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Kashmir Sets April Heat Records

Kokernag Hits 29.1°C, Srinagar Sees 2nd Hottest April Day



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Srinagar recorded the second hottest April day on Wednesday, with temperatures soaring to 30.9°C for the second consecutive day. Kokernag in south Kashmir set a new record, reaching an all-time high of 29.1°C, surpassing the previous record of 28.3°C from April 30, 2007. The hottest April temperature ever recorded in Srinagar was 31.3°C on April 20, 1946.

The ongoing heatwave has affected several parts of Jammu and Kashmir. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad, Director

the Meteorological Department (MeT), advised residents to stay hydrated, drink plenty of fluids, and avoid outdoor activities between 12 PM and 3 PM during peak heat hours.

The MeT has forecasted brief spells of showers, accompanied by thunder and gusty winds, from May 1 to May 5. A dry spell is expected from May 6 to 7, with light rain and thunder pos-

sible on May 9 and 10. Notably, on Tuesday, Pahalgam recorded the highest-ever maximum temperature in April on Tuesday, as a heatwave swept | More on P6

Root Out Terror Infrastructure Across J&K: LG

LG Manoj Sinha Wednesday chaired a high-level meeting with senior officials to review the prevailing security scenario in Jammu Kashmir

Observer News Service

Jammu: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Wednesday directed for strong and coordinated measures to completely wipe out terrorism and its entire ecosystem from Jammu Kashmir. "It is the collective resolve of the people of J&K and the nation to destroy the root of terror emanating from our neighbourhood. We must be resolute to fulfill this mis-

sion," the LG said. He directed the officials to take strong action against OGWs who are providing logistics to terrorists, identifying targets for them and helping them to escape.

"Infrastructure and sup-port system of terrorism in

CCS Reviews J&K Security Situation

he Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is understood to have deliberated on the overall security situation in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday

amid speculations about India's possible retaliation to the Pahalgam terror attack in view of its cross border linkages. The CCS meet was held at the prime minister's Lok Kalyan Marg residence, a day after he held

The

DGP

tended by

J&K;

JKBOSE Class 10, 12 Results Out

Girls Outshine Boys In Both Exams

Observer News Service

Srinagar- TThe Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE) announced the results for both the 10th and 12th standard annual regular exams on Wednesday, with girls outperforming boys in both categories.

For the 10th standard exams, the overall pass percentage stood at 79.94%, with girls achieving a pass rate of 81.24%, while boys recorded 78.74%. Out of the 1,45,671 students enrolled across Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh, 1,16,453 students successfully qualified. At least 16,343 students secured A1 grade, 18,678 earned A2, and 22,219 students attained B1 grade. However, some disciplinary actions were also reported, including the cancellation of exams for 40 students and disqualification for others.

Similarly, the 12th standard exams revealed an overall pass percentage of 75%, with girls achieving 78% and boys 72%. A total of 1,03,308 students were enrolled for the exams, and 77,311 students qualified. However, | More on P6

CM Reviews Progress Of National Highway Projects

Jammu: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday reviewed the progress of various national highway projects here and said that there should be no unwarranted or procedural gaps.

A dozen major highway corridors and one expressway, spanning over 1,800 kilometres, are currently in various stages of execution in the Union Territory.

include strategi-These cally important routes such as National Highway 44 (Jammu-Srinagar), NH-144A (Jammu-Rajouri-Poonch) and the Delhi-Amritsar–Katra Expressway (NE-5), among others



Zoji La Tunnel, Z-Morh Tunnel corridors, and our progress Panthal-Magarkote must reflect seriousness and and Tunnel, and other projects, coordination," Abdullah said many of which are in the adaddressing the meeting. vanced stages of construction, an official spokesperson said. detailed stock of project-spe-

"These projects hold not ist developmental but stra-

6th Straight Day Of Ceasefire **Violations Across LoC**

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Pakistani troops engaged in unprovoked firing along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in multiple sectors across four border districts of Jammu and Kashmir, prompting Indian forces to 'respond effectively', officials said on Wednesday.

The firing, which began with small arms, was reported from the Pargwal sector along the IB in Jammu district, and the Sunderbani and Naushera sectors in Rajouri district.

This marked the sixth consec-

by Pakistan along the LoC, amidst heightened tensions between New Delhi and Islamabad following a recent terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22.

"On the night of April 29-30, Pakistan Army posts initiated unprovoked small-arms fire across the | More on P6

DGMO Warns Pakistan ector General of Military Operations (DGMOs) India on Wednesday warned Pakistan regarding the continued ceasefire breaches and expressed concern over the unprovoked firing along the Line of Control and International Borders. The DGMOs of India and Pakistan held discussions over the hotline to address the ongoing

utive night of ceasefire violations



The Lieutenant Governor also CID J&K; Dr Mandeep K. directed to further strengthen Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; the security grid and stressed upon the need for better coor-Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu dination and synergy among and Shiv Kumar Sharma, DIG

every nook and corner of

Union Territory has to be

dismantled permanently. It

should be our priority to en-

sure a sense of security to the

common man.

the security agencies. Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range. meeting was at-Nalin Prabhat, Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary Home; Nitish Kumar, ADGP

Pertinently, today's meeting was the 3rd security review chaired by LG Sinha since April 22 Pahalgam ter-ror attack that left 26 persons, mostly tourists, dead. Soon after the attack LG Sinha on April 23 held a security review meeting to ensure that the directions | More on P6

a meeting with the top military brass and accorded operational freedom to the armed forces on the "mode, targets and timing" of India's response to the April 22 attack that killed 26 people. | More on P6

HC Halts Deportation Of J&K Cop, 8 Siblings

Family Brought Back from Punjab After **Emotional Pleas**

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: In a major relief to a police personnel and his eight siblings, including five sisters, authorities on Wednesday suspended their deportation to Pakistan on the orders of the high court and are bringing them back from Puniab to reunite them with their families in Poonch district. The siblings were shifted from J&K to Punjab for their deportation to Pakistan on Wednesday morning, despite

plea against the step and granting them temporary relief. The nine members of the extended family were among the more than two dozen people, mostly from Pakistan-occupied

the high court admitting their

Kashmir (PoK), who were served deportation notices by authorities in Poonch, Rajouri and Jammu districts. While some of them, including Pakistani women married to Jammu and Kashmir

residents, have already been deported several others

Observer News Service

still waiting at the Attari and Wagah borders, officials said, adding that the Pakistani nationals, many of whom were living in the Jammu region for decades, were | More on P6

attended The meeting, among others by Advisor to Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani and Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, also reviewed 12 major tunnel projects including tegic importance. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that there are no unwarranted delays or procedural gaps. The Centre is also closely monitoring these

about persistent bottle falling particularly those within Jammu and Kashmir's territorial jurisdiction.

cific challenges and enquired

The chief minister took

He emphasised the need to resolve procedural hurdles and recurring | More on P6

Lt Gen Sharma **New Northern Army Command Chief**



Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant General M V Sachindra Kumar on Wednesday relinquished the command of Udhampur-based Northern Command on his retirement after achieving the superannuation age, officials said.

Lt Gen Pratik Sharma will be the new general officer commanding-in-chief of the northern command and will assume office on Thursday amid the ongoing tension between India and Pakistan following the April 22 terror attack in south Kashmir's Pahalgam that left 26 persons, mostly tourists, dead.

"Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar, Army Commander Northern Command laid wreath to honour the supreme sacrifice of the bravehearts at Dhruva War Memorial, Udhampur on superannuation and relinquishing command of the Northern Command," Army said in a post on X.

Lt Gen Kumar had taken over the command -- responsible for security and operations along India's northern borders, including J-K, parts of | More on P6

'Are You Hindu? You don't look Kashmiri' **Tourist Recalls Encounter** With Pahalgam Terror Suspect

Press Trust Of India

Maharashtra: A young man from Jalna city in Maharashtra, who recently returned from Kashmir, has claimed that one of the suspected attackers in the Pahalgam terror case spoke to him a day before the carnage. "Hindu ho kya. You don't look

like you are from Kashmir," said Adarsh Raut, recalling his interaction with a man at a food stall in the Baisaran Valley on April 21.

Twenty-six people, mostly tourists, were killed and several were injured when terrorists opened fire at a meadow near the popular tourist



town of Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on April 22. Days after the massacre of tourists, security agencies released sketches | More on P6

Hajj 2025: First Flight From Srinagar On May 4

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Haj Committee has issued the flight schedule for the first batch of pilgrims departing from Srinagar for this year's Hajj pilgrimage. The first flight (SG-5304) will take off on May 4, 2025. Pilgrims are instructed to report at Haj House, Bemina, Srinagar, between 5:00 AM and 5:30 AM on the departure day.

The committee has urged pilgrims to adhere strictly to the reporting time and carry only standard baggage, free from banned items. Over 3,600 pilgrims | More on P6

Govt Announces Caste Enumeration In Next Census

KO Web Desk

New Delhi: In a major decision, the government on Wednesday announced that caste enumeration will be included in the next census exercise in a "transparent" manner and slammed the opposition parties for using caste survey as a "political tool". The Congress and other



such surveys. opposition parties have

been vociferously demand-The government deciing a nationwide caste cension comes ahead of assus, making it a major elecsembly elections in Bihar, where tion issue, and some states several parties including some BJP allies like Bihar, Telangana and Karnataka have conducted have been coming out in

he Narendra Modi government is Historic committed to social justice and has **Step Toward** taken a historic decision to carry out Social caste enumeration in the forthcoming census Justice: Shah exercise, Union Home Minister Amit Shah

said on Wednesday. Hours after the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) took the significant decision, the home minister said the government has shown its strong commitment towards social | More on P6

support of the caste census Announcing the decision taken by the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the census comes under the purview of the Centre, but some states have done caste enumeration in the name of surveys "non-transparently" which has created doubts in | More on P6

violations. "During the conversation, India | More on P6 **INDIAN RAILWAYS** National Contest Commencement Date: 01.05.2025 Closing Date: 31.05.2025 Submission Method: High-resolution images (minimum 300 DPI, more than 2 MB) without watermark or logo, to be sent via email to contest.pr@rb.railnet.gov.in. **Originality:** Submissions must be original, free from intellectual property violations, and accompanied by a Certification of Originality. **Ownership:** Copyright of the selected designs will rest with Indian Railways. Multiple Entries: Allowed with separate originality certifications.

Category	1st Prize	Consolation prize
Professional		05 consolation prizes of Rs. 50,000 each
College Students (Pursuing education from any recognized university)	₹5,00,000/-	05 consolation prizes of Rs. 50,000 each
School Students (upto 12 th class)		05 consolation prizes of Rs. 50,000 each

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS: • Certificate of Recognition for all winners • Free 3A-Class Railway Pass for each winner and one companion, for travel to and from their home location to the award ceremony venue IMPORTANT GUIDELINES: • Designs must be innovative, practical for implementation, and reflect the spirit of Indian Railways • Participants are encouraged to provide a brief concept note (up to 300 words) explaining the idea behind their design . Submissions with any form of plagiarism or copyright infringement will be disqualified

For further details and terms & conditions visit the official website of Indian Railways at www.indianrailways.gov.in



KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Thursday | 01-05-2025

Extended Surgery Could Help Lower Risk Of 2nd Cancer In Patients With Genetic Condition

Press Trust of India

In patients of Lynch syndrome-an inherited condition -- risk of developing a second tumour could be lower among those having an extended resection, involving a removal of organs and tissues adjacent to the affected ones, compared to segmental resection, according to a study.

The inherited condition increases one's risk of cancer, especially that of colon and rectum.

An international collaboration, including researchers from the Institute of Human Genetics, Ahmedabad, compared the incidence of metachronous colorectal cancer-the second cancer develops distinct from and at least six months following diagnosis of the first-after segmental versus extended surgical resection in patients with Lynch syndrome.

The analysis looked at data taken from the 'Prospective Lynch Syndrome Database', involving 8,500 patients from 25 different countries. Findings are published in the British Journal of Surgery. Once colon cancer is identified, European and American guidelines recommend considering an extended colorectal surgery for patients of Lynch



syndrome carrying the 'path_MLH1' and 'path_MSH2' gene variants, and a segmental resection for those carrying the 'path_MSH6' and 'path_PMS2' gene variants

All these gene variants are associated with a higher lifetime risk of developing colorectal, gynaecological and urinary tract cancers, among others.

Overall, a higher risk of metachronous colorectal cancer was found to be higher among patients who underwent segmental resection, compared to those who underwent extended

surgery For example, path_MLH1 carriers had a higher risk of metachronous (colorectal cancer) by the age of 75 years after segmental colorectal resection (69.1 per cent), compared with extended surgery (25.1 per cent), the team said. "This study has found that path_MLH1 and path_MSH2 carriers who undergo segmental resection for a first colorectal cancer were at increased risk of metachronous colorectal cancer, compared with those with no prior colorectal cancer," the authors wrote.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The electricity connection under installation number

0204020003590, currently registered in the name of Ahmad

Akhoon, son of Safdar, resident of Akhoon Mohalla, Rainawari,

Srinagar, is requested to be transferred to Ghulam Ahmad

Akhoon, son of Ghulam Mohammad Akhoon, resident of

Akhoon Mohalla, Kani Kachi, Saidakadal, Rainawari, Srinagar.

If anyone has any objections to this change, they are requested

to present them at the office of the Assistant Executive

Engineer, Electric Sub Division, Rainawari within seven days.

After the expiry of this period, no objection or excuse will be

PUBLIC NOTICE

connection under installation electricity number 0204020003608, currently registered in the name of Ali Mohammad Akhoon, son of Mohammad Safdar Akhoon, resident of Town Akhoon Mohalla, Guripora, Rainawari, Srinagar, is requested to be transferred to Ghulam Nabi Akhoon, son of Ali Mohammad Akhoon, resident of Town Akhoon Mohalla, Guripora, Rainawari, Srinagar.

If anyone has any objections to this change, they are requested to present them at the office of the Assistant Executive Engineer, Electric Sub Division, Rainawari within seven days. After the expiry of this period, no objection or excuse will be considered. inf

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub .. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Death..

fko

birth..

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE..

The registrar Death BDO Singapora has submitted a case file pertaining to Death of Ghulam Mustafa Khan s/o Mohammad Jaffar Khan R/o Hanjiwera Payeen with verified date of death 08/09/2022 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.

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

SD

considered.

Mohammad Rafiq Tragwal F/O: Safiya Rafiq Tragwal Contact No: 7298958382

NOTICE

I Mohammad Rafig Tragwal father of

Safiya Rafiq Tragwal R/o Gundi,

Ramban, Ramban, J&K, 182144, Class

8th Green at Bilaliya Educational Institite

Lal Bazar, Srinagar wants to correct the

mother's name & DOB of my ward in

her School records from Ruqsana

Begum to Rukhsana Begum & 01-03-

2011 to 14-03-2011. Anybody having

objection may contact Principal of the said school within a week at the most.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my parentage from (Old Name) Shabnam Akhter Daughter of Mohd Tagi to (New Name) Shabnam Akhter Daughter of Mohammad Taqi Alamgir. In future I will be known as (New Name) Shabnam Akhter Daughter of Mohammad Taqi Alamgir.

OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR KREERI

Subject: Application of Ghulam Mohiud Din Mir, S/o Habibullah Mir, R/o Palpora, R/o Saloosa Tehsil Kreeri for the issuance of EWS (Economically Weaker Section) in favor of his daughters Shabnum Mohi-ud-din, Nadia Mohi-ud-din and sons Owais Ahmad Mir & Zubair Ahmad Mir

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the subject cited above, the applicant has submitted the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of EWS in favor of his children namely Shabnum Mohi-ud-din, Nadia Mohi-ud-din, Owies Ahmad Mir, Zubair Ahmad Mir. In this connection, a report of Patwari Halga concerned has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently resid-. The details of the family of the appliing in village cant are as follows:

	Name of the Family Member	Relationship with the Family Head	Age	Occupa- tion	Annual Income
	Gh. Mohiud Din Mir	Self	55	Labour	1,00,000
02	Rukhsana Begum	Wife	52	House- wife	
	Shabnum Mohi- ud-din	Daughter	29	Student	
04	Owais Ahmad Mir	Son	26	Student	
05	Nadia Mohi- ud-din	Daughter	23	Student	
	Zubair Ahmad Mir	Son	20	Student	

According to the report of Patwari concerned, the applicant's family has not more than 5 acres of land and does not have greater than 1000 ft² of residential house. The applicant has not any residential house or residential plot in municipal area. The applicant's residential plot is not more than 200 sq. ft. and the applicant's family income is not more than 8 lakhs per year. Moreover, the applicant does not belong to any Backward Area. Therefore, through this Public Notice objections are being sought from general public. If any person has any objection, he/ she can submit their objections in the office of the undersigned within 07 days (Seven days) positively from the date the notice has been published. No objection shall be entertained after the stipulated time period.

> Naib Tehsildar Naib Tehsildar, Kreeri (JK)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my Motor Cycle bearing regd no: Jk01as1256. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the RTO Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained **Alfaran Altaf Sheikh** Father Name: Mohd Altaf Sheik **Rainawari Srinagar** fko

Phn no. 7006593779

fko

inf

THE JAMMU & KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION NEW CAMPUS BEMINA SRINAGAR

ATTENTION PLEASE I have passed /appeared in High secondary school Examination class 12 th under Rollno .328003062.Session:- Annual Regular 2024 . through the Jummu and kashmir Board of School Education .Due to the error committed by the concerned school /parent my name has been recorded with the Board as Tajamul Nisar Lone while as actual my name is Tajamul Nisar Now i have applied for correction /rectification of error in the Jummu and Kashmir Board of School Education New Campus Bemina Srinager if anybody having any objection in this regard may file the same before office of the Assistant / Deputy Secretary, Certificates - KD -undersigned within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice.after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained . This is published for the information of the general public .The correct particulars be recorded as under :-Name:- Tajamul Nisar S/O:- Nisar Ahmad Lone M/N:- Meema Begum D.O.B:-04.06.2007 R/O:- Udipora . Tehisll . Langate . Distt Kupwara fko

BROADWAY EDUCATION HUB

FEE STRUCTURE FOR FOUNDATION, NEET, JEE, COMMERCE, ARTS

CLASS	FEE (including GST)
8th	63,720
9th	63,720
10th	67,260
11th NEET/JEE	106,200
12th NEET/JEE	120,360
11th HUMANITIES	41,300
11th COMMERCE	47,200
12th HUMANITIES	53,100
12th COMMERCE	59,000
NEET/JEE (Repeater/Entrance)	135,700

FACULTY DETAILS

NAME	QUALIFICATION
Mr. Waseem Qureshi	MSc, B.Ed
Mr. Mohammad Aasif	B.Tech, M.Tech (pursuing)
Dr. Yaseen Sheikh	Ph.D
Mr. Shams un Nazir	MSc
Mr. Hilal Ahmad Bhat	MSc
Mr. Manzoor Ahmad	MSc, B.Ed
Ms. Afreena	MA
Mr. Rasiq Ahmad	MA
Ms. Hillaba	MA
Mr. Mohammad Yaqube	MA
Mr. Mohammad Amin	MSc, B.Ed
Ms. Tashaful Nissa	M.Com, B.Ed
Mr. Shahid	M.Com

Hotel Broadway Complex, M. A. Road, Srinagar, J&K - 190001 Mobile: 9103167372 Email: info@broadwayeducationhub.com Fs.ko

Office of the Executive Magistrate Ist Class Narbal District Budgam

Tele fax: 01951-260276, Pin Code 193401

Notice for the General Public

It is hereby Notified That Applicant Namely Manzoor Ahmad Mir S/O Abdullah Gaffar Mir, R/O Gottapor, Teh. Narbal, Distt. Budgam Had Applied For The Issuance Of Birth Certificate Of His Son/Daughter Namely Afshana and Aagib Manzoor Mir S/o D/O Manzoor Ahmad Mir The applicant intends to Register the D.O.B. of his son/daughter as per school record / vaccination card as (1) Afshana (DOB 15-08-2009), (2) Aaqib Manzoor S/O Manzoor Mir (DOB 22-08-2011

If Anybody is having any objection / claim regarding the same he/she may approach the office of undersigned within a period of seven days (07) days from the date of publication of this notice or else any such claims / objections shall not be entertained. Dated: 29/04/2025

FKO

mcb

mcb

(Signature) Executive Magistrate Ist Class Narbal

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Arwa Javid D/o Javid Ahmad Wani R/o Yadipora Hyderbaigh Tehsil Pattan with verified date of birth 18/04/2020 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

Office Of The

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Public Notice..

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted. INT. ADS

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice Sr.DEE/Tr/JAT acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit the

original revised bids up to closing date and time only.						
Tender	Name of work	App.	Earnest	Completion	Opening	Website
No.		Cost. (in ₹)	Money (in ₹)	period	of tender	Particulars
251-J-	Comprehensive Maintenance (Preventive & Breakdown) & Operational Contract				22.05.2025	
Elect-T-03-	including round the clock supervision (ESS-01, 02, South Portal ESS, North	2,94,66,756.94	2,97,300.00	24 Months	after 15:00	www.ireps.gov.in
2025-26	Portal ESS, Pumping sets, Circulating area, Service Buildings etc) & work of 11 KV,			Hrs.		
	Ventilation, Electromechanical (E&M) for Pir-Panjal Tunnel T-80 for Two Years.					
No. 251-J-Elect/T.Notice No. 03-Elect/2025-26 Dated :- 29.04.2025 1264/2025 1264/2025						

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CLASSIC PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL AHMADPORA (MAGAM) KASHMIR

Contact No. 9103158664

Ref. No: CPHS/AD/25 Dated: 30-04-2025 NEW PROPOSED MANAGING BODY S.No Member Name Parentage Residence Occupation Designation Qual. Email address Mobile number Member type in MC 9906408712 01 Ghulam Rasool Ghulam Mus-Goom Ah-Ex. Employee Principal MA babaghra-Principal Babat tafa Baba madpora soo1332@gmail. com bm6844897@ Bashir Ahmad Ghulam Hus-Goom Ah-7006409920 02 Business Chairman BA Parent malik sain Malik madpora email.com Syed Ahmad Shah 03 Syed Hassan Goom Ah-Business Member 10th syedahmadraz-954114720 Other Shah madpora /iq@gmail.com Firdous Ahmad 9149475694 04 Ab. Rahim Kanterbugh Pvt.Em-Parent BA Teacher Ahmadfir-Bhat dous24@gmail. Bhat ployee com 7889800832 Syed As-Maqbool416@ MA 05 Syed Magbool Goom Ah-Pvt. Em-Teacher Teacher Hussain sadullah madpora ployee gmail.com Syed Abid Hussain Syed Abdul-06 MA Syedabid2322@ 9906843043 Kanterbugh Teacher Teacher Pvt. Emlah Shah gmail.com plovee Ghhussainma-07 Ghulam Hussain Magam Driver 10th 9906078771 Ghulam Parent Parent Malik Ahmad Malik lik39@gmail.

Note: Objections if any should reach within seven days from publication of the proposed managing body.

fko

BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF SUB-JUDGE PATTAN.

IN THE CASE OF:- Caveat application captioned below:-

- Ghulam Mohammad Bhat S/o Abdul Samad Bhat.
- Abdul Rahim Bhat S/o Abdul Samad Bhat. 2.
 - Faroog Ahmad Bhat S/o Wali Mohammad Bhat.
 - Hilal Ahmad Bhat S/o Wali Mohammad Bhat.
 - Waseem Ahmad Bhat S/o Wali Mohammad Bhat
- 3. 4. 5. 6. Irshad Ahmad Bhat S/o Abdul Rahim Bhat. 7.
 - Mohammad Rafig Bhat S/o Abdul Rahim Bhat. Bilal Ahmad Bhat S/o Ghulam Mohammad Bhat.
 - Mst. Fatima D/o Ghulam Mohammad Bhat, all resi-

9. dents of Pallahallan Pattan.

Abdul Ahad Bandroo S/o Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Ban-10. droo R/o Housing Colony Ompora Budgam.

> .Caveators Versus Public at large ...Non-caveators

IN THE MATTER OF:- Caveat Application.

May it please your Honour. The caveators most humbly submits as under:

That the caveators have entered into an agreement for lev

eling of the land falling under Survey Numbers 3276, 3389, 3391, 3392, 3393 and 3390 of Mouza Pallahallan after obtaining the permission from the government in this behalf, by which the non-applicants/caveators are aggrieved and they are in their efforts to halt the process of levelling of the land in question and the non-caveators may institute suit before this Hon'ble court.

That the Caveators through the medium of the instant ca-veat application seeks to submit that should any motion be made by the non-caveators on the subject afore-mentioned, let no orders be passed in the interim application, unless the caveators are given a chance to present their case against the same.

That the caveat is complete in all respects and the requisite document is annexed herewith.

In the premises it is, therefore, praved that should any motion be made by the non-caveators on the subject, let no orders be passed in the interim application, unless the caveators are given a chance to present their case against the same. For which act of kindness the applicant as is duty bound in law shall ever pray. fkn

Caveator through counsel.

PUBLIC NOTICE

l warada Jan D/O Ab Hamid Kumar R/o Chaki Cholend Shopian want to correct my name, parentage and DOB in Ahaddar records which has been wrongly entered as Wardhe Hameed instead of Warada Jan also Parentage is wrongly entered as Ab Hameed Kumar instead of Ab Hamid Kumar and DOB is wrongly entered as 01-02-2002 instead of 19-04-2004. Now Correction required if anybody has any objection may contact concerned Adhaar centre Jammu/ Srinagar or concern authorities within 7 days.

fko

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0420160030818 issued in favour of IMRAN ALI BHAT Parentage GH MOHD BHAT

Whereas an application has been recieved by one IMRAN ALI BHAT Parentage GH MOHD BHAT wherein he claimed that the Fathers Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as GH MOHAMMAD BHAT Which needs to be changed as GH MOHD BHAT.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any in this regard shal reach in written in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.After expiry of stipulated time no objection will be entertained.

> Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0320100012858 issued in favour of MO-HAMMAD ASLAM GANAIE Parentage GHULAM MOHAMMAD GANAIE

Whereas an application has been recieved by one MOHAMMAD ASLAM GANAIE Parentage GHULAM MOHAMMAD GANAIE wherein he claimed that the Fathers Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as MOHD ASLAM GANIE Parentage GH MOHD GANIE Which needs to be changed as MOHAMMAD ASLAM GANAIE Parentage GHULAM MOHAM-MAD GANAIE.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any in this regard shal reach in written in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper. After expiry of stipulated time no objection will be entertained.

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

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Ahmadpora

Classic Public High School

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KASHMIR OBSERVER[®] Srinagar | Thursday | 01-05-2025 0

Elderly Woman Dies After Allegedly Jumping In Jhelum

Observer News Service

Srinagar: An elderly woman died after allegedly jumping into the River Jhelum from a footbridge in the Sonwar-Rajbagh area of Srinagar on Wednesday morning.

Officials said that the woman, a resident of Palpora Sonwar, allegedly jumped into the river from the Aramwari footbridge.

He said following the incident, rescue teams of River Police Srinagar and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) launched a search operation. He added that her body was later recovered from the river and shifted to a hospital for medico-legal formalities.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognisance of the incident and started further investigation.

1617th Tree Talk Event Organised At IIIM Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine -IIIM Srinagar on Wednesday hosted 1617th Tree Talk wherein noted Biodiversity specialist, expert on Indigenous Knowl edge Systems and former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests J&K OP Sharma Vidhyarthi gave a detailed talk on different medicinal plants and their edible and medicinal value. Several researchers, scientists and environmentalists participated in this event.

The tree talk was held in the botanical garden of the IIIM Srinagar campus located at Sanathnagar wherein OP Sharma explained the importance of at least one dozen herbs grown in the said garden.

He appreciated the staff especially Director of IIIM Srinagar Dr Zabeer Ahmad and Scientist Dr Parvez Qazi for their work in promoting these medical plants and conducting in-depth research. Several biodiversity experts , naturalists and environmentalists spoke on the occa-

Police Urges Public To Shun IM, AAC

Observer News Service

Srinagar, Apr 30: In a significant public outreach campaign, Srinagar Police have launched an intensified drive across the summer capital, urging residents to disassociate themselves from the Itehad-ul-Muslimeen (IM) and the Awami Action Committee (AAC)

sion and hailed the efforts of OP Sharma for his sustained work to disseminate information on biodiversity, taxonomy and indigenous knowledge systems through his tree talks. Activist and writer Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat welcomed OP Sharma and gave the introductory lecture. He appealed IIIM Srinagar to continue with such programmes for school students especially. Former Mass Media Officer Environment & Ecology Department Ghulam Hassan Mir, Eco Tourism expert and entrepreneur Jagjit Singh also spoke on the occasion and hailed the work of O

P Sharma Vidhyarthi. Dr Parvez Qazi Senior Scientist IIIM Srinagar gave vote of thanks and assured that such events would be held at least three to four times a year. The CEO of IIIM Srinagar's Atal Incubation Centre Dr Shahid Jibran also participated in this event. Later-on OP Sharma and other participants visited Atal Incubation Centre as well and hailed the work taken up by Dr Shahid Jibran.



A young balloon seller balances dreams and duty — her colorful balloons dancing in the breeze as she steals a moment with her mobile phone. KO Photo Faisal Khan.

Congress, NSUI Demand Protection For Kashmiri Students

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC), along with the National Students Union of India (NSUI), on Wednesday staged a protest march in Srinagar, calling for urgent measures to safeguard the dignity and security of Kashmiri students studying in other parts of India amid a spike in harassment cases.

The protest follows a recent terror attack in Pahalgam that claimed the lives of 26 people, mostly tourists, which has since triggered a wave of hostility against Kashmiri students across various Indian states. Reports have emerged of students being assaulted, threatened, and subjected to hate campaigns, sparking alarm among political leaders and civil society.

The demonstration began at the Congress headquarters in Srinagar and drew participation from senior Congress leaders, NSUI members, and student activists. Holding placards with slogans such as "Stop Harassing Kashmiri Students" and "Ensure Safety Across India," the protesters condemned

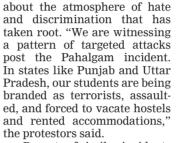
The protest follows a recent terror attack in Pahalgam that claimed the lives of 26 people, mostly tourists, which has since triggered a wave of hostility against Kashmiri students across various Indian

states

what they described as an orchestrated campaign of profiling and intimidation.

Speaking to reporters, protestors said, "Our students are being labelled and attacked for no fault of theirs. This is unacceptable in a democratic country." They urged the Central Government to intervene immediately and ensure that Kashmiri students are not made scapegoats in the name of nationalism.

They further noted that the wave of harassment faced by students outside the Union Territory raises serious questions



Reports of similar incidents have surfaced from Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand as well, where students have expressed fear for their safety and well-being.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir's former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also voiced concern over the rising cases of harassment. In a statement, he said his administration is actively communicating with authorities in the affected states. "I'm also in touch with my counterpart Chief Ministers in these states and have requested they take extra care,' Abdullah said.

The Congress and NSUI have vowed to continue their campaign until concrete assurances are provided for the protection and dignity of Kashmiri students nationwide.

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PRAYERS				
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HIJRI	ZUHR	12:28		
CALENDAR	ASR	5:18		
03 Zil-Qadah	03 Zil-Qadah Magrib 7:17			

This Day In History

1446

- 1756- France and Austria sign alliance
- 1757- Austria and France divide Prussia
- 1759- British fleet occupies Guadeloupe, West Indies, capturing it from France

ISHA

8:45

- 1908 World's most intense shower (2.47" in 3 minutes) at Portobelo, Panama
- 1909- Netherlands begins unity with Belgium
- 1923- Adolf Hitler and Ernst Rohm attempt to break up socialist May Day demonstrates, inviting Nazis from as far away as Nuremberg to take part in the violence
- 1934- Austria signs pact with Vatican
- 1937- US President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Neutrality Act, banning travel on belligerent ships and imposes an arms embargo on warring nations
- 1945- About 1,000 citizens of Demmin in Germany, commit suicide provoked by occupation by Soviet **Red Army**
- 1947 Radar for commercial & private planes 1st demonstrated
- 1948 North Korea proclaims itself Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 1949 Gerard Kuiper discovers Nereid, (2nd satellite of Neptune)
- 1951 600,000 march for peace & freedom in Germanv
- 1956 A doctor in Japan reports an "epidemic of an unknown disease of the central nervous system", marking the official discovery of Minamata disease. 1960 - India's Bombay state split into Gujarat & Maharashtra states
- 1962 1st French underground nuclear experiment in the Sahara

Police vehicles equipped with loudspeakers were seen moving through prominent city areas including Lal Chowk, Karan Nagar, and adjoining localities on Wednesday, making public announcements that called upon citizens to stay away from the two organisations. In addition to loudspeaker-based awareness, the police also initiated a poster campaign, with printed advisories pasted on walls, electric poles, market spaces, and residential buildings. These posters reportedly carried public and ensure community safety by keeping them aware of the risks associated with particular groups," a police spokesperson said.

messages warning the public

against associating with IM

and AAC, reiterating the au-

thorities' call for distancing

themselves from these groups.

cials, the initiative is part of a

broader awareness campaign

aimed at educating people

about certain organisations

and their affiliations. "The

objective is to inform the

According to police offi-

Eyewitnesses confirmed the presence of police units across several zones of the city in recent days, with teams actively putting up posters and making repeated announcements in public areas. The campaign, which has been underway for the past several days, is expected to continue and possibly expand in the days ahead.

CAT Refutes SM Reports Regarding Warning To Speaker

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Srinagar Bench, has refuted the reports circulating on social media about a stern warning to J&K Legislative Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather and Assembly Secretary, Manoj Kumar Pandit, by the CAT over non compliance of its earlier judgment, terming the same as false and malicious. According to a commu-

niqué received by the CAT. a contempt petition number 225 of 2024 is indeed pending before the tribunal, listed for hearing on April 28, 2025. The document added that no such order has been passed by the tribunal and the public is advised to rely on official sources for accurate information.

Khalida Shah Condemns **Pahalgam Attack**

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Awami National Conference patron Begum Khalida Shah has strongly condemned the recent terror attack in Pahalgam that claimed 26 lives, describing it as a grave assault on national unity and Kashmir's cultural identity.

Addressing a press conference on Wednesday, Shah called for a united political response, stressing the need for all parties to seek accountability.

Shah demanded regulatory measures against media outlets promoting divisive coverage and highlighted the humane response of locals who rushed to assist the victims.



- 1965 USSR launches Luna 5; later impacts on Moon
- 1965 Battle of Dong-Yin, a naval conflict between ROC and PRC, takes place.
- 1966 US troops shooting targets in Cambodia 1972 - North Vietnamese troops occupy Quang Tri
- **Activities Committee**
- 1977 36 people are killed in Taksim Square, Istanbul, during the Labour Day celebrations.
- 1978 Naomi Uemura became 1st to reach North Pole overland alone
- 1984 Great Britain performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- 1985 US President Reagan ends embargo against Nicaragua
- 1986 Russian news agency Tass reports Chernobyl nuclear power plant mishap
- 1991 Angolan civil war ends
- 1991 Last day of Test cricket for West Indian batsman Gordon Greenidge.
- 1993 Bomb attack on Sri Lankan president (26 die)
- 1997 Tony Blair elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
- 2000 President of the Philippines Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo declares existence of "a state of rebellion", after thousands of supporters of her arrested predecessor, Joseph Estrada, storm towards the presidential palace at height of EDSA III rebellion.
- 2003 In what becomes known as the "Mission Accomplished" speech, U.S. President George W. Bush declares that "major combat operations in Iraq have ended" on board the USS Abraham Lincoln off the coast of California
- 2008 The London Agreement on translation of European patents, concluded in 2000, enters into force in 14 of the 34 Contracting States to the European Patent Convention.
- 2011 Pope John Paul II is beatified by his successor, Pope Benedict XVI
- 2012 China and Russia sign \$15 billion dollar trade deal
- 2012 Guggenheim Partners make the largest ever purchase of a sports franchise after buying the Los Angeles Dodgers for \$2.1 billion
- 2013 15 people are killed by multiple bomb attacks across Irag
- 2013 16 people are killed in a flash flood in Saudi Arabia

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Tourists Will Return

he terrorist attack in Pahalgam that left 25 tourists and a local pony operator dead has not only sent shockwaves through the country but has also dealt a serious blow to tourism in the Valley. For a while, the tourists from across the country may avoid Kashmir until they have regained confidence in the Valley's security situation. With the government shutting down nearly 50 destinations, including some of the Valley's most scenic and emerging attractions, the Valley's tourist economy is going to take a further hit. Already some western countries, including the US have issued fresh advisories in the wake of the Pahalgam attack. This also is going to dissuade from visiting the Valley. In recent years, the arrivals of foreign tourists to the Valley had picked up. Last year alone, 43,000 foreign tourists visited the Valley - the highest in years - among the 2.95 million visitors. There is fear now that the numbers will dwindle to a few lakh visitors this year, with the arrival of foreigners reduced to a trickle. For a region where tourism has become both a symbol and sustainer of normalcy, this is a major setback.

Over the last few years, Kashmir's tourism industry has witnessed a remarkable turnaround. Following the disruption of COVID-19, the Lieutenant General Manoj Sinha's administration, with support from the central government aggressively promoted the Valley as a yearround destination. Kashmir was repositioned not just as a traditional retreat but also as a hub for adventure tourism. The opening of 75 new destinations and the rise of homestays across remote areas reflected both state intent and the hard-earned normalcy.

This growth in tourism was also a sign of stabilisation. Full hotels, packed houseboats, and bustling markets were seen as evidence that Kashmir was moving beyond the shadow of violence. In fact, the tourist influx has been a metric of success. It reflected peace and development in the region, which needs to be protected.

The brutal strike in one of the most popular and wellpatrolled tourist areas has rightly forced the government to take earnest corrective measures. And the government has swiftly gone about its job. And there's hope that the situation will get back to normal sooner than later.

To restore confidence, authorities must quickly complete security assessments and deploy adequate personnel in high-footfall zones. Simultaneously, better coordination between tourism planners and the security establishment is essential before new areas are thrown open. The new government steps do point in that direction. The LG administration - now followed by the hybrid government - is singularly responsible for transforming the situation over the past five years. And they can be counted on to face and overcoming the current challenge as well.

Kashmir's Green Disruption

Many agriculture graduates leave the field behind for safer jobs. But with innovation and mindset shifts, farming can be the most rewarding enterprise of our time.



Dr. Waseem Ahmad



Graduates **need** to see that farming is not the fallback planit's the frontier. Climate change.

n Kashmir's fertile land, a man with no degree is growing something bigger than crops. He's building a future. Every morning he's in the field by sunrise, sowing seeds, tending soil, and making decisions that will feed his family, and likely others too. He didn't sit through lectures on soil science or write papers on climate-resilient farming. He just did the work. And the land responded.

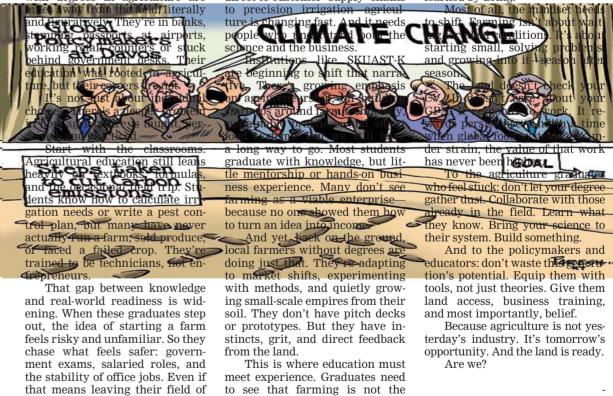
Meanwhile, many graduates with degrees in agriculture are

It's often seen as a last resort, not a bold first step. Parents push their children toward "respectable" careers. Society sees agriculture as the domain of the undereducated, not the ambitious.

But here's the truth: farming today is as much about innovation as it is about tradition. It's a business that demands planning, investment, marketing, and resilience. It involves data and drones, logistics and branding. From vertical farms to organic labels, from direct-to-customer supply chains

is central to all three. That means the field is wide open for smart, motivated young people to make a real impact.

It also means we need structural changes. Universities must embed real-life farming challenges into their curriculum. Incubators and innovation labs need to move closer to the soil. Grants and seed funding should target student-led agricultural ventures. Mentorship programmes must pair graduates with experienced farmers who've learned by doing





Irshad Mushtag

he stock market can seem thrilling and full of potential, but for many, it ends in loss. SEBI, India's financial regulator, reports that over 93% of people who trade in futures and options lose money. The situation worsens when leverage is involved, with individuals risking more than they can afford. Simply put, nine out of ten traders walk away with less than they started.

However, investing is a different story. More than half of investors make a profit, especially those who take a long-term, strategic approach. The key difference lies in mindset. Traders seek quick wins, while investors focus on steady growth.

Smart investing is about balance. It's not about throwing money into whatever seems promising, but building a diversified portfolio. Spreading investments across sectors-stocks, gold, mutual funds, and ETFs-helps cushion against losses and increases chances of growth. This mix of assets lowers risk while unlocking new opportunities.

A successful strategy requires patience, research, and consistency. Risk is inherent, but investing in multiple assets spreads that risk. Avoid the temptation to put all your money into a single stock or sector. Diversification and discipline are essential.

Staying the course through market fluctuations is crucial. Investors should avoid emotional decisions, sticking to their plan. Seeking advice from financial mentors or professionals can help improve decision-making and enhance returns.

Ultimately, the stock market rewards preparation and strategy, not impulse. Understanding risks, setting clear goals, and learning the ropes can transform investing from a gamble into a long-term growth opportunity.

Writer is a Srinagar-based reputed financial advisor

food insecurity, and sustainable development are global challenges. and agriculture is central to all three. That means the field is wide open for smart, motivated young people to make a real impact.

to see that farming is not the fallback plan-it's the frontier. Climate change, food insecurity, and sustainable development are global challenges, and agriculture

Author is working at Ambri Apple Research Centre, Pahnoo Shopian SKUAST-K, Shalimar.



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This Time, Kashmir's Humanity Deserved Headlines

he April 22 Pahalgam terror attack has left Kashmir deeply shaken. But alongside the horror, it revealed something powerful: Kashmiris' humanity in the face of dehumanisation.

While mainstream news focused on selective narratives like "they asked for religion," stories of bravery and compassion by ordinary Kashmiris were conveniently ignored. A young Kashmiri horseman lost his life trying to snatch a gun from an attacker. Another saved 11 tourists. One even rescued a visiting BJP leader. Locals carried injured tourists on their backs and opened their

homes to those stranded, offering food, shelter, and transport without asking who they were or where they came from.

study behind entirely.

It doesn't help that farming

still carries a stigma in many

parts of India, including Kashmir.

Yet major news channels chose to question Kashmiris rather than acknowledge their courage. A tourist later revealed in a viral video that he was pressured by TV anchors to speak against Kashmiris. When he refused, his interview was cut. This manipulation is not just dishonest journalism, it's dangerous. It fans hatred, fuels stereotypes, and puts innocent lives at risk.

In the days following the attack, reports of Kashmiri students and

workers being harassed across Indian cities poured in. Threats and assault videos went viral. In one disturbing case, a Kashmiri woman received rape threats online simply for wearing a burga. While action was later taken, the damage to community trust remains.

No media house has questioned the security lapses, despite reports of intelligence inputs before the attack. Accountability has been replaced by noise. While Delhi shut down the Wagah border and cracked down on online voices, no one asked why the dispensation failed to prevent this tragedy.

Terrorism is a crime against humanity, and so is collective punishment. Civilians, no matter their faith, must never become scapegoats. Human rights are not selective. They are universal.

Let us not forget the 26 lives lost. But let us also not forget the Kashmiris who risked their own lives to save others. Truth deserves light, even when it doesn't fit a headline.

> Sincerely, Raqif Makhdoomi Rights Activist

Cake Queens of Kashmir

With flour on their hands and a dream in their hearts, three young Kashmiri women created a bakery that is winning fans across the Valley.

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Shab-e-Qadr, the sacred night Muslims believe destinies are written, three Kashmiri women were not in prayer or rest. In a modest kitchen with flour-dusted hands and tired eyes, they were racing against time to fulfill their biggest cake order yet.

For Ahtisam Majeed Bhat from Rawalpora, Farheena Bashir Lone from Sopore, and Syed Rafia Lateef from Kupwara, that night was not a sacrifice-it was a beginning.

"We were physically exhausted," Ahtisam says, "but there was this energy that carried us. We felt like we were baking our future into those cakes."

That future took the shape of Bake O'Clock, a bakery brand born from resilience, friendship, and an unshakable work ethic. What started as a college stall is today a celebrated name among Valley's food circles and an emerging symbol of women-led enterprise in Kashmir.

The trio met during their Diploma in Food Technology at Bemina College. Toward the end of their course, they began thinking aloud about starting a venture. The idea of a bakery sparked something in all three, and they approached the college authorities. With support from their mentor, Hakim Mo-hammad Ilyas, and internships at Just Baked and IHM Srinagar, their plan slowly turned into something real.

"We learned how things actually run in a professional setup-how to scale, maintain consistency, manage supplies,' recalls Farheena. "It changed our thinking from passion to profession."

Returning to college with a renewed sense of purpose, they asked for a space to launch their idea. The college gave them a



small room in the incubation centre. Their mentor advised them to start within the campus, serving the 400-odd staff and students. They set up a small stall outside

"We baked all night, then sold all day," says Rafia. "Sometimes we'd attend class still wearing our aprons.'

Then came the test. With Eid approaching, orders were piling up. Their cake machine was stuck in transit, and panic set in. They turned to Ilyas again, who of-

fered campus space and machinery. That night, which happened to be Shab-e-Qadr, they worked through every hour without rest. By dawn, they had delivered every order.

"That night gave us belief," says Ahtisam. "We realised we could handle pressure. That's when Bake O'Clock truly began."

From there, the journey picked up momentum. The trio formalised Bake O'Clock and moved operations to a government-supported MSME centre in Srinagar. Today, their brand offers over 20 products, from soft cupcakes to elegant pastries. But their signature product remains the tea cake-rich, moist, and unmistakably homemade in feel.

"We never compromise on ingredients," says Farheena. "That's the soul of our product."

Each of the three brings something unique to the table. Ahtisam is the brand's creative core. developing recipes and designing packaging. Farheena, the communicator, handles customer relationships and outreach. Rafia balances production and coordination. Together, they run the entire show.

But challenges remain. Despite supplying to major stores across Kashmir, the team is struggling to enter new markets. Manpower is their biggest issue.

"We're doing everything ourselves—baking, packaging, deliv-ery," says Rafia. "We want to hire people now, focus more on marketing, expand our reach.'

The girls don't see themselves as just bakers, they call themselves food technologists. That identity drives their commitment to quality and innovation. Aware that Kashmir has one of the highest rates of diabetes in the country, they are developing low-sugar cookies and health-conscious alternatives.

"People are turning away from bakeries due to health concerns," says Ahtisam. "But we believe taste and nutrition can go hand in hand. That's what we're working on.'

Bake O'Clock has not gone unnoticed. Their work recently caught the attention of startup promoters in the region. Officials even took a group of budding entrepreneurs to visit their unit, showcasing the startup as a local success story. When the Prime Minister of India acknowledged their journey in a public forum, it felt surreal.

"We were stunned," says Far-heena. "It was more than recognition. It was encouragement."

The women have never aimed to compete with big brands. Their focus is on building a brand that reflects Kashmiri craftsmanship and care. Their dream is to create curated gift boxes, launch a direct-to-consumer model, and eventually open their own outlet.

"We want Bake O'Clock to be a Kashmir-made brand that stands proudly on any shelf in India," says Ahtisam.

For these three only daughters from different corners of Kashmir, Bake O'Clock is more than a business. It's a legacy of risk, resolve, and the power of shared belief.

"Our biggest reward," says Rafia, "is when someone tastes our cake and says, 'Yeh toh kuch different aur amazing taste hai.' That's when we know we're on the right path.'

Truth Hurts, But This Kashmiri Doctor Said It Anyway

He took his oath in the Welsh Parliament in Kashmiri. But what

The Kashmir Crisis No One Talks About

Centuries of Kashmiri art, architecture, and tradition are under threat. Without urgent action, a rich legacy may vanish in silence.

does Dr Altaf Hussain really think about the valley he left behind?



Dr. Ashraf Zainabi

spent Earth Day this year with Dr Altaf Hussain, in the open lawns of Nature University in Pampore. There were no speeches or media. Just a few of us, invited by environmentalist Nadeem Qadri, talking under a soft April sun.

Dr Altaf, now a Member of the Senedd in Wales, didn't speak right away. But when he did, he didn't hold back.

"Kashmir has lost it," he said qui-etly. "There is no way of revival, at least in this century."

It wasn't drama. It was raw honesty from someone who has lived far away but never looked away.

Born in Kashmir, Dr Altaf earned his Master's in Surgery here in 1972 before heading to the UK for another degree in Liverpool. He taught at a medical college in Kashmir for a while, but was removed for overstaying leave while studying abroad. He was later invited back, but the appointment never came. That door stayed shut.

He moved on, built a new life in

the UK, joined the Welsh Conservative Party, and now represents South Wales West in the Welsh Parliament. Yet Kashmir, it's clear, never left him.

When he was sworn into the Senedd, he chose to take his oath in Kashmiri. That moment said a lot. Not just about identity, but about memory.

Our conversation wasn't about politics, though. It was about what Kashmir has become, and what it's lost.

"People here are morally, socially, ethically, religiously, and monetarily corrupted deep down," he said. "They live under the shade of power, prestige, and personal wellbeing.

He spoke of the walls that have risen-between homes, between brothers, between neighbours. Physical walls, yes, but also emotional ones. "When we built those concrete walls," he said, "we also built walls between our hearts and minds." It stung to hear. Because he

wasn't wrong.

Still, I sensed no bitterness in him. Just a quiet grief. A kind of mourning for the Kashmir of an-

other time. He didn't come with big speeches or shiny solutions. He just offered a prayer. "Only God's wish, if it comes, can save Kashmir. People can never."

Those words have stayed with me.

A day with Dr Altaf Hussain didn't feel like an interview or an official visit. It felt like sitting with someone who still carries home in his bones. Someone who has nothing to gain by being honest, and everything to lose by staying silent. In a world full of performance, his bluntness was refreshing, even healing. He didn't tell us what we wanted to hear. He told us what we needed to.

And in that moment, I realised: sometimes, a hard truth spoken with love is more powerful than a hundred promises.

Writer is a Chadoora-based teacher-researcher. Views expressed in this article are author's own and don't necessarily reflect KO's editorial policy.

hile the world watches Kashmir through the lens of geopolitics, a quieter tragedy unfolds at home. The region's centuries-old cultural heri-

tage is vanishing due to apathy. This is not just about old buildings or regional cuisine. It is about a social system of knowledge, identity, and skills that once defined everyday life in the Valley. That system is unraveling.

Take architecture. Srinagar's 14thcentury Jamia Masjid, made entirely of wood with nearly 400 deodar pillars, remains a landmark of Kashmiri Islamic design. The Shankaracha-rya Temple, built centuries earlier, stands as a reminder of Kashmir's ancient Hindu roots. Mughal gardens like Shalimar Bagh and Nishat Bagh were carefully planned, blend-ing Persian design with local geography. These sites are vital links to history but many are poorly maintained. Preservation often begins only after visible damage, and support is inconsistent.

Craft traditions are under even more pressure. Pashmina shawls, once treasured by royalty, are now struggling to compete with cheap machine-made versions. Carpet weaving, which once supported entire communities, has seen a steep drop in artisan numbers. A 2023 report by the Jammu and Kashmir Handicrafts Department shows a 60 percent decline in registered artisans over the past two decades. Papier-mâché art, known for its in-tricate hand-painted detail, is now practiced by fewer people each year.

The reasons are many. Industrial manufacturing has made handmade goods less competitive. Political instability and digital disparities have made it harder for artisans to sell outside the region. Raw materials, once easily available, are now scarce and expensive. Many younger Kashmiris are no longer interested in continuing these labor-intensive trades, choosing instead to pursue jobs in services or move outside the region for better income and stability.



Kashmir's famous cuisine is also losing its place in daily life. Wazwan, the traditional multi-course meal prepared by skilled chefs known as wazas, has become rare authentic outside of weddings and large events. Dishes like Rogan Josh, Yakhni, and Gustaba are seen more as ceremonial food than everyday fare. As the number of trained wazas drops and younger generations look elsewhere for work, this culinary tradition risks becoming a memory rather than a living practice.

There have been attempts to slow the decline. Government schemes support some artisan clusters with training and promotion. Nonprofits have organized exhibitions and workshops. But these efforts are often too small or too short-lived to make lasting change. Many artisans still lack access to online markets, basic financial support, or spaces to pass on their skills to the next generation. The problem is also one of vis-

ibility. Kashmir's cultural decline receives little national or global attention. Travel brochures highlight natural beauty but rarely explain the depth of the region's cultural heritage. Without regular storytelling, museums, or education programs, the people behind these traditions remain unseen.

Preserving this heritage will take more than one-time interventions. Schools should teach local history, arts, and crafts alongside modern subjects. Artisans should have easier access to loans, raw materials, and markets. Cultural sites must be restored with care, not just for tourism but for community engagement. And the public must hear these stories often enough to care.

Kashmir has weathered many storms over the centuries. But the erosion of culture through neglect and lack of investment is harder to see and easier to ignore. Once lost, these traditions will not return.

Saving them requires more than nostalgia. It calls for action, funding, education, and recognition. Without that, the next generation will inherit a Valley stripped of its voice and memory.

The author can be mailed at m.hanief@gmail.com X/Twitter: @haniefmha

Pahalgam Terror Attack Officials Review Security Arrangements at Key Tourist Destinations Near Jammu

Press Trust Of India

Jammu:A week after the Pahalgam terror attack, a senior police officer visited renowned tourist destinations near Jammu and conducted a comprehensive review of the security situation, an official said on Wednesday.

Deputy Inspector General of Police, Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban range, Shridhar Patil visited Patnitop and adjoining Nathatop and Sanasar located on the old alignment of Jammu-Srinagar national highway between Udhampur and Ramban districts which are visited by large number of holiday-makers round-the-year.

A week after the Pahalgam terror attack, a senior police of-ficer visited renowned tourist destinations near Jammu and conducted a comprehensive review of the security situation, an official said on Wednesday. Deputy Inspector General of

range, Shridhar Patil visited Patnitop and adjoining Nathatop and Sanasar located on the old alignment of Jammu-Srinagar national highway between Udhampur and Ramban districts which are visited by large number of holiday-makers round-the-year Accompanied

son said.

by of Senior Superintendent Police, said. Ramban, Kulbir Singh and other police and civil officers including representatives of Patnitop Development Authority and of-ficers of Tourism department,

the DIG reviewed the security measures taken for the safety of the visitors, a police spokesper-After undertaking a detailed the spokesperson said. evaluation of the security mea-

sures in place at key tourist spots, Patil also held an interactive meeting with representatives of various hotel associations, trekking associations, and country.

Police, Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban local residents including former sarpanches, he said. The spokesperson said the **Observer News Service**

and the Kashmir Valley. The

training, held at Vardaan Hotel,

Patnitop, witnessed the partici-

In his welcome address,

Shri Tilak Raj, Director & Head

of BIS-JKBO, emphasized the importance of the Learning

Science via Standards (LSVS)

initiative. He highlighted how

LSVS bridges the gap between

theoretical science and practi-

cal application, urging mentors

and educators to integrate this

approach for a more engaging

Dr. Shakeeb Ahmad, Chief

Planning Officer, Ramban,

graced the occasion as the Chief

learning experience in schools.

pation of over 56 educators.

participants were briefed about the security arrangements made for the safety of the public and to maintain law and order. Additional measures needed to be taken were also discussed

besides improving synergy amongst the stakeholders, he The DIG emphasized the im-

portance of ensuring the safety and comfort of visitors.

The officials also discussed strategies to enhance coordination between the police and civil administration, improve surveillance, and maintain law and order for the ensuing peak season,

He said the visit reflects the administration's commitment to promoting Patnitop, Nathatop and Sanasar as secure destinations for tourists from across the

Udhampur: Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), through its 0.0000000000 Jammu and Kashmir Branch Office (JKBO), successfully conducted a two-day training program on April 29-30, 2025, for mentors of Standards Clubs and science teachers from Udhampur, Ramban, Doda,

BIS Organizes Two-Day Training On 'Learning Science Via Standards' At Patnitop

Guest. He appreciated the concept of LSVS and noted that it would strengthen the teachinglearning relationship by making scientific knowledge more accessible and relatable.

During the inaugural session, Shri Pankaj Atri, Joint Director, BIS-JKBO, elaborated on the goals of the LSVS initiative. He encouraged teachers to embed the concept into their curriculum, helping students relate scientific principles to everyday life. He also conducted sessions covering the LSVS methodology, BIS activities, the BIS website and e-BIS features, ISI mark authentication, and

hallmarking with HUID on gold jewellery.

program featured The Ms. Mehak Rasool as a Key Resource Person, who provided a detailed overview of BIS's role in standardization, certification, testing, and training. Her presentation gave participants a comprehensive understanding of BIS's relevance in industry and consumer welfare. Alongside her, Mrs. Monika Sharma further enriched the program by introducing practical lesson plans to help teachers demonstrate scientific concepts using commonly used products.

Interactive group activities

on the first day saw mentors working collaboratively to develop lesson-based presentations, which they presented the following day. These sessions fostered active participation and practical learning.

On the second day, participants presented group presentations on various subjects, demonstrating how scientific laws and principles are applied in the development of Indian Standards. These engaging sessions highlighted the practical relevance of science in everyday life and reinforced the core objective of the LSVS initiative.

Shri Ashish Kumar Dwivedi, Standard Promotion Officer, BIS-JKBO, outlined the objectives and operational aspects of Standards Clubs. He also briefed the participants about various initiatives of BIS aimed at club students and encouraged mentors to maintain updated records and register on the BIS portal for continuous engagement and support.

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

Kashmir Sets

the valley, with all weather stations registering above normal day temperatures.

Srinagar recorded the highest maximum temperature in April in the last about eight decades on Tuesday, officials said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday recorded the maximum temperature of 27.8 degrees Celsius – 7.6 degrees above the normal for this time of the season, and the highest ever.

The previous highest was 27.4 degrees Celsius recorded on April 28, 1979, officials said.

Srinagar also recorded the maximum temperature of 30.8 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, the second-highest in April ever, they said.

Root Out Terror

passed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah were swiftly followed to bring those responsible for the Pahalgam terror attack to justice.

During the meeting, Sinha informed the Home Minister that all possible force must be used to take the strongest possible action against the perpetrators of the Pahalgam terror attack, and that the entire ecosystem of terrorism must be dismantled.

Sinha said that the Government of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, remains fully committed to avenging the killing of innocent citizens and ensuring that such dastardly acts of terrorism do not recur.

ng can compensate for the inno Noth

government sources said, adding that he expressed complete faith and con-fidence in the professional abilities of the Indian armed forces.

JKBOSE Class 10,

970 students did not pass. The re-sults also highlighted that one girl student secured the top position in the 12th exams.

Education Minister Sakina Itoo had directed the BOSE to announce the results by April 30, and the board met this deadline.

Despite some students facing disciplinary actions, including disqualification and cancellation of exams, the overall performance reflected the resilience and hard work of the students, especially the girls, who continue to lead in academic achievement.

CM Reviews Progress

loopholes, calling for time-bound clearances and proactive administrative facilitation.

Expressing concern over delays caused by land acquisition, forest clearances and shifting of utilities, Abdullah directed the concerned departments to streamline these processes.

He called for enhanced inter-departmental synergy, particularly be-tween the executing agencies and the district administrations.

On the issue of public displacement and property acquisition, he stressed the importance of fair and well-planned rehabilitation and resettlement.

"Those affected must be given substantial reassurance through timely and fair rehabilitation measures," he said.

border with Pakistan, comprising the International Border (IB), approximately 2,400 km from Gujarat to Akhnoor in Jammu; the 740-kmlong LoC from Jammu to Leh; and the 110-km Actual Ground Position Line (AGPL) in the Siachen region.

DGMO Warns

expressed concerns about the unprovoked firing by Pakistan and issued a warning regarding the continued ceasefire breaches," said an official.

Meanwhile, for the sixth consecutive night Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked firing along the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border in four districts of Jammu region and in North Kashmir, official sources told KNO.

They said that Indian forces 'responded effectively' and gave a befitting reply. "The firing with small arms was reported from the Pargwal sector along the IB in Jammu district and the Sunderbani and Naushera sectors in Rajouri district," officials added.

Pertinently, after the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people, mostly tourists dead, "India and Pakistan armies have been on high alert amid heightened tensions along the borders and the LoC."

"On the night of April 29-30, Pakistan Army posts initiated un-provoked small-arms fire across the Line of Control opposite the Naushera, Sunderbani, and Akhnoor sectors in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir," a defence spokesperson in Jammu said.

The Indian Army troops responded swiftly and proportionately he added. Similar incidents of unprovoked small-arms fire were also reported from Pakistani posts across the LoC in Baramulla and Kupwara districts in Kashmir, officials said, "Initially, the firing began in Kupwara and Baramulla districts and then spread to the Poonch and Akhnoor sectors. It further escalated to the Sunderbani and Naushera sectors in Rajouri district, followed by firing along the IB in Jammu's Pargwal sector," they added.

and visit visas, concerns arose among potential pilgrims. However, officials clarified that the ban is a routine pre-Hajj measure and will not affect pilgrims from J&K. The measures aim to streamline the Hajj process and prevent complications for registered pilgrims following the 2024 Hajj tragedy that resulted in over 1,000 deaths.

Govt Announces Caste

the society. Noting that caste was not included in all census operations conducted

since Independence, Vaishnaw alleged that the Congress governments have always opposed caste census and the party had used the issue as a political tool.

"Considering all these facts and to ensure that the social fabric is not disturbed by politics, caste enumeration should be transparently included in the Census instead of surveys," he said, adding that this will strengthen the social and economic structure of our society while the nation continues to progress.

The minister alleged that the states ruled by opposition parties have done caste surveys for political reasons and emphasised that the Modi government has resolved to transparently include caste enumeration in the forthcoming pan-India census exercise.

The opposition INDIA bloc had made caste census a major poll plank in the recent elections, with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi promising representation to people based on their population.

"Better late than never," Congress general secretary in-charge munications Jairam Ramesh said in a post on X, reacting to the government announcement.

and Caste Census (SECC) 2011.

The census during the British rule between 1881 and 1931 included caste enumeration, but post-independence the government decided in 1951 not to include caste in the census, except for SCs and STs.

Vaishnaw said that under Article 246 of the Constitution, the subject 'census' is listed in the Union list under entry 69 and according to the Constitution, the Census is a Union subject.

He said some states have conducted surveys to enumerate castes.

Some states have done this well, while some others have conducted such surveys purely from a political angle in a non-transparent way. Such surveys have created doubts in the society, he said.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modiji, the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs has decided today (30th April 2025) that caste enumeration should be included in the forthcoming Census," the minister said.

"This demonstrates that our government is committed to the values and interests of our society and country, like in the past when our government had introduced 10 per cent reservation for the economically weaker sections of the society without causing stress in any section of the society," Vaishnaw said at the briefing.

Historic Step Toward

equality and the rights of every section.

"In the CCPA meeting held today under the leadership of Prime Minister

Jammu and Kashmir. This direction is, however, subject to objections from the other side," Justice Rahul Bharti said in an order after hearing the plea of Ali, who has served in the police department for the last 27 years and is currently posted at the Katra base camp of the Vaishno Devi shrine. Admitting their petition, sup-

ported by revenue records to prima facie establish that they are bona fide residents of Poonch district, the judge asked government lawyers to submit a detailed report within two weeks and listed the case for the next hearing on May 20.

The court also directed the Poonch deputy commissioner to furnish an affidavit with respect to the status of property holding, if any, by the petitioners.

However, the nine siblings were taken from J&K's Kathua district to Punjab, where they stayed overnight for their subsequent deportation to Pakistan through the Attari-Wagah border.

"The deportation of Ali and his siblings was put on hold on the court's orders. The authorities have released them and they are being brought back from Punjab," socio-political activist Safeer Choudhary told PTI.

Earlier in the day, Choudhary said, "We received the copy of the court order on Wednesday morning and immediately took up the matter with the Poonch district administration.... To our surprise, neither civil nor police officers are taking the responsibility to implement the court order."

Choudhary, along with their relaives, including the wife and two minor children of Ali, staged a protest outside the Press Club here and appealed for the intervention of the home minister and lieutenant governor to provide "justice to the family". 'They are residents of Poonch. with Ali serving the police department for nearly three decades. Ali's father went to PoK in 1965 but returned in 1983 and is buried in his ancestral graveyard. They have more than 175 kanals of land according to revenue records and also possess all the documents," he said. Emotional scenes were witnessed at their house in Mendhar, with their spouses and children making passionate appeals to the government to stop their deportation.

cent lives lost in the heinous terror attack, he added.

"But it is important to ensure that we avenge the killing of our citizens and completely destroy terror outfits and those aiding and abetting terrorists wherever they are," the LG said.

"DCs and SSPs must take steps on the ground to restore a sense of security among the people and address their needs. I want to assure the nation that the scourge of terrorism will be fought with full determination. All means and measures must be taken to avenge the Pahalgam terror attack," he said.

CCS Reviews J&K

It was attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, people familiar with the matter said.

There is no official word yet on the CCS. held against the backdrop of growing indications of a retaliation against Pakistan. It was the second meeting of the CCS after the Pahalgam attack.

In the first meeting on April 23, it decided a raft of punitive measures against Pakistan, including suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, shutting down of the only operation land border crossing at Attari and downgrading of diplomatic ties in view of crossborder links to the attack.

In response, Pakistan shut its airspace to Indian airliners and suspended all trade with India, including through third countries. Pakistan rejected India's suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty and said any move to stop the flow of water would be seen as an "act of war".

In the high-level meeting with the defence brass on Tuesday, Modi asserted that the armed forces have "complete operational freedom" to decide on the mode, targets and timing of India's response, government sources said.

The meeting was attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, NSA Aiit Doval. Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan and the chiefs of three services.

The prime minister affirmed that it is "our national resolve" to deal a crushing blow to terrorism,

He also reviewed security-related constraints in certain stretches and instructed the concerned departments to ensure that project activities remained on schedule with adequate coordination with security agencies.

"These projects are the main road arteries for Jammu and Kashmir's future economic development. The timely and guality execution of these projects must remain a top priority," the chief minister added.

6th Straight Day

Line of Control opposite the Naushera, Sunderbani, and Akhnoor sectors in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir," a defence spokesperson in Jammu said.

The Indian Army troops responded swiftly and proportionately, the spokesperson added.

Similar incidents of unprovoked small-arms fire were also reported from Pakistani posts across the LoC in Baramulla and Kupwara districts in the Kashmir Valley, and across the IB in the Pargwal sector.

Initially, the firing began in Kupwara and Baramulla districts and then spread to the Poonch and Akhnoor sectors. It further escalated to the Sunderbani and Naushera sectors in Raiouri district, followed by firing along the IB in Jammu's Pargwal sector.

Since the night of April 24, shortly after India suspended the Indus Water Treaty in response to the killing of 26 people in the Pahalgam terror attack, Pakistani troops have been engaging in unprovoked firing at various locations along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir, starting from the Kashmir valley.

On the same day, Pakistan closed its airspace to Indian airlines, suspended trade and closed the Wagah border crossing, and warned that any attempt to divert water under the Indus Water Treaty would be considered an "Act of War'

India and Pakistan had agreed to a renewed ceasefire in February 2021 when the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of both countries reaffirmed their commitment to the 2003 ceasefire agreement.

India shares a 3,323-km-long

Tourist Recalls

of three suspected attackers, and one of them matched the person who had spoken to him, Raut told the media on Tuesday.

According to Raut, he had gone horse riding in Pahalgam on April 21 and had stopped at a "Maggi stall" for food when a man approached him and asked him if he was a Hindu. He also told Raut that he did not look like a Kashmiri.

"The suspect then turned to his companion and said, 'There's less crowd today," said Raut.

The Jalna resident said he found the conversation a bit disturbing but did not grasp the full implication of it until the following day, when terrorists killed over two dozen tourists in cold blood in the same area.

"After I saw the sketches released by the NIA (National Investigation Agency), I connected the dots," he claimed

Raut said he has emailed the NIA a detailed account of his experience in Kashmir.

"I have written everything I could remember. I have also mentioned that I could not initially pay the Maggi stall owner due to network issues. I took his phone number and paid him once I came down from the hill." he said.

Raut said he has not received any response from the NIA. "I'll cooperate with them in every possible way if they reach out to me," he added.

Hajj 2025: First

from J&K are scheduled to perform Hajj this year under the government quota.

In light of the Saudi government's temporary ban on Umrah, tourist,

He said the party had raised the issue in its resolution on social justice, which was passed in Ahmedabad on April 9, 2025, and also shared an April 16, 2023 letter of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in which he had demanded that the decennial census be carried out and a comprehensive caste census be made a part of it.

The last nationwide census was completed in 2011 and the next decadal one was to commence in April 2020 but got delayed due to the Covid pandemic.

Though Home Minister Amit Shah had said late last year that the census would be conducted "very soon", there is no clarity as yet on when exactly the exercise would be carried out.

"In the CCPA meeting held today under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji a message of strong commitment towards social equality and rights of every section has been given by deciding to include caste census in the upcoming census," Shah wrote on X in Hindi.

He alleged the Congress and its allies opposed the caste census for decades while in power and played politics over it while in the opposition.

"This decision will empower all economically and socially backward classes, promote inclusion, and pave new paths for the progress of the deprived," he said.

Vaishnaw said in 2010, the then prime minister Manmohan Singh had assured the Lok Sabha that the matter of caste census should be considered in the Cabinet. A group of ministers was formed to consider this after most of the political parties had recommended a caste census.

"Despite this, the Congress government decided to conduct only a survey instead of a caste census. That survey is known as SECC.

"It is well understood that the Congress and its INDI alliance partners have used Caste Census only as a political tool," the minister alleged.

The first caste enumeration in independent India was conducted in 2011 and was known as the Socio Economic

Shri @narendramodi ji, a message of strong commitment towards social equality and rights of every section has been given by deciding to include caste census in the upcoming census," he wrote on X in Hindi.

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"This decision will empower all economically and socially backward classes, promote inclusion, and pave new paths for the progress of the deprived," he said.

Announcing the decision, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the caste enumeration will be included in the forthcoming census exercise in a "transparent" manner and slammed the opposition parties for using the caste survey as a "political tool".

Vaishnaw said the census comes under the purview of the Centre, but some states have done caste enumeration in the name of surveys "nontransparently" which has created doubts in the society.

Lt Gen Sharma

Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh -- from Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, the present army chief, in February last year and his tenure lasted for 15-months.

HC Halts Deportation

taken in buses to Punjab for their deportation over the past two days.

In the aftermath of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people, mostly tourists, dead, the Centre announced a slew of measures, including suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, downgrading diplomatic relations with Islamabad and ordering all Pakistanis on short-term visas to leave India by April 27 or face action.

The police personnel, Ifthkar Ali (45), and his eight siblings including five sisters aged between 42 and 56 years got a respite when the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh admitted their petition claiming that they are not Pakistani nationals and have been living in Salwah village for generations.

"(The) petitioners be not asked or forced to leave the Union Territory of

"We have no relatives in Pakistan. Where will they stay there?" Mohammad Farooq asked.

Ali's wife said her husband was born in Mendhar and it is grave injustice to him and his children if their father is deported to a country that he does not belong to.

"What will my children do without their father?" she asked, adding, "We regret the loss of innocent lives in terror attacks but do not take revenge on us as we have done no wrong. In fact, my husband is part of the police force that is fighting against terrorism."

Similar heart-wrenching scenes unfolded in Rajouri district, where two aged sisters -- Zameer Fatima and Sageer Fatima -- were among the four people taken to Punjab for deportation.

The sisters, who were hardly able to walk on their own, have been living with their families in the Sharda Sharief area for 43 years. They raised their families after getting married to two cousin brothers.

"This is nothing short of mourning in our family. They are frail and afflicted with various ailments and who is there to take care of them?" Fareed Hussain asked, requesting the government with "folded hands" to spare them from deportation.

Sageer Fatima said, "I returned to Rajouri in 1983 along with my mother and sister. My mother died here. My children and grandchildren are all here and it is grave injustice to separate me from them."

J&K, Ladakh To Achieve 62% Non-Fossil Fuel Capacity By 2034-35

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are likely to witness around 62 per cent of share from non-fossil fuelbased capacity in mixed electricity generation by 2034-35.

The official documents reveal that the share of non-fossil fuelbased capacity in the generation mix is projected to be around 62% by 2034-35 with higher contribution from non-fossil fuel-based capacities in alignment with Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) trajectory.

"As per the studies, the total projected contracted Capacity for the year 2034- 35 excluding Short Term Open Access (STOA) is 10,088 MW which consists of 3700 MW from Coal, 129 MW from Gas. 3364 MW from Hydro, 68 MW from Nuclear, 1840 MW from Solar and 987 MW from DRE. This IC along with additional 700 MW of STOA shall be able to meet the projected de-mand with prescribed reliability criteria," the documents reveal.

In the electricity generation mix, non-fossil fuel-based capacity refers to the share of power generation sources that do not rely on fossil fuels like coal, oil, or natural gas. This



includes sources like renewable energy, including hydro, solar, wind, biomass, nuclear power, and potentially other technologies like geothermal or

advanced energy storage. The official documents further reveal that the reliability studies have been carried out to adhere to the reliability criteria of Loss of Load Probability (LoLP) and Normalized Energy Not Served (NENS) as provided in NEP (0.2% and 0.05% respectively).

According to the documents, the Performance Rating Meth-od (PRM) for the state of J&K and Ladakh has been assessed as 5.10%. They mention that the projected and contracted capacity fulfils the stipulated Renewable Purchase Obligation," it reads-(KNO)

CLASS 12TH RESULTS **Five Specially-Abled Students Of Abhinandan Home Secure Distinctions**

Observer News Service

Minister for Education, Sa-keena Itoo extended her

heartfelt greetings to the stu-

dents of 12th class who were

declared successful in results declared on Wednesday.

In her greetings, Sakeena

applauded the dedication,

hard work, and persever-

ance of students for achiev-

ing academic excellence. She

added that our students have

shown remarkable determi-

nation and achieved such

The Minister also extended

her heartfelt greetings to girl

said he first attended Zaiba

Apa School in Bijbehara before

joining Abhinandan Home.

They expressed gratitude that

such a school was available lo-

cally, which enabled their son

impaired, dedicated his suc-

cess to the efforts of teachers

and the unwavering support of

an important message: that

should recognise their poten-

tial to compete with others

and turn their disabilities into

strengths. They urged those

who have stopped studying

due to disabilities to join spe-

cial schools like Abhinandan

Home so they can become in-

pressed concern about future

However, the students ex-

dependent and self-reliant.

students conveyed

individuals

Shahid Shafi, who is visually

to pursue his education.

his parents.

specially-abled

The

brilliant results.

Sakeena Itoo Greets Students

students for outshining the

boys both in overall pass per-

centage and top meritorious

positions, adding that girls are

The Minister also encour-

aged those who may not have

achieved their desired results

to stay motivated and focus

on future opportunities. "Ex-

ams are just one step in the

journey as there are many

paths to success and each

student has their own unique

The Minister also appreci-

ated the JKBOSE administra-

tion for compiling the results

challenges. Currently, there is

no dedicated college or inclu-

sive higher education facility

for physically handicapped stu-

dents in the region. They fear

their educational journey may

face obstacles at the college lev-

that our higher education may

be hindered because there are

no proper facilities for us. We

request the government and

authorities to establish separate

colleges or inclusive sections in

existing institutions so that students like us can pursue higher studies without difficulties."

They appealed to the gov-

ernment to address this issue

urgently, saying immediate

arrangements must be made

to ensure that specially-abled

students do not face further

hurdles in their educational

pursuits-(KNO)

One student said, "We fear

el due to infrastructural gaps.

potential", Sakeena stated.

in a short span of 36 days.

excelling in every field.

Agencies

SRINAGAR: At least five specially-abled students from Abhinandan Home Rambagh, Srinagar, have achieved extraordinary success in their 12th class examinations, all securing distinctions.

Mudasir Ahmad, Principal of Abhinandan Home Rambagh said these five students, all deaf and mute, appeared

for the 12th-grade exams this year and passed with flying colours. This marks the first time in the 83-year history of the institution that students have achieved such remarkable results.

The principal said that for these students, Abhinandan Home was their only hope. So far, hundreds of speciallyabled students from the school have successfully crossed the 12th-grade milestone. The students-Mehran Syed,

Shahid Shafi, Sadiq Sarwar, Yawar Manzoor and Tasif Ahmad Sheikh-scored 459, 442, 436, 435 and 392 marks respectively.

Sharing their experiences, the students said they initially studied in regular schools but faced numerous challenges. Later, they joined Abhinandan Home, where facilities such as Braille books, large-print mate-rials, and specialised teaching methods helped them excel.

They stressed that speciallyabled students often have to work twice as hard as their peers and credited their success to supportive parents, teachers, and staff at the school.

Family members of Mehran Syed, who is deaf and mute,

> THEY STRESSED THAT SPECIALLY-ABLED STUDENTS HAVE TO WORK twice as hard as their peers and credited their success to supportive parents, teachers, and staff at the school.

Tarun Chugh Hails Govt's Caste Census Move As 'Historic & Visionary'

Observer News Service

JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh has called the Narendra Modi government's decision to include caste-based enumeration in the upcoming Census a "historic, visionary, and defining moment" for India's social justice framework. Speaking at a seminar under the Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Samman Abhivan at the BJP State Office in Chandigarh, Chugh said the caste census was not merely about counting castes but about enabling informed policymaking for the most deprived sections of society. "The Modi government delivers with intent and integrity not just slogans," he said. Chugh launched a sharp attack on the Congress and the I.N.D.I alliance, accusing them of politicizing the issue while doing little during their time in power. He noted that no full-scale caste-based enumeration was ever conducted under Congress, and the 2011 Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) lacked both transparency and seriousness.



ing Dr. B.R. Ambedkar during his lifetime and delaying his Bharat Ratna award until a BJPbacked government came to power. "Even Ambedkar's entry into the Constituent Assembly was opposed " he claimed

Secretary Health Assesses Medical Preparedness For Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025



Observer News Service

BALTAL: In order to take first hand appraisal of the Health facilities being put in place for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, Secretary Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, on Wednesday visited Base Camp Hospital Baltal and Primary Health Cen-

tre Sonamarg. Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr Jahangeer Bakhshi, accompanied the Secretary during the visit.

At the 100-bedded Base Camp Hospital in Baltal, the Secretary inspected critical medical facilities including Intensive Care Unit, trauma care section and oxygen generation plant besides accommodation infrastructure for the staff. He also visited PHC Sonamarg and inspected various sections of the health facility.

The Secretary emphasized the need for complete readiness of all medical services well before commencement of the pilgrimage season.

He issued clear directives to all medical officers and yatra staff, stressing the importance of maintaining 24/7 emergency services, establishing efficient patient referral systems and ensuring adequate stock of essential medicines. Special emphasis was placed on coordination between the Base Camp Hospital, PHC Sonamarg and all medical teams along the yatra route.

Dr. Abid reiterated the administration's focus on delivering prompt, efficient, and compassionate healthcare services throughout the pilgrimage period.

Immunodeficiency A Growing Health Concern, Say Experts

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Immunodeficiency, a condition characterised by a weakened immune system that struggles to fight infections and diseases, continues to be a pressing health issue worldwide, doctors said.

Whether inherited or acquired, immunodeficiency disorders make individuals more vulnerable to frequent, severe and sometimes life-threatening infections, they added.

Dr Khalid, a physician at DHSK, said that immunodeficiency occurs when the immune system is either absent or not functioning properly. The immune system acts as the body's defence against viruses, bacteria, fungi, and other harmful agents; when compromised, even minor infections can become severe

He explained that Primary Immunodeficiency (PID) is typically genetic and often diagnosed in childhood. "It includes over 400 rare, chronic disorders such as



Dr Altaf, another doctor, said those with immunodeficiency are at increased risk of frequent or severe infections such as pneumonia, bronchitis, meningitis and skin infections. "They may experience delayed recovery, higher susceptibility to certain cancers, and autoimmune disorders, where the immune system mistakenly attacks the body's own tissues," he said.

While primary immunodeficiency may not be preventable due to its genetic origins, several measures can reduce the risk and impact of secondary immunodeficiency, Dr Altaf said. These include timely vaccinations, maintaining nutrition, practising safe habits, regular health check-ups, managing chronic illnesses and using prophylactic medications when necessary. Doctors said that immunodeficiency, although potentially serious, can be effectively managed with early diagnosis, appropriate treatment and lifestyle adjustments. "Raising public awareness and improving access to healthcare are crucial steps in combating this silent threat." they said-(KNO)

World Immunization Week 2025 Celebrated At GMC Doda



Observer News Service

DODA: Government Medical (GMC) Doda marked College World Immunization Week 2025 with great enthusiasm and academic engagement. The event was held under the guidance of Dr. Suresh Kotwal, Head of the Department of Community Medicine, and witnessed active participation from faculty and students of various departments.

The programme was inaugurated by Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Bahl, Principal GMC Doda, who delivered a thought-provoking address emphasizing the vital role of immunization in global health and the prevention of lifethreatening diseases. This year's theme. "Humanly Possible: Immunization for All", guided all the activities and highlighted the need for universal vaccine accessibility and equity. enthusiastically Students

participated through poster presentations, interactive seminars, and awareness campaigns, promoting peer education and public health awareness. Dr. Imran Zaffer, Senior Resident, presented a detailed session focusing on the current immunization strategies, challenges, and the roadmap for achieving universal vaccine coverage.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Walied K. Balwan, Assistant Professor, Community Medicine, who appreciated the efforts of the organizing team and all participants. Certificates were distributed by senior faculty members including Dr. Sumat ul Khursheed (Pathology), Dr. Khalid Muzaffer (Orthone

and Dr. Altaf Malik (General Surgery), reaffirming the institution's ongoing commitment to preventive healthcare and immunization advocacy.

PMAY-G Awaas+ Survey Gets Extension Till May 15

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Union Ministry for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has further extended the deadline for the Awaas+ 2024 survey under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) by 15 days, shifting the closing date from April 30 to May 15, 2025.

This is the second extension granted by the Centre, as the earlier deadline of March 31, 2025, was first pushed to April 30, and now to May 15.

The move aims to ensure comprehensive coverage, particularly in remote and snowbound regions where survey completion has been challenging.

An official communiqué from the Union Ministry stated that the decision was taken after multiple states and Union Territories sought additional time to identify all eligible rural households.

The extension will allow better verification of self-reported cases and ensure no deserving beneficiary is left out.

As of April 30, 2025, a total of 4,74,076 potential beneficiaries have been surveyed across Jammu and Kashmir. Rajouri district leads with 55,489 surveys followed by Poonch (52,568) and Kupwara (41,629), reflecting significant progress in identifying eligible households under the PMAY-G scheme.

along the Bhawani to Qila Darhal

road under the Border Roads Or-

ganization (BRO). Besides, comple-

tion of the Bhawani to Shalaakh

road and inclusion of all eligible

beneficiaries under the Pradhan

Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin

lip service," he said. He also criticized what he described as "opaque and divisive" caste surveys undertaken

"Back then, they only offered

by some state governments, contrasting them with the Modi government's national approach aimed at "transparency, accuracy, and coherence."

Highlighting the Centre's work on social equity, Chugh pointed to the 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), granted without sparking unrest, and the constitutional status given to the OBC Commission – a longpending demand ignored by the Congress.

Turning to Punjab, Chugh accused the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government led by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann of betraying marginalized communities, particularly Dalits and OBCs. "Scholarships have stalled, education is crumbling, and jobs are vanishing. The AAP government has reduced Ambedkar's legacy to photo ops," he alleged.

Chugh also slammed the Congress party for sidelin-

He praised BJP efforts to honour Ambedkar's legacy from former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee's move to install his portrait in Parliament to Prime Minister Modi's initiative to develop the Panch Teerth, five key sites associated with Ambedkar's life.

Chugh further targeted Rahul Gandhi, Arvind Kejriwal, and other leaders of the I.N.D.I alliance, accusing them of hypocrisy. "These are the same people who lose elections and then preach constitutional values. Their predecessors consistently opposed reservations and OBC rights," he said, citing Nehru's directive against reservations, Rajiv Gandhi's opposition to OBC quotas, and Rahul Gandhi's remarks on reservations abroad.

Concluding, Chugh said, "Dr. Ambedkar dreamed of an India that is educated, empowered, and equal. Prime Minister Modi is realizing that vision. Those who misuse Babasaheb's legacy for political theatrics will be judged – by history and by the people.'

Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) and Common Variable Immunodeficiency (CVID). These are caused by mutations in genes involved in immune response," he said.

Dr Khalid further said that Secondary (Acquired) Immunodeficiency is more common than primary. This form develops due to external factors like HIV/AIDS, malnutrition, cancer and its treatments, immunosuppressive drugs and other chronic illnesses.

Emotional Farewell Bids Adieu To 10 Dedicated Officials At FCS&CA



Observer News Service

PULWAMA: In a warm and heartfelt farewell function held at the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department Pulwama, Ten dedicated officials were given an emotional send-off upon their superannuation. The Department gathered to honor the tireless services of these officials who served the department with commitment, integrity, and professionalism for decades.

The officials who retired from their distinguished services include Mohd Sadiq Kar, Assistant Accounts Officer; Gh Hassan Bhat, TSO Aripal; Ab Gani Dar, TSO Rajpora & Rahmoo; Mohd Maqbool Malik, TSO Litter; Mohd Shafiq Bhat, TSO GD Pulwama; Mohd Yasin Sofi, TSO Tral A; Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, TSO Noorpora; Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, Storekeeper: Mohd Yaqoob Hajam, MTS; and Mohd Amin Dar, MTS.

During the farewell ceremony, Tehsil Supply Officers (TSOs) shared the journey of their decadeslong service. They reflected upon their experiences, challenges, and achievements, expressing gratitude for the camaraderie and cooperation received throughout their careers.

It was an emotional moments for TSOs while recalling the cherished moments they spent in the department, evoking similar sentiments among their colleagues.

The retiring officials, while addressing the gathering, advised junior staff members to uphold honesty, transparency, and dedication in their duties. They emphasized that public service demands sincerity and integrity, and encouraged the younger generation to serve the people with a sense of responsibility.

Mohd Sadiq Kar, the retiring Assistant Accounts Officer, also addressed the gathering and threw light on his long tenure in the department. He highlighted the evolution of the department over the years and expressed pride in having been part of its growth and development.

Dy CM Holds Public Outreach Camp In Nowshera

Observer News Service

NOWSHERA: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary Wednesday conducted a public outreach camp at Panchayat Bhawani-A in Nowshera, listening to the grievances of local residents with assurance of timely redressal of the same.

During the camp, the locals raised several demands including construction of additional border bunkers, installation of hand pumps, establishment of eco-parks and setting up of a JK Bank branch with ATM facilities.

They also highlighted the acute staff shortage at the Naib Tehsil office in Bhawani and sought compensation for land acquisition



(PMAY-G) were also among the major concerns raised.

Other issues brought to the Dy CM's notice included water scarcity, inflated electricity bills and establishment of a receiving station in Bhawani. The community

of staff shortage at Higher Secondary School (HSS) Bhawani.

the Dy CM issued on the spot directions to the concerned departments. He instructed the Executive Engineer to expedite work on the Bhawani to Shalaakh road. He also directed the Block Development Officer (BDO) to ensure that all eligible families are covered under PMAY-G.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) was directed to organize a special camp at Panchayat Bhawani-A for issuing labour cards and creating awareness about welfare schemes of the Labour Department.

Taking serious note of the com-

plaints regarding exaggerated electricity bills, the Dy CM asked the Power Development Department (PDD) officials to initiate immediate corrective measures.

The Chief Education Officer (CEO) was instructed to rationalize staff postings to address the shortage at HSS Bhawani.

CM also laid the foundation stone for construction of Panchayat Ghar at Bhawani-A under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) with an estimated cost of Rs. 30 lakh.

also urged for prompt resolution Responding to the demands,

On the occasion, the Deputy

Extending his condolences, the Dy CM also expressed deep sympathies with the bereaved families affected by the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam.

SPORTS

Not Worried Bowling To A 14-Year-Old: Boult On Suryavanshi

Press Trust of India

JAIPUR: Mumbai Indians pacer Trent Boult described the prospect of facing Rajasthan Royals' 14-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi as "exciting", but said it is not something that would "worry" him on a flat Sawai Mansingh Stadium deck.

The 14-year-old Suryavanshi wrote his name in history books, hitting a 38-ball 101 against Gujarat Titans to become the youngest ever to score a ton in the IPL and overall men's T20 cricket. His 35-ball innings was also the second fastest ton in the tournament.

"(I have) bowled to some brilliant batsmen around the world, the Chris Gayles, the AB de Villiers, all the quality that come in these tournaments. I think I'll be careful not to say I'm worried about a 14-year-old," Boult told the media on the eve of MI's clash against RR here.



"But it's going to be an exciting challenge to come up against a guy who's obviously fearless and running in hot form at the moment, so that's what it's about.

"The whole world saw that performance the other night. (It

was a) quality (knock) from such a young kid. It's the beauty of this tournament, of all the players coming out and taking any opportunity with both hands and I thought he did that very nicely." Boult said his experience

and knowledge of the pitch

and conditions here would hold

them in "good stead". "No, I don't as a bowler," he said when asked if he was anticipating another high-scoring game at this venue.

"It's a high-scoring ground; history says that. It's a solid wicket matched by a very, very quick outfield. I've been lucky enough to experience the ground over the last three seasons so hopefully I can put that experience into good stead over the next game," Boult added. Mumbai Indians were lan-

guishing at the penultimate spot at one point earlier in the season but they have turned around their fortunes with five wins in a row.

Boult said Jasprit Bumrah, who took a four-for in their win over Lucknow Super Giants in the last outing, has lifted the team since his return.

Boult said MI have benefitted from different players putting in vital performances.

"(We) would have loved to have started stronger but there's been good discussions going on the whole season and to turn around our form over the past four or five games and win five games in a row is a great feeling."

Short TAKES

IPL 2025: Revitalised Royals Look To Halt Mumbai's Charge

Dajasthan Royals will turn up against Mumbai In-Adians with renewed vigour as they aim to halt the five-time champions' surging momentum in the Indian Premier League here on Thursday.

With 14-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi potentially playing the knock of the tournament on Monday, the Royals have found a ray of hope in what has been an IPL campaign of missed opportunities.

The hosts still have a mathematical chance of making the play-offs but deep down the management has accepted its fate.

A side strain to skipper Sanju Samson paved the way of Suryavanshi's debut and it only took him three innings to become the talking point of the cricketing world.

Samson last played on April 16 and there is no clarity over his comeback, leaving Suravanshi and Yashasvi Jaiswal to open the innings again. For Hardik Pandya-led Mumbai Indians, the return

of Bumrah has coincided with their ascent to the top of the table. The perennial slow starters have now collected five wins on the bounce and look unstoppable.

Cricket Retained For 2026 Asian Games Set To be Held in Japan

The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has confirmed that cricket will be a part of the 2026 Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games to be held in Japan from September 19 to October 4.

The call to retain cricket was taken during the meeting between the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) and the organising committee (AINAGOC) earlier this week.

Cricket matches will be played in the T20 format and hosted in Aichi prefecture, although the exact venues are yet to be finalised.

This will be cricket's first appearance in the Olympics since 1900 in Paris, where Great Britain beat France by 158 runs in the final of the two-team tournament.

Cricket will be among 41 sports featured at the Games, which are expected to see participation from 15,000 athletes and officials representing the OCA's 45 National Olympic Committees.

This will be the fourth time cricket features in the Asian Games, following its inclusion in Guangzhou (2010), Incheon (2014), and Hangzhou (2023). The Indian men's and women's teams are the defending champions.

Bangladesh To Play 5 T20 Matches In Pakistan Next Month

Dakistan will host Bangladesh for five T20 matches next month with Faisalabad set to stage its first international match after a 17-year hiatus, the Pakistan Cricket Board said on Wednesday.

The first two games of the series will be played at Faisalabad on May 25 and 27 with Lahore hosting the remaining three games between May 31-June 3. Bangladesh was the last team to play an ODI at Faisalabad in 2008

Bangladesh was due to play three T20s and three ODIs in Pakistan. However, both cricket boards agreed to replace the ODIs with two additional T20s as part of preparations for the T20 World Cup to be co-hosted by Îndia and Sri Lanka in 2026.

Arsenal Need Something Special In Paris, Says Hopeful Arteta

Khyber Kashmir Super League Invites Teams For Mega Football Event

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Khyber Kashmir Super League, powered by Athwas Hyundai, announced Wednesday the opening of franchise applications for what promises to be a revolutionary football league in J&K. This first-of-its-kind event is being organized in association with the J&K Sports Council and District Football Association Srinagar, marking a significant milestone in the sporting landscape of the region.

The KSL is envisioned as a landmark platform to elevate football in Kashmir, offering clubs, businesses and football enthusiasts



a chance to be part of a high-octane, professionally managed league that will set new standards for the sport locally.

"This league is not just a tournament – it's the beginning of a football revolution in the Valley. Football has always been in the hearts of Kashmiris, and the KSL is the need of the hour to harness this passion and transform it into opportunity," said a spokesperson from the or-

ganising committee. With football enthusiasts across the region eagerly anticipating the mega event, the KSL is calling on visionary franchise owners to join hands in shaping a dynamic footballing future. The league promises wide media coverage, professional management and a direct pathway for young footballers to shine on a bigger stage.

Interested parties are encouraged to apply for franchise ownership at the earliest, as limited slots are available.

Inter-School Zonal Level Volleyball **Championships Held In Budgam**

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: Department of Youth Services and Sports Budgam on Wednesday conducted Inter-School Zonal Level Volleyball competitions in Zone Beerwah and Hardu Panzoo, showcasing enthusiastic participation from school teams and strong support from local administration.

The competition in Zone Beerwah was organized at Boys Higher Secondary School (BHSS) Beerwah and was inau-gurated by DDC Rathson, Khurshid Ahmad. In Zone Hardu Panzoo, the event took place at High School Arizal and was inaugurated by DDC Sokhnag, Roziya Jan.

District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYS-



The Principal of BHSS and team spirit.

effective throughout the events.

YSS Ganderbal Holds Football, Handball & Volleyball Competitions

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Ganderbal on Wednesday organised a series of competitive events



SO) Budgam, G.H. Hassan Lone, personally visited both venues to oversee the events and motivate the young participants. He was accompanied at Beerwah by Shakeel ur Rehman, Incharge Activity DYSSO Budgam.

Beerwah, along with all field officials were present and actively contributed to the smooth

Inter-School Football Tournament

Enters Day 2 In Bijbehara

tions. Their collective efforts ensured a vibrant sporting atmosphere and coordination

competitions reflect DYSS Budgam's ongoing commitment to promote sports culture and provide a platform for young athletes to demonstrate their talent

These

across multiple zones of the district

The Inter-Zone District Level Football Tournament for Girls Under-17 culminated at BHS Shallabugh with a thrilling final clash between Zone Ganderbal and Zone Tullamulla. In a match filled with high energy and impressive teamwork, Zone Ganderbal emerged victorious with a 3–1 win, lifting the district title. Both teams were felicitated with trophies by officials from DYSS.

In Zone Tullamulla, the Under-17 Boys Handball tournament was held at BHSS Safapora, with 66 students competing. The final saw BHSS Lar defeat the host team in an exciting match.

Zone Kangan conducted its own Inter-School Handball competition at Kijpara Ground, where 80 boys District Level events

showcased their skills. The final between SAPS Kangan and IRIS Kangan ended in a close win for SAPS Kangan. Notably, top performers were identified and shortlisted for the upcoming ANANTNAG: An Inter-School Zonal Level Football Tournament entered Day 2 on Wednesday in Zone Bijbehara. The tournament is being organised by Zonal Physical Education Officer Bijbehara at Sports Ground of Delhi Public School Sangam Anantnag.

Observer News Service

In the tournament. male students of Under-14 age group of various schools of Zone Bijbehara are participating with enthusiastic fervour.

On the second day of the tournament, a total of four matches were played.



final contest of Wednes-In Game 1, Oxford High School Bijbehara defeated day witnessed Oxford HS MS Tulkhan 2-0. The sec-Bijbehara defeat Camond matchup saw BMS bridge School Bijbehara HP Tavaila overcome MS 4-0.

Deedad Mohalla 4-0. In the matches, a total of 128 footballers show-Hosts DPS Sangam rout BMS Gadiseer 8-1 in the cased their football talent third game of the day. The with enthusiastic fervour.

Mikel Arteta said his Arsenal side must do some-thing special next week to reach the Champions League final after a 1-0 defeat by Paris St Germain in the semi-final first leg at home on Tuesday.

Arsenal were outplayed in the opening 25 minutes after Ousmane Dembele struck early on for the slick visitors and while the hosts improved they were unable to reply.

"We're at halftime. Halftime and my message will be exactly the same as it was against Real Madrid after we won 3-0 at home," Arteta, who spent a short spell on loan at PSG during his playing career, told reporters.

"We have to go to Paris and win the game. We are more than capable of doing it. I saw two very good teams, but the margins are so small. They had efficiency in front of the goal.

"The keeper as well made a difference to see the result that we've seen tonight. You want to be in the Champions League final, you have to do something special, and we're going to have to do something special in Paris."

How A Fighter Pilot's Mental Techniques Helped Bodø/Glimt Reach Europa League SFs

Agencies

How did an unheralded Nor-wegian team from a tiny town north of the Arctic Circle become one of the fairy-tale stories of European soccer?

For Bodø/Glimt, the transformation has been underpinned by a fighter pilot who developed mental techniques for his squadron before bombing missions in Libva.

Bjørn Mannsverk discovered a group of players exuding negative energy and prone to "a collective mental breakdown" when he was asked in early 2017 to join the backroom staff of a team that had just been relegated to Norway's second tier.

His task as "mental coach" at Bodø/Glimt? To make players talk openly about their feelings, lower stress levels, change their attitudes and routines about things like preparation and nutrition, and remove the stigma around mental training.

Winning or losing no longer mattered. It was all about fol-

lowing a philosophy and culture established by Mannsverk, a former Royal Norwegian air force squadron leader whose military duties took him to Afghanistan after the 9/11 attacks and to Libya for a NATO-led intervention in 2011.

The results have been extraordinary.

After securing an immediate return to Norway's top division, the team – based more than 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) north of Oslo in a fishing town, Bodø, with a population of around 55,000 – has captured four of the country's last five league titles. It started in 2020 with a first in the history of a club founded in 1916.

Bodø/Glimt has also had some big results in Europe in recent seasons – a 6-1 thrashing of Jose Mourinho's Roma in the Conference League 2021 stands out – and this year it has become the first Norwegian club to reach the semifinals of a major European competition. The first leg against Totten-



ham in the Europa League takes place in London on Thursday. It's Bodø/Glimt's biggest ever match.

"It is a fairy tale, almost a miracle," Mannsverk told The Associated Press in a video interview. "How can you actually come from (Norway's) second division in 2017 to playing a

Champions League playoff and teams like Arsenal five years later?

'But I think it's possible ... if vou have the right mentality and you work hard over time."

Meditation and Mannsverk's mantra

An active air force pilot for

more than 20 years, Mannsverk and others in his squadron were the subjects of a mental training project in 2010 where the focus was on meditation and "every day repeating boring stuff, but with 100% attention."

It meant that when he was in Libya the following year, he had the mental capacity to handle

the dangerous missions he was asked to perform. His squadron's mantra — "train as you intend to fight" — worked.

"Even though I got strong feelings when my first bombs hit the target and it was in infernal flames and fragments and everything," he said, "it was like, 'My training said that it's OK, this is happening, recognize that, but know I have to return and do my job.'

With Bodø until recently having a NATO air base, it was simply a happy coincidence that Bodø/Glimt's leadership came across members of the squadron at the same time as it was seeking a "silver bullet" – as Mannsverk put it – to improve the team's mental conditioning. A project was born and fully

embraced by manager Kjetil Knutsen following his appointment in 2018. Bodø/Glimt has never looked

back

The "Bodø/Glimt Ring" Mannsverk's fingerprints are all over the team's behavior, though he acknowledges there has been such a buy-in by the players that they now take decisions by themselves.

Like having a rotating cast of eight captains to share leadership duties. Like when the players gather into a circle – Mannsverk calls it the "Bodø/Glimt Ring" – after conceding a goal to discuss what happened and maintain solidarity. Like the players having no specific targets, apart from being the best version of themselves.

Inge Henning Andersen, Bodø/Glimt's chairman, told the AP that midfielder Ulrik Saltnes considered retiring because he used to suffer from stress-related stomach issues that flared up around matches. Saltnes opened up about his problems to Mannsverk and "finally found a way out of it," Andersen said.

The team plays at an intensity that far exceeds its rivals, which players attribute to Mannsverk.