

Srinagar Hits Season's Second Highest Temp

Heat Likely To Peak Today

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Amid a relentless heat-wave gripping the Kashmir Valley, Srinagar recorded its second hottest day of the season on Friday, with the mercury soaring to 35.3 degrees Celsius, officials said.

According to the Meteorological Department, the heatwave conditions are expected to persist, with temperatures likely to climb even higher on Saturday. "There is a strong possibility that tomorrow may be hotter than today," said a Met official.

Qazigund recorded a maximum temperature of 34.4 degrees Celsius, while Pahalgam in south Kashmir—logged a high of 30.2 degrees.

The department

also warned of continued hot and humid conditions on Sunday, although there may be a slight dip in temperature by a few degrees. "Major relief from the current weather conditions is expected from Monday onwards," the official added.

The unusually high temperatures have left both residents and tourists scrambling for shade, hydration, and relief. In many parts of the city, water sprinklers were seen in public parks while people relied on makeshift fans and coolers to beat the heat.

With schools, markets, and transport services running in full swing, authorities have urged people to stay indoors during peak afternoon hours and stay hydrated, especially | [More on P6](#)



Kashmir Warming At 0.02°C/Year: Study Rainfall Drops By 5mm Annually

Annual maximum and minimum temperatures in Kashmir Valley have steadily increased at rates of approximately 0.02°C per year over the past few years, putting the farmers and those associated with agriculture in the region in dire straits with this warming trend observed across all seasons but particularly strong during winter and spring. | [More on P6](#)

MAJOR RELIEF FROM THE current weather conditions is expected from Monday onwards."

MCC Violation Case Against Para Dismissed

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A local court in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday dismissed a case of Model Code of Conduct (MCC) violation filed against PDP leader and MLA

Waheed-Ur-Rehman Parra in connection with a roadshow he held during last year's Lok Sabha elections in Pulwama district.

The case, registered under Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), | [More on P6](#)

Over 26K Pilgrims Visit Amarnath Shrine In First 2 Days: LG

- Inaugurates Yatri Niwas Complex At Baltal
- Says Our Top Priority Is To Provide World Best Facility To Devotees

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Over 26,000 pilgrims have visited the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas during the first two days of the annual pilgrimage, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Friday.

Speaking to reporters after inaugurating the Yatri Niwas Complex at Baltal base camp



in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, the LG said, "There is an atmosphere of celebration and enthusiasm across the entire Union Territory for the Amarnath Yatra. So far, more than 20,000 devotees have had darshan of Baba Barfani."

According to officials, a total of 26,863 pilgrims visited the cave shrine in the first two

days, with 14,515 pilgrims performing darshan on Friday alone. The devotees included 11,440 men, 2,426 women, 91 children, 179 sadhus, 42 sadhvis, nine transgenders, and 328 members of security forces.

The LG noted that while pilgrims arriving before their scheduled dates would be accommodated, | [More on P6](#)

3rd Batch Of 6,411 Yatris Reaches Twin Base Camps

The third batch of 6,411 pilgrims, which departed from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu early Friday, has reached the twin base camps of Baltal in Ganderbal and Nunwan in Pahalgam, Anantnag. The batch travelled in 291 vehicles, including 130 buses, 46 medium motor vehicles (MMVs), 113 light motor vehicles (LMVs), and 2 two-wheelers, all moving under a strict multi-layer security cover, the officials said, adding that the third batch included 4,723 males, 1,071 females, 37 children, 487 sadhus, and 93 sadhvis. Of them, 2,789 pilgrims headed for Baltal, while 3,622 chose the | [More on P6](#)



KO Photo | Faisal Khan

Thousands Join 8th Muharram Procession Through Srinagar's City Centre

Emotional Return to Tradition Marks Third Consecutive Year of Reinstated Legacy Route

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: In a tribute to faith and history, tens of thousands of mourners participated in the 8th day Muharram procession in Srinagar on Friday. The emotionally charged event, which passed through the heart of the city, marked the third consecutive year that the traditional Guru Bazar-Dalgate route was re-opened for the commemorative march.

The mourners, dressed in black and chanting elegies for Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions martyred

at Karbala, began their journey from Guru Bazar where they assembled. Maulana Masroor Abbas Ansari led the procession.

Mourners passed through Jehangir Chowk and Maulana Azad Road before reaching Dalgate, where the procession culminated peacefully.

Mujtaba Ali, a mourner participating in the procession, called it an emotional experience. "It is deeply moving to be part of the 8th Muharram procession," he said. "This is the third year that this route has been re-opened, and to walk these

streets with fellow mourners is overwhelming. It's not just a procession—it's our shared history and sorrow."

Another participant, Mohsin Ali, reflected on the historic nature of the event. "This is a legacy procession. I feel fortunate to be part of it," he said. "Since the ban was lifted, this procession has taken center stage in Muharram observances. People come not just from Srinagar, but also from towns and villages across the Valley. In terms of numbers, I feel this might now even surpass the Ashura procession." | [More on P6](#)

Srinagar Police Registers FIR Over 'Violations'

The Srinagar Police on Friday registered a case against individuals accused of violating set conditions during a Muharram procession on MA Road, alleging that the acts committed

were deliberate, unlawful, and aimed at disturbing public order and communal harmony. According to an official statement, certain participants in the procession engaged | [More on P6](#)

Baramulla DM Imposes Curbs In Mirgund

The District Magistrate of Baramulla has announced the imposition of restrictions under Section 163 of the Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, in the villages of Mirgund and Mirchimar in Tehsil Singhpora, Sub Division Pattan, in view of potential law and order issues during the upcoming 9th Muharram procession today. The decision, formalized through Order No: 36-DMB (PS) 2025, follows a detailed report from the Senior | [More on P6](#)

Search Op In Kishtwar Enters Day 3

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A search operation by security forces to track down terrorists hiding in a forest area of Kishtwar district in Jammu and Kashmir entered the third day on Friday, with additional deployment made in the area to reinforce the cordon, officials said.

The operation follows an encounter that broke out between the terrorists and the security forces in the heavily forested Kanzal Mandu area of the Kuchal-Chatroo belt on Wednesday.

The encounter broke out when police, assisted by Army and CRPF, launched a cordon and search operation in Kuchal around 7:45 pm based on intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists in the area.

The search has been expanded in the Chatroo forest region to track down the hiding terrorists. It is believed there are two to three of them, the officials said.

Helicopters, drones and sniffer dogs are being used in the operation and the cordon has been further reinforced with the deployment | [More on P6](#)

Bizman Alleges ₹2 Lakh Wrongly Debited By HDFC

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: A Kashmir-based businessman has alleged that ₹2 lakh was illegally withdrawn from his HDFC Bank account and transferred to the account of a judicial magistrate in Tamil Nadu, raising serious concerns over procedural lapses by the private bank.

Irfan Ahmad Bhat, Managing Director of Modern Sweets and Confectioners in Srinagar, said the money was debited from his company's account at HDFC Bank's Hari Singh High Street branch in the first week of May, while he was out of the country.

"I received no prior intimation or consent request from the bank. I only came to know about the transaction after my return," Bhat told PTI. | [More on P6](#)

KU Extends Admission Deadline To July 10

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir on Friday extended the last date for applying to various undergraduate and postgraduate programmes till July 10, 2025.

A statement from the university reads, "In view of the numerous requests received from aspirants, the University of Kashmir (KU) has extended the last date for submission of online applications for admission to various PG, Integrated UG-PG programmes, B.Tech, as well as for other courses offered at the Kupwara Campus."

"The new deadline for applying is July 10, 2025," it reads. Aspirants are | [More on P6](#)

China Used India-Pak Conflict As 'Live Lab' For Weapons:Army 'India Faced Three Adversaries In Op Sindoor'

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: China used the four-day India-Pakistan conflict in May like a "live lab" to test various weapon systems and was providing all possible support to Islamabad, in line with its ancient military strategy of killing the adversary with a "borrowed knife", Deputy Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen. Rahul R Singh said on Friday.

The senior military officer said while Pakistan was the "front face", with China extending all possible support to its all-weather ally, Turkiye

was also playing a major role by supplying military hardware to Islamabad, adding that India was actually dealing with at least three adversaries during the May 7-10 conflict.

In an address at a seminar on "New Age Military Technologies" organised by industry chamber FICCI, Lieutenant General Singh suggested that China used its satellites to monitor Indian military deployment as the Pakistani military was getting live inputs on it during the DGMO (Director General of Military Operations)-level phone talks. | [More on P6](#)

Beyond Seeking Jobs, Create Them: CM To Youth

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said Jammu and Kashmir is undergoing a transformation – socially, economically, and politically – and called upon the youth to become active agents of change through service, innovation, and leadership.

Speaking at the sixth convocation ceremony of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST)-Kashmir, Omar, who also serves as the university's pro-chancellor, urged the graduating students to help shape a "new story" for the region.

"Help us shape this new story, not through slogans but



through service. Not through entitlement, but through excellence. As you rise, let others rise with you. Whether you go to Bengaluru or Berlin, carry J&K in your heart," he told the graduates.

The event was also attended by Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who joined as the chief guest, and



Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who served as the Chief Guest. The Union Minister extended his best wishes to the

graduating students and said, "The natural beauty of Kashmir and the love of its people has won my heart."

In his address, | [More on P6](#)

J&K Govt Increases MLAs' CDF To ₹4 Crore Per Year

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday announced a 1 crore hike in the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) allocated annually to Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs).

As per an order issued by the Finance Department, the CDF has been enhanced from the existing 3 crore to 4 crore per MLA. The revised allocation will come into effect from the financial year 2025-26.

The enhancement fulfills a commitment made by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on the floor of the Assembly during discussions | [More on P6](#)



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2

Collagen, Most Abundant Protein In Human Body, Worsening Type 2 Diabetes: IIT Researchers

Press Trust Of India

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) have discovered that the most abundant protein in the human body, collagen I, acts as a key platform in accelerating amylin aggregation that worsens the type 2 diabetes.

Type 2 diabetes affects more than 500 million people worldwide, a number expected to grow significantly in the coming decades, posing a major public health crisis, they cautioned in a study. In type 2 diabetes, either not enough insulin is produced, or the body's cells become less responsive to it, resulting in high blood sugar levels.

The chronic condition is caused by a mix of lifestyle, genetics and complex biological mechanisms that drive the disease progression, according to the study.

When the body releases insulin, it also ends up making more amylin, a hormone produced in the pancreas that helps control blood sugar after meals. The pancreas, an organ located in the abdomen, plays an essential role in converting food into fuel for the

body's cells.

Researchers from IIT Bombay, who collaborated with IIT Kanpur and the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute (CNCI), Kolkata, found that collagen I act as a key platform that accelerates amylin aggregation, which damages the insulin-producing beta cells and makes amylin more toxic.

This damage reduces the body's ability to control blood sugar, pushing individuals closer to full-blown diabetes, the study added.

"It almost seems that the amylin completely physically coats the collagen surface forming stable aggregates that are more difficult for cells to clear. Rather than aggregating in isolation, amylin appears to use the collagen fibres like train tracks, accelerating its accumulation and increasing toxicity to nearby cells," stated Professor Shamik Sen from Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering at IIT Bombay, who led and oversaw the project.

In an experiment, the researchers examined the pancreatic tissue from diabetic mice and also analysed single-cell data from human pancreatic

tissue. They found that as diabetes progressed, both collagen and amylin levels rose simultaneously, indicating they were closely linked, said the study.

At the same time, there is disruption in the structure of the pancreatic islets, which are groups of cells where the insulin-making beta cells live. The study also explained why some diabetes treatments, that mainly focus on processes inside the cells, may not be very effective in halting disease progression.

"Unless we disrupt this interaction between amylin and collagen, we may not be able to fully eliminate the toxic microenvironment in the pancreas," Prof Sen added.

The research team is now working to develop cryo-electron microscopy (cryo-EM) models of how amylin and collagen interact, aiming to guide the development of new drugs.

Researchers are also exploring ways to repair the pancreas, such as transplanting islets with support from 3D structures that mimic the natural environment, to restore beta cell function before significant damage occurs.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been incorrectly recorded as Athar Javid in my Aadhaar card bearing number 7618-7689-1387, which is incorrect. While my correct and actual name is Adfar Javeed. I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Adfar Javeed
D/o Javeed Ahmad Mir
R/o Renji, Tehsil Khoie, Panzipora,
District Baramulla

fko

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI

No: 196/B&D/Tz/2025

Date: 04/07/25

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Waseem Ahmad Lone S/o Mohammad Yousuf Lone R/o Tujjar Pehlihar, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of his wards Abuu-Baker And Arbeena Jan who were born on 29-12-2019 and 13-04-2017 respectively as per document evidence produced by the applicant.

In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

Naib Tehsildar

Executive Magistrate

Bomai

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly spelled as Firdoos in my matriculation certificate and my service records, whereas in Aadhaar card, PAN card, and bank records it's spelled as Firdousa, which is the correct spelling. Both the names refer to the same person, and in future, I wish to use the spelling Firdousa for my name for all legal formalities and identity proofs.

Firdousa
W/o Abdul Hamid Khan
R/o Sir Syed Abad Colony,
Sector 2A, House No. 9, Bemina,
Srinagar – 190018

ss

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing ID No.: 0206050002383 From Abdul Rheem Bhat, S/o Asad Bhat, R/o Astaan Mohalla, Kralgund, Khowsa to Manzoor Ahmad Rather, S/o Late Ghulam Mohammad Rather, R/o Astaan Mohalla, Kralgund, Khowsa . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the PDD Sub Divn. Lawapora within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Manzoor Ahmad Rather,
S/o Late Ghulam Mohammad Rather,
R/o Astaan Mohalla, Kralgund, Khowsa

bmrg

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI

No: 198/B&D/Tz/2025

Date: 04/07/25

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Abdul Jabar Bhat S/o Ghulam Hassan Bhat R/o Goripora , Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth certificate in favour of his ward Aaliya Jabar and Zainab blNTI|JABAR who were born on 28-01-2013 and 18-06-2015 respectively as per document evidence produced by the applicant.

In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

Naib Tehsildar

Executive Magistrate

Bomai

fko

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION BANDIPORA.

CORRIGENDUM

Subject: 1. Construction of One Number of Pre-fabricated Hut at Gori Hajin Shamthan-Arin Bandipora

Ref:- e-NIT No.11/ET/R&B/Bandipora of 2025-26 Dated:-24-06-2025.

Due to technical reasons the above mentioned work advertised vide this office e-NIT No. in reference is hereby canceled.

Fresh NIT shall be issued shortly.

No.-:EE/R&B/Bandi/1709-15
DIPK-3335/25
Dated:-04-07-2025.

Sd/= Executive Engineer
R&B Division Bandipora.

GOVERNMENT OF (UT) JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DEPTT.

Ground Water Division Srinagar
Baghi-Ali-Mardan, Nowshara Srinagar.

E- mail:- phegwd@yahoo.com.

Tel./ Fax No:- 0194-2411285

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

GIST of Detailed e- NIT No:- 18/JS-PHE/GWDS/Mech. of 2025-26.

For and on behalf of Government of UT - J&K, e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Firms/Companies/drilling agencies/Joint Ventures etc for "registered experienced Contractors of registered experienced Contractors of Production wells" as per details given below The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of Pre Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd shall consist of Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ. (Table – I)

S. No	Name of work	Est. Cost Rs. in Lacs	Earnest money	Cost of TD	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Technical Sanction	Major Head /Programme	Tender Call
1.	Construction of 01 No. 200 mm ND Casing ODEX/DTH Production Well at PTS Manigam.	Rs. 25.08 Lacs	Rs. 76,000/-	Rs. 2,000/-	45 Days	Registered for Construction of Production Tube Wells	JS-PHE/ GWDS/ Other/ Civil Deptt. / 03 of Works 07 2025, Dt: 03-07-2025	Minor Works	1st Position of Funds:- Available

- Authorization/Financial Sanction issued by the Police Head Quarters J&K Srinagar's Vide letter No: BD/DF-35/1825, Dated: 15-05-2025.
 - Internal Financial adviser- MHA J&K Home Department issued financial Concurrence/Approval for construction of Tube well under head (Minor & Civil Works) for the year 2025-26 vide no: IFA/Concurrent/25-26/49, dated: 26-06-2025.
 - Principal Police Training School Manigam issued letter vide No: PTSM-QB-Est-at-07/2025/7252-58, dated: 03-07-2025.
- The Bidding Documents and other details can be downloaded from the website: <https://www.jktenders.gov.in> From 04.07.2025 (02:00 p.m.) UPTO 21.07.2025 (11:00 a.m)
- The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings (If any), Book of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms, conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the website: <https://www.jktenders.gov.in>

As per Critical Dates/Information scheduled given below

1.	Publishing Date	04-07-2025 (02:00 p.m.)
2.	Period of Downloading of Bids	04-07-2025 (02:00 p.m) upto 21-07-2025 (11:00 a.m.)
3.	Period of Submission of bids	04-07-2025 (02:00 p.m) upto 21-07-2025 (11:00 a.m.)
4.	Date of opening of Tender.	22-07-2025 (11:00 A.M)
5.	Tender Receiving Authority: Executive Engineer , Jal Shakti (PHE) Ground Water Srinagar Kashmir-190011	
6.	Cost of Tender Document : Non-Refundable should be in form of DD /TR/e-challan deposited to Account Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer (Jal Shakti) PHE Ground Water Division Srinagar (at Saddar Treasury Srinagar) (The firm shall specify the name of work for which apply) NOTE: In case the firm/agency/contractor submits/Uploaded scanned copy of tender document fee in the shape of DD/e-challan, the hard copies shall have to be submitted in the divisional office before opening of cover 2nd (Financial Cover) of e-NIT.	
7.	Bid Validity Period: 180 Days	
8.	The bids can be downloaded or uploaded on www.Jktenders.gov.in	

Bids must be accompanied by bid security viz: Earnest Money in shape of CDR/FDR and (The date of CDR/FDR etc must not be prior to 03 months from the date of issuance of this e-Nitand Treasury Receipt (mentioning therein the NIT No., S.No. of work and Advertised Cost as per the NIT) as cost of Tender Document under Account Head 0215 to be pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Ground Water Division Srinagar (as specified in the table (I) (Page 1st). Bid security will have to be in any one of the forms as specified in the bidding documents and shall be valid for 180 Days after opening of bid. Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Ground Water Division Srinagar (H.Q. Baghi-Ali-Mardan, Nowshara Srinagar) on 22.07.2025 at 11:00 am. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

No:- JS-PHE/GWDS/25-26/Camp./3036- 46
DIPK-3340/25 Dated: 04-07-2025

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Deptt.
Ground Water Division Srinagar

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER FLOOD SPILL CHANNEL DIVISION NARBAL

PIN No.193401

Fax/Phone: 01951-260223

Email: floodspillchannelnarbal@gmail.com

Notice inviting e-Tender

e- NIT No. 02 of 2025-26 Dated:04/07/2025

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

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (₹. In Lacs)	Earnest Money	Cost of T/Doc. (₹.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	M.H Account
01	Repairing of Chenab sluice gate and Resectioning of feeding channel from central cunnette to sluice gate.	₹.2.15 Lacs	4300/-	300/-	30days	DEE	M&R
02	Raising of embankments at critical spots by way of laying of earth earth filling bags on right side of Sukhag Nallah at RD 31100m and RD 31280m Yangund.	₹.2.02 Lacs	4040/-	300/-	30days	DEE	M&R
03	Construction of crate protection toe wall on the right side of Shaliganga Nallah at RD 12330m near Gorivan Dreygam.	₹.1.58 Lacs	3160/-	200/-	20days	DEE	M&R
04	Construction of crate protection work on right of Doodhganga Nallah at Changund.	₹.1.50 Laes	3000/-	200/-	20days	DEE	M&R
05	Construction of crate protection wall on left side of Shaliganga Nallah near Head work Kinzhul RD 8865m	₹.1.43 Lacs	2860/-	200/-	20days	DEE	M&R
06	Construction of crate protection toe wall on the right side of Apzari Nallah At Bana Gund near Primary school at RD 11200m	₹.1.41Lacs	2820/-	200/-	20days	DEE	M&R
07	Construction of crate protection wall on Doodhganga Nallah at Kheergund RD 12350m.	₹.1.40Lacs	2800/-	200/-	20days	DEE	M&R
08	Laying of check crates on Apzari Nallah at Chutinar RD 2150m at 03 Spots	₹.1.14Lacs	2280/-	200/-	20days	DEE	M&R
09	Improvements of damaged crate wall on the right side of Doodhganga Nallah at RD 21590m near HSS Chadoora.	₹.2.79Lacs	5580/-	300/-	30days	DEE	M&R
10	Construction of concrete wall on the left side of Tulban Nallah At RD 4750m village Awarpora.	₹.4.44Lacs	8880/-	400/-	30days	DEE	M&R
11	Construction of crate protection toe wall on the right side of Doodhganga Nallah at RD 21424m U/S Damaged Bridge.	₹.2.73Lacs	5460/-	300/-	30days	DEE	M&R

Position of AAA =Accorded, Position of TS = Sanctioned ,Position of funds: (100% Budgetary provision 2025-26)

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	04-07-2025
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	04-07-2025 from 1800 Hrs
3.	Bid submission Start Date	04-07-2025 from 1800 Hrs
4.	Bid Submission End Date	25-07-2025 upto 1600 Hrs
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	26-07-2025 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.
6	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	The bidder has to provide 5% of Adv. Cost as Performance Security within 7 days after opening of Financial Bid.

Note:-

1):-

The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopy any short fall if any found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected

2)

As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Sectt, Finance department vide No.OM No.A/24(2017)-651 dtd. 07-06-2018 which reads as under :-

- Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of E-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared 1st Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.**
- The Cost of tenders should be collected by uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/Receipt.**

1. **Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0701 -Rev. Misc) and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal falling which the tender will be rejected out rightly. The issuing date of CDR/FDR uploaded must be between issuing date to Bid submission end date of NIT. CDR/FDR (earnest money/bid security) and relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.**

- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The normal deposits to be deducted as per GFR 2017 rules from running bills to be released after DLP of the work is over.
- The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders or any part of any tender without assigning reason thereof.
- Defect liability period of the work shall be commencing six months after completion of work.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.** Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.info acquaint bid submission process. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

7.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

8. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

9. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury

Scd/-

No. FSCDN/CS/ 1732-53

DIPK-3308/25

dated: 04-07-2025

Er. javaid Ahmad Kurpal

Executive Engineer

Flood Spill Channel Division

Narbal.

از نیات پلہان

عنوان:- فردوس احمد زید ولد مرحوم غلام نبی دارسانکہ پلہان تحصیل پن پٹن براؤن حصول نیگل ہیر سرفنیکیٹ

اشہدار ہرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر کاغذت سائل دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس بار سے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے سائل پلہان میں عیشیہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے سائل کا والد مرحوم غلام نبی ڈاؤلد مرحوم احمد ڈار مونہ 16-04-2016 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے متوفی کے وارثان ہذا ہیں۔

سموٹا ظاہرہ تکم
فردوس احمد ڈار
نسبہ
ایمن نبی
محمد مرزا ڈار
اس کے والد اور کوئی افراد رکنہ نہیں ہے۔ سرفنیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عارض یا ہتوؤد بعد مشہر اخبار سرائت دن کے اندر اندر آئے پنے مذریع عرض حد اکوفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے عیہا کوئی مذریع عرض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

فکو_r

نائب تحصیلدار

از نیات بوتکی

عنوان:- درخواست مخائب ریحانہ بشیر دختر بشیر احمد کارسانکہ تھریچنگلی ہار براد عطائی OBC تحت 176 SRO بحق خود

اشہدار ہرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سالانہ ایک درخواست لغرض OBC سرفنیکیٹ ہذمرہ کارچش کی ہے جو کز پر کاروائی ہے اس بار سے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سالانہ واقعی کمزادت سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سالانہ دھ ہذا میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سالانہ کتبہ ذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے
بشیر احمد کار ولد غلام محمد کار
عائشہ بیگم زوجہ بشیر احمد
الفت بشیر دختر
ریحانہ بشیر۔
اشفاق احمد پسر
مزدوری 43 سال
گھریلو کام 42 سال
زیر تعلیم 20 سال
-- 21 سال
-- 18 سال

سائل مذکورہ OBC سرفنیکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے اور کبھی مہوار آمدنی 5,000 روپے تک ہے۔ سرفنیکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عارض یا ہتوؤد بعد مشہر اخبار سرائت دن کے اندر اندر آئے پنے مذریع عرض حد اکوفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے عیہا کوئی مذریع عرض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

فکو_r

نائب تحصیلدار

از نیات بوتکی

عنوان:- درخواست مخائب بشیر احمد کار ولد غلام محمد کارسانکہ تھریچنگلی ہار براد عطائی OBC تحت 176 SRO بحق دختر الفت بشیر

اشہدار ہرخاص وعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سالانہ ایک درخواست لغرض OBC سرفنیکیٹ ہذمرہ کارچش کی ہے جو کز پر کاروائی ہے اس بار سے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سالانہ واقعی کمزادت سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سالانہ دھ ہذا میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سالانہ کتبہ ذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے
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فکو_r

نائب تحصیلدار

(Kashmir Observer, 05 July, 2007)

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INCONVENIENCE IF ANY IS REGRETTED.

(Ajaz Ahmad Bhat) IPS
Sr. Superintendent of Police,
Traffic City Srinagar

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KO VIEW

A Collective Fight to Cool Kashmir

The blistering heat waves sweeping through Kashmir this summer are not just weather events. They are warnings. For a place long known for its cool breeze, shaded chinars, and flowing streams, the record-breaking temperatures this year have scorched more than just paddy fields. They've cracked open our old assumptions. Kashmir was never immune to heat. Summers have always had their bite. But the difference is: we once had green shields. We had tree-lined streets, wetlands, and pastures that absorbed the heat. We had canals that breathed life into the land. Now, those buffers are almost gone, replaced by a lifestyle chasing concrete, convenience, and quick profits.

The wilted paddy fields and drying canals are not isolated problems. They are signs that this is no longer a fight an individual can win with a bottle of water and a ceiling fan. This is a collective crisis, and it needs a collective answer.

Kashmir cannot afford to rely on emergency measures alone. Cooling centers, heat advisories, and shaded bus stops are important, but they are not enough. Our focus must shift from temporary relief to long-term survival. This means building cities, villages, and workspaces that are designed to cool themselves, not trap heat.

It's hard not to feel uncomfortable when you realize that Delhi, with all its urban weight, is greener today than Srinagar. If one of the most densely populated regions can plant green belts and invest in sustainable urban planning, why is Kashmir falling behind? It's a question that deserves more than just political answers. It demands introspection.

Kashmir's rapid construction boom has come at a staggering cost. Traditional homes with sloped roofs and thick walls, which once stayed cool even in the hottest months, are vanishing. Green zones are being erased in the name of progress. What we are left with is a heat-trapping sprawl that is increasingly unlivable.

This is not a call for nostalgia. It's a call to rethink what kind of life we are building. Sustainable cities, green rooftops, reforested hills, water conservation, and eco-friendly farming practices are not luxuries. They are survival strategies.

The heat waves will come again. Their warnings will grow louder. The question is: will we keep responding with panic and patchwork, or will we finally come together to build a Kashmir that can breathe again?

The time for individual solutions is over. The fight is now a collective one.

Kashmir's Growing Credential Crisis

Fake doctors are slipping through Kashmir's healthcare system, risking lives and shaking public trust. Can hospitals fix their broken verification process before it's too late?

Dr. Fiaz Maqbool Fazili

In a shocking case that's rattled the medical community in Kashmir, a man posing as a doctor was recently found working at a teaching hospital using forged certificates.

For months, he treated patients. And for months, no one noticed.

As a healthcare quality and patient safety expert, I find this terrifying. The system's most basic safety checks failed: the hospital never properly verified his credentials. They didn't reach out to the original sources of his certificates. They didn't run thorough background checks. And no one seemed to notice the gaps.

When hospitals cut corners on these crucial steps, fake doctors can walk right in and put lives at risk.

This isn't the first time.

A few years ago, another fake doctor, this time claiming to be a cardiologist, was caught working in the labour room of Lal Ded Hospital in Srinagar.

Each time it happens, public trust in healthcare takes a hit. When patients walk into a hospital, they believe the people in white coats are real doctors. That belief shouldn't be a gamble.

The main problem is that many hospitals in Kashmir rely on paper documents without checking if they're real. There's no central database to verify a doctor's qualifications. The hiring process is often rushed, especially when hospitals are short-staffed.

Sometimes, personal connections are given more weight than proper checks. And often, institutions fear public embarrassment, so they delay investigations.

Even when people know something is wrong, they stay silent. In our system, whistleblowers aren't protected. Staff who speak up risk losing their jobs or facing backlash.

There are serious ethical questions here.

Hospitals must balance trust with vigilance. It's tempting to believe no one would lie about being a doctor. But blind trust isn't enough when lives are at stake.

Fake doctors can cause irreversible harm: misdiagnosis, wrong

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The fake doctor cases in Kashmir aren't isolated mistakes. They reveal deep cracks in our healthcare system. Credentialing and privileging aren't optional. They are basic requirements for patient safety.

treatments, and surgical mistakes that can cost lives.

When patients lose trust in doctors, they stop seeking care, even when they need it. Hospitals can also face lawsuits, lose their licenses, and watch their reputations crumble.

This hurts real doctors too. It

casts doubt on their hard-earned degrees and makes patients suspicious of even the most qualified professionals.

So, how can we fix this? The answer lies in strict credentialing and privileging, the safety systems that should have stopped this from happening.

Credentialing is about verifying every document. It means checking directly with medical schools, licensing councils, and previous employers. No certificate should ever be accepted at face value.

Privileging goes a step further. It sets clear boundaries on what a doctor is allowed to do in a hospital, based on their verified training and skills. It's what ensures that a general physician isn't performing heart surgery.

When these steps are skipped, the whole system is unsafe.

We need digital verification. We need a central registry of doctors with QR codes that patients can scan. Hospitals must invite independent audits to check staff credentials. Laws should be strict: fake doctors should face jail time, and hospitals that hire them must be held accountable.

Staff must be encouraged to report suspicious cases without fear. And patients should be taught to verify their doctors' registration numbers, which should appear on every prescription.

The fake doctor cases in Kashmir aren't isolated mistakes. They reveal deep cracks in our healthcare system. Credentialing and privileging aren't optional. They are basic requirements for patient safety.

Hospitals, medical councils, and policymakers must act now. The trust between a patient and a doctor is sacred. It must never be betrayed by a broken system.

The time for action is now, before the next fake doctor walks through the door.

Dr. Fiaz Maqbool Fazili is a healthcare policy analyst and a certified expert in healthcare quality control and patient safety standards. He can be reached at drfiazfazili@gmail.com. Views expressed are author's own.

The Slow Death of Kashmir's Grasslands

Overgrazing, rising livestock numbers, climate shifts, and expanding footfall are tearing through Kashmir's fragile grazing lands. Without urgent action, a centuries-old way of life may collapse.

Dr. Ishfaq Jamal

“
The pressure on these pastures has now crossed dangerous levels. In many areas, the number of animals grazing is more than the land can carry. The grass has stopped growing back

Plastic waste, food litter, and human activity are polluting the grasslands and water sources. New trekking routes and temporary constructions cut through the old grazing paths, forcing animals and herders to take harder routes and shrinking the space for both.

Climate change is making things worse. Snowfall has become unpredictable. Winters are shorter. The grass grows in strange patterns. Some native plants are vanishing. In their place, less useful species are spreading. The herders are being pushed towards poorer pastures, travelling longer distances, and returning with thinner animals.

Experts tracking the damage say stopping grazing is not the answer. Managing it smartly is.

One solution is rotational grazing. Instead of letting animals wander across large areas, the pastures can be divided into smaller zones where grazing shifts from one patch to another. This gives the grass time to recover.

But rotational grazing demands strong cooperation, careful timing, and constant tracking of grass growth, something never done before in most parts of Kashmir.

Stocking rates also need to be controlled. The number of animals grazing in each season must match the actual grass

available. Without this balance, the grasslands will continue to fail. Detailed surveys and regular monitoring of pasture conditions are long overdue.

Some damaged meadows can still be repaired. Reseeding them with native grasses and nitrogen-fixing plants can slowly bring back the soil's strength and improve the quality of grazing. This can be done by hand or through aerial seeding. But these efforts need support, money, and time.

A bigger problem is the absence of a clear grazing policy. Jammu and Kashmir has no dedicated plan to manage its pastures. Without one, grazing remains poorly regulated, and solutions remain scattered.

The hardest task is convincing pastoral communities to change the way they graze.

For generations, herders in Kashmir have followed open grazing patterns passed down as a right, not a rule. Asking them to limit grazing or to follow rotational schedules strikes deep at their traditions.

Change cannot come through orders alone. It must be built through trust, discussion, and clear results.

Unless the herders see benefits—healthier animals, stronger pastures, a future for their children—they will not accept new ways.

For any grazing system to succeed, the communities must not be pushed aside. They must lead the way.

The grasslands of Kashmir are more than just green stretches of land. They hold the memory and rhythm of generations. Saving these pastures is not simply about stopping damage.

It is about saving the people who still walk their animals across the high mountains every summer, holding on to a life that is slowly slipping out of reach.

The author is a researcher and writer based in Kashmir. He can be reached at drishfaqjamal@gmail.com. Views expressed are author's own.

J&K's Jam Jinx

As gridlocks choke daily life in Jammu and Srinagar, residents and experts call for smarter, people-centric traffic solutions over punitive systems.

Khan Irshad

The twin capitals of Jammu and Kashmir are always on the move. They are the administrative nerve centers, bustling markets, and gateways to some of the region's most sacred and scenic spots. But these cities are slowing down, trapped in their own growing traffic mess.

Every day, long traffic jams stretch across Srinagar and Jammu. Patients, government workers, tourists, security forces, and students find themselves stranded for hours.

Even ambulances inch forward, stuck in the same lanes as wedding cars and school buses. Reaching on time has become a gamble.

One of the biggest mistakes, many say, was sealing key road crossings. The police hoped this would ease traffic, but it has made things worse.

With no choice but to take longer, more crowded routes, people now spend extra time and fuel just to get across the city.

Instead of shutting crossings, the authorities could have turned to digital systems to guide and regulate traffic more efficiently.

The problem runs deeper.

Traffic management has been treated as a police issue, not a city planning challenge. There is little coordination with urban planners, transport experts, and community groups who could help shape smarter policies.

At many intersections, traffic lights have been removed or lie broken, even though cities across India have successfully used them to reduce congestion.

Meanwhile, traffic police have been focusing heavily on issuing challans. On most days, officers are seen taking pictures of vehicles with their phones, leaving commuters to fend for themselves in the middle of snarled roads.

For many people, this creates the impression that raising revenue is now more important than solving traffic chaos.

On top of this, there is no proper hearing system for those fined on the spot, which feels unfair to the public.

Jammu and Srinagar had once introduced CCTV-based challan systems that made enforcement more transparent. But these were never expanded citywide.

A smart, automated system that covers the entire city could both ease the load on traffic personnel and restore public trust.

To truly fix this crisis, several changes need to happen.

The long-awaited metro projects in both cities must move from paper to construction sites. The proposed metro lines should connect all city areas, key tourist spots, and religious destinations like the Mughal Gardens and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine. Reliable public transport would pull people out of their cars and ease the daily jams.

The sealed crossings should be reopened and equipped with smart traffic lights, sensors, and digital signboards. Instead of measuring success by the number of challans, traffic officers should focus on keeping roads moving smoothly. More staff should be deployed at busy junctions, especially during morning and evening rush hours.

There's also a need to rethink how the cities operate. Schools and offices could adopt staggered timings to spread traffic across the day. Like Delhi's odd-even policy, limiting car use based on license plates could help, at least in high-traffic areas.

Hospitals need attention too. Often, even non-emergency cases are referred to big city hospitals. Strengthening district hospitals and limiting unnecessary referrals could ease pressure on roads leading to city health centers.

Some of the solutions are big: widening roads, improving by-lanes, and building four-lane highways to connect Jammu and Srinagar to district headquarters. Expanding the railway network to major religious and tourist destinations would also take pressure off city roads.

Jammu and Srinagar deserve a modern, people-first traffic system. That means better infrastructure, smarter planning, and stronger coordination among all the players involved.

Without this, the daily gridlock will only grow, stealing hours from people's lives and suffocating the rhythm of these two proud cities.

The author can be reached at khanirshad7544@gmail.com. Views expressed are author's own.

Kashmir's Streets Echo the Grief of Karbala

Muharram is a living story of sorrow, sweetness, and soft bonds that hold the valley together.

Shireen Naman



The story of Hussain is written in the sky above Kashmir. It drifts like smoke, clings to the wood of old homes, rides the summer air.

In the long summer of Kashmir, the air stands still. The chinars barely stir. Somewhere, a pigeon beats its wings against the heat. The streets, worn and narrow, fill with the slow sound of footsteps.

There is a thump, a breath, a chant, and then the words rise again: Labbaik Ya Hus-sain.

When Muharram comes to Kashmir, it does not come like a season. It comes like a memory stepping back into the world.

In Srinagar, the roads darken under processions that move with the rhythm of grief. Men dressed in black walk with bare feet on warm

earth. Their hands rise, fall, strike their chests, as if the body itself must remember what the heart cannot hold.

The sound echoes against wooden windows and stone doorsteps. It carries through saffron fields and across the lake's silver edge.

Old men walk with their heads low. Young boys lift flags that flutter like rest-less birds. Women stand in doorways, their headresses gathered tightly, their eyes fixed on the long, slow river of people passing by.

Some murmur elegies under their breath. Some carry tears like small glass beads in their palms.

It is not only the streets that remember.

In kitchens, in homes

heavy with the scent of car-damom and slow-cooked milk, women stir Mayil - the soft, white phirni made with rice flour and memory.

The pots are large, their sides warm to the touch. The Mayil thickens patiently, waiting to be shared. It moves from house to house in small steel bowls, handed over low garden walls, passed through open windows.

In each spoonful, there is more than sweetness. There is a story, a prayer, and a soft promise that the past is not lost.

Along the roadside, small wooden stalls appear like sudden islands. They carry saebel - a sweet drink, simple but sacred.

It is date water sometimes,

or milk scented with sugar and rose.

A boy leans over to hand a glass to a stranger. Another boy refills it before the next one arrives. The drink is cold, but the meaning is not.

It remembers the thirst at Karbala, the small children who asked for water and were turned away. It remem-bers the sun that burned and the silence that followed.

Each sip is a soft defiance. Each offering is a wordless prayer.

The story of Hussain is written in the sky above Kashmir. It drifts like smoke, clings to the wood of old homes, rides the summer air.

Elsewhere in the valley, another journey silently un-folds.

The Amarnath Yatra moves forward, a different river of people flowing toward a sacred cave. Pilgrims climb the mountain paths, and in the villages below, Kashmiri Muslims offer them tea, shel-ter, and sweet bread.

They greet them with hands that have just been stirring Mayil, with hearts that are already full of Hus-sain.

Two journeys, side by side. One remembers a loss. One seeks a blessing. Together, they turn the land into some-thing softer, something wider than the borders drawn on maps.

Kashmir, often seen as a place of distance and divi-sion, shows a different face in these days.

It becomes a valley where grief is handed from palm to palm, where faiths walk par-allel roads, where a simple drink can hold the weight of history.

Here, Muharram is not only a story told. It is a story touched, tasted, walked, car-ried.

It is in the beat of the chest, in the warmth of rice milk, in the coolness of sweet wa-ter pressed into a stranger's hand.

In this place, even sorrow knows how to share. Even memory knows how to be-long.

- The author is a cultural activist and a scribe with Master's in Media and Journalism.

The Shepherd Who Became His Village's Lifeline

In the meadows of South Kashmir, one shepherd's simple acts of kindness built an unforgettable legacy.

Gowher Bhat

In the small village of Pingalgam, tucked deep in South Kashmir's Pulwama district, life moves with the pace of grazing cattle and the rhythm of changing seasons.

The air smells of earth and orchard blossoms. The chinar trees rustle in the wind, and the summer steams the spirit of countryside.

Among the men and women who hold this village together, one name stands out - Bilal Ahmad Dar.

At 26, Bilal is a spirited shepherd, a son, a husband, and a neighbour who has slowly become something more.

In a place where people often struggle to make ends meet, he has become a symbol of compassion.

Bilal's story began with a few cows and a pair of worn-out boots. He spent his childhood helping his family herd cattle, walking long distances through snow-covered trails, and working under the summer sun.

Over time, he built a modest cattle business, earning enough to settle down, get married, and start con-structing his own home.

But for Bilal, success was never meant to be just personal.

"Yes, I earned money. I got settled. I got married. I'm building my new home," he said, his words steady and full of purpose. "But I've always believed that when God gives you something, you must give something back. That's what keeps me going."

People in Pingalgam often find themselves in difficult situations, es-pecially when it comes to marriage ceremonies.

In Kashmir, these weddings can cost families more than they can afford.

Bilal has stepped in again and again, sending cattle free of charge

or on credit. When families could not pay for a butcher, he did the work himself. He never asked for amount and acknowledgement.

"He doesn't just help," said Shabir Khan, a local butcher. "He makes people feel valued. Even when some-one is struggling, he reminds them they still matter."

Bilal believes helping people is not about charity. It is about giving back their dignity.

Many young men from his village have left for Srinagar, Delhi, or even further to find easier lives.

Bilal could have done the same. With the money he now earns, he could have settled comfortably else-where. But he made a choice to stay.

He wanted to build something real, something that lasts beyond his own life.

"He could have left and found a more comfortable life," said Rouf Khan, a school teacher in the village. "But he stayed. And that's why we will remem-ber him long after we are gone."

His house, still under construction, stands on the edge of the meadows where he once grazed his cattle. Brick by brick, it rises not as a sign of wealth, but as a home where every-one is welcome.

Last winter, when three families lost their houses in a fire, Bilal offered them shelter in his unfinished home. He gave them food and a warm place to stay. He never told anyone.

"Anyone can build a house," Bilal said. "But I want mine to be a place where anyone in need can find warmth. Whether they are family or not, it doesn't matter. If someone's struggling, my door should always be open."

In a region where daily life is often touched by uncertainty and politi-cal tension, Bilal's simple ways have

brought hope to many.

He does not speak of his faith loud-ly, but his actions are rooted in it. He believes the things we own are not ours forever.

"We don't carry money to the grave," he said with a soft smile. "But we do carry the prayers of those we helped."

People across Pingalgam and neighbouring villages know Bilal for his kindness.

Hameed Khan, an elder from Ka-dibugh village, said, "People like him are rare. In a world full of noise, he speaks through what he does."

A young village has seen Bilal give his best cow to a family that could not afford one for their daughter's wedding. He never asked for any-thing in return.

Even the local children talk about Bilal with a sense of wonder. To them, he is not just a grown-up. He is part of their stories, part of what makes the village feel safe.

Unlike many others, Bilal wants to be remembered as someone who was useful.

"When I think of the future, I don't want to be remembered for how many cattle I owned or the house I built," he said. "I want to be remem-bered as someone who didn't look away when others were in pain."

In Kashmir, where the meaning of success is often linked to jobs, land, and wealth, Bilal Ahmad Dar offers a different path.

He shows that success can also be measured in kindness, in service, and in the simple act of standing with your people when they need you the most.

Pingalgam may be a small village, but it is home to one of the biggest hearts in the valley.

The author is a Pulwama-based writer and educator.

The Untold Story of Nusrat Parveen

She wore the crown, stood on global stages, and then stepped into a life most people never see.

Mohammad Arfat Wani

On a summer morning in Tral, a small town in South Kashmir where pine trees sway in the warm breeze and the air smells faintly of apple blossoms, Nusrat Parveen prepares breakfast for her family.

The sun rises early, stretching long shadows across the narrow streets, and the hum of morn-ing prayers floats from nearby homes.

There was a time when Nusrat's mornings looked very different.

In 2018, she stood under the bright lights of an international stage in Malaysia, crowned as India's representative at the Mrs. India International pageant.

Cameras followed her. Crowds clapped. For a brief moment, she belonged to the world of fashion and fame.

But not for long.

Even as the applause echoed, Nusrat was asking herself a ques-tion few around her could hear: What is this all for?

That question stayed with her, long after the stage emptied.

Over time, it pulled her away from the life she thought she wanted.

"I realised I wanted something that would last," she says now, sitting in the shade of her garden where rose bushes bloom and the summer air carries the scent of fresh bread from nearby bakeries.

Her voice is soft, but firm. "I didn't want to live just for the clapping."

Nusrat's decision was not a sudden break. She slipped out of the spotlight without a headline, without a farewell speech.

She simply stopped. The heels came off. The makeup stayed on the shelf. The woman who once walked the ramp now walks to her prayer mat at dawn.

Her journey began in Lucknow, in a house shaped by discipline and devotion. Her father, a de-fence officer, brought structure. Her mother, a woman of faith, filled the home with prayer.

Nusrat went to Kendriya Vidya-laya Bhawan and Girls' Higher Secondary School. She loved art, colour, and the beauty of form, interests that eventually drew her into fashion.

For years, she moved easily through that world. On stage, she sparkled. But something about it never settled inside her. "There's a moment," she says, "when you realise the lights don't reach your heart."

So she left.

These days, Nusrat teaches at Kendriya Vidyalaya in Tral. The walls of her classroom carry no pictures of her pageant days. Her students know her not as a former beauty queen, but as a teacher who brings warmth to her lessons and listens with care.

Her husband says his life has been shaped by her prayers and sacrifices. His words are not for effect, they are simply how he sees the life they've built together.

At home, Nusrat's days are made of steady, thoughtful rou-tines.

She finds purpose in simple things: morning prayers, prepar-ing meals, teaching her children, helping neighbours.

Sometimes, a hot meal appears on a widow's doorstep. Some-times, a struggling family silently

receives support for a daughter's wedding.

The giver is never named, but those close to Nusrat understand.

Her hands no longer carry de-signer bags. They carry baskets filled with food for someone else's table.

In a time where success often lives in social media posts and digital praise, Nusrat has chosen another measure. She doesn't chase followers. She doesn't need attention. Her life moves at its own pace, in the rhythm of home, school, and devotion.

"My happiness now is in small things," she says. "Being a mother, being a teacher, being a believer. It's enough."

Her home in Tral feels full of life. The breeze carries the sound of children playing and the smell of cooked rice from her kitchen. The house hums with prayers. The kitchen has become a school, where her children learn about love, generosity, and faith through the smallest daily moments.

Her story rarely makes news. Yet in Tral, among neighbours, friends, and students, she re-mains a steady source of strength.

For some, she will always be Mrs. India International. But to those who know her now, she is simply Nusrat: a mother, a teach-er, a woman of faith.

"Beauty is not in the crown you wear," Nusrat says. "It's in what you carry when no one is looking."

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When the Manifesto Misses the Point

Maroof Shah's proposed blueprint for change lands on old stereotypes, vague solutions, and a refusal to face the real forces holding women back.

Danish Shafi

By the time you finish Muham-mad Maroof Shah's Muslim Women: A Manifesto for Change, you're left with more ques-tions than answers.

The book sets out to tackle a crucial subject—the place, rights, and futures of Muslim women—but ends up tan-gled in contradictions, tired stereo-types, and ideas that circle without landing anywhere meaningful.

Shah believes that feminist think-ers have failed Muslim women, es-pecially in India. He argues that they have not clearly named the forces that oppress women, nor built strong spaces of resistance.

His core idea is that Muslim wom-en must step forward, not just to free themselves but to lead others too.

But the book never explains why this special burden should fall on Muslim women or why their path

should be different from women in other communities.

Instead of mapping the real sys-tems that hold women back—pa-triarchy, religious misreadings, economic inequality—Shah spends much of the book blaming women. He calls them disorganized, un-aware of their rights, and careless with money. He says women spend too much on clothes, houses, and weddings. He labels even educated women as "pathological consum-ers" who waste resources.

This line of thinking is not just narrow, it's flawed.

Shah seems to believe that a woman's worth is tied to her abil-ity to produce and build wealth. He does not seem to count the unpaid work that women do every day: raising children, caring for families, managing homes. This labour may not have a price tag, but it holds en-tire societies together.

His repeated complaint is that women waste time. He writes that women who stay home "have noth-ing to do" and spend their hours gossiping or plotting. He laments that Muslim women have not be-come a productive economic force.

But not every moment must be measured by profit. Leisure, rest, and social time can also be acts of resistance. Feminist thinkers have long argued that such spaces, often dismissed as gossip or idleness, al-low women to build trust, share knowledge, and push against male-dominated systems.

Shah's proposed solution is to rise above gender altogether. He sug-gests that women, and men, must abandon ego and individualism, and instead find a deeper spiritual self.

He calls for "metanoia," a per-sonal transformation that would erase divisions and lead to love and service. He draws on thinkers like

Iqbal, Panikkar, and Krishnamurti to build his case.

But the leap from real-world in-equality to spiritual detachment feels like a way of dodging the problem. Telling women to tran-scend gender when they are being oppressed because of gender is not a solution. It is an escape.

Shah avoids the harder work of confronting patriarchy, economic systems, and cultural norms. His warning against "individualism" rings hollow when he keeps asking women to become productive units in a capitalist frame.

When Shah turns to policy, his ideas are uneven. He suggests build-ing women's welfare funds, legal aid centers, free community kitch-ens, and hostels for women. These sound useful, but many of them al-ready exist in some form and have not created deep change. Without a stronger plan, they risk becoming

another list of half-measures.

One thoughtful section of the book is his discussion of the hijab. Shah brings in voices from secular, moderate, and Islamic scholars and questions the traditional view that hijab protects society from disorder. He carefully challenges the com-mon use of the "fitnah" argument and calls for a wider understanding of women's choices in dress.

His suggestion to fix extravagant weddings is more symbolic than practical. He proposes that families should take a public oath before Fri-day prayers to avoid wasteful spend-ing. It is a kind idea, but it's unlikely to undo the deep social pressure to show wealth through weddings.

The book also suffers from poor editing. Sentences and paragraphs repeat, sometimes word for word. The writing circles around the same ideas without building momentum. It's hard to tell how this made it to

print in its current form.

The closing pages introduce the Khusru Foundation, the book's publisher, which works to promote unity, tolerance, and pluralism. Yet its focus seems to rest almost en-tirely on educating Muslims, as if Muslims alone carry the burden of protecting harmony in India.

Muslim Women: A Manifesto for Change promised a new con-versation. What it offers is an old one, full of tired judgments about women's choices, a shaky grip on feminist thought, and a refusal to face the real power structures shap-ing women's lives.

In the end, the book circles around the problem but never re-ally touches it. It asks women to imagine the elephant is not in the room. But the elephant is still there.

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CUET-UG 2025 Results:

1 Candidate Scores 100 Percentile In Four Subjects

17 Bag Top Score In Three Subjects

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: One candidate has scored 100 percentile in four subjects in the Common Entrance University Test-Under Graduate (CUET-UG), while 17 candidates from across the country have bagged the top score in three subjects, the National Testing Agency (NTA) on Friday announced.

The NTA conducted CUET-UG in computer-based test (CBT) mode for 13,54,699 candidates. These candidates applied for various combinations of

subjects for the academic session 2025-2026.

"Only one candidate has scored 100 percentile in his or her opted four out of five subjects. A total of 17 candidates have scored 100 percentile in three subjects, while 150 candidates have scored 100 percentile in two subjects. A total of 2,679 candidates have scored 100 percentile in one subject," said a senior NTA official. In total, 37 subjects (13 languages, 23 domain-specific subjects and General Aptitude Test) were offered to the candidates in the CUET-UG 2025.

Candidates could choose up to a maximum of five subjects, including languages and

the General Aptitude Test. 322 unique question papers and 1,059 total question papers, including 13 languages (total 57,940 questions), were administered over a period of 19 days in 35 shifts.

The medium of the question paper was in 13 languages, including English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

The CUET-UG 2025 was conducted in 300 cities, including 15 cities outside the country in Abu Dhabi, Doha, Dubai, Munich, Kathmandu, Kuala Lumpur, Kuwait City, Lagos, Manama, Muscat, Riyadh, Sharjah, Singapore, West Java

and Washington.

The CUET-UG, which is a gateway to undergraduate admissions in the country, saw a record 13.5 lakh applications this year. The maximum candidates appeared for English (8.14 lakhs) followed by Chemistry (5.70 lakh) and General Test (6.59 lakh).

In a pattern shift from last year, the exam was conducted only in the Computer-Based Test (CBT) mode. In the first edition of the exam in 2022, CUET-UG was plagued by technical glitches. Also, as a result of tests for a subject being conducted over multiple shifts, the scores had to be normalised during the announcement of results.

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Union minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan Friday said the government is striving to make women socially and economically empowered by ensuring they earn more than Rs 10 lakh annually.

Chouhan was talking to reporters on the sidelines of an event, "Lakhpati Didi Sammelan", that celebrated the achievements of women-led self-help groups at Khonmoh in the outskirts of the city here.

"Our sisters and daughters should not be affected by poverty, their lives should improve

and they should have economic and social empowerment. For that, NRLM programme is going on under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"J-K government is also running that campaign. The aim is to make women lakhpatis who have more than Rs 1 lakh annual income. Many women are earning more than Rs 1 lakh. Now, we have to strive to make our sisters millionaires who earn more than Rs 10 lakh per year," Chouhan said.

The National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) is a poverty alleviation programme implemented by the Rural Development Ministry.

Hundreds of women beneficiaries under the 'Lakhpati Didi' initiative from various districts participated in the event, sharing their inspiring journeys of economic self-reliance and transformation.

A 'Lakhpati Didi' is a self-help group (SHG) member with an annual household income exceeding Rs 1 lakh.

The Union Minister for Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Rural Development while addressing the gathering praised the women as "real change makers", reaffirming the Centre's commitment to supporting rural women.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Srinagar Hits

the elderly and those with health conditions.

This ongoing heatwave follows a broader regional trend, with North India experiencing one of the hottest summers in recent memory, raising concerns about water scarcity and public health across several states, including Jammu and Kashmir.

Kashmir Warming

The plains and mountainous regions of Kashmir are warming faster than foothills and Karewa areas, with Srinagar (a floodplain) showing the highest rate of increase, partly due to urban heat island effects.

Data indicates a notable temperature jump around 1996-1997, with recent decades being warmer than the earlier years analyzed.

This rise in temperature is linked to worrying changes in agricultural patterns, including early flowering of crops like apples and oilseeds, which reduces yields and affects crop quality.

While temperatures rise, the Kashmir Valley is experiencing a sharp decline in precipitation. The annual rainfall has decreased by about 5 mm per year, with the most significant drops occurring in mountainous and foothill regions—areas critical for glacier recharge and water supply. Seasonal rainfall has fallen markedly in spring and winter, seasons vital for maintaining glaciers and groundwater.

This reduction in rainfall threatens the perennial flow of major rivers such as the Chenab, Jhelum, and Indus, which depend on glacier melt and spring precipitation.

Farmers report that diminished snowfall and erratic rains have led to water shortages for irrigation, particularly impacting the traditional paddy (rice) cultivation during the summer Kharif season.

Furthermore, the combined scientific data and farmer insights have highlighted the urgent need for adaptive strategies in Kashmir Valley agriculture. Rising temperatures and declining rainfall disrupt the growth cycles of key crops such as apples, saffron, walnuts, barley, and pulses.

The study has warned that without immediate adaptation measures, including water resource management and crop diversification, the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and food security in the Kashmir Valley could be severely compromised.(KNO)

Thousands Join 8th

Along the route, volunteers had set up Mowakibs where refreshments were being served to mourners. Mobile sprinklers, some showering rose water, were used across the stretch to cool the air. At Dalgate some volunteers were even seen offering foot washing and foot massage to fatigued participants.

"Serving the mourners of Imam Hussain (AS) is of great importance in our faith," said one volunteer offering the unique services. "That is why we feel privileged washing the feet of tired mourners. It is our way of honoring their devotion."

Security arrangements were tight, with senior police and civil officials including Special DGP (Coordination) SJM Gillani, IGP Kashmir V.K. Birdi, and Divisional Commissioner Vijay Kumar Bidhuri stationed at Lal Chowk. The officials personally joined in the commemorations, offering water to the mourners in a symbolic act of solidarity amid the hot July weather.

Speaking to reporters, IGP V.K. Birdi assured the public of the comprehensive arrangements in place. "The 8th Muharram procession is moving through the core of the city, so we ensured all traffic and security measures were in place for both mourners and commuters," he said. "We're also preparing for Ashura with the same level of commitment."

Divisional Commissioner Vijay Kumar Bidhuri praised the discipline and devotion of the participants. "This is the third year the procession has been permitted on its traditional route, and the administration has taken every step to ensure safety and peace. I commend the mourners for their cooperation and respectful observance," he stated.

To facilitate a smooth procession, the Traffic Police issued advance advisories and route diversions.

The 8th of Muharram marks a pivotal point in the mourning cycle for Shia Muslims as they reflect on the lead-up to the Battle of Karbala and the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (AS). For over three decades from 1989 this city procession was banned amid fears it could trigger political tensions. However, since its reinstatement, it has regained its stature as a cornerstone of Kashmir's Muharram observances.

The peaceful and emotionally resonant gathering on Friday reflected not only religious devotion but also a renewed sense of collective identity. With larger turnouts each year, the 8th Muharram procession has become a powerful symbol of spiritual resilience in the heart of Srinagar.

As the Valley now turns towards preparations for Ashura, the 10th day of Muharram, authorities and community leaders alike hope the same atmosphere of unity, discipline, and reverence will continue.

Baramulla DM

Superintendent of Police (SSP) Baramulla. According to the SSP's letter (No: CS/ Moharram/2025/12148-57, dated July 3, 2025), a Muharram procession traditionally organized by the Mirchimar Mohalla Committee — previously affiliated with the now-banned group Ittihad-ul Muslimeen — has become a source of contention this year. The Jammu and Kashmir Shia Association has raised serious objections, questioning the legitimacy of the procession on religious and proprietary grounds related to the Imam Bargah in Mirchimar.

The SSP further reported that tensions between the two factions have led to repeated clashes, resulting in multiple First Information Reports (FIRs) being filed at Police Stations in Pattan and Shalteng over the past months. The situation has escalated, raising significant concerns over the potential for renewed confrontations if the procession is allowed to take place.

Compounding the issue is a notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India (No: 1407/01/2025/NI-MFO dated March 11, 2025), which declared Ittihad-ul Muslimeen as an Unlawful Association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The group was banned for engaging in activities deemed prejudicial to the sovereignty, integrity, and security of India. As a result, any public event or mobilization associated with this organization or its affiliates is now prohibited by law.

Given the history of conflict, recent developments, and current security assessments, the SSP recommended the imposition of Section 163 BNSS in the area as a preventive measure. Acting on this recommendation, District Magistrate Minga Sherpa (IAS) has ordered that restrictions be enforced in Mirgund, Mirchimar, and nearby areas from 8:30 PM on July 4 to 9:30 PM on July 5, 2025.

Under the restrictions, no assembly or congregation of four or more persons will be allowed. All processions are strictly prohibited. Furthermore, individuals — except members of the armed forces, police, magistrates, or duly authorized public servants on duty — are barred from carrying firearms or any object that could be used as a weapon. The use of loudspeakers or sound amplification systems, whether stationary or mounted on vehicles, is also forbidden unless prior approval is obtained from the District Magistrate.

The administration has emphasized that these measures are necessary to maintain peace and order, and to protect life and property during the sensitive Muharram period. The order was issued under the official hand and seal of the District Magistrate, Baramulla, on July 4, 2025.

Srinagar Police

in provocative behaviour that posed a serious threat to the peace and integrity of the region. Authorities claim these actions were designed to incite unrest and destabilize the atmosphere of religious harmony during the sensitive period of mourning observed by the Shia community.

"In violation of laid-down conditions, certain individuals committed deliberate and unlawful acts during the Muharram procession on MA Road. These actions were intended to provoke unrest, disturb public order, and disrupt communal harmony, posing a serious threat to the security and integrity of the nation," the statement read.

In response, FIR No. 41/2025 has been registered at Police Station Kothibagh under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). The accused individuals have been identified, and legal proceedings are underway.

The Srinagar Police reiterated their commitment to maintaining peace and order in the city. "We will continue to take firm action against any attempts to destabilize public harmony through subversive or provocative activities," the statement added.

Search Op

of additional troops, they said.

Wednesday's encounter was the second in the Jammu region in the last one week. On June 26, a terrorist of the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed was killed in an encounter with the security forces while three of his associates managed to escape into the forested area of the Basantgarh belt in Udhampur district.

Bizman Alleges

According to Bhat, bank officials informed him that a man named Manikandan had approached a court in Coimbatore, alleging he had been duped into transferring 2 lakh to Bhat's account for investment purposes. Based on that claim, a court purportedly issued an order for the amount to be reversed from Bhat's account.

However, Bhat claims he never received any such amount and has repeatedly sought a copy of the court order from the bank — without success. "At first, they said it was a mistake and would be sorted out. Now they're telling me to track my money myself. This is unacceptable," he said.

He questioned how the bank could comply with a court order without verifying if the disputed amount had ever been credited to his account. "Had they checked, they would've found no such transaction. Yet they debited the money," he said.

Adding to the confusion, Bhat said that Manikandan — the petitioner in the case — is listed as an accused in the same case on the Coimbatore District Court's website.

HDFC Bank's branch manager in Srinagar, Adil Shah, said he had merely complied with a court order. "If the customer is aggrieved, he can approach the court in Coimbatore," Shah said.

Bhat said he also raised the issue with senior officials at HDFC, but got no relief. A spokesperson from HDFC Bank's corporate communications department confirmed that the matter has been flagged and is being looked into. "Our team has raised the concern with all stakeholders and relevant authorities," the official said.

The incident has triggered fresh concerns around the safeguards in place for account holders, especially in cases where bank actions are taken without verifying the legitimacy of claims or notifying the customer.

Bhat has indicated he may explore legal action if the issue is not resolved promptly.

Over 26K Pilgrims

priority would be given to those with prior registration. "We appeal to devotees to wait for their turn. Accommodation and other facilities have been strengthened this year," he said.

Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, also joined the inauguration of the Yatri Niwas complex virtually. Developed by ONGC under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, the complex can accommodate 800 pilgrims and includes a registration and security block.

Sinha thanked ONGC for establishing Yatri Niwas facilities at Sidhra (Jammu), Baltal, Nunwan, and Bijbehara at a total cost of 240 crore under CSR. He informed that work on other pilgrim shelters is ongoing and the Yatri Niwas at Nunwan is expected to be completed by October this year.

"Safe and adequate accommodation for all devotees is our top priority," Sinha said. "We are not only improving facilities for yatris but also supporting local livelihoods."

He also highlighted infrastructure improvements along the pilgrimage route, including widening of tracks, installation of safety railings, and grid-powered illumination for round-the-clock visibility and surveillance. "Grid power from Panchtarni to Chandanwari will also be ensured by next year," he added.

The annual Amarnath Yatra, which began earlier this week, draws thousands of devotees each year to the naturally formed ice 'Shivling' in the sacred cave shrine located at an altitude of 3,880 meters.

3rd Batch Of 6,411

Pahalgam route.

Pertinently, over 350,000 pilgrims have already registered online for this year's pilgrimage. To accommodate the influx of devotees, 34 lodging centres have been established across Jammu.

Pilgrims are being issued Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags for tracking and safety. Additionally, 12 counters have been set up to facilitate on-the-spot registration.

The 38-day-long Yatra, which commenced on July 3, will culminate on August 9.

Proud To See Our

LG Sinha congratulated the graduating students and highlighted the increasing participation and excellence of women in agri-sciences. "Proud to see our daughters breaking barriers and achieving success in Agricultural Science & Technology," he said. Out of 150 gold medals conferred, 115 were awarded to women students. Similarly, girls received 334 out of 445 Certificates of Merit. Overall, 2,661 out of the total 5,250 degrees awarded were bagged by women.

"This reflects a bright future for Jammu and Kashmir and the nation. Education is life itself, and when it aligns with the needs of time and global industry, it becomes society's most precious asset," the LG remarked.

He also spoke about the broader transformation underway in J&K's agriculture and allied sectors. "Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the agriculture sector has become a mainstay of India's economy. In J&K, the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) has emerged as a role model for the entire country," Sinha said.

The Lieutenant Governor outlined four major goals guiding agricultural reforms in the UT—shifting towards sustainable and commercial farming, building an agri-business ecosystem, adopting a community-centric approach, and ensuring income security for farming families.

Encouraging the graduates to contribute actively to innovation, LG Sinha said, "Your passion and ideas will shape the future of India's agriculture sector. I urge you to lead the way in agri-tech, food technology, and groundbreaking innovation."

Highlighting SKUAST-K's rapid academic and research growth, the LG commended Vice Chancellor Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai and his team for developing state-of-the-art infrastructure and launching new-age academic programs. "Research in areas like artificial intelligence, machine learning, gene editing, regenerative medicine, and

speed breeding is bringing J&K closer to becoming a knowledge economy," he noted.

Prof. Ganai read out the university's annual report, spotlighting achievements in academics, research, and community outreach.

On the occasion, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan also laid the foundation stone for a Girls' Hostel at the university.

The convocation ceremony was attended by a host of dignitaries, including former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, J&K's Agriculture Minister Javid Ahmad Dar, Education and Social Welfare Minister Sakina Itoo, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Principal Secretary Shailendra Kumar, alongside senior officials, faculty, students and their families.

J&K Govt Increases

on grants for departments under his charge.

In another key decision, the government has also scrapped the earlier guideline requiring MLAs to submit their list of proposed development works—up to the full 4 crore annual limit—within the first 90 days of the financial year.

With the amendment, legislators will now be allowed to propose works under the CDF scheme at any point during the financial year, provided they stay within the annual ceiling.

The decision is expected to give MLAs greater flexibility in responding to local development needs and improve the timely execution of constituency-level works.

Beyond Seeking

have the courage, we'll support you."

He encouraged students to move beyond seeking jobs and instead become job creators, especially in the agriculture and allied sectors. "Build agri-startups, consult farmer groups, privatize extension services. You are uniquely trained to bridge science and society. Stay rooted in your soil," he advised.

Using the metaphor of a seed, the chief minister called on students to grow with purpose and perseverance. "A seed faces darkness and resistance. Yet it grows into a tree that offers shade, fruit and shelter. Plant yourself in the right place. Water your dreams with effort. The world will benefit from your growth," he said.

Highlighting the importance of modernizing the agricultural sector, Omar asked: "Can you double the income of our small farmers? Can you design solutions for climate-smart agriculture? Can you build agri-enterprises that generate rural jobs? If yes, know this — you will never walk alone. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir will stand firmly with you."

He praised SKUAST-Kashmir for its pioneering work in temperate horticulture, sustainable mountain agriculture, organic farming, and livestock research. "This university has not only produced scholars, but also field-level innovators who are solving real problems faced by farmers," he said.

Stressing that agriculture is both the economic backbone and cultural soul of Jammu and Kashmir, he noted that over 70 percent of the population is directly or indirectly dependent on it. "It is not merely an occupation; it defines our way of life," he remarked.

The chief minister also underlined the urgency of adapting agriculture to modern challenges such as climate change, land degradation, and market volatility, and stressed the need for tech-driven, innovative solutions.

Omar also expressed pride that a significant majority of this year's gold medals were awarded to girl students. "To the daughters of this land, you are scripting a golden future with your brilliance. May you continue to shine and inspire," he said, congratulating the students and their families for their dedication and support.

Concluding his address, Abdullah said he was confident that Jammu and Kashmir's youth would lead the region into a future that is "scientific, sustainable, and dignified."

China Used

The Deputy Chief of Army Staff highlighted China's ancient military strategy of "36 stratagems" and killing the adversary with a "borrowed knife" to buttress the point that Beijing extended all possible support to Pakistan to cause pain to India.

Lt Gen. Singh, who looks after the Indian Army's capability development and sustenance vertical, said Beijing's support to Islamabad was not surprising as 81 per cent of the military hardware used by the Pakistani armed forces are from China. "Pakistan was the front face. We had China providing all possible support. This is no surprise because if you look at statistics, in the last five years, 81 per cent of the military hardware that Pakistan is getting is all Chinese," he said.

"He (China) would rather use the neighbour (Pakistan) to cause pain (to India) than getting involved in a mudslinging match on the northern border," Lt Gen. Singh said.

He said Turkiye also played an important role in providing support to Pakistan.

"We saw numerous drones coming and landing in the face of war, during the war, along with the individuals who are there," Lt Gen. Singh said.

The military officer underlined the need for India to learn its lessons from the conflict.

"The next important lesson is the importance of C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) and civil-military fusion. There is a lot to be done as far as this domain is concerned," he said.

"When the DCGMO-level talks were on, Pakistan actually was mentioning that we know that your such and such vector is primed and ready for action, and we would request you to perhaps pull it back. So he was getting live inputs from China. That is one place we really need to move fast and take appropriate action," Lt Gen. Singh said.

The Deputy Chief of Army Staff asserted that the "strategic messaging" by the Indian leadership was unambiguous and that there was no scope for "absorbing" the pain the way it was done years ago.

The planning and selection of targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) was based on a lot of data that was collected using technology and human intelligence, he said.

A total of 21 targets were identified, of which nine "we thought would be prudent to engage", Lt Gen. Singh said.

India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7, targeting terrorist infrastructure in territories controlled by Pakistan, in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, in which 26 people were killed.

The strikes triggered four days of intense clashes that ended with an understanding on stopping the military actions on May 10.

New Delhi has been maintaining that India's fierce counter-attack that day forced Pakistan to plead for ending the hostilities.

In his remarks, Lt Gen. Singh emphasised the high demand for drones in the armed forces and underlined the need to develop a favourable ecosystem.

"We have been in consultation with the Ministry of Defence and others to come up with a framework and by September or October, we should be out with our drone framework, wherein we are looking at how to incentivise all the production, how to get through the vulnerabilities and how to facilitate testing, which would be the basic theme of this framework," he said.

On the success of and learnings from Operation Sindoor, Lt Gen. Singh urged the industry to focus on investing more on research and development.

He stressed the need for "atmanirbharta" (self-reliance) in the defence sector and said no one should hold hostage as far as critical technologies and their supplies are concerned.

"India needs to be prepared for all five generations of warfare. The Indian armed forces must be ready now and future-ready for warfare that utilises numerous technologies and innovations," the Deputy Chief of Army Staff asserted.

The industry must stick to timelines and focus on four "C"s, which include cooperate, collaborate and compete, but not complain, he said.

"We have to be ready to fight the war, and it is not the soldiers only who can win a war. It is the soldiers and the industry going together," he added.

KU Extends

advised to complete the application process before the extended deadline. No further extension will be granted.

MCC Violation

was dismissed by Additional Special Mobile Magistrate Awantipora, Muneer Ahmad Bhat, who ruled that no cognisance of the offence could be taken due to procedural lapses in the chargesheet.

Parra, the PDP candidate from Srinagar parliamentary constituency, was booked after holding a roadshow on April 27, allegedly violating the poll code in place at the time. The court, however, noted that the police filed the chargesheet without a written complaint from a competent public servant, as required under Section 195(1)(a)(i) of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC).

"Since the challan is without a written complaint, no cognisance is taken of the offence under Section 188 IPC," the court said in its order. It added that the Model Code of Conduct, although enforced during elections, lacks statutory backing and is not an enforceable order under Section 188 IPC.

Highlighting that the MCC is a consensus-based ethical guideline rather than a law, the court said any prosecution under Section 188 must be supported by a formal complaint from the issuing authority—in this case, ideally, the Election Commission of India.

"The MCC itself does not identify which public servant issued the so-called order. Therefore, the legal requirements under Section 195 CrPC are not satisfied," the court observed.

As a result, the court dismissed the charges against Parra, discharged his bail and personal bonds, and directed that any seized materials be returned to their rightful owner.

The verdict underscores the legal limitations in enforcing the Model Code of Conduct through criminal prosecution and reaffirms that violations must be pursued in line with clearly established legal procedures.

J&K Bank Launches 'YUVA Udaan' Campaign

Observer news Service

SRINAGAR: In a significant step towards empowering youth and strengthening the implementation of the J&K Government's flagship employment initiative, Mission YUVA, J&K Bank launched a focussed and time-bound campaign titled "YUVA Udaan" across all its Zones in Jammu & Kashmir.

MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee today launched the 45-day campaign formally, at the Bank's corporate headquarters, to energize and operationalize the Bank's pivotal role as the principal financial partner of Mission YUVA. The event was attended by Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, General Managers, DGMs and other senior officers. Divisional, Zonal and Cluster Heads across J&K also joined the event through VC mode.

Addressing the participants after the launch, MD & CEO directed the operational teams to implement the campaign in mission mode, ensuring proactive identification, quick sanction, and timely disbursement of credit to eligible beneficiaries under Mission YUVA.

In his remarks on the occasion, MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee spoke about the emotional quotient that has been quite visible in the conception and designing of the scheme.

He said, "During my 37 years of banking experience, I have not seen an initiative wherein such serious engagements and thoughtful deliberations have been made by any government in laying a groundwork for it to be successful. In that sense, I see J&K Government's Mission YUVA not just as an initiative but as a transformational opportunity for the youth of J&K."

"There is no scope for failure in this campaign. For, while reaffirming our leadership as a responsive and inclusive financial institution, the mission also aligns with our larger vision of contributing meaningfully to the economic progress of the region by facilitating entrepreneurship and employment especially for youth besides financial inclusion through responsible banking", he added.

"Through YUVA Udaan campaign", he said, "We are mobilizing our entire branch network to act with purpose, speed and inclusivity to ensure that no deserving applicant is left behind. And the purpose is to avail this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the people of J&K particularly our talented youth, to make them earn their livelihoods with dignity and prosper through their



own chosen paths."

"So we must implement this mission with due diligence to reiterate to all our stakeholders that we are here to stay as the pivotal supporting pillar to the UT Government in realising its goals aimed at economic wellbeing of the people of J&K", he added.

Speaking at the launch event, Executive Director Sudhir Gupta urged all the concerned to make the campaign successful by achieving all the targets while ensuring the monitoring and follow up of the cases. "Let us make this campaign a success. I hope the operational heads will take things seriously by involving their teams in the process from screening and sanctioning to monitoring and following up on the cases."

Earlier, General Manager (Credit) Ashutosh Sareen termed YUVA Udaan as a high voltage campaign and dwelled upon the background of the campaign. "It is a platform for real grassroots transformation that envisages turning employment-seekers into employment generators", he said.

On the occasion, DGM Rakesh Magotra gave an overview of the campaign and its objectives along with the details of schemes devised by the Bank under the Government's Mission YUVA program.

With the recent formal launch of Mission YUVA by the J&K Government, the Bank's campaign has been designed to create focused momentum at the grassroots level. The objective is to facilitate the early success of the scheme by deepening public engagement, enhancing institutional responsiveness, and delivering results in a time-bound manner.

As part of the "YUVA Udaan" campaign, Zonal Offices will oversee rigorous on-ground outreach and coordination. Branches have been tasked with identifying eligible beneficiaries in their respective service areas and extending necessary support to ensure smooth and timely processing of applications. The Bank also plans to organize focused awareness drives, credit camps, and community-level engagements during the campaign to enhance scheme visibility and connect with potential beneficiaries.

Notably under Mission YUVA, J&K Government aims to establish 137000 enterprises thereby creating employment opportunities for 425000 unemployed youth.

Mediation Drive 'For the Nation' Launched To Settle Pending Cases

Observer news Service

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), in association with the Mediation & Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC) of the Supreme Court of India, has conceptualized a Special Mediation Drive titled Mediation 'For the Nation'. The initiative is being launched under the guidance of the Chief Justice of India and Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India, who is also the Executive Chairman of NALSA and Chairman of MCPC.

The campaign is being rolled out across the country and will run from July 1 to September 22, 2025 as an intensive drive to settle pending cases through mediation. It will cover Taluka Courts, District Courts and High Courts across India.

A meeting was chaired by Y. P. Bournay, Principal District and Sessions Judge Jammu/Chairman District Legal Services Authority, Jammu at his office chamber with the Judicial Officers of District Headquarters Jammu regarding the Special Mediation Drive- "Mediation for the Nation".

The campaign aims to settle pending cases through mediation in all Taluka Courts, District Courts and High Courts of India. The Principal District and Sessions Judge briefed the Judicial Officers on the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and timeline for the campaign.

He discussed that campaign's objective is to reduce pending cases and court backlog, provide an alternative dispute resolution mechanism, save time and costs for litigants, promote

amicable settlements, and enhance access to justice.

Later, the information was also shared by Y. P. Bournay, Principal District and Sessions Judge and Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Jammu, while interacting with media personnel. During the special campaign, all matters that contain elements of settlement may be referred for mediation. These include cases pending under various categories such as matrimonial disputes, accident claims, domestic violence, cheque bounce, commercial disputes, service matters, criminal compoundable offences, consumer disputes, debt recovery, partition, eviction, land acquisition and other suitable civil matters.

Principal District and Sessions Judge, Y. P. Bournay further informed that all courts in District Jammu will take up eligible cases for disposal through the mediation process during the campaign period. He urged the general public to take advantage of this opportunity to resolve their long-pending disputes amicably and efficiently through mediation. Litigants can approach their concerned courts to have their cases listed before the mediation panel.

Also, the Pr. Distt. & Sessions Judge Jammu convened a meeting with President Bar Association Jammu and conveyed Lawyer fraternity about the ongoing special campaign i.e. Mediation for the Nation and sought full cooperation of the Lawyers. The President, Bar Association Jammu assured full cooperation in ensuring this Special Campaign a success.



SHIA MOURNERS BEAT THEIR CHESTS during the historic 8th Muharram procession in Srinagar.

KO PHOTO, AMJED WANI

CS Aligns Hydropower Development With Community Empowerment

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chaired a meeting to review and strategize the accelerated development of hydropower projects across various rivers in Jammu & Kashmir.

The meeting underscored the administration's unwavering commitment to harnessing the region's immense hydro-electric potential as a cornerstone of sustainable growth and prosperity here.

The pivotal meeting saw the participation of key officials, including the Principal Secretary, Power Development Department (PDD); Principal Secretary, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction (DMRR&R); Principal Secretary, Finance; and the Director General, Budget among others.

Concerned Deputy Commissioners joined the meeting via video conferencing.

During this review meeting the Chief Secretary unequivocally remarked that the Hydro-power is the mainstay of the economy of our UT therefore our collective endeavour shall be to enhance the generation capacity by completing all the projects under the set timeline.

He highlighted the critical role of hydropower in ensuring energy security, driving industrial growth, and creating employment opportunities within J&K. He stressed the imperative of adhering to deadlines strictly to bring these vital projects to fruition expeditiously.

A key focus of the discussions revolved around the holistic rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) plans for communities impacted by new projects. The Chief Secretary emphasized a forward-looking approach, asserting that the R&R plans for the newly constructed projects should include the market-driven skills to be imparted to the local youth there. The aim should be to equip the local



populace with relevant skills, enabling them to integrate seamlessly into the evolving economic landscape and benefit directly from the development initiatives.

Furthermore, Chief Secretary Dulloo underscored the paramount importance of addressing community needs through the Local Area Development component. He urged the officials to prioritize developmental works as raised by the locals, ensuring that the benefits of these large-scale projects directly translate into tangible improvements in the lives of the people residing in the project vicinity.

The meeting highlighted the ambitious plans and ongoing efforts to harness J&K's vast hydropower potential, which is crucial for the region's energy security and economic growth.

In his presentation the Principal Secretary, PDD, Rajesh Prasad gave out that J&K possesses an estimated hydropower potential of approximately 18,000 MW, with around 15,000 MW already identified. Currently, 3540.15 MW has been harnessed, comprising 1197.4 MW from the UT sector, 2250 MW from the Central sector (NHPC Ltd.), and 92.75 MW from Independent Power Producers (IPPs).

He further explained that the UT has embarked on an ambitious path to expeditiously develop the remaining hydropower potential informing that 15 projects, aggregating a massive 7768 MW, are at various stages of implementation.

This includes 3063.5 MW worth of projects under construction with 49.5 MW in the UT sector and 3014 MW in the Joint Venture.

The projects that had been tendered out or are at award stage cumulatively makes 641 MW, including 141 MW in the UT sector and 500 MW in the Central sector, the meeting was apprised. Additionally the projects at advanced stage of investigation/appraisal/DPR stage and ready to be tendered out includes 4063.5 MW, comprising 390 MW in the UT sector, 2743.5 MW in the Central sector (NHPC), and 930 MW in the JV sector.

The major projects under UT sector the status of which was assessed were Parnai HEP (37.5 MW), with a physical progress of 64% (as of June 15, 2025), this project is anticipated to be commissioned by December 2027.

Karnah HEP (12 MW), was said to show a physical progress of 74.75% (as of May 30, 2025) and is expected to be commissioned by November 2025.

Similarly Pakaldul HEP (1000 MW), under JV Sector (CVPPL) was given out to have achieved 70% physical progress (as of June 30, 2025). It is anticipated to be completed by December 2026.

The Chief Secretary assured full support to expedite clearances, resolve all the bottlenecks, and ensure timely completion of these vital projects, underscoring the government's commitment to transforming J&K into a power-surplus region.

Banderpora Kakapora Farmers Suffer As Irrigation Pump Lies Defunct

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: Amidst the persistent dry spell, the residents of Banderpora in South Kashmir's Kakapora area of Pulwama district are grappling with a severe water crisis as their paddy fields continue to dry up due to a non-functional irrigation pump.

Speaking to KNO, the farmers said that their crops are on the verge of collapse, with no response from authorities despite repeated pleas.

They added that the drought pump base was constructed nearly two years ago, but the pump itself was never installed. "Our fields are drying up before our eyes. All we need is a functioning pump?" said Ghulam Nabi, a local farmer. "We work so hard on our land, but the system fails us every time."

Another farmer, Mohammad Maqbool, voiced his frustration, saying, "We had high hopes this year. But with no

water, our entire season is going to waste. It's heartbreaking to see the crop withering in front of us."

Khalid Ahmad, a young farmer from the area, added, "What hurts most is the indifference. We have been knocking on doors for months now. If the government can't provide basic irrigation in an agricultural area, where else should we go?"

"If water doesn't reach our fields in the next few days, all the effort of the last three months will go in vain. We don't need sympathy, but action," locals said.

They urged the district administration and the irrigation department to immediately restore the water supply before irreversible damage is done to the current season's paddy crop.

Meanwhile, Hasnain Masoodi, MLA Pampore visited the affected area today to assess the on-ground situation. During his interac-

tion with residents, he was informed that thousands of kanals of agricultural land are being directly impacted, putting the livelihood of hundreds of families at risk.

"The paddy is in its most critical stage. Without irrigation, we are staring at a total crop failure," said another local, Abdul Rashid.

Justice Masoodi criticized the laxity shown by the administration, pointing out that it wouldn't take more than an hour to install a drought pump or manually de-silt the existing way if officials had the will to act. "There is no passion among some officers to work sincerely for public welfare," he said. "The issue is not just technical—it's administrative apathy. A higher-level team must visit the spot and see the reality for themselves."

He assured the residents that he will raise the issue at the appropriate forum and push for swift action by the concerned department.

DC Budgam Conducts Assessment Of Ashura Arrangements



Observer News Service

BUDGAM: In view of the forthcoming observance of Ashura (10th Muharram-ul-haram), Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat on Friday conducted a comprehensive review and on-spot assessment of arrangements at Behesht Zehra Park Budgam -a key congregation site for mourners in the district.

During the inspection, DC interacted with concerned officers and took stock of the facilities being put in place to ensure a smooth and peaceful conduct of the Ashura procession.

He emphasised the need for inter-departmental coordination and timely completion of all preparatory measures.

DC issued a series of on-the-spot directives to the departments involved.

He instructed EO Municipal Committee Budgam to install adequate tents and shelters for mourners, ensure regular sanitation drives, and place sufficient dustbins in and around the park as well as along procession routes to maintain cleanliness and hygiene.

Jal Shakti department was directed to keep water tankers readily available and ensure uninterrupted tap water supply to the public convenience blocks at the site.

KPDCL was asked to check and ensure the functionality of streetlights and guarantee uninterrupted electricity supply during the procession timings, particularly in congregation zones.

CMO Budgam was instructed to deploy an adequate number of paramedical staff and emergency medical facilities at designated locations to respond swiftly to any health emergencies during the procession.

DC underscored the importance of dedicated and sensitive approach by all departments, keeping in view the significance of the day.

He directed all line departments to work in close coordination and ensure all arrangements are in place well ahead of time.

District administration Budgam has appealed to the general public, especially participants of the Ashura procession, to extend full cooperation with the authorities and adhere to all issued guidelines for observance of the day.

DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Budgam, Chief Planning Officer (CPO), Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Tehsildar Budgam, all Executive Engineers, Executive Officer Municipal Committee Budgam, and other concerned officers and officials during his visit.

SHRI BUDHA AMARNATH JI YATRA 2025

DC Poonch Reviews Necessary Arrangements

Observer News Service

POONCH: In a proactive move to ensure smooth and hassle-free conduct of the upcoming Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025, the Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Vikas Kundal undertook a comprehensive town visit to assess and review the preparedness of the administration and allied departments.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Executive Officer Municipal Committee, Tehsildar Haveli and officers from various line departments. Members of the Yatra Management Committee also joined the inspection.

During the visit, the DC inspected lodgement and facilitation centers, including College Ground, Government Degree College Poonch, ITI, Shri Dash-nami Akhara Poonch. He also

took stock of the facilities for the Yatris.

The DC emphasized the need for inter-departmental coordination and directed the line departments and nodal officers to ensure the provision of drinking water, uninterrupted power supply, medical aid, first aid stations, sanitation, mobile toilets, traffic, security, parking and lodging facilities and availability of langars.

The DC stressed upon creating a pilgrim-friendly atmosphere, ensuring cleanliness and hygiene besides providing round-the-clock assistance to the devotees.

The DC reaffirmed the administration's commitment to making this spiritual journey a peaceful, secure, and memorable experience for all pilgrims. He urged all stakeholders to remain vigilant and ensure that every requirement of the Yatra is addressed well in time.

SANJY 2025:

DC Bandipora Undertakes Inspection Of Shadipora Transit Camp



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As part of ongoing efforts to ensure seamless arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra (SANJY) 2025, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, conducted an inspection of the Shadipora Transit Camp to assess the quality of facilities and services being provided to the pilgrims.

The visit was aimed at taking a firsthand appraisal of the infrastructure, logistics, and support systems established for yatris at one of the key transit points.

On the occasion, DC was accompanied by SDM Sumbal, Tehsildar Sumbal and other concerned officers.

During the inspection, DC

thoroughly reviewed accommodation arrangements, sanitation measures, medical aid stations, and other critical amenities. He laid special emphasis on maintaining hygiene, ensuring round-the-clock medical assistance, and upholding safety standards to provide a hassle-free experience for pilgrims.

While interacting with the yatris during the visit, DC sought direct feedback on their experience. The pilgrims expressed satisfaction with the arrangements, particularly highlighting the availability of clean accommodation, timely medical assistance, and cooperative support staff.

Qadri directed the concerned departments to remain on alert and address any emerging issues promptly.

Siraj Grabs 6 As India Stay Ahead On Day 3



Press Trust of India

BIRMINGHAM: Mohammed Siraj's stellar six wicket-haul kept India ahead in the second Test against England after counter-attacking hundreds from Jamie Smith and Harry Brook threatened to take the game away from the visitors on an extraordinary third day here on Friday.

Siraj struck twice in the second over of the day to leave England on the mat at 84 for five before Brook (158 off 234) and Smith (184 not out off 207) combined to script the hosts' remarkable recovery with a 303-run stand off 368 balls.

England eventually ended with 407 all out in response to India's mammoth 578 all out. At stumps, India were 64 for one in 13 overs with the loss of Yashasvi Jaiswal (28 off 22), leading England by 244 runs.

K L Rahul (28 batting off 38) looked in sublime touch and was joined by Karun Nair (7 batting off 18) in the middle after the left-handed opener was trapped in front by Josh Tongue amid grey skies with floodlights on.

England hammered as many as 172 runs in the

morning session despite having lost half their side, before adding another 106 runs in a wicketless afternoon session.

With the wicket not helping either the pacers or spinners, India were desperately hoping the second new ball would do the trick for them. And it did with Siraj (6/70) and Akash Deep (4/88) taking England's last five wickets for 20 runs, giving India a healthy 180-run first innings lead.

Both the pacers got the new ball to seam around and the tail was polished off quickly after Akash Deep had Brook's off-stump uproot with a nip backer.

While both Brook and Smith produced special efforts, it was the latter who shifted the momentum in the morning session with his bold strokeplay. In the process, Smith surpassed Alec Stewart to record the highest score by an England wicket-keeper batter.

For India, the performance of spinners Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar left a lot to be desired on a flat pitch. On the pace front, Prasidh Krishna was expensive leaking 5.50 runs per over.

In the afternoon session,

Brook enhanced his lofty credentials with a ninth hundred in 27 Tests.

The Indian bowlers were able to bring down the run-rate but did not create enough chances to break a marathon stand between Brook and Smith.

Brook got to his hundred shortly after lunch with a guided shot off Krishna towards third man. In the penultimate over before tea, Brook got couple of fours via a reverse sweep and one from back of the bat off an attempted pull.

Resuming the day at 77 for three, England lost half their side in the second over of the morning session when Siraj had Joe Root (22) and Ben Stokes (0) caught behind.

England were reduced to 84 for five but Smith and Brook continued to attack and put pressure back on the opposition.

It is not often that Brook is outscored but it happened on Friday as Smith relentlessly attacked the Indian bowlers.

Smith got to his second Test hundred off 80 balls, the third fastest by Englishman, with consecutive fours off Jadeja in the last over before lunch.

India's Tour Of Bangladesh Set To Be Postponed

India's upcoming white-ball tour of Bangladesh is likely to be postponed as the BCCI is "wary" of the security situation in the country which is in turmoil since last year's civil unrest that resulted in the overthrowing of the Sheikh Hasina-led government.

India were to play three T20 Internationals and three ODIs during the tour from August 17 to 31 in Chittagong and Dhaka.

However, the series is not cancelled but will be held at a later date "preferably 2026" as ODI Championship points for World Cup qualification are linked to it. It is understood that BCCI wants the tour to go ahead only after the general elections are held in Bangladesh and "a stable government is in place taking care of the law and order situation." Elections in Bangladesh are not expected to take place before early next year.

Bangladesh is currently governed by an interim government led by Muhammad Yunus.

Yunus took over after Hasina was ousted following a students-led protest against reservation in jobs in August last year. She fled to India following the toppling of her Awami League government. (PTI)

Winger Nico Williams To Stay At Athletic Bilbao

Spain winger Nico Williams has agreed to long-term deal that will keep him at Athletic Bilbao through 2035, the Spanish club said Friday. The 22-year-old Williams has been one of the top rising talents since he excelled in helping Spain win the 2024 European Championship last summer.

Barcelona was reportedly keen on trying to sign him. Instead, Athletic said Williams will sign a new deal that gives him an eight-year extension. His current contract was through 2027.

Nico and his older brother Iñaki are fan favorites for Athletic, which only fields players from Spain's northern Basque Country region and neighboring territories.

Athletic will play in the Champions League next season after finishing La Liga in fourth place. (AP)

Former Arsenal Midfielder Thomas Partey Charged

Former Arsenal midfielder Thomas Partey has been charged with five counts of rape, British police said Friday.

Partey has also been charged on one count of sexual assault, with the alleged offenses taking place between 2021-22.

Partey's lawyer Jenny Wiltshire told Britain's Press Association that he "denies all the charges against him," adding: "He now welcomes the opportunity to finally clear his name."

The 32-year-old Partey is a free agent after his Arsenal contract expired at the end of last season. He joined the Premier League club in 2020 for 45.3 million pounds (\$61.8 million) from Spanish team Atletico Madrid. Police said the investigation was opened in February 2022 when it first received a report of rape. The five rape charges relate to two different women. The sexual assault charge relates to a third woman.

Real Kashmir To Start Durand Cup Campaign Against Indian Navy



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K's top football club, Real Kashmir FC, will begin its 2025 Durand Cup campaign against Indian Navy FT on August 1. Per the tentative fixtures list released on Friday, the Snow Leopards will play their first Group Stage game of the 134th edition of the prestigious competition at Khuman Lampak Main Stadium in Imphal, Manipur. The matchup will kick off at 4:00 PM.

The Srinagar-based club has been placed in Group F alongside TRAU FC, NEROCA FC and Indian Navy FT. A total of 24 teams are participating in the tournament.

Real Kashmir will next take on TRAU FC on August 4 at the same venue at 4:00 PM. Their third contest will pit them against NEROCA FC on August 10 at Lampak Main Stadium, with kick off at 4:00 PM.

Other top football clubs competing in the competition include Mohun Bagan SG, Mohammedan SC, East Bengal FC, 1 Ladakh FC, Punjab FC, Shillong Lajong FC, Northeast United FC, and two foreign teams, among others.

For the first time, the Durand Cup will be played in five states, including Manipur's capital, Imphal; Kokrajhar, Assam; Jamshedpur, Jharkhand; Shillong, Meghalaya; and Kolkata, West Bengal.

The J&K Football Association congratulated the Snow Leopards on earning a place in the tournament.

"As the oldest football competition in Asia and a symbol of Indian football heritage, the Durand Cup is where legends are made. Real Kashmir FC's participation is a testament to the club's rising stature and the growing footballing excellence in Jammu & Kashmir," the FA said in a statement.

The 2025 Durand Cup will kick off on July 23 with East Bengal facing South United FC at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (Salt Lake) Stadium in Kolkata. The tournament's ceremonial flag off took place on Friday at Rashtrapati Bhawan, with President of India Droupadi Murmu leading the celebrations.

Mehrajuddin Wadoo Named FPAI President

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Legendary J&K footballer Mehrajuddin Wadoo was on Friday appointed President of the Football Players Association of India (FPAI). India football great Sunil Chhetri was named Vice President along with three others.

Wadoo was unanimously elected to take over as president after the completion of AGM and previous Board Meetings.

The J&K Football Association congratulated Mehrajuddin Wadoo on his historic appointment.

"This moment marks a landmark achievement for Jammu & Kashmir. Mehrajuddin Wadoo's elevation is not just a personal triumph but a proud reflection

of the footballing talent nurtured in the region," the FA said.

Here's the new FPAI board for next term: President: Mehrajuddin Wadoo



Vice Presidents: Sunil Chhetri Sandesh Jhingan Gurpreet Singh Sandhu Rahul Bheke Secretary: Arindam Bhattacharya Treasurer: Deepak Mandal

Board Members: Chinlensana Singh Kean Lewis Dalima Chhibber Phurba Lachenpa

UEFA Fines Chelsea \$23.6M & Barcelona \$17.7M

Chelsea was fined 20 million euros (\$23.6 million) for breaking financial monitoring rules and Barcelona was ordered to pay 15 million euros (\$17.7 million) by UEFA on Friday. Both clubs must pay tens of millions of more euros (dollars) in future seasons if they miss financial targets set by UEFA.

Chelsea had been under investigation for the 76.5 million pounds (\$104.4 million) sale of two hotels between subsidiaries of Chelsea's holding company, Blueco 22 Ltd. Chelsea has been owned since 2022 by Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital.

Chelsea's fine matches the record 20 million euros (\$23.6 million) sanction imposed in 2014 on Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain by UEFA. Those were the first round of penalties in the system then called Financial Fair Play. In other investigations settled on Friday, UEFA fined financially troubled French club Lyon 12.5 million euros (\$14.7 million) with future fines conditional on meeting targets.C

Why India Can't Deny Pakistan Entry To Multi-Lateral Events On Its Soil

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: With an audacious bid to host Olympic Games at stake, the Indian government could not have blocked Pakistan from multi-lateral sporting events here despite the prevailing public anger against the arch-rivals as it could have resulted in the nation being barred from hosting future big events.

The government on Thursday gave its approval for Pakistani participation in hockey's Asia Cup (August) and the Junior World Cup (November-December), the junior shooting World Cup (September) and World Para-Athletics Championship (October).

The reason being that any move to block Pakistan, in the aftermath of the Pa-



halgam terror attack that killed 26 tourists, would have been a violation of the Olympic charter, which is like a constitution for the

Olympic Movement. The charter's Rule 44 specifically prohibits National Olympic Committees from excluding athletes based on

"racial, religious or political reasons".

Failure to grant visas can lead to "international isolation and loss of hosting rights for future events."

India has borne the brunt of this just six years ago when Pakistani shooters were denied visas to compete in the ISSF shooting World Cup, which was also an Olympic qualifying event.

An irate IOC didn't just halt discussions with India on hosting rights of all future events, it also revoked the Olympic qualifying status of the 25m rapid fire pistol competition in which the Pakistani shooters were to compete.

India's actions were driven by the outrage against the Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF personnel

were killed by a Pakistan-based terrorist group.

The talks on future events resumed only after India gave specific written guarantees that no such discrimination would take place going forward.

The IOC had recommended international federations to "neither award or hold sports events in India until guarantees are obtained". A year before that, India had denied visas to boxers from Kosovo in the World Boxing Championship for women.

Given that the country is pushing ahead aggressively with its plans to have the 2036 Olympics in Ahmedabad, any move to stop Pakistani athletes in multilateral events would have severely harmed its prospects.

TRAFFIC POLICE HEADQUARTERS, J&K, JAMMU/SRINAGAR

- From 03-07-2025, 1700 hrs, to 04-07-2025, 1600 hrs., there was slow movement observed on NH-44 due to breakdown of 03 HMVs, single lane traffic at Nashri-Dalwas and between Mang & Kishtwar Pather.
- Commuters belonging to Reasi, Katra, Udhampur, Patnitop, Doda and Ramban town are requested to keep their photo ID card to prove their identification after cut off timing from Jammu/Udhampur so that their movement can be facilitated smoothly.
- Passengers/LMVs operators are advised to undertake journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW during day time due to apprehension of shooting stones between Ramban and Banihal.
- Goods carrier (HVM/LMV) Operators carrying fresh perishable/live stock are advised to load their vehicle as per advisory issued by Traffic Police Headquarters time to time as there is single lane traffic and poor condition of road at Nashri-Dalwas and between Mang & Kishtwar Pather on Jammu Srinagar NHW.
- Fruit growers/ Load carrier (HVM/LMV) Operators carrying fresh perishable from Valley towards Jammu are advised to load and park their vehicle timely (every morning before 9.00 am at designated place between NAVYUG Tunnel and Levdoora) so that their movement can be facilitated smoothly.
- HQs Operators/Owners are requested to desist from overloading and carry sufficient fuel during journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW. It is further requested that vehicle owners must double check the fitness of their vehicles and carry sufficient fuel before undertaking journey on Jammu-Srinagar NHW.
- HMVs with only 06 and 10 tyres shall be allowed to ply through Dhar road.
- Commuters are advised to avoid unnecessary haltag between Ramban and Banihal especially near landslide/shooting stone area.

TRAFFIC PLAN & ADVISORY FOR 05-07-2025:-

Subject to fair weather and better road conditions SANJY convoy/LMVs Passenger/Private Cars shall be allowed from both sides on Jammu-Srinagar NHW (NH-44) viz from Jammu towards Srinagar and vice-versa. However, HMVs shall be allowed on alternate days. TCU Jammu/Srinagar shall liaise with TCU Ramban before releasing this traffic.

SHRI AMAR NATH JI YATRA 2025

Please refer to Yatra Advisory No. 01 dated 27-06-2025

CUT OFF TIMINGS FOR LMVs/PASSENGER/PRIVATE CARS:-

To be released from:-

- Nagrota (Jammu) towards Srinagar: from 0600 hrs. to 1200 hrs.
- Jakhni (Udhampur) towards Srinagar: from 0700 hrs to 1300 hrs &
- Qazigund towards Jammu: from 1130 hrs to 1400 hrs.

TCU Jammu and TCU Srinagar will inform all concerned about the traffic advisory and cut off timings. No vehicle shall be allowed to move before and after cut off timings.

HMVs/Load Carriers:-

Subject to fair weather and better road conditions, HMVs shall be allowed from NAVYUG Tunnel (Qazigund side) towards Jammu after assessing the road and traffic situation on NH-44 and no HMV shall be allowed after 1900 hrs. TCU Srinagar shall liaise with TCU Ramban before releasing the HMVs.

Moreover, in view of ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025, to provide hassle free movement of trucks carrying fresh/perishable goods on NH-44, UT administration has decided, all tankers of Petrol, Diesel, LPG bulk gas, all trucks carrying empty LPG cylinders; all empty vehicles of FC; any other vehicle loaded/empty upto 10-tyres shall use only Mughal Road while returning to Jammu, as per advisory issued by DIVCOM Kashmir vide No. Divcom/Dev/120/2025/7055-75 dated 01-07-2025

Kishtwar- Sinthan- Anantnag NH-244:-

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, after getting green signal from NHIDCL, LMVs/HPSVs shall be allowed from both sides viz from Anantnag towards Kishtwar and vice- versa on Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road. These vehicles shall be allowed from PP Parana towards Anantnag from 0800 hrs to 1600 hrs and from PP Daksum towards Kishtwar from 0900 hrs, to 1500 hrs. No HMV other than designated HPSVs shall be allowed as per order issued by SDM Chhatroo vide No. SDM/C/2025-26/146-53 dated 16-05-2025 and SDM Kokernag vide No. SDM/KNG/665-71 dated 16-05-2025.

SSG ROAD

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, (after getting green signal from the BRO) traffic movement shall be allowed on regulated manner on Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumari road. LMVs followed by HMVs shall be allowed from Minamarg towards Srinagar at 0500 hrs. to 1000 hrs. Similarly, LMVs followed by HMVs shall be allowed from Sonamarg towards Kargil at 1130 hrs to 1730 hrs. No vehicle shall be allowed after cut off timing. SFS Convoy, plying from Srinagar to Kargil and vice versa shall plan their movement in such a manner so that Yatra convoys (both UP and DOWN) don't get disturbed.

Mughal Road:-

Subject to fair weather and good road condition, after getting green signal from Road maintenance agencies (GREF), LMVs Passenger/Private Cars shall be allowed from both sides on Mughal road viz from Jammu towards Srinagar and vice-versa via Poonch. However, HMVs (upto ten tyres only) shall be allowed from Shopian towards Poonch. These vehicles shall be allowed from Behramgala (Baffilaz) and Herpora (Shopian) at 0700 hrs. upto 1800 hrs. as per advisory issued by DIVCOM Kashmir vide No. Divcom/Dev/120/2025/7055-75 dated 01-07-2025.

ADVISORY :-

People are advised to undertake journey only after confirming status of the road from Traffic control units as under:-

- Jammu (0191-2459048, 0191-2740550, 9419147732, 103)
- Srinagar (0194-2450022, 2485396, 18001807091, 103)
- Ramban (9419993745, 1800-180-7043)
- Udhampur (8491928625)
- PCR Kishtwar (9906154100)
- PCR Kargil (9541902330, 9541902331)