NIL..."				
Note1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. Tender Notice No:-88-2025-26-ADEN-LDH Date: 24.07.2025				
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE				
2250/2025				

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Dy.CEE/GSU/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders ([www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.

Tender No:- 27-Elect/GSU-T-01-2025-26 Name of Work: Electrical works in c/w/ Augmentation of homing capacity at ELS/LDH from 200 to 300 locomotives. App. Cost. (in ₹): 1,29,57,941.53p Earnest Money (in ₹): 2,14,800.00/- Completion period: 06 Months Opening of tender: 14.08.2025 after 15:00 Hrs. Website Particulars: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

Open Tender Notice No. NIT-01/2025-26 Dated:- 23.07.2025 2239/2025

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM

Subj:- Publication of Corrigendum No. 1 to referenced tender notice. Ref:- (i) Tender Notice No. 433-Sig-T-17-25-26 dtd. 17.07.2025 In connection with the above please note the following modification in the published tender:-

S.No. of condition as mentioned in NIT document	Condition Type
2	"Special Technical Criteria" of "Eligibility Conditions" mentioned at S. No. 4 of NIT document.

Note: All other terms and conditions except item modified above will remain same in tender document.

Tender Notice No.: 433-Sig-T-17-25-26 Dated: 24.07.2025 2251/2025

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Jammu to Srinagar	
IndiGo	10:05 AM - 10:45 AM
SpiceJet	11:10 AM - 12:00 PM
Air India Express	12:50 PM - 1:40 PM
Air India Express	1:35 PM - 2:45 PM
IndiGo	1:55 PM - 2:35 PM
IndiGo	6:40 PM - 7:20 PM
Srinagar to Jammu	
IndiGo	11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Air India Express	12:10 PM - 1:05 PM
SpiceJet	12:35 PM - 1:30 PM
Air India Express	2:20 PM - 3:35 PM
IndiGo	3:15 PM - 4:05 PM
IndiGo	5:20 PM - 6:10 PM

FIND TRAIN SCHEDULE	
11078 Jhelum Express	
Departure	: 23:35 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 11:15 at New Delhi
12426 Jammu Tawi - New Delhi Rajdhani Express	
Departure	: 21:25 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 05:55 at New Delhi
12446 Uttar Sampark Kranti Express	
Departure	: 21:50 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 06:55 at New Delhi
Train 26401 - Katra to Srinagar (Morning Service)	
Departure	: 8:10 AM from Katra
Arrival	: 21:50 AM at Srinagar
Intermediate Stop	: Banihal at 9:58 AM
Fare:	
Chair Car (CC): 715	
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,320	
Booking: Available on IRCTC	
Train 26403 - Katra to Srinagar (Afternoon Service)	
Departure	: 2:00 PM from Katra
Arrival	: 05:00 PM at Srinagar
Fare:	
Chair Car (CC): 660	
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,270	
Booking: Available on IRCTC	

HELPLINE	
TELEPHONES	
Directory Enquiry	197
Fault Repair	198
Local Assistance	199
Trunk Booking	180
Trunk Assistance	181
International Trunk Booking	2447952, 2577951, 2573638
Billing Complaints	2543896, 2548415
Billing Complaints Computerize	1955
Change No. Announcement	
Gandhi Nagar Exchange	2451953, 2430953
HOSPITALS	
Government Medical College	2584290, 2484291
Psychiatry and Disease Hospital	2577444
Ambulance Rajouri	257147, 257084, 257357
Blood Bank/Eye Bank - SMGS Hospital	2547639, 2547637
Emergency	2549669
Blood Bank	2547637, 2547638
Chest Disease Hospital	2577064, 2548012
Dental Hospital	2544670
Govt Hospital Gandhi Nagar	2430041
Emergency	2431740
Child Hospital	2577023
Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences and Hospital	262270
AMBULANCES	
Indian Red Cross Society	2549413
Jammu University	2453165, 2543525, 2435248
FIRE STATIONS	
Gandhi Nagar	101, 2435283, 2457705
City	2544263
Canal	2554064
Roop Nagar	2597522
Gangyal	2480026
Bari Brahmana	220020
Akhnoor	252481
Kathua	234313
Samba	243280
Katra	232451
Udhampur	270897
Police Control Room	100, 2542001, 2545481-82
Police Exchange	2547621-22, 2547624
Civil Defence Control Room	2549100, 2548645, 2544920
Civil Defence	2548645, 2549100, 2544920
Hot Line	383
TOURISM	
Tourist Officer, Airport	2431917
Tourist Officer, Railway Station	2430078
Tourist Reception Centre	2579554
BUS SERVICES	
JKSRTC General Manager	2435262
JKSRTC Bus Stand	2577475
JKSRTC Jammu Srinagar, Service	2576562
Punjab Roadways	2542782
WATER SUPPLY	
Company Bagh	2542582
Parade	2544979
Bakshi Nagar	2543557
Panjiirthi	2547501
Narwal	2430031
ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPLAINTS	
Canal	2554147, 2554199
Parade	2542289, 2543398
Nanak Nagar	2430776
Gandhi Nagar	2430180
Shastri Nagar	2430781
Janipur	2543828, 2579258
Satwari	2452816
FIRE SERVICE : (Control Room)	
	101
CIVIC SERVICES	
Municipality	2547846, 2542192
Health Officer	2547440
Garbage / Carcass Removal	2547440

FIND CINEMA	
SAIYAARA (HINDI)	
Wave one movie Jammu	10:30 AM / 1:35PM / 4:40 PM / 7:45PM / 11:00 PM
PVR KC JAMMU	09:00 AM / 10:00 AM / 01:10 PM / 04:20 PM / 5:55 PM
THE FANTASTIC FOUR:FIRST STEP(ENGLISH)	
PVR KC JAMMU	12:10 PM / 9:05 PM