

**03** Dr Jitendra releases book 'Weight Loss Revolution', cautions against disinformation

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## Cloudburst, landslide in Kathua; seven killed

### Army presses choppers into rescue ops; train, traffic disrupted



Massive damage due to cloudburst. Five people lost their lives in Jodh Ghati, while two persons were killed in Janglote. Injured airlifted from the spot for treatment. (More pics on page-9)

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU:** Seven members of four families, including five children, were killed in two separate incidents of cloudburst and landslide in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir early Sunday, officials said.

The calamity struck Jodh Ghati village of Rajbagh and Bagra village of Janglote amid heavy overnight rains in the district, leading to increase in the level of water bodies and submerging many

low-lying areas, they said. Officials said while five persons, including a man and his two minor sons, lost their lives in Jodh Ghati which was hit by the cloudburst, snapping access to the village and causing damage to several mud houses, a mother-daughter duo lost their lives in landslide triggered by rains at Bagra village of Janglote.

The Army has evacuated six injured persons to hospital from Jodh Ghati.

### LG briefs Union Home Minister on rescue, relief operations

Director senior civil, police officials to coordinate and execute rescue, aid efforts in affected areas; ensure on-site medical assistance

**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha spoke to the Union Home Minister Amit Shah and briefed him on the ongoing rescue and relief operations in rain-triggered landslides-affected areas of Kathua District.

The Lieutenant Governor has expressed his grief and anguish over the loss of lives in the tragic incident and extended his condolences to the bereaved families. He directed the senior Civil and Police Officials to coordinate and execute rescue and aid efforts in the affected areas and ensure on-site medical assistance.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor said: "Deeply anguished by the loss of lives in the devastating rain-triggered landslides in several areas of Kathua. The tragedy is mind-numbing. Briefed Hon'ble Union Home Minister Sh. Amit Shah Ji on rescue and relief operations by the army, NDRF, SDRF, police and administration. I have directed the Senior Civil and Police Officials to coordinate



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"Indian Army columns on the ground in Kathua - rescuing families, giving hope, food & care after the cloudburst," Rising Star corps said in a post of X.

It was also shared pictures of soldiers evacuating the affected people to safety.

The officials identified the deceased as Surmu Din (32), his sons Fannu (6) and Shedhu (5), Zulfon (15) and Tahu (2), all residents of Jodh Ghati, and Renu Devi (39) and her daughter Radhika

(9) of Janglote.

The injured were identified as Surmu Din's wife Gogli Begum (26), daughter Nageena (3 months) and Habib Din's wife Karoon Begum (26) and daughters Rafia Begum (4), Aisha Begum (6) and Parveen Akhter (8), the officials said.

A video on social media showed a couple of collapsed mud-houses belonging to the victims with survivors trying to pull out a half-buried

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### Kishtwar cloudburst: Search for trapped victims continues on Day 4; death toll reaches 61



**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**CHISOTI:** The death toll due to a cloudburst in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district rose to 61, as rescuers continued operations for the fourth day on

Sunday, effecting three more blasts to blow up boulders around a major impact spot, officials said.

Army engineers have started working on a Bailey

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### CM announces immediate relief for Kathua cloud-burst victims

#### Amit Shah calls Omar, assures Centre's support

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Sunday expressed profound grief over the tragic loss of lives and extensive damage caused by cloudburst and landslides in several parts of District Kathua, including Jodh Khad and Juthana, which claimed four lives and left many injured.

The Chief Minister conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured, and assured all necessary assistance to the affected people.

To provide immediate relief, the Chief Minister announced ex-gratia assistance from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund that would be in addition to the support from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

The financial assistance includes Rs



lakh for each deceased, Rs 1 lakh for those severely injured, and Rs 50,000 for those with minor injuries. For housing damages, Rs 1 lakh will be given for fully damaged houses, Rs 50,000 for severely damaged houses, and Rs 25,000 for partially damaged houses.

The Chief Minister directed the administration to carry out immediate relief, rescue, and evacuation measures

on priority to ensure safety of the affected families and to extend full support to them.

He said the government stands firmly with the people in this hour of crisis and assured that all possible steps will be taken to mitigate the suffering of those hit by the calamity.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah to the Chief Minister regarding the situation in Kathua and assured all necessary support from the Centre.

The Chief Minister welcomed the Union Home Minister's assurance and said the joint efforts of the J&K government and the Centre will help provide timely relief and rehabilitation to the affected families.

Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana has expressed deep sorrow over the tragic loss

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### Names of 65 lakh voters excluded in Bihar draft roll posted on district websites

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** The list of names deleted from Bihar's draft electoral rolls following special intensive revision has been posted on the websites of district magistrates following the Supreme Court's orders, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said on Sunday.

Hearing a bunch of petitions challenging the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar, the Supreme Court had last week asked the Election Commission (EC) to publish details of 65 lakh deleted names from the voters list with reasons of non-

inclusion to enhance transparency in the process.

Addressing a press conference here, Kumar said that within 56 hours of the top court directive, the names of voters that were not included in the draft electoral roll have been posted on district websites.

He also underlined that the election system for parliament and assembly elections in India is a multi-layered, decentralised construct as envisaged by law.

Based on the guidelines issued by the Election Commission, Electoral Registration

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### Jammu Division schools to remain closed today

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU:** Schools in Jammu Division will remain closed due to bad weather.

"In view of the inclement and bad weather conditions, it is ordered that all the Government as well as Private Schools of Jammu Division shall remain closed for tomorrow, August 18," read an order issued by Director, School Education, Jammu.

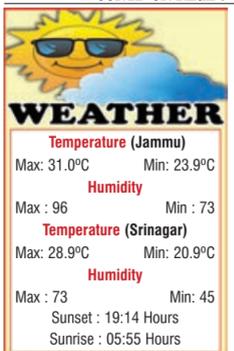
### JKBOSE postpones Bi-annual examinations for Classes 10th, 11th scheduled for tomorrow

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) has postponed the bi-annual examinations for classes 10th and 11th scheduled to be held tomorrow.

As per statement, the exams fixed for August 18 stand deferred across JK UT as well as Leh and Kargil districts of

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 31.0°C Min: 23.9°C

Humidity  
Max: 96 Min: 73

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 28.9°C Min: 20.9°C

Humidity  
Max: 73 Min: 45

Sunset : 19:14 Hours  
Sunrise : 05:55 Hours

### NDA picks Maharashtra Govt CP Radhakrishnan as VP candidate



**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** Maharashtra Governor Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan, a seasoned BJP leader from Tamil Nadu with an RSS background, was on Sunday

named the vice-presidential candidate of the ruling National Democratic Alliance.

BJP president J P Nadda made the announcement

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### Radhakrishnan focused on empowering marginalised: Modi

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said NDA Vice Presidential candidate C P Radhakrishnan has always focused on empowering the marginalised and has distinguished himself with dedication, humility and intellect.

Modi said Radhakrishnan has done extensive work at the grassroots in Tamil Nadu and he was glad that the NDA family has decided to nominate him as the Vice Presidential candidate

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### INDIA bloc leaders likely to discuss joint VP candidate today

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** The opposition INDIA bloc leaders are likely to discuss their joint candidate for the post of vice-president at a meeting of floor leaders on Monday morning.

Sources said the INDIA bloc leaders would meet at the office of Mallikarjun Kharge, the leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha, at 10.15 am on Monday.

The meeting will be held a day after the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) announced Maharashtra Governor C P Radhakrishnan as its

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### Administration, forces holding rescue ops; helicopters airlifted injured to hospital: Dr Jitendra

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU:** Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Sunday said the civilian administration, military and paramilitary forces have swung into action and inducted helicopter services for rescue and relief operations in the cloudburst-hit Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir.

At least seven people were killed and six others injured in two separate incidents of cloudburst and landslide in Kathua district early Sunday. The calamity struck Jodh Ghati village of Rajbagh and Janglote amid heavy overnight rains.



"Spoke to Kathua SSP Shobhit Saxena after receiving information about a cloudburst in the Janglote area," Singh wrote in an X post.

"Four casualties have been reported (in Janglote). In addition, damage has

occurred to the railway track and national highway, while Kathua police station has also been affected," he added.

The civilian administration, military and paramilitary forces have swung into action, he said, adding that the situation is being continuously monitored.

Helicopter services have been arranged for shifting the injured to appropriate hospitals, he said.

"Six injured have been airlifted for hospitalisation in Mamoona, Pathankot, which was found to be (the) relatively nearer destination,"

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## MBBS/BDS admissions on basis of NEET UG-2025; Govt, JKBOPEE need to address quarries

**DAYA SAGAR**

**J&K BOPEE** has issued Notification No. 086-BOPEE of 2025 Dated 05-08-2025 for online choice filling for NEET UG (MBBS/BDS) Courses-2025 from 06-08-2025 (11:00 a.m. onwards) to 10-08-2025 (later extended to 12-08-2025). In the notification the BOPEE has not mentioned the fee structure approved by the competent authority for government colleges as well as for Private Colleges and the eligibility criteria for some categories of seats in Private Medical Colleges like Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences and Hospital, Sidhra, Jammu and also the eligibility criteria for some seats in the said college ie 25 Hindu Minority seats & the 15 Management seats except mentioning that the candidates should meet the NEET requirements. Reference was made to JKBOPEE as regards approved tuition fee by competent authority but JKBOPEE

has expressed inability to provide that ( e-brochure for 2025 pn page 41 para 18 also says Upon selection of the candidates for undergoing NEET UG 2025 course in private Medical Colleges, the fee structure have been fixed by competent authorities and charged by such medical colleges, the BOPEE is not in any way associated with it and in no way responsible for the same including the fee).

Surely there are some candidates who fearing that in view of OM seats having been reduced to 40 percent only from 50 percent in government colleges they may in case their conditions permit have to show option for Government Seats ( 40), HM seats (25), Management seats 15 on NEET score basis or even Poor & Backward candidates (10 seats) for admission in ASCOMS. But unless they know the fee burden they cannot decide opting for even 40 OM Government seats in ASCOMS Sidhra Jammu what to talk

of Hindu Minority ( 25) & Management ( 15) seats for which the minors of eligibility have also not been mentioned and NRI ( 10) . Although such seats have not been included for choice making by BOPEE in



### A Look through the Mist Part-II

the present exercise but it has been mentioned that for these seats too BOPEE is recruiting authority and the exercise will be started separately by BOPEE {e brochure 2025 Ref para 16 on Page 36 (Filling up seats in ASHCOM) All allocated seats in ASCOMS including under Management Quota and NRI shall be filled up by the BOPEE only}.

Another missing link is that no eligibility criteria has been mentioned for HM (25) and Management seats ( 15 seats ) in

e brochure by BOPEE whereas the same has been mentioned for NRI (10) seats. Why so is not understandable when the said seats have also to be filled / allotted by BOPEE ? Not only that since these seats are also to be filled up on basis of NEET merit and there are two different categories like other categories why have they not been included in exercise initiated on 05-08-2025 and the eligibility criteria is also NOT placed in public domain ( which would have shorten process and also reduced scope for any doubts ) ?

So since process has just started Government / Competent Authority may kindly consider the observations made here sympathetically and

(1).Make public the tuition fee fixed for different colleges and different categories of seats for the MBBS Session starting 2025 ( 2). Publish the eligibility criteria ( other than NEET requirement and registration with BOPEE ) for 15

Management Seats and 25 Hindu Minority seats and make that also part of e brochure . (3). Issue policy directions to BOPEE that the 15 Management Seats and 25 Hindu Minority seats be also included in choice making from 2nd round if not from 1st round itself. (4) NO DOUBT for the tuition fee being seen as higher or unreasonable by some the Management of a private medical colleges cannot be questioned / cannot be held responsible as the same is fixed by the competent authority / government in J&K . But in J&K some questions have been raised in past on the manner in which the fee is collected . As per some information obtained from private sources for the 2024 Batch of MBBS the only private medical college of UT of J&K has been at the time of admission in addition to Fee for 1st year also the fees for next 4 yrs in the shape of FDRs or Bank guarantee from candidates

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