











## KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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Vigilance Awareness Week

# No to Corruption!

“It starts with me”, says CM Omar Abdullah



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

He was serious and the message seemed clear “No to Corruption”. The Chief Minister of J&K, Omar Abdullah, while administering the integrity pledge to his cabinet colleagues and administrative secretaries, urged upon them to maintain integrity in public life. The CM during his clear and focussed speech said:

“We can only stop our subordinates from doing something wrong if we ourselves are honest in our conduct. I am dishonest in my conduct. I cannot expect my cabinet Ministers to be honest. If I can't expect them to be honest & they can't expect you (Administrative Secretaries) to be honest. If we can't expect you to be honest, we can't expect your subordinates. Therefore it starts with me. I am to lead by example, I intend my Hon'ble Cabinet colleagues to follow that example and return I expect you to follow the example and your subordinates follow your example.”

### Vigilance Awareness Week

In connection with Vigilance Awareness Week (Oct 28th to Nov 3rd) Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday Oct 28th 2024 administered the integrity pledge to his Cabinet colleagues and Administrative Secretaries. On the sidelines of this programme Omar Abdullah while addressing his cabinet colleagues and administrative secretaries, urged upon them to maintain integrity in public life. The message was strong and its video is circulating on social media. The Chief Minister said:

“As we mark Vigilance Awareness Week from October 28 to November 3, I take great pride in reaffirming our unwavering commitment to a corruption-free Jammu and Kashmir. Eradicating corruption is more than a priority; it is a mission that drives us to introduce bold reforms, strengthen oversight, and empower citizens,” Chief Minister added. He emphasised the relevance of this year's theme — ‘Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity’.

“Integrity is the cornerstone of any successful nation, and its impact on growth, welfare and progress is undeniable. Upon stepping into office, our newly elected government has made a firm pledge to create a governance system rooted in integrity, fairness, and honesty,” the chief minister said.

The officers stationed at Jammu Secretariat joined the ceremony through video conference while as Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Heads of Departments, and hundreds of schools participated from their respective district headquarters.

The other Govt departments also organised similar pledge-taking ceremonies for their employees, further demonstrating their commitment to uphold integrity at all levels of public service.

The Chief Minister said his mission is simple & yet profound which is to serve with honour and ensure that every decision benefits the people. He urged all participants to engage actively in the initiatives organised during this week.

### Death of Anti Corruption Judges

There are more acquittals and less convictions when it comes to corruption related cases. In 2020, only one person was convicted by the Anti Corruption Court in J&K and was awarded punishment. Last year, this author had obtained some information under the RTI Act 2005 from J&K Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB). There are 11 Anti Corruption Courts in J&K but only two Special Anti Corruption Judges have been appointed in Srinagar and Jammu and rest of the nine courts don't have designated judges. The Anti Corruption cases in Rajouri, Doda, Udhampur, Kathua, Pulwama, Anantnag and Baramulla are looked after by the judges posted in local District and Sessions court who already have a lot of workload. Due to the absence of dedicated special anti-corruption judges, the corruption cases filed by ACB in these courts take years to get judgments. Very few convictions are made and even corrupt officers get acquitted in many cases. As per the information sought under RTI, there were only 78 Govt officials convicted in the last 13 years i.e between 2010 to 2023 in J&K. During the same time 156 Govt officials who were accused of corruption by ACB were acquitted by the respective Anti Corruption courts. This means the graph of acquittal is three times more than conviction? In Special Anti Corruption Court Jammu, 75 accused Govt officials were acquitted and 55 were convicted; in Special Anti Corruption Court Srinagar which includes cases from Budgam and Ganderbal as well, 42



accused officials were acquitted and 2 were convicted. Similarly, in Anantnag, six officials were acquitted and one Govt official was convicted in between 2010-2023. In Baramulla, Anti Corruption Court which includes cases from Kupwara and Bandipora as well, 11 Govt officials accused of corruption by ACB were acquitted and only one official was convicted. This year until October around 20 Govt officials have been arrested by ACB while accepting bribes and out of them 8 officials were arrested from North Kashmir.

### Suggestion for CM

Govt departments celebrate and commemorate many international days related to children, health, environment and the likes of it but when it comes to commemorating the days like International Anti Corruption Day, the Govt officials are reluctant. A majority of Govt officers are unaware as to when the Vigilance Week is to be commemorated or when the Anti Corruption Day is to be held.

As Chief Minister Omar Abdullah seems serious about reducing corruption in J&K, I urge upon him to facilitate the creation of more posts of Anti Corruption Judges so that corruption cases that are pending in courts are disposed of within a short span of time. Infact, the J&K Anti Corruption Bureau is doing its job efficiently but due to lack of designated Judges in eleven Anti Corruption Courts in J&K, the trial gets delayed.

The government also needs to do a study by hiring young researchers/anti corruption fellows to know why there are so many acquittals vis a vis corruption cases in J&K. If there are loopholes on part of the prosecution, that also needs to be addressed.

A strong CM's Grievance Cell should be set up which is accessible on all social media platforms & should be headed by a senior officer not below the rank of Secretary to Govt

The Govt must also organise Anti Corruption workshops and seminars in schools and colleges and above all make laws like Right to Information Act and J&K Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA) more efficient and workable. These laws will help bring down the graph of corruption and make Govt officials more accountable. In the past 5 years, the bureaucracy has kept these laws in suspended animation. It is ironic that under the Digital India programme people of J&K have been deprived of seeking information through an Online RTI platform. Poor citizens of J&K continue to seek information through obsolete ways by going to Govt offices or sending applications via post.

### Conclusion

It is heartening to see CM Omar Abdullah administering the integrity pledge to his cabinet Ministers and senior bureaucrats. The Chief Minister's office needs to move beyond the Integrity Pledge and counter the menace of corruption at all levels. The Speaker of Assembly must also administer this pledge to all the MLAs. Corruption not only impacts people but also undermines merit and good governance. The corruption also wastes the taxpayers' money and citizens lose the confidence in democratically elected Governments. It is high time for the newly elected Govt to act against Corruption with an iron fist.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer  
Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow.  
He is Founder and Chairman of Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement



The Chief Minister's office needs to move beyond the Integrity Pledge and counter the menace of corruption at all levels. The Speaker of Assembly must also administer this pledge to all the MLAs. Corruption not only impacts people but also undermines merit and good governance

Govt officials were acquitted and only 18 were convicted between 2010-2023.

Ironically, in Rajouri Doda and Kathua, not even a single Govt official has been convicted in the last 13 years by Anti Corruption Judges whereas one each Govt official was acquitted by these three designated courts.

In Pulwama Anti Corruption Court, nine

### KO VIEW

## Madness in Middle East

Ninety three people were killed in the latest Israeli strike in Gaza in the continuing genocide in the Palestinian territory. The toll is now well past 43000 people, mostly civilians and children. Israel now visits so much death and destruction on Gaza daily that it has become a routine. Appalling enough, the world goes on regardless. The war has now expanded into Lebanon and threatens to drag Iran into it as well. The UN too has sounded a grave warning. On Tuesday, its special coordinator for Middle East peace said that the region was at its “most dangerous juncture” in decades. The war, he said, risks a serious escalation. But the world remains indifferent. Not just the US-led west but also the major powers on this side of the globe. It is a horrific state of affairs.

In March, even the United Nations passed a resolution, overwhelmingly supported by 14 out of 15 members, underlining the urgent need for peace and the cessation of hostilities that have ravaged the region. It was a call for humanity, compassion, and the protection of innocent lives in Gaza. But Israel has refused to listen. After degrading Hamas, Israel has changed its focus to Lebanon, where in the past two weeks, it has wrought havoc, killing not just civilians but also several top leaders of Hezbollah, including Hassan Nasrallah, the biggest of them all. It has also killed two successive chiefs of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh and Yahya Sinwar.

Although US Secretary of State Antony Blinken recently visited the region in an umpteenth US-led attempt to ensure a ceasefire, nothing has changed on the ground. Israel has rejected all such efforts, instead seeking a ceasefire on its maximalist terms whereby both Hamas and Hezbollah accept an abject surrender. So, the war is likely to go on.

But if the Israeli provocations continue, the region could very well be heading towards a big conflagration whose outcome would be catastrophic not just for the region but the world too. This is why, world needs to act and put an end to this madness. So far, the major western powers have just been making occasional right noises, calling on Israel to halt its operations but actually funding and arming it to lay waste to the region. It is time that the time world powers make a meaningful effort to stop Israel and pull the region back from the brink. Time is running out.



Did you know?

## Why You Shouldn't Lose Faith in the Stock Market: A Guide for Beginners

Irshad Mushtaq

Investing in the stock market can be intimidating, especially when prices fluctuate due to factors like international conflicts or elections. However, these changes are usually temporary. It's important to view downturns as opportunities rather than losses. Here's why you should stay calm and informed:

- 1. Understand Market Nature:** The stock market is inherently volatile. Prices can go up and down based on various factors, often beyond our control. This volatility should be expected, not feared.
- 2. Long-Term Perspective:** Investments, whether in the stock market, real estate, or any other area, tend to yield better returns over the long term. For most guaranteed plans, you need to invest your money for a minimum of five years to see significant returns. This applies to stocks as well.
- 3. Market Transparency:** Stocks and mutual funds show frequent price changes, which can be confusing. Unlike holding gold or real estate, you can see these changes daily on your screen. This transparency shouldn't drive you to panic but should be seen as a key advantage.
- 4. Quality Investments:** Focus on quality stocks or mutual funds. They have the potential to grow over time, even if they seem to underperform temporarily.
- 5. Cyclical Nature:** Remember, markets go through cycles—bull markets (rising prices) and bear markets (falling prices). Each downturn can serve as an opportunity for future gains if you invest wisely and hold long-term.
- 6. Stay Committed:** It's common to feel uneasy when you see your investment's value drop. But remember, if you have a diversified portfolio with quality assets, you're likely to benefit in the long run. By understanding the nature of investments and maintaining patience, you can navigate the ups and downs of the stock market and secure your financial future. Conclusion Investing in the stock market can feel daunting, but downturns are often temporary opportunities! Embrace volatility, focus on quality investments, and adopt a long-term outlook. Patience and commitment can lead to a brighter financial future.

Learn from the insights of @Irshad Mushtaq, Writer, Investor, Entrepreneur & Founder of M I Securities! Connect for valuable financial advice at [misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com](mailto:misecurities@bp.sharekhan.com)

## Emergence of Cloud Computing and Digital Transformation in Automotive Industries

Khalid Mustafa

The 1970s saw the beginning of the development of automobile software. During this

period, cars began to use computers with sophisticated electronics and software-controlled basic engine operations entering the automotive sector. Software started to regulate entertainment, climate control, safety, and driving assistance in the 1990s and early 2000s. The emergence of cloud computing and digital transformation have put the automotive sector on the verge of a technological revolution. The need for intelligent, sustainable and efficient transportation solutions is growing as the world gets more interconnected.

Along with the growing trend of AI use in the automobile sector, the idea of a digital twin is also gaining popularity. By 2027, 30% of software-defined vehicles will have a Digital Twin 2.0 of at least one vehicle system, compared to less than 1% today. By 2030, the average automaker will use AI in 80% of its high-value processes, up from 20% today.

Solutions are growing as the world gets more interconnected. Autonomous driving, connectivity, electrification, and shared mobility are four well-known technological trends that have become important forces behind innovation in the automotive sector.

Tech giants and startups are fiercely competing with traditional automakers, upending the market with their creative business strategies and state-of-the-art technologies. Furthermore, cars' unquenchable desire for data creation will only grow as their level of autonomy rises. In addition to pushing global networks to their breaking point, this new normal will require a strong, worldwide network of cloud data centers in order to efficiently and conscientiously handle the influx. In order to satisfy the constantly changing needs of contemporary customers in this globally interconnected society, cloud computing has become essential rather than a luxury.

Let's discuss some top technologies used in cloud for the automotive industry:

**Over-the-Air (OTA) Updates:** Without forcing customers to visit a service center, car businesses can now provide software upgrades and new features to vehicles over-the-air (OTA) thanks to the cloud.



Manufacturers can remotely update the software and firmware of cars using cloud-based software and APIs, enhancing security and guaranteeing that cars are running the most recent software versions in the automotive sector.

**Connected Vehicles:** The cloud enables the creation of linked cars, or autos that are connected to other devices and the internet. Connectivity enables a number of extra features and services, including over-the-air updates, remote diagnostics, and real-time traffic data.

**Autonomous Mobility-as-a-Service (AMaaS):** By offering scalable processing power and real-time data processing capabilities for effective ridesharing and logistical services, the cloud can facilitate the smooth integration and orchestration of fleets of autonomous vehicles.

**Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS):** With capabilities like adaptive cruise control, intelligent traffic signal recognition, and predictive collision avoidance, cloud-connected ADAS will improve driver safety by utilizing real-

time data from infrastructure, traffic, and automobiles.

**Automated Vehicle Cybersecurity:** To protect linked cars from online attacks, cloud-based cybersecurity solutions use machine learning and advanced analytics. By offering ongoing threat detection, protection, and monitoring, these technologies protect automated cars from changing cybersecurity threats.

**Generative AI for Vehicle Design and Manufacturing:** Rapid iteration, optimization, and customisation based on real-time data and customer preferences are made possible by cloud-based generative AI models, which are revolutionizing the design and manufacturing processes for automobiles.

**Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X):** Communication: Real-time communication between automobiles, infrastructure, and other linked devices will be made possible by cloud-based platforms, promoting intelligent traffic control, accident avoidance, and improved navigation.

**In-Vehicle Infotainment:** Through

over-the-air updates, real-time data integration, and smooth content streaming, cloud computing makes it possible to give customized infotainment, navigation, and telematics services to connected cars, improving the driving experience.

**Connected EV Charging Networks:** Utilize real-time data processing and analytics to optimize charging schedules, control energy consumption, and notify users about charging station availability and costs in order to facilitate the management and optimization of real-time data and electric vehicle charging networks.

**Self-Driving Vehicles: Full Self-Driving (FSD)** in autonomous vehicles relies on the cloud to collect and analyse massive volumes of sensor data, mapping data, and real-time traffic data. The creation, training, and implementation of autonomous driving systems are powered by cloud solutions, which also enable decision-making and over-the-air software updates enabling fleet-wide self-driving capabilities.

**Automated Manufacturing:** By facilitating tasks like automated car assembly,

maintenance, and logistical operations, the integration of robots and automation in vehicle manufacturing processes—made possible by cloud solutions—improves the productivity, accuracy, and safety of automotive production processes.

**Navigation Systems:** Navigations or in simpler terms we are aware about like google Maps shows you directions and uses real-time traffic information to find the best route to your destination. With voice navigation, you can hear traffic alerts, where to turn, which lane to use, and if there's a better route.

Let's highlight a few words about the Hyundai OEM for which I am currently a part of at an automobile dealership. The Connected Car Service Platform (ccSP) of the Hyundai Motor Group, which was unveiled at the Seoul Motor Show 2017, was what enabled a variety of services by interlinking vehicles, smart devices and transportation infrastructure altogether. Hyundai Motor Group has since gained valuable experience in cloud system management. Hyundai Motor Group plans to establish additional big data centers in key global markets and to link them for more efficient analysis, so that we can ultimately create better connected car services.

**Connected Car Operation System (ccOS)** is a proprietary infotainment operating system developed by Hyundai Motor Group for the efficient operation of their high-performance connected car systems. The ccOS consists of an automotive framework that provides vehicle networks and control functions, an infotainment framework that provides navigation, multimedia and customizable UX functions, and a connectivity framework that provides server-based data processing functions.

To put it briefly, cloud computing promotes effective performance, data-driven insights, and seamless communication. Automotive firms may meet their migration and modernization objectives, as well as optimal resource use and regulatory compliance, particularly by utilizing private cloud or hybrid cloud platforms.

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## Autumn's Inspiration

Aubaid Akhoun

Setting aside the hustle of everyday life, I recently embarked on a journey with friends to retreat to appreciate nature's splendor and gain deeper insight. Literature has long cherished the study of the universe as a favored theme, drawing writers for ages, and for me, this fascination intertwines with a spiritual quest. Allah's magnificent creation invites reflection, offering a pathway to recognizing His presence in every element. Through observation and contemplation, we find ourselves closer to Him, experiencing the harmony of His design.

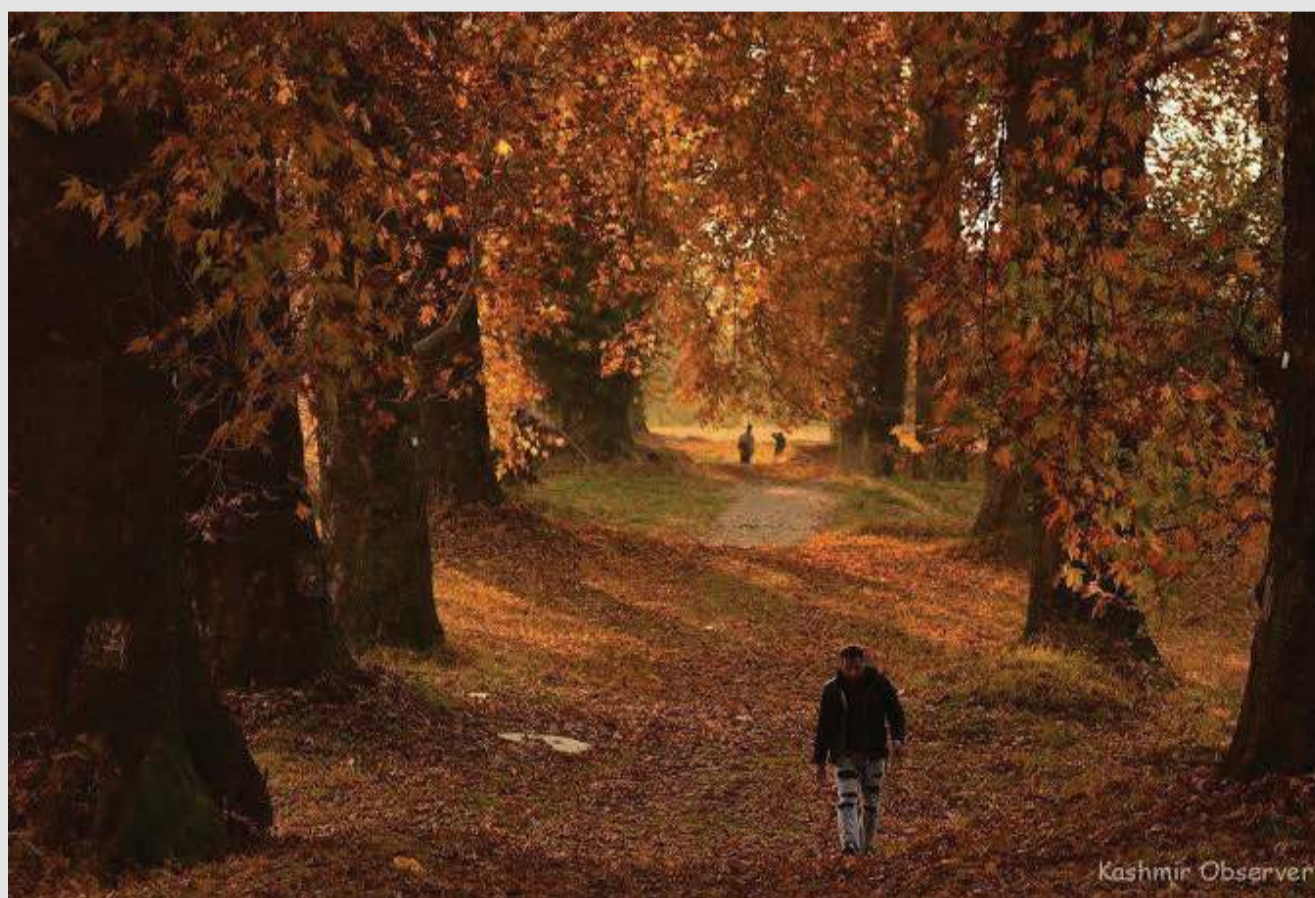
In the Quran, Allah calls us to reflect: "He is the One who sends down water from the sky, which nourishes you and creates fodder for your animals. And with it, He brings forth crops, olives, date palms, grapes, and every type of fruit. In this, there are indeed signs for those who reflect" (An-Nahl 16:10-11).

The Holy Quran extends this invitation with such intensity because it underscores the importance of reflection in human life. Delving into nature opens doors to profound knowledge, allowing us to immerse ourselves in a boundless sea of wisdom. Through this, we understand that Quranic teachings encourage knowledge and research for all humanity. This call holds special significance for Muslims, urging them to harness their potential and expand their understanding of the universe, finding purpose through exploration and learning.

The concept above is beautifully articulated by the poet Mirza Mohammad Rafi Sauda (1713-1781), a renowned Persian and Urdu poet, in the following couplet:

Har sang mein sharar hai tere zuhoor ka  
Musa nahi ke sair karun koh-e-Toor ka  
"Every stone bears the spark of Your manifestation;  
I am not Moses to traverse the Mount of Sinai."

This couplet beautifully captures the essence of experiencing divine presence in the world around us. It emphasizes that every element of nature, every stone, radiates the spark of Allah's existence, making His presence felt in every nook of creation. The poet reflects on the profound connection between



the divine and the natural world, suggesting that one does not need extraordinary experiences, like those of Prophet Moses at Mount Sinai, to witness the beauty and wonder of Allah's design. Instead, the mundane, everyday elements of life are filled with signs and symbols of His existence.

This reflection speaks to a universal truth: that the divine is not confined to grand miracles or sacred sites; rather, it permeates all aspects of existence. By recognizing the divine spark within nature, we cultivate a sense of spirituality that invites us to appreciate the intricate tapestry of life. Each stone, tree, and breeze serves as a reminder of Allah's creative power, urging us to engage in contemplation and appreciation of the world around us. Such reflections deepen our understanding of our purpose and con-

nection to the universe, fostering a sense of harmony with creation and, ultimately, with the Creator.

During our journey, we encountered an array of scenic views. Amidst it all, my attention was drawn to bare, leafless trees—standing exposed, devoid of leaves, and dried by the cold. To many, they might seem unimpressive, yet these trees held a unique beauty in their quiet strength, free from vanity or regret. They did not mourn their lost leaves, nor did they indulge in the narcissism of their "bare" appearance, and there was no desire to cover themselves artificially. As the poet aptly expresses:

"Bhale hi chhaon na de, aasra to deta hai,  
Yeh arzo ka shajar hai, khizan raseeda sahi."

"Though it may not provide shade, it still offers support;

This is the tree of desires, weathered by autumn, yet still standing."

Our lives mirror nature's seasons, filled with moments of beauty and joy, as well as phases of loss and simplicity. Life's golden chapters can lead us to complacency and even pride. During such times, if we neglect balance, there is a real risk of straying from the path. We may allow arrogance to cloud our judgment, placing ourselves above others and losing the humility that keeps us grounded.

True humility means acknowledging our place without elevating ourselves above others, a trait that earns Allah's favor. However, when we view others as inferior, we risk

falling into arrogance. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) warned against this pride, saying that on the Day of Judgment, the proud will be raised as tiny ants in human form, cloaked in disgrace, and driven to the prison of Hell called "Boulas." A great fire will consume them, and they will be given the filth of Hell's dwellers to drink.

Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) as saying (Sahih Muslim 2564 a):

"Don't harbor grudges and don't manipulate prices against one another. Do not allow hatred or enmity to develop among you, and do not interfere with a transaction once others have entered into it. Instead, be like brothers and servants of Allah. A Muslim is the brother of another Muslim. He neither oppresses him, humiliates him, nor looks down upon him. Piety resides here," and he pointed to his chest three times.

"It is a serious evil for a Muslim to look down upon his Muslim brother. All aspects of a Muslim's life are sacred to his fellow Muslim: his blood, his wealth, and his honor."

This hadith serves as a poignant reminder that pride distances us from the truth. Arrogance clouds our vision, leading us to deny what is right. As we navigate life, humility and acceptance of impermanence become our guides. Embracing life's inevitable changes as natural brings peace, helping us appreciate that time is in a constant state of flow, never lingering in one place.

With each rise comes a fall, just as autumn's fading leaves remind us. They stand as silent testimonies to nature's eternal cycles, encouraging us to accept life's turns with grace. This reminder was autumn's gift to me, one I carry forward with gratitude.

As I eagerly await another journey, filled with inspiration and curiosity, I bid farewell to these autumn vistas with a heart full of wisdom:

"Mein loatne ke iradey se ja raha hoon,  
Magar safar safar hai, mera intezar mat karna."  
"I leave with the intent to return,  
Yet, a journey is a journey—do not wait for my return."

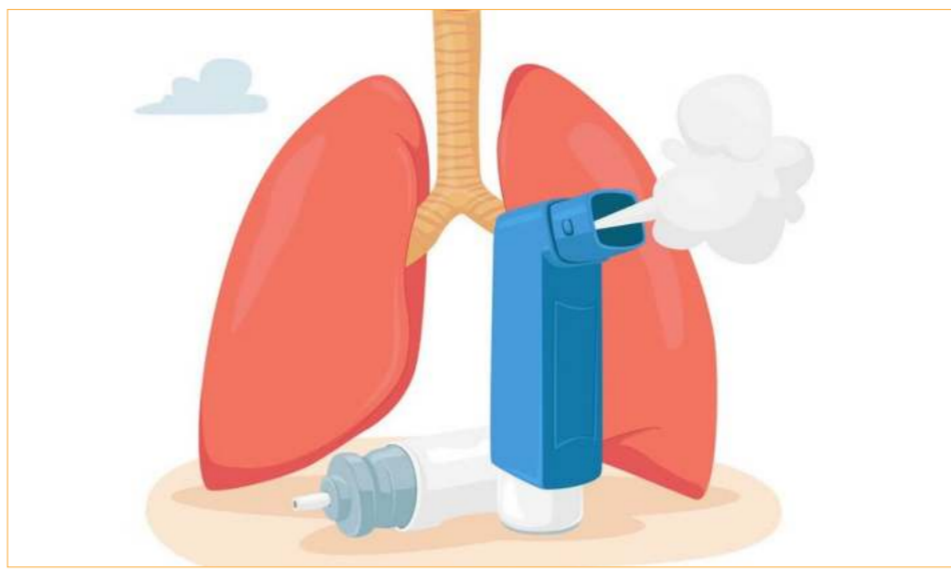
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'About A Third Of 2019's Asthma Cases Related To Prolonged Exposure To PM2.5'

Press Trust Of India

About a third of global asthma cases reported in 2019 were related to prolonged exposure to pollution due to PM2.5 or fine particulate matter, a finding that researchers said provided "sufficient evidence" on the link between air pollution and asthma.

Ni, from the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, said. While evidence has suggested long-term exposure to fine particulate matter pollution to be a risk factor for developing asthma, the researchers said that inconsistencies in earlier studies left potential health risk of this exposure to debate.



populations are typically exposed to higher levels of air pollution and bear a greater burden of PM2.5, the researchers said. Using epidemiological models, the team estimated that about 0.12 million excess deaths were due to asthma.

'Attention Problems Could Be 'Middleman' Between Genetic Risk For Experiencing Psychosis'

Press Trust Of India

Attention problems in childhood could act as a "middleman", or an intermediary, between a genetic risk for mental illness and experiencing psychosis-like symptoms -- a feature of mental conditions such as schizophrenia and mania phase of bipolar disorder, according to a study.



While there are many risk factors for psychosis, the mechanisms through which these risk factors operate, particularly during this developmental risk period for psychosis, are not well understood - and that's where our paper comes in

Psychosis is a mental state in which one loses touch with reality. Symptoms include harbouring delusions and experiencing hallucinations. Problems with one's ability to concentrate, or one's attention span, are known to be one of the earliest preceding stages of psychosis.

cognitive disorders was related with more severe psychotic experiences and greater attention issues. For their analysis, the team used cognitive, brain and genetic data from more than 10,000 participants from the ongoing Adolescent Brain and Cognitive Development (ABCD) study in the US, which is examining brain development in nearly 12,000 youth starting at age of nine and following them into early adulthood.

genetic risk. "We have known for a very long time that attention problems are some of the earliest precursors of psychosis," lead author Carrie Bearden, a professor at UCLA Health.

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY SRINAGAR
In the case of: Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd
1. M/s Umar Manzoor Beigh Contractors & Suppliers Khan Kah Mouda Srinagar through its sole Proprietor. Umar Manzoor Beigh S/o Manzoor Ahmad Beigh R/o Khan Kah Mouda Srinagar

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY SRINAGAR
In the case of: J&K Bank Ltd BU: Lal Mundi Srinagar through its Brand Head Mr. Mir Rocus John
1. M/S Arifeen Enterprises Wazir Bagh Lal Mundi, Srinagar, through its sole Proprietor

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY SRINAGAR
In the case of: J&K Bank Ltd BU: Upper Sathu Srinagar through its Branch Head Ms. Shagufata Amin
1. Sakeena V/S D/o Mohammad Ayoub Khan R/o: Munawarabad Ikhwan Chowk, Srinagar

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY SRINAGAR
In the case of: J&K Bank Ltd BU: Palpora, Srinagar through its Branch Head Mr.Arshad UI Hassan
1. M/s Reshi & Co, Palpora, Srinagar, through its Sole Proprietor

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRICAL DIVISION ANANTNAG KPDCL. Notice Inviting Tenders e-NIT No:- EDA/ 65 of 2024-25 Date: 21-10-2024

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION QAZIGUND Corrigendum Construction of 3x30 mtr 2 lane truss girder bridge over Nallah Sandran at Damjan Anantnag.

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY SRINAGAR In the case of: J&K Bank Ltd BU: Fateh Kadal, Srinagar
1. M/s Din Steels & Others M/s Din Steels, Baba Demb, Khanyar, Srinagar, through its Proprietor



## Saudi 'Davos In The Desert' Opens Amid Conflict In Middle East



AFP

**RIYADH-** Global business leaders meet in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday for a glitzy investor forum as conflict shakes the region and scepticism mounts over the Gulf kingdom's most ambitious development projects. The Future Investment Initiative (FII) debuted in 2017 as a showcase for de facto ruler Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's dream of diversifying the economy of the world's largest crude exporter away from oil.

This year's three-day event is expected to draw more than 7,000 delegates including TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew and the chief executives of Citigroup and Goldman Sachs.

For the second year in a row, conflict in the Middle East is likely to shape panel discussions and side meetings.

Last year's FII took place just weeks after Hamas's unprecedented attack on southern Israel triggered the war in Gaza, with high-level speakers warning about economic turmoil should the fighting draw in other countries.

A year later those fears have been realised, as Israel presses operations against Hezbollah in Lebanon and carries out tit-for-tat strikes with Iran.

"I suspect attendees will reflect seriously on the grinding nature of the Israel-Gaza war, a new invasion in Lebanon, and ongoing concerns over region-

wide conflict escalations," said Robert Mogielnicki of the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington.

"The Saudis have been effective in shielding their country from the worst effects of regional conflict for now, but it's very difficult to find a silver lining in this manner of conflict raging across the Middle East region."

FII Institute CEO Richard Attias told a press conference in Riyadh this month that the gathering is not meant to focus on "politics" and should instead tackle big-picture investments "to build a better world".

"We are an independent platform and we don't want to be, forgive me for the word, polluted by any political events," said Attias, former producer of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

"I am curating events for 35 years now, and I learned one thing: The show must go on."

"Doubters beware"

This year's FII, sometimes referred to as "Davos in the Desert", also comes as Saudi officials try to demonstrate progress on signature elements of Prince Mohammed's Vision 2030 reform agenda.

Authorities have reportedly scaled back 2030 size and population targets for NEOM, a planned futuristic megacity in northwest Saudi Arabia meant to feature a ski resort and twin skyscrapers 170 kilometres (105 miles) long.

## India Fastest Growing Major Economy, Likely To Become Third Largest Soon: President Murmu

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI-** India is the fastest growing major economy and is likely to become the third largest economy soon, President Droupadi Murmu said on Tuesday.

Addressing an event in Delhi, she said the Indian economy had been demonstrating resilience in the face of geopolitical challenges and the country's economy was likely to grow tenfold by 2047.

"India is the fastest growing major economy and is likely to become the third largest economy soon," Murmu said.

According to the latest World Bank estimate, India contributed 16 per cent to global economic growth in 2023.

"Our economy is likely to grow tenfold by 2047," the president said, addressing probationers of the Indian Trade Service and the Indian Cost Accounts Service who had called on Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

With a rapid economic growth of 8.2 per cent in 2023-24, the Indian economy has been demonstrating resilience in the face of geopolitical challenges, she said.

India needs to attract private investment to increase per capita income levels and get to continued high levels of growth, even amid a turbulent global environment, Murmu said.

The Indian government has an investor-friendly policy, where most sectors are open for 100 per cent FDI (foreign direct investment) under the automatic route, she said.

"Several initiatives of the government of India are creating an enabling ecosys-



"Our economy is likely to grow tenfold by 2047," the president said, addressing probationers of the Indian Trade Service and the Indian Cost Accounts Service who had called on Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

tem for growth. India is the third largest start-up country, only after the US and the UK," Murmu said.

She also asked the officers to keep learning and updating themselves about the advancement of artificial intelligence and make the best use of related technologies in their functioning to contribute towards increasing India's global competence.

Murmu said that with the government's enhanced focus

on boosting manufacturing, "it will be your responsibility to facilitate the creation of an enabling environment and infrastructure for increasing trade across borders".

"You are expected to bring up new dimensions in trade negotiation, create innovative policies and provide new impetus to boost India's trade. I know that you will live up to the expectations of the country," the president told the officers.

Murmu said that in the implementation of the GST system, "audits undertaken by you have been instrumental in detecting revenue leakages and enhancing compliance measures".

"You should always strive for excellence. Be aware of the fact that whatever you do has an ultimate impact on the welfare of underprivileged and deprived sections," she said.

The president said the officers joined service at a time they could contribute to making India a developed nation.

"The story of a new, rising and vibrant India is going to be extraordinary, and you are going to play a very important role," she added.



## Apple Launches iPhone Into AI Era With Free Software Update

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO-** Apple is releasing a free software update that will inject its first dose of artificial intelligence into its iPhone 16 lineup as the trendsetting company tries to catch up with technology's latest craze.

The upgrade to the iOS 18 operating system on Monday arrives more than a month after four iPhone 16 models equipped with the special computer chip needed to power the AI features went on sale at prices ranging from \$800 to \$1,200. Last year's premium models — the iPhone 15 Pro and iPhone 15 Pro Max — also possess a processor that will enable the AI technology after the software update is installed.

Recent versions of Apple's iPad and Mac computer also can be updated with the software.

Countries outside the U.S. won't be getting the AI software for their iPhones until next year at a date still to be determined. Apple spent the past five weeks testing the AI software among an audience of iPhone owners who signed up to help the company fine tune the technology.

The AI infusion is supposed to transform Apple's often bumbling virtual assistant Siri into a more conversational, versatile and colorful companion whose presence will be denoted by a glowing light that circles the iPhone's screen as requests are being handled.

While Apple is promising Siri will be able to perform more tasks and be less prone to becoming confused, it won't be able to interact with other apps installed on the iPhone until another software update comes out at a still-unspecified date.

Other AI features included in this software update will handle a variety of writing and proofreading tasks, summarize the content of emails and other documents. The AI also will provide a variety of editing tools to alter the appearance of photos and make it easier to find old pictures.

Other AI tricks still to come in future software updates will include the ability to create customized emojis on the fly or conjure other fanciful imagery upon request. Apple also plans to eventually enable its AI suite to get a helping hand from OpenAI's ChatGPT when users want it.

Most of the AI features Apple introduced Monday are already available on Android-powered smartphones that Samsung and Google released earlier this year.

In an effort to distinguish its approach from the early leaders in AI, the iPhone's suite of new technology is being marketed as "Apple Intelligence." Apple is also promising its AI features will do a far better job protecting the privacy of iPhone owners by either running the technology on device or corralled in a fortress-like data center when some requests have to be processed remotely.

## Apple Ships \$6 Billion Of iPhones From India In Big Shift From China

Sankalp Phartiyal, Bloomberg

**NEW DELHI-** Apple Inc.'s iPhone exports from India jumped by a third in the six months through September, underscoring its push to expand manufacturing in the country and reduce dependence on China.

The US company exported nearly \$6 billion of India-made iPhones, an increase of a third in value terms from a year earlier, people familiar with the matter said, asking not to be named as the information is private. That puts annual exports on track to surpass the about \$10 billion of fiscal 2024.

Apple is expanding its manufacturing network in India at a rapid clip, taking advantage of local subsidies, a skilled workforce and advances in the country's technological capabilities. India is a crucial part of the company's effort to lessen its reliance on China, where risks have grown along with Beijing's tensions with the US.

Three of Apple's suppliers - Taiwan's Foxconn Technology Group and Pegatron Corp, and homegrown Tata Electronics - assemble iPhones in south-

ern India. Foxconn's local unit, based on the outskirts of Chennai, is the top supplier in India and accounts for half of the country's iPhone exports.

Salt-to-software conglomerate Tata Group's electronics manufacturing arm exported about \$1.7 billion in iPhones from its factory in Karnataka state from April to September, the people said. Tata acquired this unit from Wistron Corp last year, becoming the first Indian assembler of Apple's bestselling product.

The dollar figure refers to the devices' estimated factory gate value, not the retail price. Representatives for Apple declined to comment. Pegatron also declined to comment, while Foxconn and Tata spokespersons didn't respond to requests for comment.

iPhones account for the bulk of India's smartphone exports and helped the product category become the top export to the US at \$2.88 billion in the first five months of this fiscal year, according to federal trade ministry data. Five years ago, before Apple expanded manufacturing in India, the country's annual smartphone exports to the US were a meager \$5.2 million.

## J&K Bank Organizes Seminar-Cum-Awareness Camp On High-Density Plantation Scheme

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR-** In line with its commitment to fostering sustainable agricultural growth and supporting the farming community, J&K Bank Tuesday organized a seminar-cum-awareness camp in collaboration with Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) and the Horticulture Department. Held at the District Horticulture Office in Budgam, the seminar focused on promoting the High-Density Plantation Scheme, drawing a large gathering of farmers eager to explore the scheme's potential benefits.

Speaking on the occasion, the Bank's Deputy General Manager (DGM) Rakesh Magotra explained in detail the purpose, process and features of the High-Density Plantation Scheme. Addressing the assembled farmers, he outlined various avenues available under the scheme, emphasizing the financial benefits that could be accessed through credit linkage with J&K Bank.

He also highlighted the Bank's initiatives to support the farming sector, particularly through government-backed schemes aimed at enhancing productivity and profitability in horticulture.



Earlier, Senior Manager Aftab Ahmad Shalla introduced the scheme to attendees by providing an overview.

The event was attended by the Bank's Cluster Head (Budgam), Lead District Manager (Budgam), and Branch Managers from neighboring areas, who engaged with farmers and discussed the Bank's diverse financial offerings. J&K Bank's Facilitator (FLCC) further informed the attendees about various Social Security Schemes available to the farming community, which serve as additional support measures.

The interactive session allowed participants to voice their concerns, which were addressed by Bank representatives, ensuring clarity and support for those interested in the scheme.

Present on the occasion, District Horticulture Specialist Masarat Jabeen and Dr. Oroosa Khalil, Associate Professor from SKUAST-K, also added valuable insights from the horticulture sector to the discussion and addressing farmers' specific queries.

## Govt Asks Manufacturers To Cut Price Of Three Anti-Cancer Drugs

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI-** The government has asked the companies to reduce prices of three anti-cancer drugs to pass on the benefit of customs duty exemption and GST reduction to the consumers.

In line with the government's commitment to ensure the availability of drugs at affordable prices, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has issued an office memorandum directing the concerned manufacturers to reduce the MRP on three anti-cancer drugs, Trastuzumab, Osimertinib and Durvalumab.

This is in pursuance to the announcement made in the Union Budget for the year 2024-25 exempting these three anti-cancer medicines from customs duty, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers said in a statement.

The Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, issued a notification dated July



23, this year reducing the customs duty to nil on the three drugs.

"Accordingly, there should be a reduction in MRP of these drugs in the market and benefits of reduced taxes and duties should be passed on to the consumers," the ministry said.

Hence, NPPA has directed all the manufacturers of above-mentioned drugs to reduce their MRP, it added.

The manufacturers are required to issue a price list or

supplementary price list to the dealers, state drug controllers and the government indicating changes and to submit information regarding price changes to NPPA, the ministry said.

While presenting the Union Budget for 2024-25 in the Lok Sabha, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed to cut customs duties on Trastuzumab, Osimertinib and Durvalumab from 10 per cent to nil.

## Medical Device Industry Opposes Import Of Refurbished Medical Devices

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI-** Medical device industry associations on Tuesday attacked the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change for allowing the import of refurbished and pre-owned medical devices into the country saying it is against the interests of the companies investing in local manufacturing.

The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) and the Association of Indian Medical Devices (AiMed), in alliance with the Manufacturers of Imaging, Therapy and Radiology Devices Association (MITRA), the Association of Diagnostic Manufacturers of India (ADMI), and other key stakeholders from the MedTech industry

sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention in the matter.

"The Office Memorandum (OM) issued by the MoEFCC undermines the National Medical Devices Policy 2023, which was launched by the Prime Minister last year. The OM allows the import of pre-owned medical equipment into India, putting the investments made by Indian and overseas manufacturers under the 'Make in India' initiative at risk of becoming non-performing assets," AiMed Forum Coordinator Rajiv Nath stated.

The investors will only bring manufacturing technologies to India if the policy environment is predictable and consistent with the National Medical Devices Policy

2023, intended to be binding on all government departments, he added.

"Not only are many projects recently initiated for high-end medical equipment now jeopardised, but patient safety is also at risk," Nath said.

India is being treated as a dumping ground for e-waste, with obsolete equipment being resold in the country while overseas manufacturers benefit from doubling their sales - once through replacement sales to hospitals in the Western world and again through second sales of pre-owned equipment to India, he stated.

"This severely harms the domestic industry, which is still in its nascent stage. India must not become a dumping

ground for obsolete medical equipment," Nath said.

Innovation Healthcare Co-Founder Atul Sharma said India's self-reliant healthcare vision relies on fostering local innovation.

"We urge the government to prioritise domestic manufacturers and consult CDSCO's data to prevent unnecessary imports that hinder industry growth," he added.

Echoing similar sentiments, Sequoia Healthcare CEO & MD Viswanathan Santhanagopalan said hospitals and diagnostic centres charge patients the same fees, regardless of whether they use new or refurbished equipment, meaning no cost benefit is passed on to patients while outdated technology is employed.

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ELECTRIC DIVISION- GANDERBAL.

Email: Edgbl123@gmail.com Tel No. 0194-2416237 Fax No. 0194-2416237

#### e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE

e-NIT No. EDG/V/103 of 2024-25, dt:24.10.2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Electric Division-Ganderbal invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Electrical Contractors/firms as under:

S.No	Particulars	Estimated Cost (In Lacs)
1	Installation of dedicated essential feeder along with Creation of Electric Substation for WSS Regional Parihaspora-RETENDER.	88.52

The complete tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidder/tenders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details.

i)	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale (Start) of Tender Document	24.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs
ii)	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	31.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iii)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	24.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs to 31.10.2024; 16:00 Hrs
iv)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	02.11.2024 at 12:00 Hrs
v)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
vi)	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Electronically on J&K Government e-Procurement System website <a href="http://jktenders.gov.in">http://jktenders.gov.in</a>
vii)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.2000.00 (Rupees Two Thousand Only) (Non-refundable) [Treasury Receipt/Demand Draft]
viii)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.1,77,100/- (Rupees One Lakh Seventy Seven thousand one hundred only)

DIPK-NB-2045-24  
DT: 29/10/2024

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Electric Division Ganderbal

NIT Srinagar hosts 5-day STC on 'Recent Advancements in Wastewater Treatment Techniques'

Srinagar, Oct 29: A 5-day on-line Short-Term Course (STC) on 'Recent Advancements in Wastewater Treatment Techniques (RAWTT-2024)' was hosted by the Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar from 21st to 25th October 2024.

The valedictory program was presided over by Incharge Director NIT Srinagar Prof. Rohie Naaz Mir, who was Chief Guest on the occasion, while as Institute's Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman, Prof. Anand Kishore Kola (NIT Warangal), Prof. M. N. S. Khan, were the Guests of Honour on the occasion.



of expert lectures and course outcomes, along with participants' feedback. On this occasion, the Guest of Honour—Prof. Anand Kishore Kola (NIT Warangal), the keynote

and in-charge registrar of NIT Srinagar also shared motivating words with the participants and organizers. Dr. Brajesh Kumar, Coordinator of the course, offered a vote of thanks to conclude the inaugural session. The course spanned five days and was organized into six sessions by distinguished keynote speakers. These included Dr. Mahendra Chinthala (NIT Rourkela), Prof. S. Prabhakar (Ex-Head, Desalination Division, BARC, and Adjunct Prof., SRMIST, Chennai), Prof. Ashish Kapoor (HBTU Kanpur), Dr. Lovjeet Singh (MNIT Jaipur), Dr. E.

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Poonguzhali (SRMIST, Chennai), and Prof. Anand Kishore Kola (NIT Warangal). These lectures covered various techniques in the field of wastewater treatment, highlighting their applications, advantages, limitations, and recent technological advancements. Meanwhile, the STC received an overwhelming response, with 54 participants registered from across the country representing diverse fields of Science and Engineering, which includes faculty members, research scholars, undergraduate engineering students, and industry professionals.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

World Stroke Day:

to the prevalence of junk food, which has largely supplanted home-cooked meals, alongside a sedentary lifestyle. He stressed the need to encourage healthy eating and physical activity to reduce the community's stroke burden.

To raise awareness, Dr Mushtaq called for recognising stroke symptoms, which include facial drooping, limb weakness, speech difficulties, numbness, confusion, vision problems, trouble walking and severe headaches. He said that a lack of awareness often leads patients to ignore these symptoms and delay seeking medical attention, which results in poor outcomes.

"Time is of the essence when it comes to stroke. The sooner patients receive treatment, the better their chances of survival," Dr Mushtaq said.

2 More Terrorists

Corps said in a post on X.

The officials said the slain terrorists are believed to have infiltrated from across the border on Sunday night before appearing outside a temple and targeting the army convoy.

"After a night-long lull, the security forces pushed for a final assault against the holed-up terrorists at around 7 am, leading to a fresh gunfight," an official said.

A couple of deafening explosions followed by intense firing continued for over an hour before the second terrorist was killed, the officials said, adding intermittent exchange of fire continued for another hour before the third trapped ultra was eliminated.

A four-year-old valiant Army dog, Phantom, died in the operation after being hit by a bullet.

In a first, the Army deployed its four BMP-II infantry combat vehicles for surveillance and strengthening the cordon around the attack site, while helicopters and drones were also deployed to locate the hiding terrorists.

The latest encounter in the Jammu region comes amid a surge in terrorist activities in Kashmir where seven attacks have occurred in the past two weeks, resulting in 13 fatalities, including two soldiers.

Army Used AI To

he was ahead when we were doing search operations, and militants fired upon the Dog. It's due to his sacrifice, many of the lives could be saved," Major General Sameer Srivastava, GoC 10 Infantry Division, said in a briefing.

The Indian Army's four-year-old sniffer dog Phantom was killed in action during counter-terror operations. According to officials, the canine sustained fatal bullet injuries while trying to protect the troops from terrorists' assault.

"After this operation, such information was spreading that the Army had used BMP - we had used that kind of vehicle because the area was tough - with a gradient of 30 degrees and dense forest - we used those vehicles after locating militants to reach there," the senior Army official added.

Over 50 terrorists are likely present on the launching pads across the border to sneak into Jammu region, a senior Army officer said, asserting that the forces are fully alert to the challenge and will foil any infiltration attempt, which change especially during the winter months.

Speaking to reporters after the successful elimination of three terrorists in Akhnour sector near here, General Officer Commanding of 10 Infantry Division, Major General Sameer Srivastava said the Army will not allow the terrorists a free run to harm civilians.

Security forces on Tuesday morning gunned down two terrorists holed up in a forest area near a village in the Akhnour sector, taking the number of militants killed in the 27-hour gunfight near the Line of Control (LoC) to three, officials said.

"The pattern of infiltration changes with each passing year, especially during snowfall and we are ready for the challenge," the officer said.

Flanked by Brigadier Kapil Taneja, commander of 28 infantry brigade and Deputy Inspector General of Police, Jammu-Kathua-Samba Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma, Maj Gen Srivastava said the challenges remain the same - counter the infiltration and terrorist actions.

"We are fully prepared as you have seen in the recent successful operations against terrorists. I am sure such successful operations will have an impact on terrorism," he said.

Asked about the number of terrorists likely present on the launching pads south of Pir Panjal, he said the inputs about the figure usually keeps varying with changing times.

"As per the joint intelligence reports, there are 50 to 60 terrorists present there," the senior Army officer said.

Describing the killing of three terrorists in Akhnour as a major success for the security forces, he said they were not part of the fresh infiltration group.

Maj Gen Srivastava said, "This was a group which was present in the hinterland and we were tracking them for some time. They came here and got exposed."

"The area (Akhnour) will be kept under strict surveillance even as ground reports suggest that there were only three terrorists," he added.

He said the counter-infiltration grid has been strengthened and "no infiltration had taken place in this area."

The terrorists present in the hinterland are moving in small groups and had moved to this area for a direct action, he said.

Maj Gen Srivastava said there is no permanent presence of terrorists in Akhnour, adding, "We will not let our guard down. The area has seen no infiltration for a long time."

On a question about the recovery of sophisticated M-4 carbine from the slain terrorists and the possibility of Pakistan army directly providing arms to the terrorists, he said, "The source (of providing arms) can be many and it is very difficult to speculate."

Asked whether the terrorists were planning a similar attack as the one in Gulmarg ahead of Diwali in Jammu, he quipped "that is what it appears", adding, "Any other reason to be there is very unlikely. Even if it was there, it (Jammu) was a wrong selection."

Responding to another question about the attire of the slain terrorists, he said the types of combat uniforms are easily available in the market.

The senior Army officer said a huge cache of arms, ammunition and IEDs were recovered from the dead terrorists but denied having recovered an explosive vest during the operation.

"No belt IED was found even as all of them had personal weapons and ammunition," he said, adding 'fidayeen' (suicide) action is something very difficult to be carried out in this area."

On terrorists targeting peaceful areas, he said terrorism is all about sensationalising things and "I think they came here (Akhnour) to make sensational news".

Maiden Session

to be stormy with a divided opposition set to corner the National Conference-led government on a host of issues including the promises made in the ruling party's manifesto.

NC's veteran leader and former Finance Minister Abdul Rahim Rather is set to become the Speaker as the ruling combine enjoys support of 55 members in the House.

The Bharatiya Janata Party, which has 29 members in the House, is unlikely to contest for the post of the Speaker given that the ruling party is likely to concede Deputy Speaker's post to it.

During the session, the opposition parties are likely to corner the ruling National Conference party on a number of issues, especially the commitments made in their election manifesto.

All eyes would be on whether the National Conference-led government would bring a resolution against the scrapping of Article 370 and the downgrading of J&K to a Union Territory.

In its election manifesto, the NC promised that the Jammu and Kashmir assembly, in its first list of business after elections, will pass a resolution against the Union Government's decision to strip the region of its statehood and special status.

It also promised the restoration of Article 370 and Jammu and Kashmir's statehood as well as implementation of the autonomy resolution passed by the erstwhile assembly in 2000.

Free 200 units of electricity, relief from power and water crisis, transfer of hydro-electric power projects to Jammu and Kashmir and providing 12 LPG cylinders to the economically weaker sections each year for free are among the other promises made by the party in its election document.

J&K Higher Reaches

in Sinthan Top, Razdan Pass and higher reaches of Pahalgam today.

An Independent Weather Forecaster, Faizan Arif Keng has informed that the light snow was also reported from Zojila-Minamarg axis.

However, in the afternoon, the light snowfall was reported from Srinagar areas as well amidst the cloudy weather conditions.

With the light wet spell in Kashmir parts, the maximum temperatures have plummeted in Srinagar and elsewhere today.

As per the details, Srinagar has recorded a maximum temperature of 19.2 degree Celsius against yesterday's 23.3 degree Celsius. Qazigund has, however, recorded the maximum temperature of 26.2 degree Celsius while Pahalgam recorded 17.8 degree Celsius.

Besides, Kupwara has recorded a day temperature of 18.3 degree Celsius while Kokernag and Gulmarg recorded 23.5 degree Celsius and 14.2 degree Celsius respectively.

Keng has also said that there is a forecast of improvement in the weather conditions from tonight or Wednesday morning onwards.

"Thereafter, the dry weather is expected till 08 November," he said.

Moreover, he stated that further fall in water of river Jhelum and other streams are expected amidst the dry weather conditions.

Furthermore, the Meteorological department (MeT) in its advisory has advised the farmers to continue harvesting, safe storage of harvested crops and other farm operations.

There is a possibility of mist and shallow fog over plains of Kashmir during morning hours from 1st November onwards," it added. (KNO)

'Lead With Justice

to facilitate their release, ensuring justice and upholding the rule of law. This action would resonate deeply with those who value fairness and due process," the letter reads.

He called for a balanced approach to reservation policies, suggesting that revisiting recent changes would foster both social equity and uphold merit. "It is essential to revisit the recent reservation policies. A balanced approach that supports deserving sections of society while maintaining open merit is necessary to foster an inclusive environment. Rationalizing these policies can promote social equity without compromising the standards of excellence," Ruhullah said in the letter.

Addressing unemployment, Ruhullah urged the CM to prioritize filling government job vacancies. According to him, doing so would not only reduce unemployment but also stimulate economic growth in the region. "The swift filling of government vacancies should be a priority, as it will provide thousands of deserving candidates with employment opportunities, thereby bolstering the local economy and reducing unemployment."

With winter fast approaching, Ruhullah also raised concerns about high electricity tariffs, urging the administration to alleviate this burden for the public while ensuring a steady supply of power.

In closing, he called for a review of the stringent verification procedures that citizens face, noting that many are unfairly penalized.

"The existing verification process/procedure are overly harsh and often penalize individuals for actions they did not commit," he said.

This procedure, he argued, should be reconsidered to ensure they are fair and just for all applicants. "I hope you consider these suggestions as you work to meet the expectations of the people. Your leadership has the potential to pave the way for a progressive and just administration."

Free Hospital

in hospitals. These senior citizens will be issued the Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card. This scheme is expected to be a milestone. If an elderly person in the household has the Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card, family expenses will be reduced, and their worries will also diminish," stated another PIB tweet.

"Expressing satisfaction on the expansion of Ayushman Yojana, Shri Modi said that every elderly person was looking forward to it and the poll guarantee, if elected for the third term, of bringing all the elderly above 70 years of age under the ambit of Ayushman Yojana was being fulfilled. He added that every elderly person above 70 years of age in the country will get free treatment in the hospital by a Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card. Shri Modi highlighted that the card was universal and there was no restriction on income, be it poor or middle class or upper class. Informing that the scheme would prove to be a milestone for its universal applicability, Shri Modi remarked that with a Ayushman Vaya Vandana card for an elderly in the house, the Out-of-Pocket expenditure will be reduced to a great extent. He congratulated all the countrymen for this scheme and also informed that the scheme was not implemented in Delhi and West Bengal," stated a PIB release issued on October 29.

Modi also inaugurated phase II of India's first All India Institute of Ayurveda in the national capital which includes a Panchakarma hospital, an Ayurvedic pharmacy for drug manufacturing, a sports medicine unit, a central library, an IT and startup incubation centre, and a 500-seat auditorium among others.

In an innovative usage of drone technology to enhance service delivery and make healthcare more accessible, Modi launched drone services at 11 tertiary healthcare institutions. These are AIIMS-Rishikesh in Uttarakhand, AIIMS-Bibinagar in Telangana, AIIMS-Guwahati in Assam, AIIMS-Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, AIIMS-Jodhpur in Rajasthan, AIIMS-Patna in Bihar, AIIMS-Bilaspur in Himachal Pradesh, AIIMS-Raebareilly in Uttar Pradesh, AIIMS-Raipur in Chhattisgarh, AIIMS-Mangalagiri in Andhra Pradesh and RIMS-Imphal in Manipur.

The prime minister also launched a helicopter emergency medical service from AIIMS Rishikesh, which will help deliver medical care speedily. Modi launched a U-WIN portal that seeks to

benefit pregnant women and infants by fully digitising the vaccination process.

It will ensure timely administration of life-saving vaccines to pregnant women and children (from birth to 16 years) against 12 vaccine-preventable diseases.

Further, the prime minister launched a portal for allied and healthcare professionals and institutes. It will act as a centralised database of existing healthcare professionals and institutes.

Modi also inaugurated three medical colleges at Mandsaur, Neemuch and Seoni in Madhya Pradesh, besides faculty and service extensions at various AIIMS -- Bilaspur in Himachal Pradesh, Kalyani in West Bengal, Patna in Bihar, Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh, Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, Guwahati in Assam and in New Delhi, which also include a Jan Aushadhi Kendra.

Modi also inaugurated a Super Speciality Block in Government Medical College at Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh and a Critical Care Block in Bargarh, Odisha.

The prime minister laid the foundation stones of five nursing colleges in Shivpuri, Ratlam, Khandwa, Rajgarh and Mandsaur in Madhya Pradesh, 21 critical care blocks at Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Manipur, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan under the Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, and several facilities and service extensions at AIIMS in New Delhi and Himachal Pradesh's Bilaspur.

Among other projects, Modi inaugurated an ESIC hospital at Indore in Madhya Pradesh and laid the foundation stone for such hospitals at Faridabad in Haryana, Bommasandra and Narasapur in Karnataka, Indore in Madhya Pradesh, Meerut in Uttar Pradesh, and Atchaturam in Andhra Pradesh.

These projects are expected to bring healthcare benefits to around 55 lakh ESI beneficiaries.

The other projects whose foundation stones were laid include a central research institute in yoga and naturopathy at Khordha in Odisha and Raipur in Chhattisgarh, centres of excellence at NIPER-Ahmedabad for medical devices, at NIPER-Hyderabad for bulk drugs, NIPER-Guwahati for phytopharmaceuticals, and NIPER-Mohali for anti-bacterial anti-viral drug discovery and development.

In a major boost to the Make in India initiative in the healthcare sector, the prime minister also inaugurated five projects under the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for medical devices and bulk drugs at Vapi in Gujarat, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh and Nalagarh in Himachal Pradesh.

These units will manufacture high-end medical devices, such as body implants and critical care equipment, along with important bulk drugs.

Over 100 Flights

procedures strictly adhered to, as per guidance from the regulatory authorities," an airline spokesperson said in a statement.

Meanwhile, the Mumbai police have registered a case against an unidentified person after three airlines received bomb threats on their X handle, an official said on Tuesday.

IndiGo, Air India and Vistara had received the threats on Monday, and they turned out to be a hoax after verification, the official added.

The city police have registered 14 FIRs in October in connection with the bomb threats to airlines.

Amid a spate of hoax bomb threats to airlines, the IT Ministry has asked social media platforms to observe due diligence obligations and promptly remove or disable access to misinformation within the strict timelines prescribed under IT rules.

Besides, the civil aviation ministry is looking to take legislative actions to tackle the menace of the hoax bomb threats to airlines.

On Sunday, Civil Aviation Minister K Ramamoohan Naidu said the Centre is mulling steps to ban perpetrators, who resort to hoax bomb threats, from flying.

J&K Govt Approves

started to fulfill the promise of Hon'ble CM @ OmarAbdullah regarding providing jobs to unemployed youth of J&K. I have approved the advertisement of 575 (+2) lecturers in different streams in the School Education Department. The posts are being referred to JKPCS," she stated in a post on X.

'Refer All Vacant

The Minister made these remarks while chairing a high level meeting to review the performance and functioning of Health and Medical Education (H&ME) department at Banquet Hall here.

During the meeting, the Minister had an in-depth assessment of the department's performance on ongoing initiatives and infrastructure projects aimed at improving healthcare services across Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing the officers, Sakeena Masood impressed upon the officers to ensure that healthcare facilities are upgraded as per the needs of people. She stressed upon the officers to maintain accountability and transparency within the department in order to meet the expectations of the people.

While reviewing the progress of works on various important projects, Sakeena Masood asked the officers to complete these projects timely as they will revolutionise the health sector here rather than starting any new projects. She instructed them to focus on maintaining quality of work as per the norms required in the medical sector.

"Health and well-being of our people is the top priority of our government", Sakeena Itoo said, adding that we must work together to build a robust healthcare system that is accessible, efficient and responsive to the needs of our people. She advised both the Directors to organise IEC activities regarding 102 and 108 ambulance services as well as 104 helpline service, especially in rural areas, in order to generate maximum awareness among people.

She urged all officers and other relevant stakeholders to remain focused on delivering quality healthcare and addressing any challenges that may arise. She also asked all the Principals and both the Directors to decrease routine referrals from district and sub-district hospitals to Srinagar. She directed them to fix accountability on hospital administration referring regular patients to Srinagar rather than emergency cases.

While reviewing other aspects of the health sector, the Minister called upon the officers to upgrade facilities at all District and Sub-district hospitals in order to reduce patient flow towards Srinagar hospitals. She called upon all the Principals and Directors to conduct audits of all testing facilities in their respective health institutions and also conduct routine check ups of private diagnostic and lab testing centres in order to address the issue of fixing rates.

She further directed them to establish a concrete mechanism in their respective healthcare facilities regarding checking of spurious drugs being sold there. She also asked them to conduct a prescription audit and submit a report of the same within weeks time.

While reviewing Human Resource issues of the department, the Minister called upon the officers to refer all vacant posts to recruiting agencies immediately so that we have required staff and medical professionals across all healthcare institutes of J&K.

She directed the Secretary Health to frame a proper transfer policy and take stringent action against those seeking unjustified premature transfers. She also instructed the Secretary Health to cancel all attachments of doctors done in the last few years and adjust them in areas that have immediate need of doctors.

During the meeting, Secretary Health and Medical Education, gave a detailed presentation on the performance and functioning of the department.

Secretary H&ME, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah; Commissioner Food and Drugs Administration, CEO State Health Agency, Engineer in Chief J&K, Director SKIMS, Director Health Jammu/Kashmir, Director Coordination New Medical Colleges, MD NHM, Director AYUSH, MD JKMSCL, Secretary Technical H&ME, Director Finance H&ME, Director Family Welfare, MCH and Immunization, State Drug Controller, Principals of all GMCs, Principal Dental College Srinagar, Principal Indira Gandhi Dental College Jammu and other senior officers of H&ME department attended the meeting.

Class 6 Student

Hussain alleged that the family's financial troubles had put immense stress on the girl, ultimately leading her to feel there was no way out.

"Poverty has brought her to such a state that she thought suicide was the only escape," said Hussain.

Interestingly, unlike many cases where school authorities might pressure students over unpaid fees, this girl's school was understanding and patient.

According to the fee receipt of the school at village Odina, where the girl studies in 6th standard, the school even offered a discount of 20,000 rupees on her fees. However, the remaining amount still stands at around 90,000 rupees, which is a huge sum for the struggling family.

This tragic incident has sparked a conversation about the impact of poverty on young people in Kashmir, highlighting the need for greater support for families facing financial difficulties, especially in accessing education.

HC Seeks 'Validity'

world famous skiing resort and tourist resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

## Kohli Blocked Me On Instagram For Mocking His Injury: Maxwell

Press Trust of India

MELBOURNE: Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell has revealed that Virat Kohli had blocked him on Instagram after he mocked the Indian batting maestro following his shoulder injury during the 2017 Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Kohli and Maxwell were not the best of friends until the Australian joined IPL franchise Royal Challengers Bengaluru in 2021 for a whopping Rs 14.25 crore. Maxwell said that he tried to follow Kohli on Instagram, only to discover that he had been blocked by the former India captain.

"When I knew I was going to RCB, Virat was the first guy to message me and welcome me to the team. When I turned up for the pre-IPL training camp, we obviously got chatting and spent a fair bit of time training together as you do," Maxwell said during the Willow Talk podcast on LISTNR Sport.

"So, I go to his social media (to) follow him. Didn't even



think about it before that. Never really crossed my mind. I was like, 'I can't find him.' 'I'm sure he's on social media somewhere, so I didn't think anything of it. Not really that maybe he wasn't savvy with Instagram. 'Didn't really understand why

he wasn't coming up, and then, someone mentioned that 'He might have blocked you. That is the only way you're not able to find him.' I was like, 'Surely not,' During the 2017 Test series in India, Kohli suffered a shoulder injury while fielding during the Ranchi match. Later during the

Test, Maxwell imitated Kohli by clutching his right shoulder. Kohli, who missed the subsequent Dharamsala Test due to injury, did not like it. "I went and asked him, 'Have you blocked me on Instagram?' And, he was like, 'Yeah, probably. It was when you mocked

me during that Test match. I think I decided to block you,'" Maxwell continued.

"I was like, 'Yeah, that's fair enough'. So yeah, he (then) ended up unblocking me, and we became great friends after that."

'We've had quite a funny relationship'

Since then, the two have settled their differences, working together at RCB.

"It was a nice little story to have as a little side note, but we've had quite a funny relationship leading up to playing the IPL together. Sharing that dressing room and sharing experiences, becoming parents, I suppose, around the same time," Maxwell said.

"From the days we were both young and brash and going hard at each other on the field. We were in the front and centre of all that as well, sort of being the orchestrator like 'Maxi, get into his face. Say some words to him and get the young guy to do the hard work,'" he added.

### Short TAKES

#### IPL: Gill, Rashid & Sudharsan Set To Be Retained By Titans



Gujarat Titans are set to retain their captain Shubman Gill alongside star spinner Rashid Khan and left-handed batter Sai Sudharsan ahead of the IPL mega auction.

Uncapped hitters Rahul Tewatia and Shikhar Dhawan are also expected to be retained by the franchise.

"Shubman, Rashid and Sai will be retained by the franchise," said an IPL source.

Gill, who is seen a future leader in the Indian cricket setup, had captained Titans for the first time earlier this year when the side finished eighth out of 10 teams.

Titans had won the IPL on debut in 2022 before finishing runners-up the following year, both under Hardik Pandya's leadership.

## CM Omar Flags Off 'Run For Unity'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today flagged off the 'Run for Unity' from the back lawns of the Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Center (SKICC) here, marking the celebration of National Unity Day.

The event was attended by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Principal Secretary Home, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, and various civil and police officials.

The 'Run for Unity' attracted a diverse crowd, with participation from civil administration, police, CRPF,



and a significant number of local youth.

Speaking at the event, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah highlighted that the 'Run for Unity' symbolizes the spirit of unity, a value deeply cherished by the

people of Kashmir.

Prior to flagging off the run, the Chief Minister administered a unity pledge to the gathered participants. The run concluded at the scenic Botanical Gardens in Chashma Shahi.

## Sports Minister Chairs Maiden Meeting Of DYSS, JKSC



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Newly appointed Minister of Youth Services & Sports, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Science & Technology, Information Technology and ARI & Training Satish Sharma chaired a meeting of the senior officers of YSS on Tuesday at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting was attended by Secretary to Government DYSS Sarmad Hafeez, Director General DYSS Rajinder Singh Tara, Secretary J&K Sports Council Nuzhat Gul, Special Secretary DYSS Jyoti Devi Salathia, Additional Secretary DYSS Narayan Dutt and other officers and officials from the DYSS and JKSC.

Secretary DYSS Sarmad Hafeez informed the chair about the recently introduced J&K Sports Policy. He said that the policy outlines a structured approach to develop sports infrastructure, promoting sports education and creating a support system for athletes through scholarships and awards etc. He also shed light on the sports scholarships being awarded to the meritorious students in the category of Sports through DTP mode by DYSS. The Department apprised the minister about various sports activities being carried out throughout the year for engaging lakhs of school children and youth in sports, and recreational activities.

Sports Minister Satish Sharma in his remarks directed the officers that ev-

ery possibility should be explored in reviewing the traditional sports in rural and border areas. He further said that our youth is highly capable and they should act as torchbearers in eradicating the social evils like drug addiction.

He further said that the established business houses of J&K should help in building high class sports infrastructure, sports excellence enters and sponsor meritorious sports persons under corporate social responsibility.

The meeting started with two presentations by DG YSS and Secretary JKSC. DG YSS discussed the mass engagement of large number of youth in games and sports. He also highlighted the unprecedented growth of sports infrastructure by the department under Capex and JKIFDC projects in J&K during last four years. A detailed review was also presented about the infrastructure of the Department's Government College Of Physical Education Ganderbal, Sports infrastructure developed in the college campus and the courses offered by the college. He also informed the chair about the participation and achievements of the J&K youth in 67th National School Games.

DG YSS also threw light on the preparations in place for hosting 68th National School Games being organised under the aegis of School Games Federation Of India in four games viz Wushu, Judo, fencing and football from November 7 to December 10 in Jammu.

## Injured Kane Williamson To Miss Third Test Against India



Former New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson will miss the third Test against India starting in Mumbai on Friday in the hope that his groin strain clears up in time to face England next month, New Zealand Cricket said on Tuesday.

The Blacks Caps on Saturday managed a first ever Test series triumph in India without the master batsman, who has remained in New Zealand to work on his recovery from the injury he sustained in a recent series against Sri Lanka.

England's three-match tour of New Zealand begins at Christchurch's Hagley Oval on November 28 with further Tests following in Wellington and Hamilton in December.

## Amorim Set To Be New Manchester United Boss: Report

Ruben Amorim is set to become the next manager of Manchester United with the Premier League club prepared to pay Sporting the 10 million euros (\$10.79 million) release clause, the Portuguese club said on Tuesday.

The news comes a day after the team sacked Erik ten Hag with United languishing in 14th place in the Premier League standings. The Portuguese coach could be in place for Sunday's league game against Leicester City at Old Trafford.

The 39-year-old Amorim, who emerged as a front-runner soon after Ten Hag's sacking, led Sporting to the Primeira Liga title in 2021, ending a 19-year league title drought, before winning a second last season.



## Kashmir Sweeps Jammu, Lifts Inter Division U-19 Girls Cricket Tourney

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Kashmir Division emerged victorious in the three-match Inter Division UT Level Under-19 Girls Cricket Tournament by sweeping Jammu Division. Played at Sports Stadium in Wanpora, Qazigund, the tournament began on Monday and culminated on Tuesday.

In the final match Kashmir division defeated Jammu Division by 34 runs and remained unbeaten in the tournament, organised by the Department of Youth Services & Sports and hosted



by DYSSO Anantnag. Batting first, Kashmir set a target of 91 runs in the allotted overs, with Shaista Mehraj scoring 16 runs and Anisa made 15. Angel took 2 wickets.

In reply, Jammu Division failed to chased down the target, making only 57/6

in the allotted overs. From Kashmir Division, Shahista and Sehreen took 2 wickets each while Aneesha and Sahiba had a wicket each.

The tournament acted as a selection trial to choose the J&K Team for the National Level championship.

## Real's Vinicius Jr Says Fighting Racism Led To Ballon d'Or Loss

Agencies

Brazil and Real Madrid forward Vinicius Jr said on Monday that he will keep on fighting racism even if his activism is what led to him not winning the Ballon d'Or, sources close to the player told Reuters.

Vinicius took to social media after finishing second in the prestigious award voting behind Spain and Manchester City midfielder Rodri.

"I will do it 10 times if I have to. They're not ready," Vinicius said on X after his LaLiga side Real Madrid cancelled their plans to attend the ceremony in Paris, boycotting it in anticipation of the Brazilian not winning the men's award.

Asked what Vinicius meant with his post, his management staff told Reuters that he was referring to his fight against racism and that they believe it was what led to him not winning the award, saying that "the football world is



not ready to accept a player who fights against the system."

The 24-year-old Brazil international has been subjected to racial abuse on several occasions in Spain, leading to at least

winning the European and Spanish league double in a near perfect campaign last season.

France Football, which organises the Ballon d'Or awards, was not immediately available for comment.

The awards are based on voting by a panel of journalists from the top 100 FIFA-ranked countries.

"FOOTBALL POLITICS X. My brother, you are the best player in the world and no award can say otherwise. Love you my bro," Real's Eduardo Camavinga said on X, while several other teammates shared messages with photos of Vinicius saying "You are the best".

Vinicius was instrumental in Real's Champions League-LaLiga double along with 21-year-old Jude Bellingham, who scored 19 goals in a sparkling debut campaign and helped England reach the Euro 2024 final, and came third in the Ballon d'Or ranking

### Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECHANICAL DIVISION (NORTH) SOPORE

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Short term) e-NIT No. 38 of 2024-25

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Ut of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore, invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/Firms/Companies/Consultants/Contractors between bidder/firm and financier of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railway or any other state Government for "Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of electro-mechanical equipment at various water supply schemes of Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore". The bidding process shall be completed online on <https://jktenders.gov.in> in two covers viz. Cover 1<sup>st</sup> consisting of Pre-Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2<sup>nd</sup> shall consist of Financial Bid on item rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

S.No.	Description of work	Estimated cost (Rs in Lacs)	Tender document Fee (In Rs.)	Earnest money deposit	Time of completion (Days)
1	Electro-mechanical works to be carried out at WSS Khojpora Zadipora under JJM	53.699	Rs 500.00	02% of the estimated cost of work	45 Days

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)  
The tendering authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division North Sopore.  
The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM).

#### Critical Dates:

S.No.	Publish Date	Date
I	Publish Date	26-10-2024 (10:00 am)
II	Bid submission start date	26-10-2024 (10:00 am)
III	Bid submission end date	31-10-2024 (06:55 pm)
IV	Date and time of Bid opening	01-11-2024 (11:00 am)

- Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website <https://jktenders.gov.in>
- The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal <https://jktenders.gov.in>. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore.
- Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document and shall be payable at Srinagar.
  - Earnest Money Deposit shall be uploaded separately against each work instead. However, to ensure due performance of the contract, Performance Security is to be obtained from the successful bidder.
  - The cost of tender documents should be in form of Treasury Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore.
  - The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Receipts, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.
  - The bid shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder/tenderer with draws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
  - Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website <https://jktenders.gov.in>
  - Queries by email if any, should be made at [phe.mdns@gmail.com](mailto:phe.mdns@gmail.com)

No: PHE/MDNS/DB/JJM/5349-54  
Dated: 25-10-2024  
DIPK-6965-24  
DT: 29/10/2024

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North)  
Sopore



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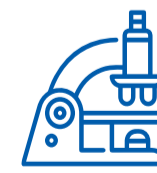
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