

## Ban On AAC, JKIM Raised In J&K Assembly



Observer News Service

Jammu: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Wednesday raised the issue of ban on Awami Action Committee (AAC) and Jammu and Kashmir Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen (JKIM) in the Assembly.

The Centre on Tuesday banned Jammu and

Kashmir-based two religious-political parties for five years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

In a very brief intervention, PDP MLA Waheed-ur-Rahman Para drew the attention of the House towards the ban of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq-led AAC and Maulana | More on P10

## No Intel Shared By Centre: CM

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said the Centre has not shared any intelligence with his government that could have warranted the ban on Mirwaiz Umar Farooq's Awami Action Committee (AAC), and asserted he was not in favour of such decisions. The Centre had on Tuesday banned the AAC, headed by Kashmir's influential cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq. | More on P10

**6** SUCH MATTERS ARE BEYOND the elected government's control"

## Khelo India Winter Games Weather Shift Delays Skiing, Artificial Snow To Be Used: CM

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Asserting that changing weather patterns are emerging as a challenge Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said that artificial snow will be generated from this year to ensure early skiing at Gulmarg.

Addressing the valedictory function of the fifth edition of Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG) in North Kashmir, the Chief Minister said, "Unfortunately the weather conditions are changing. There was a time when the skiing courses in my childhood used to begin in December and continue till March. Now,



the snowfall hardly occurs in December and January months. However, the temperatures rise when the snowfall

occurs in February." He said, "We will try to generate artificial snow from December | More on P10

## Flood Recovery, Hydropower Projects J&K To Seek Revision of Central Aid

Agencies

Jammu: The Jammu & Kashmir Government on Wednesday said that they will take up the issue of revision of a few components of central assistance for Jammu & Kashmir with the Union Ministry of Home Affairs at an appropriate stage.

In response to a question of MLA Handwara Sajad Gani Lone, minister in-charge Finance, Omar Abdullah said that they will take up the change in component-wise provision for the Jhelum Tawi

Flood Recovery Project and hydroelectric projects with the MHA.

"As the component-wise provision for Jhelum-Tawi Flood Recovery Project and hydroelectric projects has changed, the same will be taken up with the Ministry of Home Affairs at appropriate stage," the minister.

To a question whether there has been reduction in central assistance, the minister said that overall central assistance has maintained a steady level. | More on P10

## Govt Identifies 625 Acres For Industrial Estates In Kashmir Proposes 1,200 Acres For Jammu

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir government has identified 625 acres of land to set up industrial estates in different districts of the Kashmir division while a proposal for 1,207 acres of land has been submitted to the revenue department for similar projects in Jammu.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary informed the Legislative Assembly while responding to a question from BJP's Rajiv Jasrotia.

He said that around 625 kanal of land has been

identified for industrial estates in Kashmir, while proposals for 1,207 have been submitted for Jammu.

He further informed that a total of 1,869 acres of land has been proposed for industrial estates across Jammu, and in the past two years, 691 acres have been transferred for the same purpose in Kashmir.

The government has granted 35 limestone mining leases, 24 gypsum mining leases, and 202 e-auctioned minor mineral blocks, he said.

As many as 8 mining leases have been | More on P10

## Increased Wine Shops In J&K? Reports False & Baseless: Excise Dept

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Excise Department Wednesday strongly rebutted the news being circulated on various social media platforms regarding the increase in number of vends (Wine Shops) in Jammu & Kashmir, terming it as fake and baseless.

A communication issued by the department in this regard

stated that "As per J&K Excise Policy for the year 2025-26 notified vide SO 38 dated 15th February, 2025, 305 number of vends (Wine Shops) were put to e-auction on 15.02.2025 and after culmination of the bidding process, 271 vends got allotted through the e-auction process (which was conducted by J&K Bank) to the successful H1 bidders and rest of 34 locations | More on P10

## No New Liquor Vends Allotted By My Govt: CM

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Wednesday said no new liquor vends were being allotted by his government and only earlier allotted ones were auctioned. The chief minister's remarks came after | More on P10

## Speaker Forms Business Advisory Committee

Observer News Service

Jammu: In Pursuant to Rule 317 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Advocate Abdul Rahim Rather, Wednesday nominated the members of Business Advisory Committee of which he shall be the Chairman.

The nominated members included Sunil Kumar Sharma, Leader of Opposition; Ali Mohammad Sagar, MLA; Mubarak Gul, MLA; | More on P10



ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT

www.tcimax.co.in



53 GRADE OPC

50 KG PACK

USE NO HOOKS



HIGH STRENGTH CEMENT



Follow us on



Your Trust

Your trust in us is built on our unwavering quality.

Our Promise

Our promise to you is our commitment to delivering the highest-grade cement.

اطلاع عام



ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ میری ساتویں جماعت کی سرٹیفکیٹ زیر ایڈیشن نمبر 1290 سیشن 2005 گم ہو گئی ہے اب اسکی ڈپلیکیٹ نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔ اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اپنا اعتراض ہیڈ ماسٹر گورنمنٹ مڈل سکول سیدن بڈگام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

فردوس احمد گنائی ولد بشیر احمد گنائی ساکن بوہید بڈگام۔  
 فون۔ 7006136570

MBC

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I, Abdul Majeed Mir, S/o Gh Mohd Mir R/o Lolipora, Tehsil Pattan, wish to correct my son's date of birth in his school records. His date of birth has been wrongly recorded and now I want to correct it as per his Aadhaar records, which is 27-09-2011. If anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may file the same in the office of Al-Noor Educational Trust, Palhallan within seven (7) days from the date of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

fko

**OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR PATTAN**

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...  
**PUBLIC NOTICE..**

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Ziyah Fayaz S/o Fayaz Ahmad Ganaie R/o Palhallan Tehsil Pattan distt baramulla with verified date of birth 03/01/2023 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained..

SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

**OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR PATTAN**

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...  
**Public Notice...**

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Mehak Zainab D/o Ahmad Ali Malla R/o Sonium with verified date of birth 13/03/2022 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained...

SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

**OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR PATTAN**

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...  
**Public Notice..**

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Mohammad Yariq Lone s/o Mudasar Ahmad Lone R/o Saloosa Kreeni with verified date of birth 04/07/2020 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

**NOTICE**

I, have changed my name from (Old Name) **Faheem Muzaffar Matoo** to (New Name) **Faheem Muzaffar Mattoo**. In Future i will be known as **Faheem Muzaffar Mattoo**. If anybody is having objection, he/she may contact **Passport Office, Srinagar** within **7 days**. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

Media Line Ads

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
 SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION GANDERBAL**

Email: [exengineer12@gmail.com](mailto:exengineer12@gmail.com)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, KPDCJammu and Kashmir UT, e-Tenders (In Single Cover System) are hereby invited from Register suppliers/Owners of Pickup vehicles enlisted with Transport Department of UT of J&K, for "Hiring of 4x4 Pickup vehicle for restoration of power supply for 33KV Bandipora Gurez line for the financial year 2025-26 in respect of STD Ganderbal

**Important Dates and Events**

e-NIT No	STD/GBL/22 of 2024-25, Dated: 12-03-2025
A	The Standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over <a href="http://jktenders.gov.in">http://jktenders.gov.in</a> as per schedule given below: Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document: 12-03-2025: 16:00 Hours
B	Clarifications start date: 13/03/2025: 10:00 Hours
C	Clarifications end date: 19/03/2025: 16:00 Hours
D	e-Bid submission (start) date & time (Submission of e-bidder fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS): 13/03/2025: 10:00 Hours
E	e-Bid submission (end) date & Time: 03/04/2025: 15:00 Hours
F	Online financial e-Bid opening date & time: 04/04/2025: 15:00 Hours
G	Venue of opening of technical & financial e-Bids: Office of The Executive Engineer STD Ganderbal
H	Cost of e-Bid document: INR 500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred only) Should be in Shape of Treasury Challian in favor of Executive Engineer, STD Ganderbal
I	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 14000/=
J	Estimated amount in lacs: Rs 7.0 lacs
K	Status of Funds: Demanded

The tender document can be downloaded from website [jktenders.gov.in](http://jktenders.gov.in) "Corrigendum, if any, would appear only on the [jktenders.gov.in](http://jktenders.gov.in) website. Sale of physical tender document is not applicable. No price shall be submitted offline in any form. Bidder can modify his bid before last date of submission of online bid. After the last date of submission of online bid, no claim of bidder shall be entertained.

No: STD/GBL/Ts/ 1210-15

DIPK-NB-3744/24 Date:- 12-03-2025

Executive Engineer,  
 STD Ganderbal

**Why Do Dogs Bark At Some & Not Others?**

There's always a reason!

**1. Dogs bark because they are experiencing something new**

It may sound strange, but dogs bark because they are encountering new experiences. Some less friendly dogs will bark as soon as they meet strangers because there are too many new things about that person for them: such as a new scent, new behavior... For dogs, new things make them cautious and are perceived as potential threats.

**2. Certain traits make dogs bark more easily**

In fact, there are some human traits that make dogs more agitated:

- When you wear accessories like a hooded hat or sunglasses: This reduces the dog's ability to observe your face, making them feel threatened.
- If you have a lot of facial hair.
- If you are tall and muscular, it can scare them.
- Your voice is too deep and loud.
- You point your fingers or stare directly into the dog's eyes.
- You smoke in front of them. However, dogs are not bothered by the smell of shampoo, perfume, or deodorant...

**3. Dogs protect their owners**

Dogs are loyal animals, and by nature, they value their territory and tend to be highly protective of their owners. They often act aggressively towards strangers to safeguard their owner.

**4. Dogs can sense a person's character**

A dog's ability to see through a person's nature is



an impressive trait. Some studies suggest that dogs can judge whether a person is trustworthy or not. This is because dogs are keen observers. They will watch and remember human actions for a long time, especially how others treat their owner.

**5. Due to past bad experiences**

During their life with humans, some dogs may carry negative memories. These memories form their defensive instincts. Therefore, if you resemble someone who caused them a bad memory, the dog

will bark immediately.

**6. How to prevent being bitten by a dog**

To prevent being bitten by a dog, treat it kindly when it's still a puppy. As the owner, you should expose the dog to as many new scents, noises, and people as possible so that when it grows up, nothing surprises it. Owners can also train their dogs not to bark excessively when strangers come to the house, and don't forget to reward them with their favorite treats when they behave correctly.

**“Dogs are loyal animals, and by nature, they value their territory and tend to be highly protective of their owners. They often act aggressively towards strangers to safeguard their owner.”**

**OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR PATTAN**

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...  
**PUBLIC NOTICE...**

The registrar birth BDO Singapore has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Sidra Aarif D/o Aarif Ramzan Sofi R/o Trikolbal Hanjiwera with verified date of birth 24/06/2022 occurred at home in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

**OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR PATTAN**

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...  
**PUBLIC NOTICE..**

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Mohammad Kiyam Ibn Ovais S/o Ovais Rashid Bhat R/o Para Mohalla Pattan with verified date of birth 06/06/2021 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

**OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR PATTAN**

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...  
**Public Notice..**

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Hidayat Mehraj D/o Mehraj Ud din Dar R/o Tangpora Pattan Tehsil Pattan distt baramulla with verified date of birth 17/11/2020 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

SD

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

**GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE. SRINAGAR**

10-Karan Nagar, Srinagar Kashmir, 190010  
 Phone No. 0194-2504119 Fax No 0194-2503115  
 (Academic Section)

Subject: Selection of senior Residents on Academic Arrangement Basis in various Disciplines of Government Medical college, Srinagar.  
 Reference: This office Advertisement No. 05 of 2024 Dated, 27-11-2024 and 01 Of 2025 Dated.01-01-2025.

OFFICE ORDER NO: 207 - RA OF 2025.  
 DATED: 11 -03-2025.

Pursuant to the Notifications issued vide this office No. 07-RA of 2024 Dated, 10-12-2024 and 01-RA of 2025 Dated, 04-02-2025 and on the basis of Satisfactory verification reports of Character & antecedents by criminal investigation Department (CID), J&K, the following not In-service candidates are provisionally engaged as Senior Resident(s) in the disciplines shown against each on academic arrangement basis under s.o. 364 of 2020 Dated, 27.11.2020 and Government order No. 383-JK (HME) of 2024 Dated, 20.06.2024, initially for a period of one year, which is extendable upto (03) years on basis of good performance to be certified by the concerned HOD:-

S. NO.	NAME OF CANDIDATE /s/	Qualification	Discipline	CID verification received vide Form No. & date
	Dr. Arshid Rasool wani	MD	Anesthesiology	Form No. 120092 Dated. 24-02-2025
	Dr. Asim Ahmad Dar	MD	Radiation oncology	Form NO. 122819 Dated. 19-02-2025
	Dr. Aadil Najeed	MD	Radiation Oncology	Form NO. 122817 Dated. 25-02-2025
	Dr. Taseer Mehraj	MD	Transfusion Medicine	Form No. 122827 Dated. 08-03-2025

The appointment of the above doctors is further subject to the following terms and conditions:-

- The selected candidates are supposed to submit their joining report alongwith an affidavit(s) in the office of the undersigned duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate to the effect that:-
  - They are not In-service candidates, the information if found wrong the selectees shall be punished under Rules which includes confiscation of the Registration of the Doctors.
  - They will not participate in any kind of strike during the period of their tenure engagement, in the event they proceed on strike, their tenure engagement shall be terminated without any notice as this service is covered under esma Act.
  - They shall remain disciplined during the whole tenure; any kind of misconduct shall make them liable for termination without any prior notice.
  - They are not involved in any criminal activity or there is no FIR pending or registered in any criminal department or police station against them.
  - They shall not claim any experience certificate, in case they leave senior Residency before completion at least of six months
  - They will not indulge in any private practice, in case they are found doing private practice their appointment shall be liable for termination without any notice.
- The above doctors shall have to execute an agreement with the institution on the prescribed format (Form A) with regard to the various terms and conditions applicable during academic arrangement same can be downloaded from the official website of Government Medical college, Srinagar.
- The appointees are required to join within (21) days from the date of issuance of this order failing which the order shall be deemed to have been cancelled.
- The senior Residents appointed on an Academic Arrangement basis shall be paid as per s.o. 364 of 2020 Dated, 27-11-2020.
- The senior Residents appointed on Academic Arrangement basis shall be entitled leaves as per the Government order No. 451-JK (HME) of 2024 Dated, 08.07.2024.

Principal/Dean  
 Govt. Medical College Srinagar

NO: RA-MC/Sec1/SR/ 10068-72/MC  
 DIPK-12907/24 Dated: 12-03-2025



## 9 Indian Universities, Institutes Among World's Top 50 In Subject-Wise QS Rankings

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Nine Indian universities and institutes are among the world's top 50 in QS subject-wise rankings even as some of the top institutions on the list including three IITs, two IIMs and Jawaharlal Nehru University saw a drop in their positions. According to the 15th edition of the QS World University Rankings by Subject, announced on Wednesday, India celebrates 12 top-50 positions across the subject rankings and the broad faculty areas, earned by nine institutions. Leading the way is the Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad, which ranks 20th globally for Engineering-Mineral and Mining, making it the country's highest-performing subject area. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay and Kharagpur have been ranked at 23rd and 45th spot for Engineering-Mineral and Mining. However, both institutions have seen a drop in their positions. IIT Delhi and Bombay which shared the 45th rank for Engineering and Technology have improved their position to bag the 26th and 28th spot, respectively. The two institutions have also improved their rank for Engineering-Electrical and Electronics to enter the top 50 list. Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad and Bangalore continued to be among world's top 50 for Business and Management Studies but their ranking has dropped since previous year. While IIM Ahmedabad's ranking dropped to 27 from 22, that of IIM

**A total of 79 Indian universities – 10 more than last year – feature 533 times across this year's rankings, marking a 25.7 per cent increase compared to the previous edition. This includes 454 entries in individual subjects and 79 appearances across the five broad faculty areas**

Bangalore slipped to 40 from 32. IIT Madras (Petroleum Engineering) and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) (Development Studies) continued to be among world's top 50 but their ranks also dropped by a few spots. "A total of 79 Indian universities – 10 more than last year – feature 533 times across this year's rankings, marking a 25.7 per cent increase compared to the previous edition. This includes 454 entries in individual subjects and 79 appearances across the five broad faculty areas," QS said in a statement. In the latest edition of the QS subject-specific rankings, India has the fifth highest number of new entries behind China, the US, the UK and Korea, and ranks 12th for the number of overall entries. "The high number of the new entries featured in the rankings is a continuation of a trend of the country's growing higher education ecosystem, both in terms of size and quality," QS added.



## Pakistan train attack 190 Passengers Rescued, 30 Militants Killed As Op Continues In Balochistan

Press Trust of India

Islamabad: Security forces rescued 190 passengers from a hijacked train, killing 30 Baloch militants in Pakistan's restive Balochistan, as they continued to battle heavily-armed insurgents for a second day on Wednesday. The Jaffar Express, carrying some 400 passengers in nine coaches, was going from Quetta to Peshawar when militants derailed it using explosives and hijacked it. The Baloch Liberation Army claimed responsibility for the attack on Tuesday when they said they killed six soldiers. However, there has been no confirmation from the Pakistani authorities on casualties. The security forces, including the military and frontier corps, are battling the militants who took control of the train near the mountainous terrain of Gudular and Piru Kurri in a tunnel 160 kilometres from Quetta. The Balochistan government spokesman, Shahid Rind, said the operation would continue until all passengers were rescued. Rind said extra care was being taken by the security forces because of the hostage situation.

Officials said that some of the militants wearing vests loaded with explosives had formed groups of women and children and forced them to sit near them. Due to the presence of women and children with the suicide bombers, the operation was being conducted with utmost caution, they added. A security source said that 30 militants had been killed so far in the clean-up and rescue operation, while 190 passengers have been rescued. Around 30 people who sustained injuries had been sent to hospitals. He said two drivers in the main engine and eight security personnel were killed during the operation. This is the first time the BLA or any insurgent group in the Balochistan province have resorted to hijacking a passenger train, although in the last year, they have stepped up their attacks on security forces, installations and foreigners in different parts of the province. The security source said it was not yet clear how many militants were involved in the attack, but some of them were using satellite phones to remain in touch with their handlers.

The Pakistan Railways have set up an emergency desk at the Peshawar and Quetta Railway stations as frantic relatives and friends try to get some information about their loved ones on the train. Pakistan Railways had resumed train services to Peshawar from Quetta after a suspension of more than a month and a half. The Pakistani media earlier reported intense firing and explosion near the tunnel, where the militants hijacked the train. The insurgents claimed that they freed women and children. However, their claim was contested by officials, with Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry saying the hostages were rescued by the security forces. Rana Muhammad Dilawar, a district police officer in the area where the train was stopped, said the security forces had surrounded the area, but there were reports that the militants had taken some women and children as hostages. There were around four to five government officials on the train, he added. Tariq Mahmood, a senior official of Peshawar Railway Station, said that people should not pay heed to rumours on social media.

## UP Govt To Cover 10 Mosques In Sambhal During Holi Celebrations

Press Trust of India

Sambhal: In a significant move, the Uttar Pradesh (UP) administration has decided to cover ten mosques in Sambhal during Holi celebrations on Friday. March 14 marks a rare sixty-year coincidence of the festival of colours and a Ramadan 'Jumma' falling together on the same day. Briefing the media over the UP administration's preparedness, Sambhal SP, Shrish Chandra, said that the decision was taken to maintain communal harmony and facilitate the two communities in celebrating their respective festivals with full glee and gaiety. "A total of ten mosques have been identified which fall in the proposed route of the Chhaupai procession. All of them will be covered to prevent any disturbance or tension between the two communities," he said.

mosques along the route will be covered," he said. According to reports, an agreement has also been reached to alter the timings of the Friday prayers and 'Chhaupai' processions, so that the two don't overlap each other. The Friday namaaz (prayers) will take place either before or after the Holi procession. Also, outsiders won't have permission to enter mosque premises. Local authorities and UP Police officials have been given instructions to maintain strict vigilance and prevent any untoward incidents from unfolding on the day of the festival. The ten mosques which will be covered with tarpaulin in Sambhal during Holi celebrations, include the Shahi Jama Masjid, Ladania wali masjid, Thame wali masjid, Ek raat masjid, Gurdwara road masjid, Gol masjid, Khaajoor wali



He said that the decision has been taken to cover those mosques, from where the 'Chhaupai' processions (a customary practice during Holi) will cross through and also added that this has been a practice for years. "The conventional route of the 'Chhaupai' procession during Holi has been identified and ten

masjid, Anaar wali masjid and Gol dukaan wali masjid. A peace meeting was also organised at the Sambhal police station, where the religious heads of the two communities discussed and deliberated on ways to prevent any incident of communal strife, during Holi celebrations and the Friday namaaz.

## 'Will Throw Muslim MLAs Out Of Bengal Assembly After BJP Wins'

Press Trust of India

Kolkata: West Bengal Assembly Speaker Biman Bandyopadhyay on Tuesday directed the secretary of the House not to provide any document related to its proceedings to BJP legislators. Mr Bandyopadhyay's directive came after MLAs of the saffron party tore official documents in the assembly, as the Speaker turned down their proposal to adjourn the House over alleged attacks on temples in different parts of the state and staged a walkout. The Speaker also rejected the BJP legislators' proposal of introducing a Bill related to protecting children's rights. Mr Bandyopadhyay alleged that the BJP MLAs have earlier, too, torn documents of House proceedings in the assembly while staging protests. "Do not give them (BJP MLAs) papers (related to assembly proceedings)," he told the secretary of the House. Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari dubbed Mr Bandyopadhyay's decision the "rarest incident in the Indian Constitution". "There is no democracy even inside the legislative assembly. The opposition is not being heard. The Trinamool Congress government is trying to do everything by force. The walkout by BJP MLAs is in protest against this as well," said Mr Adhikari, who was earlier suspended from the assembly till

March 18 for allegedly insulting the chair of the Speaker during the budget session. Mr Adhikari, along with other BJP MLAs, also staged a demonstration



outside the state Assembly protesting the Speaker's decision not to allow the adjournment motion. "In the last four to five days, there have been incidents of attacks on Hindu temples and idols vandalised and set on fire in a few areas in Tamuk constituency. Not a single arrest was made. In Murshidabad's district Nawada and Uluberia, Hindus were attacked. Hindu shop owners and houses were set on fire and looted," the BJP leader alleged. Mr Adhikari also claimed that in Uluberia, people celebrating India's win in the recently concluded Champions Trophy were attacked. "In Uluberia, those who were celebrating India's victory at the Champions Trophy were attacked. The Uluberia IC was injured, and when one of the BJP MLAs proposed an adjournment motion today, he was not allowed to speak.

## After DeepSeek, China Launches 'Manus', New AI Assistant: What It Is

Agencies

Beijing: A powerful new AI tool Manus is making waves in China, fuelling hopes that it could replicate the success of DeepSeek, which earlier this year rattled the global tech industry with its state-of-the-art chatbot. Manus, an AI agent generally considered more advanced than a chatbot, can do everything from analysing the stock market to creating a personalised travel handbook for a trip with simple instructions from users, its website says. Here's what you need to know about Manus.

its integration of knowledge and practical application.

**Exclusive access** Manus is a "system that can carry out tasks autonomously on behalf of users", said Manoj Harjani, a research fel-



Rapid rise

Manus was released last week by Chinese startup Butterfly Effect. In a now viral introductory video posted online, co-founder Yichao "Peak" Ji hailed it as "the next paradigm of human-machine collaboration, and potentially a glimpse into AGI" referencing artificial general intelligence that aims to think the way humans do. Currently accessible only by invitation, Manus has quickly gained traction, with its official Discord server growing to more than 170,000 members. Its name comes from the Latin motto "Mens et Manus", meaning "mind and hand" – a nod to

low at Singapore's S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS). "DeepSeek and ChatGPT differ from Manus in that they provide responses to prompts from users through a chat-style interface, whereas Manus is able to execute tasks such as booking tickets and sorting through resumes," he explained. And while DeepSeek was quietly developed behind the scenes before rising to prominence, Manus is taking a different route – limiting access to an invite-only beta and targeting enterprise-level clients, one analyst said.

## 'Do Whatsoever You Want': President Pezeshkian Rejects Talks With US Under Threats

Agencies

Tehran: Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian has sharply rebuked the Trump administration's maximalist approach toward Iran, declaring that the Islamic Republic is not Ukraine and it will not negotiate with the United States under threats or coercion. "We must maintain relationships with the world. We do not want to be estranged or quarrel with anyone, but that does not mean we will bow in humiliation before anyone," Pezeshkian stated during a meeting of the Iran Entrepreneurs Forum in Tehran on Tuesday. "We may die with honor, but we will never live in disgrace." Pezeshkian rejected what he



characterised as an ultimatum from Donald Trump, referencing a letter reportedly sent by the US president to Iran. The letter demanded that Tehran halt its nuclear and missile programs and take other measures in exchange for sanctions relief. "It is unacceptable for someone to come along and say, 'Don't do this, don't do that, or else.' I

won't come to negotiate with you. Go do whatsoever you want," Pezeshkian stated. He criticised Trump for disrespecting his Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelensky, while pressuring him to agree to a deal with Russia. The Iranian president said Trump's conduct in his recent meeting with Zelensky at the White House was "truly shameful". "If negotiations are conducted with dignity and based on mutual respect and shared interests, we will sit down and talk," he said. "But the language of threats and coercion is absolutely unacceptable." The president underscored the importance of strengthening Iran's private sector as a means to counteract Western sanctions.

# NEWS MAKERS

## Dalai Lama says his successor to be born outside China

The Dalai Lama's successor will be born outside China, the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism says in a new book, raising the stakes in a dispute with Beijing over control of the Himalayan region he fled more than six decades ago. Tibetans worldwide want the institution of the Dalai Lama to continue after the 89-year-old's death, he writes in "Voice for the Voiceless", which was released on Tuesday. He had previously said the line of spiritual leaders might end with him. His book marks the first time the Dalai Lama has specified that his successor would be born in the "free world", which he describes as outside China. He has previously said only that he could reincarnate outside Tibet, possibly in India where he lives in exile. "Since the purpose of a reincarnation is to carry on the work of the predecessor, the new Dalai Lama will be born in the free



world so that the traditional mission of the Dalai Lama—that is, to be the voice for universal compassion, the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism, and the symbol of Tibet embodying the aspirations of the Tibetan people—will continue," the Dalai Lama writes. Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, fled at the age of 23 to India with thousands of other Tibetans in 1959 after a failed uprising against the rule of Mao Zedong's Communists.

## PM Modi Offers Gangajal From Maha Kumbh Into Grand Bassin In Mauritius

Port Louis: In a symbolic gesture of cultural and spiritual connection, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday mixed the sacred waters of the Ganges, brought from the Prayagraj Mahakumbh, into the Ganga Talao (Grand Bassin) at Port Louis in Mauritius. This act signifies the strengthening of ties between India and Mauritius, as well as the sharing of India's rich spiritual heritage with the world. The Prayagraj Mahakumbh, which concluded recently, was a grand celebration of unity and devotion, with millions of devotees gathering to take a holy dip in the Ganges. The Ganga Talao, a sacred lake in Mauritius, is an important



pilgrimage site for Hindus. By mixing the gangajal into the lake, PM Modi reinforced the cultural and spiritual bonds between India and Mauritius. The Ganga Talao is also known as the Grand Bassin at Port Louis. The Prime Minister paid obeisance, offered prayers and also performed Aarti at the Ganga Talao.

Ganga Talao is a sacred lake for the Hindus of Mauritius, CNN noted in a report. According to CNN, in 1887, a priest claimed to see the waters of Ganga Talao flowing from the goddess Ganga in a dream. Word of this revelation spread, transforming Ganga Talao and connecting it directly to the mighty Ganges. CNN noted that Ganga Talao is "a cultural touchstone" for the Indian emigrants of Mauritius and is a link to their South Asian roots. Earlier on Tuesday, in a gesture of cultural exchange and friendship, Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifted the Mauritius President Dhirendra Singh with holy Sangam water from the Mahakumbh, packaged in an exquisite brass and copper pot.



## KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of Kashmir Observer LLP  
Printed at: K.T Press Pvt. Ltd 120-Electronic Complex, Industrial Estate, Rangreth-Budgam  
Published from: 5-Boulevard Srinagar J&K  
Editor-in-Chief: Sajjad Haider  
News Editor: Farzana Nisar  
Opinion Editor: Tooba Towfiq  
Online Editor: Syed Hamid  
Head Layout & Design: Muntazir Yaseen,  
Digital Media Head: Amir Ali Shah  
Business & Sales Head: Namisha Raj  
Distribution & Advertising: Firdos Ali  
RNI Registration No: 69503/98  
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16  
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja  
Switchboard: (0194) 2502327 | +91 1947969705  
Editorial: (0194) 2502327  
Email: editor@kashmirobsvr.net

### KO VIEW

## Need Long-Term Job Plan

The new data has put Jammu and Kashmir's unemployment figures at over 8.70 lakh young people, many of them graduates and postgraduates. There are thousands of others who have not registered with the government and so aren't visible. While schemes like Mumkin, Tejaswini, and Parvaaz under Mission Youth have been introduced, they have made little redeeming difference. And one can understand why: ad-hoc schemes can hardly address as gigantic a problem as unemployment. We need a structured, long-term plan that goes beyond quick fixes.

On a positive note, the government has decided to set up a committee for regularization of the services of daily wagers, ad-hoc workers, and contractual employees, who are more than 67,000 in number. They form the backbone of essential services, yet they earn meager wages and consequently are in a constant state of insecurity.

That said, the government can hire more: Nearly 32,474 vacancies exist in government departments, yet only 3,727 posts have been referred for recruitment in recent months. So, it would be in the fitness of things that the elected government expedite the recruitment process and ensure these posts are filled in a time-bound manner.

However, the overall employment scenario in J&K remains bleak, and a few thousand more government jobs would do little to address it. We also need a robust private sector to absorb a growing workforce. Similarly, we need scaling up of the initiatives like skill development programs, startup incubators, and small-business support.

The situation becomes challenging in the absence of alternative job options for the left-out youth. For one, the private sector in J&K, especially in Kashmir Valley, remains underdeveloped. And for another, rise of technology is also threatening to take over a substantial portion of jobs reserved for humans. In its Future of Jobs Report 2025, the World Economic Forum (WEF) has predicted that the new technology will displace 92 million human jobs by 2030. On a positive note, 170 million new jobs will be created, resulting in 78 million net new jobs.

It is now known that the rate of unemployment in J&K is higher than the national average. Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) data has already shown that union territory has among the highest unemployment rates in India at 28.1 percent. Now the question is how the government will deal with this gargantuan crisis by providing employment to lakhs of educated youth and also ensuring that the less educated and uneducated are also engaged in productive work. This is easier said than done. But the government also can't afford to sleep over the problem. The need is for a multi-pronged strategy with a particular thrust on upskilling to increase the opportunities and the prospect for employment for an ever growing number of the educated youth and the uneducated too.



**Did You Know?**  
A Comprehensive Guide to Sharia-Compliant Options and Strategies

Irshad Mushtaq

In recent years, the popularity of Halal investments has grown significantly, particularly among Muslim investors seeking to align their financial decisions with Sharia Islamic principles. Despite a plethora of Sharia-compliant investment options available in the Indian market, many potential investors still grapple with uncertainty and hesitation when it comes to committing their funds. This article aims to demystify the landscape of Halal investments, with a special emphasis on mutual funds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), and strategic investment practices, while highlighting the importance of professional guidance and a well-structured portfolio.

### Understanding Sharia-Compliant Investments

To grasp the essence of Halal investing, it's essential to understand the principles of Sharia. Investments deemed Halal must adhere to specific guidelines, which primarily prohibit involvement with businesses that engage in prohibited activities (haram), such as alcohol, gambling, and usury (riba). Halal investments focus on ethical business practices, tangible assets, and risk-sharing principles, ensuring that investors' money is used in ways that promote social and economic justice.

### The Rise of Sharia-Compliant Mutual Funds and ETFs in India

The Indian financial landscape has significantly evolved, allowing investors to explore various Halal options. Sharia-compliant mutual funds and ETFs have emerged as attractive avenues, providing a diversified exposure to the stock market while adhering to Islamic principles. These funds curate portfolios consisting of companies that are compliant with Sharia guidelines, eliminating investments in sectors that do not align with Islamic values.

Read the full article on our website: <https://kashmirobsvr.net>

Excited to learn from the insights of @Irshad Mushtaq, Writer, Investor, Entrepreneur & Founder of M I Securities! Connect for valuable financial advice at [miscurities@bp.sharekhan.com](mailto:miscurities@bp.sharekhan.com)  
Disclaimer: This article is for information only and doesn't offer investment advice. It's not an endorsement or an offer to buy or sell any financial products. If you decide to act on the information here, you do so at your own risk

# Rising Roads, Sinking Homes

## Kashmir's Overburdened Roads



Dr. Ashraf Zainabi

Countries, cities, towns, and villages prosper when connectivity is improved. Roads play an important part in prosperity, besides railways and airways. One of the most overlooked consequences of Kashmir's outdated road maintenance strategy is the gradual elevation of road surfaces due to repeated blacktopping. Instead of properly reconstructing roads with drainage and expansion plans, authorities simply add new layers of asphalt year after year. Over the past four to five decades, this has led to an alarming rise in road levels by nearly 2 to 3 feet in many places.

The impact on adjacent buildings—both residential and commercial—has been devastating. Homes and shops that were once at street level have now sunk below the roads, leaving them vulnerable to flooding, dampness, and structural damage. In many cases, the ground floors of buildings have become unlivable or unusable. This has led to huge economic losses for property owners, forcing many to either abandon or completely rebuild their structures. Who is responsible? Government? Engineers? Thehedar? Or All Someone, someday has to take it's responsibility.

This kind of road maintenance is not just inefficient—it is destructive. The government's reluctance to properly widen, reconstruct, or re-design roads has effectively turned infrastructure development into an endless cycle of patchwork fixes that cause more harm than good.

### When Roads Become Multi-purposeful

A road's primary purpose is transportation—both for vehicles and pedestrians. But in Kashmir, roads have been turned into multi-purpose spaces for every function except transportation.

Many roadsides, especially in urban centers, have become unofficial dumping sites for household and commercial waste. Sand, gravel, bricks, and cement bags are routinely dumped on roads, blocking lanes and worsening congestion.

Many roads, especially in Srinagar and district headquarters, are overtaken by street vendors, leaving little space for vehicles or pedestrians. In many areas, entire roads are blocked off for private events, leading to traffic chaos. Water pipes, electricity poles, and even makeshift sheds often occupy road space, further restricting movement.

This chaotic and unregulated use of roads is a direct result of weak enforcement of municipal laws. While occasional anti-encroachment

drives take place, they are often short-lived and ineffective due to political pressures, corruption, and a lack of long-term planning.

### Traffic Congestion and Rising Accident Rates

Kashmir's roads are now carrying far more vehicles than they were ever designed for. With an increasing number of private cars, two-wheelers, and commercial

ly designed intersections and lack of traffic signals in key areas.

Despite these alarming statistics, road safety remains a low priority. The government's response has largely been limited to issuing advisories rather than implementing structural reforms.

### Lack of Urban Planning and Road Expansion

One of the biggest failures of Kashmir's infrastructure development is the absence of systematic road expansion. The last major road expansion projects in Srinagar and other urban centers were carried out decades ago. Since then, the population has doubled, and the number of vehicles has increased exponentially, yet road width remains unchanged.

While new highways and tunnels are being built under central government schemes, urban road networks remain neglected. Even in cases where land is available for road widening, bureaucratic red tape, legal disputes, and lack of coordination between departments have stalled progress.

For instance, the much-needed widening of major roads in Srinagar, including those leading to hospitals, markets, and business hubs, and those leading to neighbouring district and tehsil headquarters, has been stuck in limbo for years due to slow decision-making and land acquisition issues.



**Kashmir's road crisis is not just an inconvenience—it is a growing economic and safety disaster. The continuous neglect of infrastructure, combined with reckless misuse of road spaces, has brought the region to a breaking point**



vehicles, traffic congestion has become a daily struggle. Srinagar, in particular, witnesses gridlocks that stretch for hours, with no proper traffic management in place.

A steady rise in the number of road accidents and deaths. Many of these accidents are caused by narrow, poorly maintained roads. Lack of proper pedestrian crossings and footpaths. Encroachments forcing people onto roadways. Reckless driving and absence of traffic discipline. Poor-

### Conclusion

Kashmir's road crisis is not just an inconvenience—it is a growing economic and safety disaster. The continuous neglect of infrastructure, combined with reckless misuse of road spaces, has brought the region to a breaking point.

If immediate action is not taken, the situation will only worsen, making mobility even more difficult and leading to greater economic losses. The government, civil society, and citizens must work together to reclaim Kashmir's roads for their rightful purpose: safe and efficient transportation. The time for patchwork fixes and bureaucratic delays is over—Kashmir needs real, lasting solutions now.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The author is a Teacher and Researcher

### 1. Scientific Road Reconstruction

Instead of endless blacktop-

### A Roadmap for Change

The crisis of Kashmir's road infrastructure is not unsolvable. However, it requires a multi-pronged strategy that includes proper planning, strict enforcement, and community cooperation. Some immediate and long-term measures include:

## A Date With Dates! Health benefits of eating Dates in Ramazan

Mohammad Hanief

Dates are a popular food item, not just in the Middle East but all over the world. They have amazing nutritional properties and just a few dates can keep you energised for hours; one of the many reasons people buy them. Their popularity reaches its peak in Ramazan where Muslims worldwide buy kilos worth of dates for their homes. It is the preferred food item of choice to break the fast. There are different types of dates and their benefits range from amazing taste to health improving qualities.

Dates are sweet fruits packed with plenty of nutrients, making them a good snack in moderation. Although the nutritional value of dates is high in natural sugars, they may make a good substitute for refined sugars or empty-calorie sweets.

Dates grow on date palms in small clusters. The term date comes from the Greek word daktylos, which means fingers. Farmers harvest dates in the fall and early winter, so dates usually taste freshest at this time of year. However, many people eat dried dates, which can last for a long time in a sealed container.

Breaking the fast with dates has always been a Ramazan tradition. In Hadith literature it is written that the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) would break his fast with ripe dates before he would pray. Therefore, eating dates during this time has a spiritual significance. Dates have a long history in the Middle East as they have been cultivated in the area for thousands of years. The hot, arid climate provides ideal conditions for date palms to thrive.

Dates are also particularly beneficial during Ramazan because they are high in sugar and vitamins such as potassium and magnesium as well as an excellent source of fiber and carbohydrates. When fasting the body can easily develop mild health conditions like low blood sugar, headaches and lethargy. The nutrients found in dates can help alleviate these conditions and provide a source of energy. Dates are also known to help with digestion and can prevent an upset stomach when eating large amounts of food after a long period without eating.

At the end of the month of Ramazan, the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast is held called the Eid al-Fitr. During this celebration, it is popular for families to host a feast for family and relatives in which dates are a very popular along with other foods such as honey, breads, figs, fruits and olives.

Historians believe that dates are one of the ancient fruits and their cultivation traces back to around 8,000 years ago. There are



**AS A RESULT, CONSUMING DATES HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO** provide some protection against malignancies of the colon, prostate, breast, endometrial, lung, and pancreas. Zea-xanthin protects against age-related macular degeneration, which is common among the elderly

more than 200 varieties of dates with different shapes and flavors, however, all of them are rich in nutrition. Dates are a popular food item, not just in the Middle East but all over the world.

Dates are one of the best ingredients for a daily diet because of their numerous health benefits. The date palm (*Phoenix Dactylifera L.*) is widely grown in hot, dry locations, primarily in the Middle East and North Africa, and supplies nutrition, food security, and raw material to the food industry. It has been a staple food for generations and possesses several health benefits.

Dates are a natural reservoir of sugars such as sucrose, fructose, and glucose. Fresh dates

have about 157 calories per 100 grams, and dry dates have more than 300 calories per 100 grams. Dates include extra nutritional components in the form of proteins, crude fiber, lipids, and antioxidants in addition to their high natural sugar content, making them a functional food with substantial health advantages.

The predominant sugars in dates are fructose and glucose, which make up two-thirds of the overall fleshy content. Water accounts for one-fifth of the whole fleshy makeup, and the remaining (small) amount is dietary fibers. Protein, lipids, crude fiber, minerals, vitamins (particularly vitamin B), and tannins are also abundant in dates. Dates have significant nu-

tritional content and can thus assist in meeting human dietary requirements.

Date flesh contains between 0.2 and 0.5% oil, whereas the seed or pit contains 7.7-9.7%. The primary unsaturated fatty acids include palmitoleic, oleic, linoleic, and linolenic acids. The oleic acid concentration of date seeds fluctuates between 41.1% and 58.8%, making them a possible source of oleic acid.

Dates contain 23 different types of amino acids, some of which are missing from popular fruits like oranges, peaches, grapes, and apples. A small quantity of vitamin C, vitamin B (1) thiamine, B(2) riboflavin, nicotinic acid (niacin), and vitamin A are also present in them.

Dates are divided into four groups based on

their sugar content. Dates of the first class are high in sucrose (40-65%). These have a glucose and fructose content of 20-40% and water content of 10-25%. The dates in the second class are high in glucose and fructose (40-75%) but low in sucrose (10-35%).

The dates in the third class have a water content of 10-35%, glucose and fructose content of 65-90%, and sucrose content of 0-10%. Dates from fourth grade have a lot of water in them (35-65%). These have a 35-37% glucose and fructose content, with no sucrose.

Date palm trees have been feeding people as a source of energy, nutrition security, and healthy fruit for the previous 5000 years in the worst climatic conditions. The following are some of the health benefits of date fruits. Soft, easily digested flesh and simple carbohydrates like fructose and dextrose make up fresh dates.

When consumed, they rapidly replenish energy and invigorate the body. Tannins, a type of health-promoting flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidant, have anti-infective, anti-inflammatory, and anti-hemorrhagic (prevents easy bleeding) effects.

Antioxidant flavonoids like beta-carotene, lutein, and zeaxanthin can protect cells and other biological structures from the detrimental effects of oxygen-free radicals. As a result, consuming dates have been reported to provide some protection against malignancies of the colon, prostate, breast, endometrial, lung, and pancreas. Zea-xanthin protects against age-related macular degeneration, which is common among the elderly. Potassium is an essential component of cell and body fluids, assisting in the regulation of heart rhythm and blood pressure, and so protecting against stroke and coronary heart disease.

Dates have anti-fungal, anti-bacterial, and anti-viral characteristics, as well as the ability to prevent chronic inflammation and other disorders, due to their high phenolic content. Due to their high fiber and phenolic content, dates can aid in the prevention of cardiovascular disease and immune system regulation.

Dates can serve as an important food in the human diet and, they can play a significant part in human health and nutrition due to their unique nutritional content. Dates include a variety of functional and bioactive substances such as carotenoids, anthocyanins, phenolics, antioxidants, and dietary fiber, all of which have anti-tumor, anti-ulcer, anti-microbial, and immuno-modulatory characteristics.

The author can be mailed at [m.hanief@outlook.com](mailto:m.hanief@outlook.com)  
X/Twitter: @haniefmha

## Generative AI's Specific Aid

John P. Nelson

Generative AI tools such as ChatGPT and Midjourney can produce text, images and videos far more quickly than any one person can accomplish by hand.

But as someone who studies the societal impacts of AI, I've noticed an interesting trade-off: The technology can certainly save time, but it does so precisely to the extent that the user is willing to surrender control over the final product.

For this reason, generative AI is probably most useful for things we care about the least.

### Ceding creative control

Let's use the example of AI image generators. You probably have a rough idea of how they work. Just type what you want - "a panda surfing," "a piece of toast that is also a car" - and the generative tool draws it.

But this glosses over the countless possible iterations of the desired image.

Will the image appear as a watercolor painting or a pencil sketch? How lifelike will the panda be? How big is the wave? Is the toast-car parked or moving? Is there anyone inside of it?

When the images are generated, these questions have been answered - but not by the user. Rather, the generative AI tool has "decided."

Of course, the user can be more specific: Imitate the style of Monet. Make the wave twice the height of the panda. Maybe the panda should look worried, since it isn't used to surfing.

You can also pop open an image editor and modify the output yourself, down to the individual pixel. But, of course, drafting detailed instructions and revising the image take time, effort and skill. Generative AI promises to lighten the load. But as every manager knows, exercising control is work.

### The devil is in the details

In all art and expression, power lies in the details.

In great paintings, not every brushstroke is planned - but each is carefully considered and accepted. And its overall effect on the viewer depends on all those considered brushstrokes together.

Filmmakers shoot take after take of the same scene, each subtly or radically different. Only a small fraction of that footage makes it into the final cut - the fraction that the editors feel does the job best. Great artists use their judgment to ensure every detail helps to achieve the effect they want.

Of course, there's nothing new about putting



someone else in charge of the details. People are used to delegating authority - even about matters of expression - to marketers, speechwriters, social media managers and the like.

Generative AI makes a new sort of contractor available. It's always on call, and in certain ways it is very technically competent.

But compared with skilled humans, it has a limited ability to understand what you want. Moreover, it lacks intention, contemplation and the comprehensive mastery of detail that yield great expressive achievements - or even the comprehensive idiosyncrasy that spawns very unique ones.

Ask ChatGPT for a film script, plus casting and shooting instructions. It will give you neither Francis Ford Coppola's masterpiece "The Godfa-

ther" nor Tommy Wiseau's bizarre "The Room." You could, perhaps, approach a masterpiece, or a true oddity. But to do so, you'd have to exercise more and more time, more and more effort, and more and more control.

### An era of 'cheap speech'

What generative AI makes possible, above all, is low-effort, low-control expression.

In the time I took to write and revise this article, I could have used ChatGPT to generate 200 grammatically correct, well-structured articles, and then I could have posted them online without even reading them. I wouldn't have had to carefully parse each word and decide whether it really helped me make my point. I wouldn't have

even had to decide whether I agreed with any of the AI-generated write-ups.

This is not a merely hypothetical example. Low-quality, AI-generated e-books of ambiguous provenance are already making their way into online vendors' catalogs - and into the libraries those vendors serve.

Similarly, using image generators, I could now flood the internet with superficially appealing images, dedicating only a fraction of a second to decide whether any of them express what I want them to express or achieve what I want them to achieve.

But in doing so, I would not just be skipping over drudgery. Writing, drawing and painting are not just labor but processes of considering, reviewing and deciding exactly what I want to

put out into the world. By skipping over those processes, I surrender that decision-making process to the AI tool.

Some scholars argue that the internet has produced an era of "cheap speech." People no longer have to invest a lot of resources - nor even face the judgment of their neighbors - to broadcast whatever they want to the world.

With generative AI, expression is even cheaper. You don't even have to make things yourself to put them out into the world. For the first time in human history, the ability to produce writing, art and expression has been decoupled from the necessity of actually paying attention to what you're making or saying.

### When intention and effort matter

I suspect that great art, journalism and scholarship will still demand great attention and effort. Some of that effort may even include custom-developing AI tools tailored to an individual artist's concerns.

But unless people become much better at curation, great work will be increasingly difficult to locate amid the flood of low-effort content, which is also known as "AI slop."

It's appropriate that generative AI becomes more useful the sloppier its users are willing to be - that is, the less they care about the details.

I could end with some dire prognosis - that working artists and writers will be replaced with mediocre automation, that online discourse will get even stupider, that people will isolate themselves in personalized cocoons of AI-generated media.

All these things are possible. But it's probably more useful to offer a suggestion to you, the reader.

When you need an image or a piece of writing, take a moment to decide: How important are the details? Would the process of making this yourself, or working with a collaborator or contractor, be useful? Would it yield a better output, or give you the chance to learn, or begin or strengthen a relationship, or help you reflect on something important to you?

In short, is it worth putting in real care and effort? The answer will not always be yes. But it often will.

Art, writing, films - these are not just products, but acts. They are things humans make, through a process of thousands of little decisions that encompass what we stand for and what we want to say.

So when it comes to art, expression and argument, if you want it done right, it's probably still best to do it yourself.

By arrangements with The Conversation

# Tips For Choosing Ripe Watermelons With Red Flesh, Sweet, And Paper-Thin Flesh

Thebustednews.com

Watermelon is a refreshing and hydrating fruit, especially during hot weather. However, selecting the perfect watermelon can sometimes be tricky. To get the best-tasting watermelon, you need to pay attention to a few key characteristics. Here's how you can tell when a watermelon is ripe and ready to be enjoyed:

### 1. Look for the Sugar Spot

In the image, you can see two watermelons with their sugar spots (the area where the stem attaches to the fruit). The watermelon on the right is ripe, while the one on the left is not. A watermelon's sugar spot should be small, dry, and slightly sunken. This indicates that the watermelon is ripe and has matured well on the vine. If the sugar spot is large or moist, the fruit may

not be fully ripe or could be overripe.

### 2. Check for a Uniform Color

Ripe watermelons should have a vibrant green color without any spots or bruises on the rind. The skin of the watermelon should be evenly colored, with deep green stripes. Avoid melons that are pale or have a discolored rind, as they might not be as sweet.

### 3. Feel for the Right Weight

A good watermelon should feel heavy for its size. Watermelons contain a lot of water, and the heavier ones tend to be juicier and more flavorful. Gently lift the melon and compare its weight to others of similar size — a ripe one will feel solid and substantial.

### 4. Tap The Watermelon

One of the oldest tricks to test the ripeness of a watermelon is to tap it gently. A ripe watermelon will produce a deep, hollow



sound, while an unripe one will sound more dull. The hollow sound indicates that the melon is filled with water and ready to eat.

### 5. Examine the Field Spot

Check for a yellow field spot (the area

where the watermelon sat on the ground during ripening). A ripe watermelon typically has a soft, yellowish field spot. If the spot is white or green, the watermelon may not be fully ripened.

### 6. Look for a Smooth, Unblemished Rind

A watermelon with a smooth rind and no scratches or gouges is more likely to be ripe. Minor blemishes are okay, but large cuts or soft spots may indicate the fruit has been overhandled or is beginning to spoil.

### Conclusion

To pick a ripe watermelon with red, sweet, and paper-thin flesh, look for a small, dry sugar spot, check the uniform color of the rind, feel the weight, tap for a hollow sound, and examine the field spot. By following these tips, you'll increase your chances of selecting a watermelon that's both delicious and refreshing.

## '40% Of Adults With Chronic Pain Could Have Anxiety Depression'

Press Trust Of India

About 40 per cent of adults experiencing chronic, persistent pain could also have anxiety or depression, a review has found. Women, young adults and those with conditions such as fibromyalgia are most likely to have anxiety and depression, it observed.

Fibromyalgia is a condition marked by widespread body ache and tenderness, despite no physical injury such as tissue damage.

The review was published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Network Open.

Researchers, including those from Johns Hopkins University, US, analysed 376 studies, involving nearly 8.6 lakh people from across 60 countries. The participants were aged about 50 years on average, and about 70 per cent were women.

The most commonly reported chronic pain conditions in the study included fibromyalgia, low back pain and rheumatoid arthritis (inflamma-



tion of joints). Pain is said to be chronic if it persists beyond a maximum of three months.

"In this systematic review and meta-analysis of depression and anxiety among individuals with chronic pain, approximately 40 per cent of adults had clinically significant depression and anxiety," the authors wrote.

Therefore, a mental health screening of patients with chronic pain is critical, they said.

While acute pain can be caused by an injury or surgery, its transition to chronic pain has psychological underpinnings, according to the biopsychosocial model of pain.

Developed in the 1970s, the model suggests that one's experience of pain in response to an external trigger is a complex interplay of biological, psychological, social and cultural factors.

Women are considered especially vulnerable to chronic pain, owing to var-

ied factors, including hormonal cycles and heightened emotional responses.

Further, "women, younger people, and people with nociceptive pain (arising from changes in how one perceives pain) were most likely to have depression and anxiety," the authors wrote.

According to a 2023 round-up article on pain research in The Lancet journal, the biopsychosocial risk factors of poor sleep, dependency, tiredness, stress and a Body Mass Index of over 30 were the most important reasons for localised pain progressing into chronic pain.

While treatments commonly involve anti-inflammatory drugs and prescription medicines, such as antidepressants and opioids, experts strongly recommend psychotherapy sessions as well.

"Treatments for the most common types of chronic pain (Examples: fibromyalgia, chronic low back pain) have limited impact on pain intensity, meaning many people will live with their pain long-term," said Dr Bronwyn Thompson, senior lecturer, department of orthopaedic surgery and musculoskeletal medicine, University of Otago, New Zealand.

He was not involved in the study.

## Osteoarthritis Cases, Related Disability Up By Over 130%: Study

Press Trust Of India

Globally, cases of osteoarthritis and the resulting disability among menopausal women have increased by over 130 per cent in the last three decades, according to a study.

The findings, published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) Global Health, show that an excess weight or body mass index accounted for about a fifth of the duration lived with disability resulting from the condition that steadily deteriorates joints.

The researchers, including those from Hangzhou Medical College, China, said declining oestrogen levels in menopause affect skeletal health and are directly related to functioning and stability of joints.

Osteoarthritis affecting knee joints were found to be the most common type, associated with the highest loss of healthy living, followed by that affecting hands.

The countries in East Asia and high-income Asia Pacific experienced the fastest increase in burden of the chronic condition, the study found.

While the most rapid rise in new cases of knee osteoarthritis was seen in Southeast Asia, the most rapid rise in prevalence was seen in East Asia.

The trends noted in East Asia "may be linked to rapid population ageing, (an) increased workforce participation and a surge in obesity rates due to urbanisation and changing lifestyles," the authors wrote.

However, "the high burden observed in high-income Asia Pacific could be attributed to advanced healthcare systems with better diagnostic capabilities, facilitating comprehensive identification and reporting of (osteoarthritis) cases", they wrote.

**The Jammu and Kashmir State Board of School Education**  
New Campus Bemina Srinagar  
Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-  
Roll No: 6115247  
Class 10th  
Year & Session 2017/Annual Reg.  
Registration: N1638170006  
Name: Yasir Ahmad Bhat  
Father's Name: Bilal Ahmad Bhat  
Mother's Name: Dilshada Akhter  
Date of Birth: 09-03-2003  
Residence- Lelhara Kakapora

According to the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice. (Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 5200 be treated as "CANCELLED")  
No: F/Cer is-I-DQC/B/KD/  
Dated fko  
Assistant Secretary Certificates, KD.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I want to transfer the name on electricity connection bearing consumer ID No: 0203010018140 From Bashir Ahmad Mir To Saleema Begum W/O Bashir Ahmad Mir. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
Saleema Begum W/O Bashir Ahmad Mir fko  
R/o Arampora Near Masjid Abubakar Qamarwari Srinagar

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat S/O Ghulam Mohammad Bhat R/O Om Buran Tehsil Singhpora Distt Baramulla declare on oath as under that my DOB is as per service record is 28/10/1978 and I have attached service record with DOB application and now I want to obtain DOB in my favour from BDO office singhpora if anybody have objection he/she may contact to tehsil office singhpora within seven days and after seven days no objection will be accepted fko

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION SRINAGAR**  
Fax/Phone: 0194-2470119 | email: exenifc@srinagar@jfkashmir.com

Fresh Short Notice inviting e-Tender  
e- NIT No. 20of 2024-25 Dated: 12/03/2025

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) on item rate basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors for the following works to be received by the Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Srinagar.

S.No	Name of work.	Estt. Cost (in lakh)	E/M (in .)	Cost of T/ Doc. (in .)	MH of Account	Time of Completion (in Days)	Class of contract
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08
02	Improvements/construction in the chamber of Chief Accounts officer. (Fresh of e-Nit No.18 of 2024-25)	1.56	.3120/-	.350/-	M&R	07 Days	DEC

Position of AAA: Under process    Position of TS: Accorded.    Position of funds: 100% Budgetary provision

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q.), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	12.03.2025	From	6:00 P.M
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	12.03.2025	From	6:00 P.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	12.03.2025	From	6:00 P.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	18.03.2025	Upto	4:00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	19-03-2025 at 12:00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Irr. and Flood control Division Srinagar.		

6. The Successful bidder has to provide 5% of Adv. Cost as Performance Security within 3 days after opening of Financial Bid without any intimation thereof.  
Note:  
1. The Bidders are advised to read all conditions lay down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall if any found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.  
2. As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Sectt. Finance department vide No.Om.No.A/24(2017)-651 dtd. 07-06-2018 which reads as under:  
a) Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of E-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder whose declared 1st Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.  
b) The Cost of tenders should be collected by uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/Receipt. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debit to M.H.0701 - Rev. Misc) and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Srinagar failing which the tender will be rejected outright. CDR/FDR (Earnest money/Bid security) and relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.  
3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer Irr. and F.C. Division Srinagar.  
4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.  
5. The normal deposits to be deducted as per GFR 2017 rules from running bills to be released after total completion of the work.  
6. The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders or any part of any tender without assigning reason thereof.  
7. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.  
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.  
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor.  
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.  
7. All other terms and conditions same as laid down in the PWD Form 25 Double shall also remain in force. D  
No. IFCDS/CS/E-NIT-20/2024-25/8907-21  
DIPK-12914/24    Dated: 12/03/2025.

Sd/-  
(Er. Shazia Majid)  
Executive Engineer  
Irrigation and Flood Division Srinagar fko

**OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT 75 BN BSF.**  
**SANAT NAGAR, SRINAGAR. (J&K)**

///AUCTION NOTICE///

A public Auction for dispose of the unserviceable stores (Le QM/Provisioning, Corn, MT, Offr Mess, 50's Mess, and Canteen stores) in respect of 75 Bn BSF will be conducted at Bn HQ Sanat Nagar, Srinagar (J&K) on 17th Mar' 2025 at 11:00 Hrs.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- All the interested authorized bidders/parties are requested to attend the auction on scheduled date and time mentioned above.
- All interested bidder will have to get themselves registered with Commandant, 75 Bn BSF at least 01 hour prior to the auction of stores alongwith Aadhaar card, PAN card and GST number in original and also deposit Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten thousand) only in advance as earnest money which will be refunded /adjusted after finalization of auction of condemned stores on the same day.
3. In case of bandh call/ strike in state on the date of auction, same will be conducted on the next day.
4. The stores shall be sold to the highest bidder on cash payments on the spot.
5. Successful bidder will have to deposit full amount of auction money and GST/other taxes (if any) after completion of auction.
6. The auction will be held as per departmental rules and regulations.
7. The final bidder will have to deposit the cost of the auctioned stores and applicable GST on the spot and will lift the same from Battalion HQ 75 Bn, BSF, Sanat Nagar, Srinagar (J&K) at his own arrangement within 24 hrs. No transport will be provided by this Department.
8. In case final bidders fail to deposit the cost of the stores on the spot, his earnest money will be forfeited.
9. Commandant, 75 Bn BSF reserves the rights to accept / reject the final bid without assigning any reason. Any doubt/ queries its of clarification required by any bidder, presiding Officer of the board/Commandant 75 Bn BSF will give the decision on the spot which will be accepted by all concerned.
10. Other terms and conditions will be announced by the BOO before the public auction.

No 1001/Prov/Auction-Notice/75 Bn BSF/2025/ 2610-54  
Dated the 20 Feb' 2025

CBC 1910/11/0126/2425

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I, Sartaj Ahmad Thoker, father of Hamza Sartaj R/O Checki Cholland Shopian want to correct my son's name in Aadhaar record, which has been wrongly entered as Abu Hamza instead of Hamza Sartaj. Now correction required. If anybody has any objection, may contact the concerned Aadhaar Centre, Jammu/ Srinagar or concerned authorities within 7 days.  
fko











## Hospital Bills can Exhaust your Family's Hard Earned Life Savings








Bajaj Allianz Family Health Care policy covers you and your family from expenses incurred during hospitalization along with the added benefits of Health Prime Rider.

### Bajaj Allianz Family Health Care's Benefits:

-  In Patient Hospitalization Expenses
-  Pre & Post Hospitalization Expenses
-  Road Ambulance
-  Day Care Procedures
-  Organ Donor Expenses
-  Sum Insured Reinstatement Benefit

### Benefits of Health Prime Rider:

-  Rider for both Individual & Family Floater Basis\*\*
-  24\*7 Unlimited Tele-Consultation
-  Investigations Cover
-  139000+ Doctors
-  Preventive Health Check-up (45+ Test Parameters at Network Centers)

\*\*Based on the variant opted in health plan

To know more, contact your **J&K Bank's Relationship Manager**