



Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Department of Culture

under the aegis of

AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV
“Har Ghar Tiranga”

Celebrations

Cordially invites you to participate in

TIRANGA MAHOTSAV - 2025

(Tiranga Yatra, exhibition and Tiranga concert)

on

12th August, 2025

Shri Manoj Sinha

Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor J&K
has kindly consented to be the Chief Guest



*All are cordially invited to participate and grace the occasion
with Tiranga in hands*

Venue : i) SKICC Sgr. (6:30 AM) Sharp ii) Botanical Garden, Sgr. (7:30 AM) Sharp



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Srinagar | Sunday | 10-08-2025

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AI Boosts Early Career Citations For Scientists From Developing Nations: Study

Press Trust of India

An analysis of scientists who became top-cited research authors early in their careers has revealed patterns -- they tend to be affiliated to institutions in less developed countries, including China and India, and working in areas, such as artificial intelligence and environmental sciences. Becoming a top-cited author within the first five years of scientific career -- or being an "ultra-precocious" scientist -- could also be related with high rates of self-citation, the analysis published in the journal PLOS One found. Citing a previously published research -- which is a way of acknowledging and crediting its authors -- in a new paper adds credence. Citations are critical for academic integrity. Achieving a high citation impact can happen for some scientists whose work and talent is quickly recognised. For others, however, the same can be achieved through fraudulent means, including manipulating data and repeatedly citing own work (self-citation). Researcher John P. A. Ioannidis from the US' Stanford University categorised 'precocious scientists' as researchers achieving exceptional success in citations within the first eight years of their career, and 'ultra-precocious' as those accomplishing similar feats within the first five years.

Ioannidis said, "Precocious authors seem to be a mixture of some of the very best, outstanding scientists and some of the very worst, manipulative ones." Analysing data on scientists counted among the top-100,000 cited authors across 174 scientific fields, the researcher found that between 2017 and 2023, scientists with precocious and ultra-precocious citation impact increased in number. The author found "469 precocious and 66 ultra-precocious citation impact author profiles in 2023". Looking closely at 59 of the ultra-precocious scientists, Ioannidis found they were "were heavily enriched in affiliations from less developed countries, as compared with the list of all top-cited authors where highly developed countries, led prominently by the US, had the lion's share." "Affiliations in China and India were heavily enriched among authors with ultra-precocious citation impact as compared with the full list of top-cited authors," the author wrote. Institutes in Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Russia and Pakistan were among the others that the study mentioned. Further, ultra-precocious scientists were found to heavily cluster across four scientific fields of research -- environmental sciences, energy, artificial intelligence and image processing, and mechanical engineering and transports.

OFFICE OF THE PURCHASE COMMITTEE/RCC FOR GOVERNMENT DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL

Shireen Bagh, Srinagar, Kashmir.

Phone No.-: 0194-2504705

Website: www.gdcsrinagar.org

Email: gdcsrinagar@gmail.com

e-NIT NO. 01 OF 2025-26

DATED:-08.08.2025

TENDER OFFER NOTICE

Subject: Notice inviting online tenders for supply of Dental Science Journals/Periodicals (Both National and International) for the calendar year 2025.

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chairman, Purchase Committee, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar invites online tenders (in two cover system: Technical Bid and Financial Bid) from Registered Distributors/Suppliers/Firms at National Level for supply of Dental Science Journals/Periodicals (Both National and International) for the calendar year 2025 as per following details and as per the Annexures enclosed/attached with this Tender Notice break-up of which is given hereunder:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Annexure "A" | General Terms and Conditions for supply of Dental Science Journals/ Periodicals (both National and International) for the calendar year 2025 (One Leaf) |
| Annexure "B" | Special Terms and Conditions for supply of Dental Science Journals/ Periodicals (both National and International) for the calendar year 2025 (One Leaf) |
| Annexure "C" | Consolidated list of Dental Science Journals/Periodicals (Both International and National) to be procured for the calendar year 2025 (Two Leaves) |
| Annexure "D" | FORMAT OF BID SECURITY DECLARATION FROM BIDDERS IN LIEU OF EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (One Leaf) |
| Annexure "E" | Format of Bid Submission Letter (Declaration Form) (One Leaf) |

Tender Schedule:

| Event | Date |
|---|--|
| Date of publishing/uploading of Tender Notice on the tendering website | e- 09-08-2025 (1200 hours) |
| Start date of Downloading of tender documents from the e-tendering website | 09-08-2025 (1400 hours) |
| Start date for uploading of online tenders (both Technical and Financial Bids) in the electronic format on e-tendering portal. | 15-08-2025 (1000 hours) |
| Last date for uploading of online tenders (both Technical and Financial Bids) in the electronic format on e-tendering portal. | 04-09-2025 (1600 hours) |
| Last date for submission of hard copies of all pre-requisite documents (including Demand Draft and Bid Security Declaration Form in original) in sealed envelope. | By or before 06-09-2025 till 1200 hours. |
| Tentative date of opening of uploaded bids (technical bids only) | 09-09-2025 (1100 hours) or any other date convenient to the bid opening authority in Conference Hall, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar. |
| e-Tendering website | https://www.jktenders.gov.in |

Any clarification/representation will be entertained from 11-08-2025 to 14-08-2025 on all working days during office hours as well as online. No representation will be entertained beyond the stipulated period.

Other Details:

| S. No. | Item | Particulars |
|--------|---|---|
| 01. | Tender Reference | e-NIT No.01 of 2025-26 Dated:- 08.08.2025. |
| 02. | Tender Fee (Non-Refundable) Favoring Accounts Officer, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar. | 1,000/- (In shape of Demand Draft) |
| 03. | Bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit: | Bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in shape of CDR for 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lac Only) pledged to Accounts Officer, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar. However, bidders having MSME registration/certificates or are registered with Central Purchase Organisation or concerned Ministry or the Departments, are exempted from submission of Bid Security but they shall have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form (as per Rule 170 of GFR 2017 enclosed as Annexure "E") on the company letter head duly sealed and signed by the participating Bidder/Tenderer. |

| | |
|--|---|
| 01. | Cover 1st -Technical Cover: No tender/bid will be entertained without fulfilling (uploading on the website https://www.jktenders.gov.in) the below mentioned pre-requisite formalities to be scrutinized by the financial/technical expert as well as concerned from Library Committee: i) Self attested with seal copy of original instrument with regard to Tender Fee for 1,000/- in shape of Demand Draft favoring Accounts Officer, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar. ii) Bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit in shape of CDR for 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lac Only) pledged to Accounts Officer, Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar or Bid Security Declaration Form on the company letter head as per Annexure "E", duly sealed and signed (as the case may). iii) Self attested with seal copy of GSTIN Registration Certificate. iv) Self attested with seal copy with stamp of latest GST Return issued by the concerned authority. v) Self attested with seal copy of Income Tax Return for the latest assessment year issued by the Income Tax Department. vi) Self attested with seal copy of the PAN Card issued in the name of the firm/supplier or its proprietor duly linked with Aadhaar Card. vii) Prospective bidders have to mandatorily quote rates for all fifty-eight (58) tendered/journal titles as specified in the tender document/BOQ and certificate to this effect have to be submitted (recorded) by the bidder/firm on this company letter head (Annexure "E"). Any deviation in this regard may result in rejection of the bid and the bidder shall be solely responsible for the same. viii) List of latest three (03) or more Government Medical/Dental Customers in India, complete with documentary proof of their order value with corresponding year. ix) Necessary documentary proof of Govt. approval for dealing with the foreign periodical subscriptions and payment in foreign currency (as applicable) shall be provided. x) Copy of latest CA certification of the firm. xi) Undertaking (affidavit) duly attested by Judicial Magistrate to the effect that: a. The distributor/supplier/firm has not been blacklisted or barred from participating in the tendering process by any Government/Semi Government Department or any private concern and there is no vigilance/any other investigating agency, court proceeding(s) pending against it. b. The distributor/supplier/firm has not quoted the rates higher than that quoted to other Government/Semi Government Department or any private concern, for same nature/kind of product/supplies. c. The documents etc. enclosed with the tender are original and genuine and have not been tampered with or fabricated. xii) Declaration Form (Bid Submission Letter) as per Annexure "E", on the company letter head duly sealed and signed. However, Photostat copies of all pre-requisite documents (as mentioned above from serial no. from (ii) to (ix)) duly page marked/numbered, sealed and signed along with original copy of instruments/documents viz (a) Tender Fee in shape of Demand Draft, (b) Security Bid/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) or Bid Security Declaration Form (as the case may be), (c) Undertaking (Affidavit) duly attested by Judicial Magistrate and (d) Bid Submission Letter (Declaration Form) as mentioned above at serial No. (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x) and (xi) shall be submitted in the office of undersigned under proper checklist/covering letter and in sealed envelope by or before 06-09-2025 till 1200 hours. The Purchase Committee/RCC shall not be held responsible for any delay in this regard due to any reason whatsoever. Important Note: 1. Bidders/tenders/Suppliers are advised to go through the terms & conditions of the e-NIT thoroughly and upload/submit only relevant documents as required (asked for) under Cover-1st Technical Cover. No un-necessary or irrelevant document shall be uploaded/submitted as the same may create confusion. 2. Each page of e-Bid and relevant documents should be properly page marked and indexed. Page Number should be reflected at the bottom of each page. 3. Bidders/Firms/Suppliers which are registered as (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) MSME units, as defined in MSME Procurement Policy issued by Department of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) shall be considered for Exemption of bid security/EMD as per provisions of MSME Policy. The Bidders/Firms/Suppliers seeking bid Security/EMD exemption must upload/submit the valid supporting document for the relevant category. 02. Cover 2nd -Financial Cover: i) Rates quoted (offered) by the Bidder in Indian Rupees INR () should be F.O.R. to Govt. Dental College Srinagar and should also include GST/Taxes, Freight Charges (Loading/Unloading and Stacking), if any applicable. ii) Tendering/bidding process will be completely online (no price bid shall be submitted in physical form). Rates submitted in physical form will not be entertained/considered at any cost. iii) Tender shall be submitted by the bidders strictly in and as per BOQ. iv) Bidders/tenders are required not to create additional BOQ of their own. Note: This tender offer notice is also available on the departmental/college website https://www.gdcsrinagar.org |
| No: GDC&H/SGR/PC-RCC/MS/5882-90 DIPK-5020/25 Dated:- 09.08.2025 | Sd/- Accounts Officer, (Member Secretary, Purchase Committee/RCC), Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Srinagar. |

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... Application of Haja Begum w/o Gh Mohammad Lone R/o Zangam Pattan for issuance of legal hair certificate..

Public Notice..

It is inform to general public that applicants husband legal hair certificate is under process in this office in this matter report Was sought to Patwari concerned which reveals that applicants husband namely Gh. Mohammad Lone s/o Ab Rahim lone R/o Zangam Pattan died on 23/05/2025 and left following legal hairs.

| Name | Age | Relationship with the Deceased | Marital Status |
|----------------------|-----|--------------------------------|----------------|
| HAJA BEGUM | 56 | WIFE | WIDOW |
| MOHAMMAD WASEEM LONE | 34 | SON | MARRIED |
| KAISAR AHMAD LONE | 22 | SON | UNMARRIED |
| JAHANGEER AHMAD LONE | 31 | SON | UNMARRIED |
| NAZA BEGUM | 37 | DAUGHTER | MARRIED |

In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

fko

SD
Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... Application of Gulzar Ahmad Mian S/o Mohd Ramzan Mian R/o Pattan for issuance of legal hair certificate..

PUBLIC NOTICE...

IT is inform to general public that applicants brothers legal hair certificate is under process in this office in this matter report Was sought to Patwari concerned which reveals that applicants brother namely Sajad Ahmad Main s/o Mohd Ramzan Mian R/o Pattan died on 30/08/1994 and left fallowing legal hairs...

| Name | Age | Relationship with the Deceased | Marital Status |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------------------|----------------|
| NAZIR AHMAD MIAN | 65 | BROTHER | MARRIED |
| SALEEMA BEGUM | 70 | SISTER | MARRIED |
| GULZAR AHMAD MIAN | 55 | BROTHER | MARRIED |
| ROSHAN ARA | 55 | SISTER | MARRIED |

In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

fko

SD
Naib Tehsildar Pattan

PRADHAN MANTRI

GRAM SADAK YOJANA



Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PMGSY (JKRRDA) DIVISION BANDIPORA

M/S AJS Constructions Group.

No:

EE/PMGSY/Bpr/

Dated: - 08-08-2025

Prop:- Ab Jabar Bhat

R/o Mandoora Tral

NOTICE

Subject: - Maintenance of road from MRL01-Kaloosa to Gurdal Pkg No. JK03-2001

The above subjected road is allotted to you and as per the contract you are bound to carry out its maintenance for five years. However, during routine inspection, it has been observed that you are not maintaining the said road satisfactorily. You were directed by this office letter no EE/PMGSY/Bpr/610-612 Dated: 26-07-2025 to carry out the necessary maintenance activities. You were time and again telephonically informed by the site incharge to carry out the regular maintenance however you have not carried out the said maintenance till date. As such you are directed through the medium of this notice to carry out the said maintenance as per the contract agreement and share the action taken with this office within two days positively elsewhere necessary action will be taken against you as per the relevant clauses of SBD besides your agency will be recommended for blacklisting.

DIPK-5034/25
dated: 09-08-2025

Executive Engineer
PMGSY Division Bandipora

ROYAL SPRINGS GOLF COURSE

CHESHMASHAHI SRINAGAR

CORRIGENDUM

Sub: - Procurement of spares for Rough Cutter and Debris Blower and Allied items for the financial year 2025-26 at RSGC, Srinagar
Ref: - E-NIT NO. 08 of 2025-26 dated 05-08-2025

| Item No. | Please Read | Instead Of |
|----------------|---|--|
| | Supply testing and Commissioning of Green Mower Engine with following specifications:- A) Horizontal Shaft overhead valve Transmission Ignition System 4HP or above with 1800 RPM output with standard fuel tank system. B) The Engine System must work on various heights of cuts for efficient cutting. C) The Engine system must be in a position to work for anti-clock wise on the reel system during back lapping operations and clock wise during cutting operation. D) The Engine System must be associated with two number of (11) Eleven Blade Reel System for Green Mower GR-1000. | Supply testing and Commissioning of Green Mower Engine with following specifications:- A) Horizontal Shaft overhead valve Transmission Ignition System 4HP or above with 1800 RPM output with standard fuel tank system. B) The Engine System must work on various heights of cuts for efficient cutting. C) The Engine system must be in a position to work for anti-clock wise on the reel system during back lapping operations and clock wise during cutting operation. |
| BOQ Item No. 4 | | |

DIPK-NB-1578/25
dated: 09-08-2025

Executive Engineer
Royal Springs Golf Course
Srinagar

No: RSGC/EE/2025-26/110-13

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Pattan

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

Public Notice...

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Basir Ghulam jeelani Wani s/o Bilal Ahmad Wani R/o Shripora Bangil with verified date 28/11/2021 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

SD
Naib Tehsildar Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Sakeena Akhter while my correct name is Siqueena Aziz . Now 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. Afte that no objction shall be entertained.

Siqueena Aziz
D/O Abdul Aziz Bhat
R/O Sariwarpora Tehsil Pattan

fko

OFFICE OF ADVOCATE YAKOOB HUSSAIN SOFI J&K HIGH COURT SRINAGAR

CHAMBER NO. 07 MUNSIFF/JMFC AT MAGAM

Cell No. 9906517553, 9419068005

In the case of:

1. Mohammad Maqbool Bhat aged 70 years. S/o Baqir Bhat.
2. Mohammad Ibrahim Bhat S/o Ali Bhat
3. Bashir Hussain Bhat S/o Hussain Bhat

Residents of Magam (Alamdarporra)

Tehsil Magam District Budgam

...Caveators

Versus

PUBLIC AT LARGE

...Non-caveators

IN THE MATTER OF:

Caveat Petition in terms of Section 148-A of C.P.C. The Caveators have reasons to believe/apprehension that non-Caveator(s) may file a suit/application/petition or any other type of proceedings before the Hon'ble High Court, District Courts, Revenue Courts or any other forum and may succeed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/ex-parte against the caveators and in such eventuality, the caveators will be put to an irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators may be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble Court before passing any order or direction.

Yakoob Hussain Sofi

(Advocate)

BMG

(Signature & Stamp)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in my pan card bearing No AMRPN65977N the name was wrongly entered as MOHAMMAD IRFAN NAQASH S/O ABDUL GANI NAQASH while in Adhar my name is QAZI MOHAMMAD IRFAN S/O ABDUL GANI QAZI. Now I want to correction of name in my income tax department . In this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Income Tax Department with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.
QAZI MOHAMMAD IRFAN
S/O ABDUL GANI QAZI
R/O JEELAN ABAD , PEER BAGH SRINAGAR

MCB

از نیابت بومی زیستگیر

عنوان :- درخواست مخایب مرتظا خورشید ولدخورشید احمد میرساکنو پورہ چتربرادر جاتری ڈیپنٹ سرفیکٹیٹ بجن خود

اشتیہار ہرخاص ودعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بفرش لیگل ڈیپنٹ سرفیکٹیٹ پیش کی ہے جو کہ زریکار داتی ہے اس بارے میں پتواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا ولدخورشید احمد میر مورخہ 29-06-1996 کو فوت ہوا ہے اور متوفی کے وراثان جائزہ بدیل ہے

مرتظا خورشید پھر خورشید احمد میر 32 سال دکامداری پرموتوفی اسکے علاومتوفی کی بیوہ حمیدہ بیگم نے دوسری شادی کی وہ اپنے دوسرے شوہر کے گھر آباد ہے اور خورشید پھر سمودی عرب میں پرائیوٹ نوکری کرتا ہے اور متوفی کی دختر سمن السامی شادی ہو چکی ہے اور اپنے شوہر کے ساتھ خان آباد ہے اور وہ مجلہ تعلیم میں contractual کا کام کرتی ہے اس طرح سے مرتظا خورشید اپنے حق میں Dependent certificate حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے سرفیکٹیٹ زیر بحث اجرا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی غریا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشہر اخبار سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے عداریا اعتراض عدالت حد آؤفیسری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرنے بعد کوئی عداریا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار FKO

اطلاع عام

میری آٹھویں جماعت پاس کی دستاویز سرٹیفکیٹ زیر سرٹیفکیٹ نمبر 639 سیشن 2009 گم ہوئی ہے اس کی ڈپلیکیٹ کٹانی مطلوب ہے۔ اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اپنا اعتراض گورنمنٹ ہائڈرل اسکول سون بدگام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ بعد اگدر نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

AASIFA AKHTER
D/O GH MOHD SHEIKH
R/O LARIBAL BUDGAM

mcb

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2 Soldiers Killed As Kulgam Op Enters 9 Day



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two Army soldiers were killed and as many injured in an overnight gunfight with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district, in one of the longest anti-terror operations in the Valley that entered the ninth day on Saturday, officials said.

The Army's Srinagar-based Chinara Corps, in a post on X, paid tributes to the soldiers killed in the encounter and said that the operation was still underway.

Two terrorists have been

killed in the encounter that began on August 1 after security forces launched a cordon and search operation in a forest at Akhal in the south Kashmir district, following specific intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists there.

The identity and the group affiliation of the slain terrorists have not been ascertained so far.

In a post on X on Saturday, the Chinara Corps said, "Chinara Corps honours the supreme sacrifice of the Bravehearts, L/Nk Pritpal Singh and Sep Harminder Singh, in line of duty for the | [More on P10](#)

LG, CM Pay Tributes

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday paid tributes to two Army soldiers killed in an overnight gunfight with terrorists in Kulgam district, saying their grit and determination will never be forgotten. In one of the longest anti-terror operations in the Valley that entered its ninth day on Saturday, Lance Naik Pritpal Singh and Sepoy Harminder Singh were killed after security forces | [More on P10](#)

Nearly 19K From J&K Get Jobs Abroad Since 2020: Govt

Observer News Service

Delhi: Nearly 18,952 people from Jammu and Kashmir have received Emigration Clearances (ECs) for overseas employment between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2025, official data tabled in the Lok Sabha has revealed.

The figures show a steep rise in 2022 and 2023 compared to the COVID-hit years of 2020 and 2021. In 2020, 1,095 workers from the Union Territory were granted ECs, dropping slightly to 992 in 2021. The trend reversed in 2022 with 4,868 clearances, peaking at 5,264 in 2023, before easing to 4,322 in 2024 and 2,411 in the first half of 2025.

ECs are required mainly for holders of Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports, typically workers headed to Gulf and other overseas labour markets. For women in this category, the minimum age for overseas employment is 30 years to prevent exploitation.

Officials also underlined the role of the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), which is used by Indian missions abroad to assist citizens in distress. The aid covers boarding and lodging, emergency medical care, legal help, repatriation of mortal remains, air passage to India, and payment of small fines or penalties.

At the | [More on P10](#)

Untreated Water Supplied To Srinagar Homes For Over 2 Weeks

Observer News Service

Srinagar: For more than 15 days, residents in Srinagar's uptown areas have been receiving dirty, untreated water, allegedly because the Doodhganga Water Supply Plant in Lalpora ran out of essential purification chemicals.

The affected localities include Hyderpora, Barzulla, Baghat, Humhama, Rawalpura, Gogjibagh, and several adjoining areas. Residents say the water has been arriving at their homes muddy, foul-smelling, and unsafe to drink, forcing many to either buy bottled water or risk consuming it.

Following repeated public complaints, staff at the facility confirmed that a shortage of alum — the key chemical used in sedimentation and filtration — had persisted for over two weeks.

Plant workers reportedly sent multiple letters to senior officers, warning of the crisis, but claimed no action was taken in time. Officials in the Procurement Division insisted the chemical | [More on P10](#)

Can People Be Happy Only With Development? Wangchuk

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Ladakh has witnessed rapid infrastructure development since it became a Union Territory, but people can't be happy only with development if their voices are not heard, climate activist Sonam Wangchuk said, pressing the demand for statehood and sixth schedule.

In an interview with PTI, the Ramon Magsaysay Awardee said locals point out that "development" is there on the other side of the border in China as well, but people in Tibet are not happy.

This comes as a three-day hunger strike demanding statehood and sixth schedule status for Ladakh began in Kargil on Saturday.

Asked about the changes in Ladakh, one of the world's highest inhabited regions, since it became a Union Territory, Wangchuk said people agree that the pace of the development of the roads has increased, and the budget has also increased multiple times.

Rotten Meat Scandal Spreads In Kashmir

Massive Dumpings Spark Crackdown

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The rotten meat scandal in Kashmir has taken a disturbing turn, with decayed meat turning up not only during raids on shops and cold storages but also dumped along roadsides. From heaps of sheep heads to bulk packages of rotting chicken and mutton abandoned in city outskirts, the finds point to a disturbing network of unsafe meat supply operating on a worrying scale.

Dozens of unclaimed meat packages, estimated at weighing around 1,000 kg, were found dumped overnight along the roadside in Soura near SKIMS on the outskirts of Srinagar. In a separate incident, sheep heads were spotted discarded near GD Goenka School in Lal Bazar. Two more consignments were found dumped



on roadsides in Nowgam and Pampore on Friday.

"The rotten meat and chicken packages were without labels or trade markings. Exposing the traders and their supplier links is now a matter of investigation. In coordination with the police, and by collecting technical and material evidence, we will unravel this illegal trade practice that is endangering

public health," said Assistant Commissioner Food Safety Srinagar, Yamin-ul-Nabi.

Officials said the packaged meat and chicken are imported from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, and other states, and then supplied to food outlets in Kashmir where they are used to prepare kebabs, ristas, and other local delicacies.

The crackdown continued across | [More on P10](#)

Is Rotten Meat Fueling Cancers In Kashmir?

In the wake of large quantities of adulterated and rotten meat being seized from different parts of Kashmir in recent days, health experts have issued strong warnings about the serious risks such food

poses to public health.

They said improper handling, unhygienic storage, and the use of harmful chemicals to mask spoilage could be silently fueling a health crisis in the valley. | [More on P10](#)

USBRL Milestone

First Freight Train Reaches Kashmir

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Northern Railway on Saturday ran a freight train carrying cement for the first time from Rupnagar in Punjab to Anantnag in Kashmir.

This landmark event marks the operational debut of the newly commissioned Banihal-Sangaldan-Reasi-Katra section of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project.

The Anantnag Goods Shed freight train is a significant milestone in connecting the Kashmir valley to the national freight network, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

"Today (9.8.2025) first freight train reached the newly commissioned Anantnag Goods Shed in the Kashmir Valley from Punjab, marking a significant milestone in connecting the Kashmir region to the national freight network," Vaishnaw posted on X.

"Transportation by railway



6 THIS EVENT MARKS THE FIRST-EVER CEMENT LOADING SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS FACILITY, underscoring its readiness to support a new era of logistical and economic growth in the Kashmir region."

network will reduce cost for our citizens living in Kashmir valley," he added.

The Northern Railway said in a press note that the train was loaded with 21 BCN wagons of cement.

A Great Day For Commerce & Connectivity: PM Modi

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has lauded the arrival of the first freight train to the Kashmir Valley, marking a significant milestone in connecting the region to the national freight network. Responding to a post by the Union Minister for Railways, Communications and Electronics & IT, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, the Prime Minister said that the development will | [More on P10](#)

Amarnath Yatra 2025

Chhari Mubarak Carried To Amarnath Cave Shrine

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chhari Mubarak, the saffron-robed holy mace of Lord Shiva, was Saturday carried to the Amarnath holy cave shrine for traditional prayers and rituals, marking the ceremonial conclusion of the annual pilgrimage, officials said.

They said that after a night's halt, the Chhari Mubarak left Panchtarani camp in the morning on the occasion of 'Sharavan Purnima'. Traditional 'puja' and rituals were performed amid the chanting of Vedic hymns.

Special prayers led by Mahant Deependra Giri, the custodian of the holy mace,

were held at the holy cave shrine, the officials said.

After the 'aarti' was concluded, the holy mace left for Panchtarani for a night halt. On Sunday, the Chhari Mubarak will leave for Pahalgam where 'pujan' and 'visarjan' ceremonies will be held on Monday on the banks of river Lidder.

More than 4.14 lakh pilgrims performed the annual Amarnath Yatra this year as the pilgrimage was concluded on August 2 in the wake of bad weather and slippery route conditions.

Last year, 5.10 lakh yatriss had 'darshan' of the naturally formed | [More on P10](#)

PANCHTARANI FOR A NIGHT HALT. ON SUNDAY, the Chhari Mubarak will leave for Pahalgam where 'pujan' and 'visarjan' ceremonies will be held on Monday on the banks of river Lidder.

Customers Stay Away, Restaurants Feel Heat



Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Over the last few years, Srinagar's skyline has changed in more ways than one. Alongside new buildings, mushrooming of restaurants — from sleek cafés to family-run kebab joints — has brought the aroma of grilled meat and wazwan delicacies to almost every busy street. But today, the same eateries are fighting to keep their tables full, as customers grow wary after the Food Safety

Department's recent seizure of spoiled meat meant for public consumption.

The high-profile enforcement drive, carried out jointly by the Food Safety Department Srinagar and the Drug and Food Control Organization (DFCO), was based on a tip-off about a cold storage facility allegedly stacked with stale, foul-smelling meat. Led by Assistant Commissioners Hilal Ahmad Mir | [More on P10](#)

6 Pak Aircraft Shot Down During Op Sindoor: IAF Chief

KO Web Desk

New Delhi: Six Pakistani aircraft, including five fighter jets and another large aircraft, were downed during Operation Sindoor, the Indian Air Force has confirmed, in their first big revelation on the extent of damage caused to the Pakistani side during the mega military offensive.

This is the first official comment on the damage caused to Pakistan during the Indian strikes over three months ago. Many opposition leaders have been attacking the government over the delay in revealing the extent of damage caused to both India and Pakistan during Operation Sindoor, which was in response to the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed.

The "big bird" that was downed was an AEW&C (airborne early warning and control system), the loss of which dealt a massive blow to Pakistan's air strength during the May 7 operation after the Pahalgam attack. Besides the six aircraft that were hit mid-air, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh also confirmed the losses that the Pakistan Air Force suffered



on the ground in the aerial strikes at Pakistan airbases.

"We have five confirmed kills and one large aircraft, which could be either an ELINT or an AEW&C aircraft, which was taken on at a distance of 300 kms. This is actually the largest ever recorded surface-to-air kill that we can talk about," the Air Chief Marshal said at the 16th Air Chief Marshal LM Katre Lecture in Bengaluru.

Calling the Russian-made S-400 a "game-changer," he said that Pakistan was unable to penetrate the surface-to-air missile system.

"Our air defence systems did a wonderful job. The S-400 system, which we had recently bought, has been a game-changer. The range of that system has really kept their aircraft away | [More on P10](#)

STATEHOOD RESTORATION DEMAND

Congress Begins 11-Day Hunger Strike In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir unit of the Congress party on Saturday launched an 11-day hunger strike in Srinagar to press for the restoration of full statehood to the Union Territory. The strike was launched by Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) president Tariq Karra at the party's head office at M A Road here.

Karra and other senior leaders of the party, including AICC general secretary Ghulam Ahmad Mir and party MLAs, joined the hunger strike.

A similar hunger strike will be observed in Jammu on Sunday.

The hunger strike is part of the party's campaign 'hamari riyasat, hamara haq' to press for the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, which was downgraded and bifurcated into two Union territories — J&K and Ladakh — on August 5, 2019, by the Centre.

The Centre also abrogated Articles 370 and 35A that day. Speaking to | [More on P10](#)

EC Delists 334 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi- The Election Commission on Saturday said it has delisted 334 registered unrecognised political parties which have failed to fulfil the essential condition of contest-



ing even a single election for six years since 2019. The offices of these parties could also not be physi-

cally located anywhere.

These 334 registered unrecognised political parties are from different states and Union Territories across the country, the poll panel said.

Out of the total 2,854 registered unrecognised political

parties, 2,520 remain after the cleanup exercise. At present, there are six national parties and 67 state parties.

Iran Slams US \$50mln Bounty on Maduro

Trans Asia News

Tehran: Iran's Foreign Ministry on Saturday expressed full solidarity with Venezuela's people and government, denouncing what it described as the United States' "illegal interference" in the country's internal affairs.

The Ministry slammed Washington's threats against Venezuelan President Nicolas

Maduro as "shameful," asserting that they reflect "the US decision-makers' addiction to hostile policies and coercive methods to achieve their illegitimate goals," reported Al Mayadeen.

Such behavior "targets the moral foundations of the United Nations," it added. The statement came after US Attorney General Pam Bondi announced the doubling of the bounty on Maduro from \$25 million to \$50 million, accusing him of collaborating with criminal groups, including Tren de Aragua and the Sinaloa Cartel.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio alleged that Maduro has, for over a decade, led the criminal organization "Car-

tel of the Suns," which he claimed is involved in trafficking drugs into the United States. The US State Department designated the group as a "global terrorist organization" in July.

Venezuela's Foreign Minister Yvan Gil has denounced Washington's announcement of a \$50 million reward for information leading to the arrest of President Nicolas Maduro, calling it a "circus" and a desperate distraction from US domestic troubles.

US Attorney General Pam Bondi announced Thursday a \$50 million reward for information leading to the capture of Maduro, marking the latest escalation in tense Venezuela-US relations. Washington continues to accuse the Venezuelan leader of corruption and criminal activity, allegations Maduro has repeatedly denied.

"Malnutrition among children leads to decreased immunity and may lead to death," he said.

On Friday, the World Food Programme (WFP) called on Israel to allow the delivery of at least 100 aid trucks per day to Gaza, noting that only 60 of its



Gaza Starvation Toll Rises

Israeli Forces Kill 21 More Aid Seekers

Al Jazeera

Jerusalem: Israeli attacks have killed at least 39 people, including 21 seeking humanitarian aid and 11 who starved to death, over 24 hours in Gaza, Palestinian health authorities say.

Gaza's Ministry of Health said on Saturday that the total number of malnutrition deaths has reached 212, including 98 children, since Israel launched its war on Gaza in October 2023.

Most of the deaths have occurred in recent weeks as Israel continues to impose severe restrictions on aid supplies entering Gaza after partially lifting a total blockade in late May.

Mohammed Abu Salmiya, the director of al-Shifa Hospital in northern Gaza, told Al Jazeera that famine continues to pose a serious risk "especially among children and the elderly".

"Convoy movements are frequently hampered by last-minute changes by Israeli authorities, and heavy insecurity due to military activities along convoy routes."

In its latest statement on Saturday, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, noted that it has not been allowed to bring any humanitarian aid into Gaza, including food and medicine, for more than five months, depriving hungry and ailing Palestinians of what they need to survive.

UNRWA has been calling on Israel to lift its siege on Gaza,

saying the ongoing airdrops of humanitarian aid from several countries "are very expensive and ineffective" at reaching those urgently in need.

The warnings come as Israeli forces continued to escalate their attacks across the territory. Six people were killed by Israeli soldiers while waiting for aid near the Netzarim Corridor in central Gaza, medical sources told Al Jazeera.

Two other Palestinians were also killed and transported to the Nasser Medical Complex from a GHF aid distribution site in the southern part of the territory.

One woman was killed and another person was wounded in an Israeli air strike targeting an apartment in Khan Younis in the south.

According to the Gaza Health Ministry's latest count, at least 39 people have been killed in 24 hours. Israel's war on Gaza has killed at least 61,369 Palestinians in Gaza and wounded 152,850. An estimated 1,139 people were killed in Israel during Hamas-led attacks on October 7, 2023, and more than 200 were taken captive.

Nagasaki Marks 80th Anniversary Of US Atomic Bomb Attack On Japan

Al Jazeera

TOKYO :Twin cathedral bells will ring in unison in Nagasaki for the first time in 80 years, as the Japanese city commemorates the moment the United States decimated it with an atomic bomb eight decades ago.

Crowds are set to gather at Nagasaki's Immaculate Conception Cathedral on Saturday morning, as the church's two bells will ring together for the first time

since 1945.

The US dropped an atomic bomb on the southwestern port city of Nagasaki on August 9, 1945, at 11:02am local time, three days after it dropped a nuclear weapon on Hiroshima.

About 74,000 people were killed in Nagasaki, while 140,000 were killed in Hiroshima.

On August 15, 1945, Japan surrendered, marking the end of World War II.

The church in Nagasaki, widely known as Urakami

Cathedral, was rebuilt in 1959 after it was almost completely destroyed in the monstrous atomic explosion, the hypocentre of which was just a few hundred metres from the religious building. Only one of two church bells was recovered from the rubble.

But, funded by Catholics in the US, a new second bell has been constructed and restored to the tower. It will chime on Saturday for the first time in 80 years at the exact moment the bomb was dropped.

Experts: Dharali Disaster Not Isolated, Need Study

Press Trust Of India

Dehradun : Four days after raging waters buried half of Dharali village in Uttarkashi, experts have stressed the need to study the existing settlements located on the river banks or in the flood plains.

They say that the Dharali disaster should not be seen as an isolated case.

Dr. Sushil Kumar, former senior scientist at the Dehradun-based Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, said, "Now the time has come to study all those areas where large settlements have come up on the headlands of rivers and streams."

Headlands are the plains situated on the banks of the river which are covered by floods from time to time. These plains are usually made up of soil, silt, sand and gravel deposited by the river.

Due to the high amount of nutrients, this land is fertile, which makes it very useful for agriculture and because of this, villages and settlements are also established in these areas, but they are often at risk of floods.

Many scientists including Dr. Kumar say that the debris-laden water stream that hit Dharali was on its original path and destroyed all the hotels, homestays, restaurants and houses that came in its way.

In view of the boom in tourism in the last few years, dozens of hotels, restaurants and homestays have mushroomed in Dharali and most of the buildings destroyed in the disaster were built in violation of environmental rules on the banks of the Khirgad seasonal river, they said.

This disaster, which struck on August 5, turned a beautiful stop on the way to Gangotri Dham into a high pile of rubble in the blink of an eye.

Locals say the government also turns a blind eye to violation of norms in environmentally sensitive areas, including a ban on new construction along the Bhagirathi riverbank.

In 2023, a large building of a training academy collapsed like a pack of cards amid heavy floods in the Song River in Maldevta area of Dehradun.

Experts say that the building was constructed on the river bank in gross violation of environmental norms.

Environmentalist Anoop Nautiyal said that the most glaring example of violation of environmental norms in construction is present in Dehradun where the Uttarakhand Assembly building has been built right on the banks of the Rispana river.

In the last few years, dozens of colonies including Bhagat Singh Colony have been built by encroaching on the banks of the Rispana and Bindal rivers in Dehradun.

The locals have alleged that in most cases, government officials are in collusion with land mafia and buildings are constructed on the vacant land.

Many petitions have been filed in the Uttarakhand High Court regarding the damage to the environment due to illegal construction in Dehradun, Rishikesh and other areas.

The High Court has also directed the state government to remove encroachment from the land along the banks of Rispana and Bindal rivers. PTI

MP Principal Under Fire Over 'K for Kaba, M for Masjid' Charts

Press Trust Of India

Mumbai: A controversy erupted in Madhya Pradesh's Raisen district after the principal of a convent school allegedly distributed alphabet charts with Islamic references, prompting the education department to launch an inquiry, officials said on Saturday.

They said Baby Convent School principal IA Qureshi allegedly handed Hindi alphabet charts mentioning 'Ka' for Kaba, 'Ma' for Masjid and 'Na' for Namaz to students.

Members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad staged a protest on Friday and gheraoed Qureshi.

Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) Pratibha Sharma said police personnel brought the situation under control.

"The matter is related to the education department and referred to the district education officer (DEO)," Sharma said.

DEO D D Rajak said an investigation is being conducted into the allegations.

"As per the Education de-

As per the Education department's guidelines, study material containing religious symbols of any particular faith cannot be taught in schools

partment's guidelines, study material containing religious symbols of any particular faith cannot be taught in schools," he added.

Principal Qureshi admitted her "inadvertent" mistake, stating that one or two such books with mixed Urdu-Hindi multiplication tables had reached students.

She claimed the charts of alphabets were sourced from Bhopal and, due to the seller's error, three to four such items, generally used in madrasas, were included.

Except for the headline, this story has not been edited by The Telegraph Online staff and has been published from a syndicated feed.

PM Celebrates Raksha Bandhan with Students

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday celebrated Raksha Bandhan at his residence here, with school students and members of the spiritual organisation Brahma Kumari among others tying rakhis on his wrist.

The festival is the celebration of the traditional bond between brothers and sisters.

Modi shared a video clip of the celebration as a bunch of happy young students shared their joy and sentiments. One student lauded him as a "warrior and saviour", while some made references to Operation Sindoor. A school kid said she has brought a peacock rakhi for "Modi uncle", while another expressed her wish to be a prime minister like him. The prime minister was seen enjoying the celebration, praising a



student for remembering a number of his government schemes, which she had incorporated in a poem. Modi also posted a message on X, greeting people on the auspicious occasion. Posting the video clip, he added, "Here are highlights from a very special Raksha Bandhan celebration earlier today. Gratitude to our Nari Shakti for their continuous trust and affection."

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: In a bizarre twist to a burglary investigation, Bengaluru police have suspended Constable HR Sonar after a notorious thief wore his official uniform to impress his wife during a video call — while in police custody. The incident dates back to 2024, when Saleem Sheikh, alias "Bombay Saleem," who faces over 50 theft cases, was arrested by Govindapura police. While being taken outside the city to recover stolen goods, Saleem was lodged in a hotel under supervision. When Sonar and

Bengaluru Cop Suspended After Thief Steals His Look



another constable stepped out, Saleem allegedly found Sonar's uniform in

the room, donned it, and made a WhatsApp video call to his wife.

CBSE chief Rahul gets 2-yr extension

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Senior bureaucrat Rahul Singh has been given a two-year extension as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), according to an official order. Singh, a 1996-batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre, was appointed to the post on March 13 last year.

Rana Reviews Upgradation Works At Water Filtration Plants

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jal Shakti Minister Javed Ahmed Rana conducted a comprehensive review of the ongoing upgradation works at the Nishat and Alusteng Water Filtration Plants, aimed at enhancing Srinagar's potable water infrastructure and ensuring uninterrupted supply of safe drinking water to residents.

During his visit, the Minister assessed the current status of potable water availability, filtration processes and the progress on under-construction filtration units, including the 3.0 MGD (Million Gallons per Day) plant at Nishat and the 5.5 MGD plant at Alusteng. The Minister inspected various operational units of the facilities, including water reservoirs, pump rooms, testing laboratories and storage capacities.

The officials informed the Minister that the plants play

a critical role in supplying the treated drinking water to a significant portion of Srinagar's population. They added that the upgradation works are progressing steadily.

Rana emphasized the need to strictly adhere to project timelines and called for immediate procurement of Alum, a vital coagulant used in the water filtration process, to ensure optimal treatment efficiency. He cautioned that any unnecessary delays could undermine the service delivery and erode public trust.

Asking the officials to adopt modern best practices, the Minister stressed the importance of regular maintenance and efficient management to ensure continuous, high-quality water supply. He reiterated the government's commitment under the leadership of Omar Abdullah to provide safe, clean drinking water to every household in Jammu & Kashmir.



KO file Photo Abid Bhat

Devotees Throng Shankaracharya Temple For Raksha Bandhan Prayers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Scores of devotees flocked to the iconic Shankaracharya Temple on Saturday to offer special prayers on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, as the hilltop shrine echoed with devotional chants and hymns.

From the early hours, long queues formed along the steep pathway leading to the centuries-old temple perched above the picturesque Dal Lake. Men, women, and children carrying decorated prayer plates (puja thalis) patiently waited for their turn to pay obeisance.

"This is my first time marking the festival in Srinagar, and the spiritual atmosphere here at Shan-

“We had a large turnout today. Pilgrims came not just from Kashmir but from various parts of the country,” said one official.

karacharya Temple is truly uplifting,” said a devotee from Jammu. Temple officials said special arrangements were in place to manage the heavy rush of pil-

grims. “We had a large turnout today. Pilgrims came not just from Kashmir but from various parts of the country,” said one official.

For many, the day was a blend of faith and familial bonds. “The festival is about love, care, and protection, and offering prayers here adds to its meaning,” said another visitor, who had travelled with family from Delhi.

Believed to date back to the 9th century, the Shankaracharya Temple remains one of Srinagar's most revered spiritual sites, drawing visitors for both its religious significance and its panoramic views of the city and Dal Lake. On Saturday, the temple's steps brimmed with festive fervour as devotees celebrated the occasion with reverence and joy.

Khaki Association Celebrates ‘Khaki Ki Rakhi’ With Soldiers

Agencies

Srinagar: The campus of 110 Infantry Battalion (Territorial Army) MADRAS in Srinagar turned into a hub of warmth and patriotic emotion on Friday as the Khaki Association marked its annual initiative 'Khaki Ki Rakhi'. The event aimed to honour soldiers and strengthen the bond between the armed forces and civilians.

Members of the Association arrived with eco-friendly rakhis, each handcrafted by underprivileged women supported by the group. The rakhis carried a dual message, appreciation for the soldiers and a call to society to empow-

er women who cannot step outside their homes for work.

The programme began with a traditional welcome for the soldiers, including ceremonial tilak, flower petals, and heartfelt greetings. As rakhis were tied, the gesture was described by organisers as a symbolic knot of trust, respect, and gratitude.

Addressing the gathering, Association President Annu said that Khaki Ki Rakhi was their way of expressing recognition for the sacrifices of soldiers. “They guard the borders day and night in difficult conditions. This festival is not just about celebration, it's a promise that we stand with them,” she said.

Ayush Camp Draws Huge Turnout In Hassanabad Rainawari

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A free Ayush medical camp brought smiles and relief to hundreds of residents in Hassanabad, Rainawari on Saturday as the Ayush unit of RSGC joined hands with Wizzy World to deliver much-needed healthcare at Hussani Park.

From early morning, the park bustled with people— young and old—seeking free consultations and medicines. By the end of the day, 453 patients had benefited from the services of a committed medical team comprising Dr. Qurat, Dr. Ayub, Dr. Saimun, Dr. Mushtaq, pharmacist Nazir Ahmad,

Misba (outsourced staff), and Mohd Qasim (NO).

For many, the camp was more than just a medical outreach—it was a rare opportunity to access quality healthcare without financial burden. “It's heartening to see doctors come to our doorsteps. They treated us with care and dignity,” said one elderly resident, smiling as she clutched her bag of medicines.

Locals extended heartfelt thanks to the Department of Ayush, DAO Srinagar, and the organizers for making the event possible. “These camps are a blessing, especially for those who can't afford regular check-ups,” said another attendee.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I (Fayaz Ahmed Degloo) want to change the name of my son from Mohammad Ariz Degloo to Mohammad Sarib Degloo, residence of Saïda Kadal, Srinagar. In near future, my son will be known as Mohammad Sarib Degloo. If anyone is having any objection he/she may contact Aadhar Kendra Service, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objections will be accepted.

inf

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To enroll:
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HIGHWAY STATUS



- Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)
- Mughal Road - (Open)
- Srinagar- Leh- (Open)



**HIJRI
CALENDAR**

15 Safar

1447

PRAYERS

FAJR 4: 14

ZUHR 12:37

ASR 5: 26

Magrib 7:29

ISHA 9: 00

This Day In History

- 70 Second Temple in Jerusalem set on fire by Roman army under Titus during the capture of the city (approx)
- 610 - In Islam, the traditional date of the Laylat al-Qadr, when Muhammad began to receive the Qur'an
- 654- Pope Eugene I elected to succeed Martinus I
- 843- Treaty of Verdun: Brothers Lotharius I, Louis the German & Charles the Bald divide France
- 955- Battle of Lechfeld: Otto I, King of the Germans defeats the Hungarian, ending 50 years of Magyar invasion of Western Europe.
- 991- Battle of Maldon: English, led by Bryhtnoth, confront a band of inland-raiding Vikings near Maldon in Essex. The English are defeated and the story is immortalised in a well-known poem.
- 1304 - Battle at Zierik Sea: Dutch & French fleet beat Flemish fleet
- 1316-Second Battle of Athenry, Anglo-Norman victory over Gaelic clan alliance
- 1461 - Alfonso ed Espina, bishop of Osma urges for an Inquisition in Spain
- 1500 - Portuguese sea captain Diego Diaz is first European to sight Madagascar
- 1511- Portuguese troops occupy parts of Malacca
- 1512- Battle of Saint-Mathieu (also called the Battle of Brest): an English fleet of 25 ships commanded by Sir Edward Howard and a Franco-Breton fleet of 22 ships commanded by René de Clermont.
- 1557- Battle of St Quentin in Picardy: Lamoraal, Count of Egmont and Philibert, Duke of Savoy (Spanish Empire) beat the Duke of Montmorency (France)
- 1566- Protestant Iconoclasm "Beeldenstorm" begins in European Low Countries
- 1585- English Queen Elizabeth I signs Treaty of Nonsuch: Aid for Netherlands
- 1622 - John Mason and Ferdinando Gorges receive a land patent of the Province of Maine.
- 1653- Battle of Scheveningen: Final naval battle of the First Anglo-Dutch War, English fleet defeats a Dutch fleet led by Maarten Tromp who himself is killed by a sharpshooter in the rigging of William Penn's ship
- 1659- Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb has his brother and competitor for the throne Dara Shukoh executed on religious grounds
- 1664 - Austria and the Ottoman Empire sign the Peace of Vásvár
- 1678 - Netherlands & France sign peace treaty in Nijmegen
- 1774 - 1st Surinam newspaper (1st Wednesday Suriname) begins publishing
- 1776 - American Revolutionary War: word of the United States Declaration of Independence reaches London.
- 1809 - Ecuador declares independence from Spain (National Day)
- 1822 - Antioch Syria, hit by Earthquake; about 20,000 die
- 1869 - O B Brown patents moving picture projector
- 1913 - 2nd Balkan War ends, Treaty of Bucharest, Bulgaria loses
- 1914 -German battle cruiser Goeben reaches Dardanellen/Turkey joins Germany
- 1914 - German troops reconquer Mulhouse in Elzas
- 1914 - WWI: French fall back at Alsace
- 1916 - Turks annex Persian city Hamadan from Russia
- 1920 - Allies recognize Poland, Czechoslovakia & Romania
- 1920 - Treaty of Sèvres (Allies & Turkey)
- 1920 - Turkish government renounces its claim to Israel, recognizes British mandate
- 1926 - Italian-Spanish peace treaty signed
- 1943 - Hitler watches lynching of allied pilots
- 1944 - Battle for Guam ends, US troops recapture Guam from the Japanese
- 1945 - Japan announces willingness to surrender to Allies provided status of Emperor
- Hirohito remained unchanged
- 1960 - Discoverer 13 launched into orbit; returned 1st object from space
- 1961- UK applies for membership of the European Common Market

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KO VIEW

Kashmir's Dirty Water Danger

Every day, nearly seven lakh people in uptown Srinagar turn on their taps hoping for clean water. But for fifteen days, what comes out has been muddy and unsafe.

The Doodhganga river meant to provide fresh drinking water, has been delivering something far from safe.

People began noticing the water's poor quality as turbid, foul-smelling liquid flowed into their homes. When Kashmir Observer investigated, a troubling truth was uncovered: essential chemicals like alum, which are necessary to clean the water, have been stuck in transit for days.

Officials first denied there was a problem. But when pressed, they admitted the truth. This is not just a failure in management. It's a failure to provide one of the most basic needs: access to safe water.

This new health crisis has surfaced when Kashmir is wrestling with the rotten meat scandal. And it has further hit the public trust.

While Kashmiris can choose to avoid rotten meat, water is different. It cannot be refused. It is vital to life.

The government needs to recognize this as an emergency. Quick action and clear accountability are necessary. This means not just fixing water treatment but also overseeing food safety and public health departments.

People are falling ill with stomach problems and other mysterious diseases. Many believe contaminated water and unsafe food are to blame.

Slow reforms and empty promises won't do. Kashmir's food and water systems need a complete overhaul with strong, transparent monitoring.

Anyone who breaks safety laws, no matter who they are, must be held responsible. Without strict laws and enforcement, these problems will continue to harm lives and break public trust.

This crisis reveals a hard truth: neglecting public health services is a serious human rights violation. The people of Kashmir deserve clean water, safe food, and respect. The time to act is now.

Stop Faking Journalism

A casual compliment in Kashmir turned into an endorsement of "journalism without degrees." Media schools, are you watching?

Syed Mohammad Burhan

The line between journalism and performance in Kashmir is blurring in ways that would make any media professor shake their head.

The latest example came again from social media, where one content creator rushed to laud another, a Facebooker celebrated online as a sort of public savior, and anointed him a journalist.

His reasoning reeks of ignorance: The man had "stood out" in covering the recent rotten meat scandal, his voice booming in viral videos.

What this bromance conveniently skipped over was the fact that the first reports, investigations, and follow-ups came from trained reporters working in regulated newsrooms.

These journalists have degrees, editors, and a professional code. They did not need to shout into a phone camera to prove they were doing their jobs. They verified facts, consulted experts, and published their work. Then they moved to the followup, and the next story.

Social media in Kashmir, as in much of the world, has made it easy for anyone with a mic and a smartphone to call themselves a journalist.

The performance is often compelling with urgent voice and raw visuals, but the work is rarely subject to the checks and balances that define the profession.

The result is a distortion of public perception: the loudest voice is mistaken for the most credible.

Journalists here already work under strain. The press, long considered the fourth pillar of democracy, has faced mounting challenges in recent years for what this creator wearing many hats simply called "giving information".

Against this backdrop, equating a viral personality with a trained reporter is not just an innocent compliment. It chips away at a profession that depends on credibility to survive.

Many influencers know exactly what will travel online. They lean into outrage and emotion because it is rewarded with reach. Some have promoted questionable



“The role of journalism in Kashmir is larger than amplifying sob stories for Likes and Shares. It is about holding institutions accountable, preserving public trust, and protecting the democratic space.

investment schemes, and even endorsed brands with no vetting.

When people get hurt, there is no editor to hold accountable and no institution to demand redress. The work vanishes into the feed.

Endorsing these personalities as journalists sets a dangerous precedent.

If a degree, editorial process, and ethical code count for nothing, what exactly defines the field? Is journalism just optics and emotional drama now? Does shouting louder make the work more valuable?

If that logic holds, then media schools may as well shutter, and the years spent training in newsrooms could be written off as wasted effort.

Journalists don't need lessons from influencers. Just like doctors don't learn surgery from YouTube, this profession doesn't take guidance from outsiders.

During the recent SMHS Hospital crisis, a burst of social media outrage quickly shifted focus from the actual incident to blaming doctors. In the heat of the moment, facts were flattened, and professionals became villains.

That is the risk when optics overpower verification.

Content creators are free to do what they do: tell stories, entertain followers, document daily life, or even sell pipe dreams. Many produce engaging, human-centered work.

The problem is when that work is packaged as journalism, and when the people making it claim authority over a field that is not theirs.

Journalism is not a creation of social media. It is a societal need that predates reels and will outlast them.

The role of journalism in Kashmir is larger than amplifying

sob stories for Likes and Shares. It is about holding institutions accountable, preserving public trust, and protecting the democratic space.

Those responsibilities cannot be replaced by viral fame. They require training, oversight, and a willingness to work without applause.

If influencers want to keep their followers entertained, they should. They can film mountains, meadows, and streets. They can speak passionately about causes that matter to them.

But what they should not do is recast themselves as journalists or redefine the profession for an audience that may not know better.

Journalism in Kashmir deserves more respect than that.

The author is a Special Correspondent with Kashmir Observer.

When I was transferred to a distant Kashmir countryside, I expected only hardship in the form of unreliable electricity, long roads, and few amenities. What I didn't expect was to meet a part of my culture I'd never known.

It was here I learned of Pir-e-Khear, a festival marking the first bloom of rice grain.

During those ten days, daughters are called home to their parents' kitchens, fish prepared with meticulous care, and prayers stretched into the night. The air remains thick with the smell of hearth fires and the sound of old Kashmiri songs.

The festival is philosophy in action: the divine acknowledged in the renewal of nature, the love of daughters reaffirmed, tradition kept alive through taste and sound.

Fish recipes are handed down for generations. Songs are sung in Kashmiri, each word carrying centuries of thought. These are living archives.

And yet, people told me, it is not celebrated like it once was.

In some places, it has stopped entirely. The loss was not from natural change, but from deliberate neglect.

When a ritual dies, people lose more than a celebration. They lose a connection to themselves.

Many young Kashmiris now treat their own language as a burden. English is the language of intellect and opportunity, while Kashmiri is for kitchen and village. Cultural symbols and sounds are snubbed in the name of "civility."

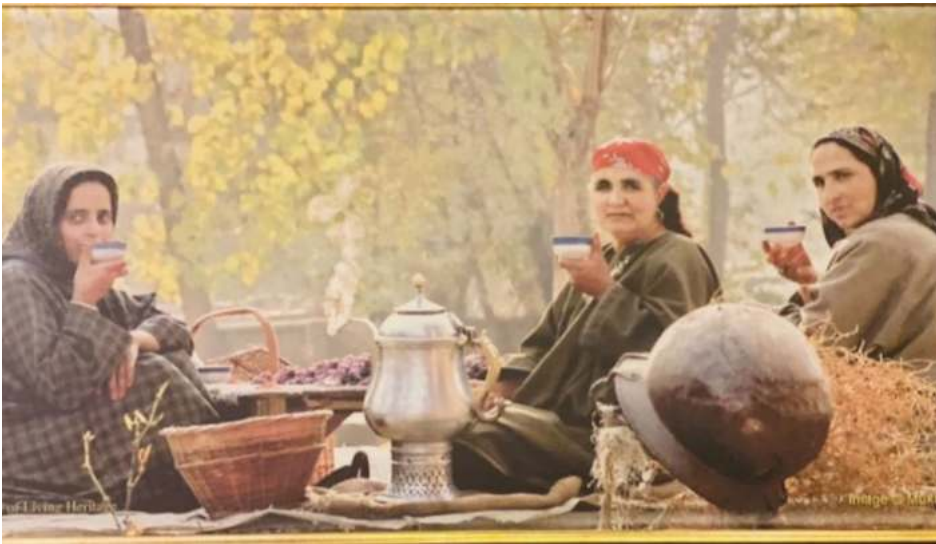
Behind this fall are absurd narratives that long ago declared Kashmiri culture "irrational" and "uncivilized." Over decades, those judgments have been absorbed into local thinking.

Ngg wa Thiong'o once wrote that the deepest control is of the mind. You see it in the ridicule of folk traditions, casual dismissal of Kashmiri as a serious language,

Tea, Talk, And The Ties We Lost In Kashmir

Kashmiri heart once beat in its stories, songs, and handwoven threads. That pulse is growing faint.

Sabahat Fida



and shame in wearing a pheran.

Pir-e-Khear was never just about rice. It was poetry in the fields: Pandits and Muslims cooking side by side, children running through the paddies, and songs rising like

prayer from the earth.

It was unity without proclamation, a culture lived, not displayed. Now, the division works so subtly it leaves no fingerprints, just forgetfulness.



The loss of culture is tied to the loss of land. We have stripped forests, cut through mountains, and reshaped valleys. The results are plain: hotter summers, less snow, late winters, and shrinking glaciers.

When you strip a person of their cultural memory, they become imitators. They carry foreign facade and false sense of pride.

I remember the warmth of the chilai kalan, the kanger on my lap, elders telling stories of Rantas, Pasikdar, and Brambram-

chok. Beyond bedtime diversions, they were mythology, oral history, and emotion woven together.

My mother's Kashmiri muhavharat were as sharp as they were musical, each one a perfect fit for its moment. I didn't always understand every word, but I felt their weight. Her stories fed me like food. When a tale ended on a sad note, I'd object, hungry for resolution.

Those moments were emotional nourishment, and they bound me to her in ways no textbook could.

This erosion runs deeper than language or dress. It reaches into the crafts that once defined our economy and identity, like spinning wheel.

My great-aunts spun thread into livelihood, their hands moving with the rhythm of the wheel. Today, the wheels are still, and the skill is vanishing with the elders.

The irony is bitter. In Europe and America, there is a growing market for sustainable, handmade, organic goods, exactly what Kashmir once produced naturally.

Instead of nurturing these skills into thriving industries, we let them fade.

The loss of culture is tied to the loss of land. We have stripped forests, cut through mountains, and reshaped valleys. The results are plain: hotter summers, less snow, late winters, and shrinking glaciers.

We have been unfaithful to the earth in the same way we have been unfaithful to our heritage.

And yet, no cultural society, or intellectual circle, rallies to defend these vanishing skills. The stories still live in us, but they are passed down without the same urgency.

In two or three generations, they will not even survive as museum pieces.

We were once a people rich in story. Now, we are a people forgetting the sound of our own voice.

The author is a Higher Secondary Educator in Zoology.

Kashmir's Rising Crisis of Cognitive Fatigue

Two stories of burnout reveal a growing challenge, and hope in Kashmir through simple, science-backed interventions.

Ansar Hussain Dar

For three weeks before his entrance exams, Adil Khan, 19, sat in his little room in Srinagar, flipping physics notes long into the night.

He had already spent 12-hour days in a coaching center. Then came the haze: He forgot formulas, his head throbbed, and a 90-minute test felt like a slog.

"My brain just shut down. I couldn't think," Adil said. The pressure was immense, but his coping strategy only made things worse: late-night study, coffee-fueled mornings, and no breaks.

In Anantnag district, 34-year-old Naila Gani cares for her elderly father who has Parkinson's. She handles his medicine, meals, and physical therapy from dawn till dusk. There is no respite.

"I feel awake but empty by evening," Naila said. "I forget small things, like where I placed my keys or what I was cooking."

She is not alone. Caregivers across the valley report similar feelings of mental emptiness after long days with little rest or recognition.

What people often call feeling mentally tired is actually cognitive fatigue, a condition



when your brain gets foggy and it's harder to think clearly or make decisions after working hard for a long time. Tasks that once took minutes now drag into hours. Memory falters, emotions become sharper, and mistakes seep through.

Repeated exam stress, caregiving demands, remote work calls, and social media bingeing are draining people's mental reserves in Kashmir.

A well-known psychiatrist at GMC Srinagar said this isn't simple tiredness. When people push their minds too long without proper rest, it starts breaking down. "Focus fades, emotional control weakens, and eventually, the mind stops cooperating."

Health data from Kashmir shows the problem is growing. A 2023 survey found that forty percent of university students reported serious trouble with concentration and memory. More than thirty percent said they felt mentally drained on most days. Insomnia is also widespread.

At a prominent city hospital, nearly half of the admitted patients reported sleeping difficulties. Sleeping pill use is rising, pointing to a region under mounting mental strain.

Research in India and beyond offers clues to why this is happening.

Poor sleep, a familiar struggle across the country, is a major factor. More than a third of Indian college students report poor sleep

quality.

Sleep loss disrupts memory, attention, and decision-making. During exams, student fatigue can spike from thirty-nine to fifty percent, especially when screen use and caffeine consumption increase.

In Nagpur, professors now describe this screen-related burnout as "digital obesity," a silent epidemic spreading among students.

Constant multitasking, like juggling studies, mobile apps, and household chores, is steadily draining people's brain energy. Psychology studies confirm that decision fatigue lowers judgment and weakens self-control.

A Srinagar-based therapist often tells his patients that when sleep breaks, the mind breaks. "Many people in Kashmir need simple, regular routines, not more hours of work."

The therapist said high stress and poor sleep are driving many people toward sleeping pills, but their misuse only worsens memory problems and mental confusion.

The way out does not require big solutions. Experts recommend small, steady changes. Sleep remains the foundation. Staying off screens at least an hour before bedtime, aiming for seven to nine hours of uninterrupted rest, can help reset mental sharpness.

In Srinagar, some students are now using the Pomodoro method, breaking study time into twenty-five-minute work blocks followed by short breaks, to keep their minds fresh.

Regular movement, even short walks along the Jhelum or near Dal Lake, can improve mental clarity. A balanced diet rich in leafy greens, nuts, fish, and water is key to sustaining brain power.

Many overlook hydration, but even mild dehydration can slow down thinking. Limiting screen time, switching off notifications, and cutting back on multitasking can all help



IN KASHMIR'S FAST-MOVING ecosystem, many people are pushing their minds to the edge without knowing it. The way back is simple: rest, routine, and community.

protect the brain's energy.

Caregivers like Naila need support: shared responsibilities, time off, and space to recharge.

With guidance from mental health therapist and support from his family, Adil slowly rebuilt his daily routine. He went to bed earlier, added regular screen-free breaks, and began taking mindful walks in the Mughal gardens. His focus and memory gradually returned. He completed his exams feeling steadier, though some days remain hard.

Naila has since joined a local women's support group in Anantnag. They meet weekly, sometimes just to talk. She has started sleeping better and now notices when she needs to pause before her energy slips away. Her fatigue hasn't disappeared, but she is learning to step back in time.

In Kashmir's fast-moving ecosystem, many people are pushing their minds to the edge without knowing it. The way back is simple: rest, routine, and community.

The harder part is noticing the silent signs, and choosing to stop before the mind does.

The author is a Multimedia Editor at Kashmir Observer.

When Love Costs Too Much in Kashmir

Young couples in Kashmir face heartbreak not from fading feelings but from the impossible demands of dowry, jobs, and social status.

Kaisar Ahmad Malla

I've seen love that feels strong and real, full of hope and warmth in Kashmir. But even with all that strength, it often faces challenges it can't overcome, making it hard for that love to last.

The heartbreak probably made Pablo Neruda to write, "Love is so short, forgetting is so long." Those words speak of parting and memory's sting.

Here, in our towns and villages, forgetting is not the worst part. The cruellest sorrow is watching love end before it ever truly begins.

The saddest farewells I know come from reasons no one dares to name aloud: unemployment, empty pockets, and the weight of customs we call tradition.

I have witnessed young couples, bound not by fleeting attraction but by years of shared dreams, slip into strangers. They don't stop caring. Their hearts remain connected. What breaks them apart is the brutal reality of a world that demands a steady paycheck, gold ornaments, and social standing before love can take root.

Once, a man's kindness, honesty, and goodwill were enough to ask for a woman's hand. Today, that's only the opening on a long checklist.

A suitor must show a government job or something just as permanent, own a car, and ideally have his own house.

I've seen the man, who stood by her when everyone else walked away, replaced by someone with a better salary and a family that can afford gold that gleams brighter.

It isn't betrayal in the classic sense. It's surrender to economic reality, and that makes it all the more heartbreaking.

I've seen this pain up close through a good friend of mine. The woman he loved walked away, even though their feelings were still there. But his job stayed stuck, just like his heart.

I sat beside him as he fought back tears, pretending to be strong. In those moments, words felt hollow. I could only place a hand on his shoulder, knowing nothing would fill that emptiness.

This is the type of heartbreak that breaks something deep and silent. It can push young men into despair, addiction, and



worse.

Fathers carry a different kind of fear. Their daughters' marriage is often measured in copper utensils, bed sets, and the washing machine's brand. Many fathers sell land or borrow money, sacrificing their lifetime savings to avoid shame. The neighbours will forget the feast within a week, but the stigma lasts much longer.

Young men struggle in their own way.

They work and save, yet inflation and soaring gold prices push the dream of gifting jewelry out of reach.

Without stable income, they watch the women they love leave, not by choice, but because families demand "security."

This obsession with financial guarantees turns love into a contest, one some cannot win.

We've made marriage a public show instead of a private blessing. Respect is mea-

sured in grams of gold, size of the feast, and the make of the car.

We drain savings, sell fields that once fed families, all to maintain a social image in communities that gossip regardless. We forget the lessons our faith teaches: that the simplest marriages are the strongest, and faith binds souls more tightly than possessions ever could.

The harshest heartbreak is love held back by society's price tag. Delayed mar-



THE HARSHTEST HEARTBREAK IS LOVE HELD BACK BY SOCIETY'S PRICE tag. Delayed marriages steal time, chances, and hope. They turn love from a right into a privilege reserved for those who can pay the cost.

riages steal time, chances, and hope. They turn love from a right into a privilege reserved for those who can pay the cost.

Medical research warns that waiting too long to marry reduces fertility, yet our customs trap young couples in this waiting game.

When the "right time" comes, the best years have slipped away. The laughter and warmth once dreamed of become distant memories, replaced by silence and longing, for love denied, and for children who never came.

We see the toll on young people's mental health. The bonds that once held communities together weaken, replaced by competition and judgment. The call to make marriage easy, to build families on faith and love, fades beneath the weight of expectations.

Until we break free, love will bow to gold prices, job titles, and dowry demands. The longest kind of forgetting might not be moving on from love, but learning to live in a world where it is not allowed to thrive.

If we do not change, history will remember us as the generation that traded love for furniture and copper. One day, when the feasts fade and the gold turns dull, we will see the truth: we gave up something priceless for things that never mattered.

The author is a health worker from Radboud Magam with a deep interest in social and health issues affecting Kashmir.

Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir

Scholarship Name 1

Margdarshan Mentorship Program by CNH – ITC

Description: India Technology Centre (ITC), an entity of CNH Industrial, invites applications from any year B. Tech students to enhance their professional skills, overall development and employability of underprivileged students by imparting mentorship support to them.

Eligibility: This program is open to B.Tech students (from any year) enrolled in Government or Government-Aided colleges/universities located in Delhi, Ghaziabad, Noida, Greater Noida, Gurgaon, or Faridabad. Applicants must have secured a minimum of 60% marks in their previous academic year and have a family income of 6 lakh or less from all sources.

Prizes & Rewards: 9 exclusive one-on-one mentorship sessions per mentee from experienced employees at CNH ITC.

9 group webinars to be conducted by subject matter experts.

Note: Scheduling of the online sessions of mentors and mentees for the course duration is based on mutual preference.

The mentees will have the option to request for rescheduling sessions.

- Last Date to Apply: 28-08-2025
- Application mode: Online applications only
- Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/MARG1
- QR Code: <https://d2w71p59qkl0r.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/margdarshan-mentorship-program-by-cnh-itc1754296963.png>

Scholarship Name 2: OakNorth STEM Scholarship Programme

Description: The OakNorth STEM Scholarship Programme is an initiative by OakNorth aimed at supporting underprivileged women aspiring to pursue a degree in STEM (Science, Technology,

Engineering, Mathematics). This scholarship is available to female students from Haryana, Uttarakhand, and Bihar who have completed their Class 12 and are currently enrolled in a STEM-related undergraduate program (any year) at government colleges or universities.

Eligibility: The scholarship is available to students who are residents of Haryana, Uttarakhand, and Bihar.

Only female applicants are eligible for consideration.

Applicants should be enrolled in an undergraduate STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) at government universities or colleges in India, regardless of the year of study.

Candidates must have secured an aggregate of 75% or more in their Class 12 (or equivalent) exam, with at least 65% in the previous class/semester/year (if applicable).

The annual family income of the applicant should not exceed 3 lakhs.

Children of Buddy4Study and OakNorth employees are not eligible to apply.

Prizes & Rewards: 30,000 (fixed amount)

- Last Date to Apply: 31-08-2025
- Application mode: Online applications only
- Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/ONSS4
- QR Code: <https://d2w71p59qkl0r.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/oaknorth-stem-scholarship-programme1754296912.png>

Scholarship Name 3: Free Coaching for DNT Students under the SEED (Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs)

Description: An initiative by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, to provide high-quality coaching to students belonging to De-notified Tribes (DNT), Nomadic Tribes (NT), and Semi-Nomadic

Tribes (SNT).

Eligibility: Open for students belonging to De-notified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Tribes.

Applicants must be willing to pursue coaching for competitive examinations such as NEET, JEE Main, CLAT, NDA, TOEFL, SAT, CA-CPT, RRB, Banking, Insurance, State Police, and CPL Courses.

Candidates must have passed Class 12 or are currently studying in Class 12 to be eligible for this scheme.

Students must have secured the minimum marks required in the competitive exam for which coaching is sought, as per the guidelines of that exam.

The annual family income of the applicants must be less than or equal to INR 8,00,000.

Applicants should not be availing of similar benefits (waiver for coaching classes) from any other Central Government or State Government Scheme.

Note:

If the student has not yet appeared for the exam or if the result has not been declared, marks from the previous exam (Board exam) will be considered.

For exams with two stages (Preliminary and Mains), priority will be given to students who have qualified at least once in the Preliminary stage.

A student can avail the benefits under the scheme a maximum of two times, regardless of the number of attempts allowed for the competitive examination.

Students may enroll in any coaching institute of their choice, either online or offline.

Prizes & Rewards: Coaching fees of up to INR 1,20,000 and additional benefits

- Last Date to Apply: 25-08-2025
- Application mode: Online applications only
- Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/FCDNT2
- QR Code: <https://d2w71p59qkl0r.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/free-coaching-for-dnt-students-under-the-seed-scheme-for-economic-empowerment-of-dnts1752509085.png>

Email address:-exenmcddsmcsgr@gmail.comContact No. 0194 4069671

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
MECH. CITY DRAINAGE DIVISION SRINAGAR.

Corrigendum No: 02

Subject:- Hiring of Vehicle Mahindra Scorpio/ Toyota Inova for Inspection and Monitoring of Government Works without driver (24x7) for the current financial year 2025-26 for Mechanical City Drainage Division Srinagar..

Reference :- This office e-NIT_06_CDM_OF_2025-26 Dated:-21-07-2025 followed by Corrigendum No: CDM/ C/ 1374-76 dated:-30.07.2025

Due to no response for the work "Hiring of Vehicle Mahindra Scorpio/ Toyota Inova for Inspection and Monitoring of Government Works without driver (24x7) for the current financial year 2025-26 for Mechanical City Drainage Division Srinagar" floated for tenders vide this office e-NIT mentioned in the reference above, the critical dates are once again extended as per the details below :-

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Bid Submission End Date | 13.08.2025 upto 4.00 PM |
| Date & Time of opening of Technical Bids | 14.08.2025 at 2.00 PM |

All other details, terms, and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the N.I.T.

NO.CDM/C/ 1553-55
DIPK-5046/25Dated:- 09 -08-2025

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
MECH. CITY DRAINAGE DIVISION SGR.

UNIOUN TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
MECHANICAL AND HOSPITAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
MECHANICAL AND HOSPITAL DIVISION ANANTNAG.
email: xenmhdang@gmail.com

GIST OF Short-term e-NIT No: MHDA/TS/25 of 2025-26 Dated: 04-08-2025.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT short-term e-tenders are invited from OEM's, authorized dealers of OEM's/ Experienced Firms for the below mentioned work:

| Name of the Work | Estimated Cost (In Lakhs) | Cost of Tender Doc. (In Rs) | Earnest Money (In Rs) | Contract Period |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Repairs of 300 LPM Oxygen Plant (Make Atlas Copco OGP 20) along with Comprehensive Maintenance Contract and Operation of the same for one (01) year at District Hospital Pulwama. | 9.073 | 500 | 18150 | 1 year |

- Administrative Approval: Accorded by Director of Health Services Kashmir vide Order No. 62/DHSK of 2025 Dated: 05-06-2025 along with corrigendum No. DHSK/Plg/CMC/939-41 dated: 12-06-2025
- Technical Sanction: Accorded under no. MHED/K/TS/42 dated: 14-06-2025 by Chief Engineer M&HED Kashmir Srinagar.
- Position of Funds: To be made available by intending Department as per AAA.

1. The tender document, consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in from 04-08-2025 (16:00 hrs.).
2. The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above website from 04-08-2025 (17:00 hrs.) to 11-08-2025 (14:00hrs) in two (02) Cover format.
3. The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on 13-08-2025 at (14:00 hrs.) or any date convenient to the department in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical and Hospital Division Anantnag.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Mechanical and Hospital Division Anantnag

DIPK-5065/25
DATED: 09-08-2025
No: MHDA/TS-289/1274-75



The methods used to consume news have changed over time from newspapers, to television, to the Internet on our computers to carrying the news around with us 24/7 on smartphones in our pockets.

Kashmir Observer, with 28 years of experience in news gathering is now available 24x7 on all digital platforms like laptops, cell phones or via Bluetooth on your smart TV's across the world

Kashmir Observer is a one stop information bank for you. Watch live debates, talk shows and documentaries on critical issues facing Kashmir on KO youtube channel.

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LG Manoj Sinha Mourns Demise Of Dr. MJ Zarabi

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, has condoled the passing away of eminent electronics engineer Dr. MJ Zarabi. Following is the text of the Lieutenant Governor's condolence message:

"I am deeply grieved to learn of the passing away of Dr. MJ Zarabi, one of India's most eminent electronics engineers, who will long be remembered for his pioneering research in microelectronics.

Dr. MJ Zarabi was among that crop of engineers who helped lay the foundation of our country's integrated chip

manufacturing effort. As SCL's Chairman and Managing Director, Dr. Zarabi was responsible for building a modern VLSI fabrication facility in 1997. I met him last month to discuss setting up a Semiconductor Design Centre and Lab Scale Fabrication facility for training purposes at the North Campus of University of Kashmir in Baramulla. Dr. Zarabi will be missed deeply by his friends, and researchers as a great engineer and a very warm human being. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his family and pray for peace for the departed soul. Om Shanti!

Habitual Offender Booked Under PSA In Anantnag

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a significant step towards curbing fraudulent activities and protecting the interests of the public, police in Anantnag have detained a habitual offender involved in the sale of counterfeit gold under the PSA.

The accused identified as Showkat Ahmad Zargar son of Noor Mohammad Zargar resident of New Colony, Bijbehara A/P Shamsipora, have been booked under the provisions of the PSA for his repeated involvement in selling counterfeit gold and has been shifted to Kot Bhalwal Jail, Jammu, for lodge-

ment, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to Kashmir Observer.

It is pertinent to mention here that, Police Station Bijbehara had been receiving multiple complaints against the accused over the past years regarding fraudulent sale of fake gold items, and accordingly several FIRs (FIR No. 06/2023, FIR No. 223/2024 and FIR Nos. 149 & 150 of 2025) were registered against him.

During the investigation, the counterfeit gold items produced by complainants were seized and sent to the Hall-marking Centre, Srinagar, for purity verification. Reports confirmed that all seized items were fake.

ECI Deregisters 3 Little-Known Parties Of J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a significant development, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has deregistered three obscure political parties from Jammu & Kashmir.

According to an official order, a copy of which is in possession of Kashmir Observer, the poll body today removed the All Jammu & Kashmir Republican Party, Indian Peoples Conference Party, and Socialist Democratic Party from its registry.

These parties were served show-cause in the month of June, asking them to explain why they shall not be deregistered.

The ECI took this action after it was found that these parties neither participated in the electoral process in the last six years nor existed at their registered addresses.

As per ECI guidelines,

The Representation of the People Act-1951 mandates that political parties must provide a communication address to the poll-body at the time of registration.

It also provides that any

“As per ECI guidelines, any political party that fails to contest elections for six consecutive years is liable to be delisted from the registered parties.”

any political party that fails to contest elections for six consecutive years is liable to be delisted from the registered parties.

change in the party's name, head office, office bearers, or address must be communicated to the Commission without any delay.

‘Foolproof Security In Place For Smooth I-Day Celebrations’

Agencies

Srinagar: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sopore, Iftkhar Talib, on Saturday said that the multi-layered security arrangements have been put in place to ensure peaceful Independence Day celebrations in the town, with police, CRPF and other security agencies maintaining heightened vigil across the sub-division.

Speaking on the sidelines of a bike rally organised as part of the pre-Independence

Day build-up, SSP Talib, said the security surveillance measures have been enhanced to pre-empt any untoward incident.

He credited the people of Sopore and civil society for their cooperation in maintaining peace and enabling such public events to take place smoothly. “The events happening are because of the people's participation and their trust,” he said, adding that the build-up programmes will continue till August 15.

On the issue of drug menace, SSP Talib said the police are committed to cracking down on the trade, but public support remains crucial. “Those involved will face the heat of law, but community involvement is necessary to eradicate this menace,” he said.

Urging residents to attend the August 15 function in large numbers, SSP Talib expressed optimism that this year's celebrations will reflect the collective spirit of Sopore—(KNO)

Residents Fall Ill in Daferpora Over Contaminated Water

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Panic gripped Daferpora village in South Kashmir's Pulwama district after several residents fell ill, allegedly due to contaminated drinking water supplied by the Public Health Engineering (PHE) department.

Locals said Daferpora, a small hamlet with around 40 households, has seen nearly 30 households affected in recent days. Most patients are suffering from diarrhoea and vomiting.

Speaking to KNO, residents allege the water supply scheme in the area, constructed in 2002, has been neglected for over two decades. “The main water storage tank has never been cleaned since it was installed. We have been drinking from the same unclean source all these years. This negligence is now directly affecting our health,” said Ghulam Nabi, a local resident.

Another villager, Abdul Rashid, said repeated pleas to clean the tank and improve supply have fallen on deaf ears. “The government prom-

ised us a new water scheme under the Jal Jeevan Mission. Land was identified and pipes were brought here, but the work never started. It is sheer negligence and indifference towards our suffering,” he said.

They have demanded an investigation for this reason at an earliest.

A senior health official confirmed that a medical team had visited the village to treat patients and conduct awareness sessions. “So far, 16 people have fallen ill, out of which 12 have recovered. Three fresh cases were reported today. The situation is un-

der control and we have advised residents to drink only boiled water until further notice,” the official said.

Water samples have been collected from the supply line and results are expected by tomorrow. “Preliminary indications point to contamination as the likely cause,” the official added.

Villagers have urged the local MLA, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama and PHE authorities to act immediately. “We cannot afford another such crisis. Clean drinking water is our basic right,” they said.

Sakeena Inaugurates Science Block At GHSS D K Marg

Observer News Service

Kulgam: Minister for Education, Sakeena Itoo on Saturday inaugurated the newly constructed Science Block at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), D K Marg besides participating in Parent-Teachers Meet (PTM) of the institute.

Director School Education Kashmir, CEO Kulgam, Principal GHSS D.K Marg, SDM DH Pora, senior officers of district administration, faculty members and students were present on the occasion.

While speaking on the occasion of the Cluster PTM, the Minister said that the government is focused to ensure access to quality education for all, adding that concrete measures are being taken to strengthen the educational infrastructure across the region. She added that the government is actively creating and upgrading the school infrastructure across Jammu and Kashmir to provide students with modern, well-equipped learning environments.

The Minister further said that the students possess immense talent and the government is giving special focus to the education and health sectors, ensuring inclusive development. She noted that there is ample talent among the students which needs to be tapped in a positive way by providing them with platforms to showcase their



abilities, including those from remote areas.

The Minister highlighted that the schools will be equipped with all kind of basic amenities like washrooms, fencing and other essential facilities to create a better learning environment.

The Minister also said that the tourism potential of DH Pora and its surrounding areas like Aharbal, Kongwattan, Kounsarnag and Panchan Pathri areas, known for their pristine beauty, rich biodiversity and trekking routes, will be tapped to boost tourism activities in these areas. She added that the local youth will be trained in tourism related trades to boost the self employment avenues for them and also develop these areas economically.

The Minister also felicitated NEET achiever and an athlete of the institution on the occasion.

Later, the Minister visited GHSS K.B.Pora and participated in a PTM at the institute.

Addressing the gathering, the Ministers said that Omar Abdullah led government is determined to ensure holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir. She added that education and health sectors are prime target for this government for development, adding that infrastructure and staff augmentation in schools and hospitals is being boosted for public good.

On the occasion, the Minister also distributed aids and appliances among the Children with Special Needs (CWSN).

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER VEHIL

(Email: zeovehil@gmail.com)

Subject: - Engagement/ Hiring of Helpers/ Aayas under ECCE for the Year 2025-26

Reference: -

- Directorate of Samagra Shiksha Order No: 07 of Chirag, Dated: 09/01/2023.
- Directorate of Samagra Shiksha vide letter No: Edu/PD/SmS/ECCE/Helpers/1861-1905/2023-24 Dated: 06-06-2023.
- Chief Education Officer Shopian vide Order No. CEO/Spn/SmS/ECCE/23/191-197 Dated 13-06-2023 & CEO/Spn/SmS/ECCE/25/7238-98 dated 24-05-2025.

ADVERTISEMENT NOTIFICATION

Applications on the prescribed Format are invited from BPL/AAY eligible female candidates only for engagement of Helpers/Aayas (no. of posts=01) under Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in the selected school listed below on contractual basis and shall be purely terminus and shall start from the date, they are engaged / hired and shall conclude with the end of academic session. It may be extendable, subject to the performance and approval of funds from the Ministry of Education, Govt of India, in the particular component. The Applications on devised Format shall reach the office of the Zonal Education Officer Vehil by or before 18th of August 2025 during working hours.

Eligibility Criteria of Helpers/ Aayas:

- Only female candidates can apply.
- Candidate must be domicile of the village where approved school is located.
- Candidate must be physically and mentally fit to carry out her job.
- Candidate must be belonging to BPL/AAY (Below Poverty Line) Category.
- Candidate shall submit the affidavit from 1st class Magistrate at the time of joining for not claiming for permanent absorption at any stage.
- Minimum qualification of candidate should be 8th pass from any recognized institute.
- Age of Candidate must be between 18-45 years as on 1st January 2025.
- Preference shall be given to the candidates from BPL/AAY Category in the below mentioned order of Priority:
 - Widow
 - Divorced
 - Orphan
 - Double Orphan (whose both Biological Parents are dead) be given 1st preference.
 - Paternal Orphan (Whose Biological Father is dead) be given 2nd preference.
 - Maternal Orphan (whose Biological Mother is dead) be given 3rd preference.
 - Female belonging to BPL/AAY Category and older in age than the rest of BPL/AAY candidates.
 - Honorarium will be given Rs 5000/- per month which may vary as per the approval in the subsequent year in PAB of Samagra Shiksha.
 - In case of tie-up of the selection of candidate for Helper/ Aaya, the preference be given to the elder candidate (i.e. candidate with more age be considered).
- Job Chart of a Helper/Aaya:

The Helpers/ Aayas for pre-primary sections of Govt. Schools have to perform below mentioned tasks.

 - Escorting the children at their arrival, departure, between activities (For example while moving to outdoor areas, Playground and Toilet etc.)
 - Maintaining the hygiene of the children such as Toileting, hand washing, cleanliness of children etc.
 - Helping the teacher in preparing class for activities.
 - Assisting the children in taking food under the supervision of teacher.
 - Any other assignment given by HOI for the proper care of children.

| S.No | District | Zone | UDISE Code | Name of the School | Pre- Pry Enrolment | Village |
|------|----------|-------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Shopian | Vehil | 01151201401 | PS Khasipora | 31 | Ranipora Khasipora |

No- ZEO/V/25/
DIPK-5029/25

Date: 09-08-2025

Zonal Education Officer,
Vehil

India Endorses US-Russia Summit In Alaska

KO Web Desk

After US President Donald Trump announced that he will meet Russian President Vladimir Putin next Friday, 15th August, in Alaska for talks aimed around ending the war in Ukraine, the Ministry of External Affairs in a statement said that India welcomes the understanding between the US and Russia for a meeting.

"India welcomes the understanding reached between the United States and the Russian Federation for a meeting in Alaska on 15th August 2025", the statement said, adding "This meeting holds the promise of bringing to an end the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and opening up the prospects for peace. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said on several occasions, "This is not an era of war".

This will be Putin's first trip to the United States since 2015, when he met former President Barack Obama.

In a post on Truth Social, Trump wrote, "The highly anticipated meeting between myself, as President of the United States of America, and President Vladimir Putin of Russia will take place next Friday, August 15, 2025, in the Great State of Alaska. Further details to follow. Thank you for your attention to this matter!"

The Kremlin informed that the two leaders would

"focus on discussing options for achieving a long-term peaceful resolution to the Ukrainian crisis", describing the process as "challenging" but one that Moscow would engage in "actively and energetically."

While speaking at the White House, Trump had said during the signing of the Armenia-Azerbaijan peace accord that striking a deal could involve exchanging land. "We're going to get some back, and we're going to get some switched. There'll be some swapping of territories to the betterment of both, but we'll be talking about that either later or tomorrow," he told reporters.

However, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Saturday that they "will not give their land to occupiers".

"The answer to Ukraine's territorial question is already in the constitution of Ukraine," Zelensky said in a message on Telegram. "No one will and no one can deviate from it. Ukrainians will not give their land to the occupier."

Trump's special envoy, Steve Witkoff had a meeting with Putin in Moscow for three hours. The US said that the meeting was "highly productive".

On Wednesday, Trump imposed a 25 per cent tariff on India over its imports of Russian oil.

Over 27 Quintals Of Expired Fish, Chicken Seized In Jammu



3 Cases Registered

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Over 2700 kgs of expired fish and chicken were seized and subsequently destroyed in a joint inspection by Legal Metrology Department (LMD) and Food Safety Department here on Saturday, officials said, prompting the registration of three separate cases against the erring shopkeepers.

The recovery of 27 quintals of expired frozen food comes days after a rotten-meat

scandal has shaken consumers in Kashmir where authorities have destroyed more than 3500 kgs of adulterated varieties of meat over the past week.

"On the instructions of the government, we conducted joint inspection of fish and chicken market in the city in view of the festival season to check whether the products, including those imported from outside J-K, are stored as per the norms and carry packaging date, expiry and MRP," Deputy Controller LMD, enforcement, Manoj Prabhakar said.

He said a total of 27 quintals of rotten and spoiled frozen fish and chicken were seized

during the inspection and accordingly, three cases under legal metrology act were registered against the dealers for violation of various guidelines.

A challan under section 56 along with improvement notice under section 32 was also recommended against the shopkeepers for storing the frozen food in the most unhygienic condition and in violation of the provisions of the food safety and standard act, he said.

He said all the seized material was destroyed with proper SOP along with a team of Jammu Municipal Corporation at dumping station Korbhalwal in the outskirts of the city.

EC Delists 334 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Election Commission on Saturday said it has delisted 334 registered unrecognised political parties which have failed to fulfil the essential condition of contesting even a single election for six years since 2019.

The offices of these parties could also not be physically

located anywhere.

These 334 registered unrecognised political parties are from different states and Union Territories across the country, the poll panel said.

Out of the total 2,854 registered unrecognised political parties, 2,520 remain after the cleanup exercise. At present, there are six national parties and 67 state parties.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

2 Soldiers Killed

Nation. Their courage and dedication will forever inspire us."

The Army said it stands in solidarity with the bereaved families. "The operation continues," it added.

Officials said two other soldiers were injured in the overnight firing, taking the number of injured security forces personnel to nine.

Senior police and Army officers, including the Jammu and Kashmir Police chief Nalin Prabhakar, and the Army's Northern Commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, are closely monitoring the operation round-the-clock, officials said.

Security forces have pressed drones and helicopters into service to track the terrorists down in the forest area. Para commandos were also assisting the security forces in neutralising the hiding ultras. (PTI)

Rotten Meat

Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, with Food Safety Department teams seizing and destroying 35 kilograms of adulterated meat during inspections in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

An official said that the seized meat was declared unfit for consumption and destroyed on the spot. "We destroyed at least 35 kg of rotten meat immediately to prevent it from reaching consumers," the official said.

Food Safety Department sealed a restaurant at Beehama area of Central Kashmir's Ganderbal and destroyed nearly two quintals of rotten meat items late Friday.

"Staff members attempted to dump bags of Rista and Kabab into a neighbouring courtyard to evade seizure, but the move was thwarted. All contaminated meat was confiscated and disposed off on the spot," an official said.

In south Kashmir's Kokernag, an eatery was penalised after spoiled meat was found during a joint inspection drive on Saturday. The contaminated food items were destroyed on the spot, and a fine of Rs 18,000 was imposed for serving unhygienic and unfit food to customers.

The contaminated food items were destroyed on the spot, and a fine of Rs 18,000 was imposed for serving unhygienic and unfit food to customers. Over the past week, similar seizures have been reported from multiple districts, prompting authorities to step up inspections. Consumers have been urged to check quality and expiry details before buying meat products, while restaurant owners, butchers, and vendors have been warned to maintain hygiene standards or face fines and possible closure.

LG, CM Pay

launched a cordon and search operation in a forest at Akhal in the south Kashmir district, officials said.

"I salute the indomitable courage of our bravehearts, Lance Naik Pritpal Singh and Sepoy Haminder Singh, who made the supreme sacrifice in the service of the motherland.

"Their valour, grit and determination will never be forgotten. My thoughts are with the bereaved families in this hour of grief," Sinha said.

Chief Minister Abdullah visited the Chinar Corps headquarters at Badamibagh in Srinagar, where he laid a wreath in the honour of the martyred soldiers.

"Chief minister laid the wreath and paid rich tribute to the brave soldiers who made ultimate sacrifice at Kulgam." Abdullah's office said in a post on X.

Is Rotten Meat

Dr Mohammad Salim Khan, Head of the Department of Community Medicine at GMC Srinagar, said that improper handling of meat and poultry can have devastating

consequences.

"Unsanitary practices during slaughtering, dressing, packaging, transportation, storage, and distribution can contaminate meat with harmful bacteria, leading to foodborne illnesses such as food poisoning, diarrhoea, dysentery, and typhoid fever," he said.

He added, "Meat, especially poultry, spoils quickly when exposed to environmental conditions without proper handling and storage. Unfortunately, in many cases, meat is transported in unhygienic thermocol boxes or kept in the open, rather than in refrigerated vehicles and deep freezers."

Dr Khan stressed that the safe disposal of spoiled meat is equally important. "Improperly discarded meat can contaminate water bodies and the environment. It must be destroyed scientifically, either through incineration or deep burial with disinfectants," he said.

Adding to the alarm, Dr Owvass H. Dar, a consultant radiologist at GMC Anantnag, said the link between unsafe food and chronic diseases, including cancer, cannot be ignored.

"The incidence of cancer in Kashmir has reached alarming levels—there is hardly a village, locality, or mohalla left untouched. In the Radiology Department, we diagnose at least one or two new cancer patients every day on ultrasound or CT scans," he said.

While lifestyle changes and environmental factors play a role, the consumption of rotten meat treated with carcinogenic chemicals to disguise spoilage is a preventable risk, Dr Owais said. "This is not just about food hygiene—it could be silently contributing to the cancer epidemic in our valley," he said. Dr Dar called for urgent, large-scale research into the causes of the cancer surge in Kashmir, backed by strong logistics and government support.

"Each of us can protect our families by avoiding unsafe, pre-processed foods and choosing fresh, hygienic options. Food safety is not simply about avoiding a bad meal—it's about saving lives and preventing a public health disaster," he added.

Authorities have stepped up inspections, seizing thousands of kilograms of unsafe meat and other food items. However, experts say enforcement must be coupled with public awareness campaigns to ensure that the valley's residents understand the dangers of consuming adulterated and unhygienic food.

Customers Stay

(JCLC) and Yameen Ul Nabi, along with Food Safety Officers, the team raided the premises, confiscated the meat, and destroyed it under strict supervision. Legal proceedings have been initiated under the Food Safety and Standards Act.

For the city's restaurant owners, the damage has been swift and unforgiving. "We used to be full during lunch hours, now half the chairs stay empty," said a downtown restaurant owner, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Even though our kitchen is spotless and our meat is fresh, customers are nervous. The fear is bigger than the facts."

The chain reaction has also hit suppliers who cater to eateries. One street vendor selling "ristas and kebabs" described his loss bluntly: "I used to prepare around 70 kilograms of meat every day. Now I can't sell even 30 kilograms. Negative social media reviews and viral videos have destroyed people's appetite."

In the days since the raid, social media timelines have been flooded with clips of meat inspections, rumours about unhygienic kitchens, and heated debates on food safety. For many families, the decision is simple — eat at home until trust is restored. "I don't want to take any risks for family" said a woman from Hawal.

The psychological effect on restaurant staff is also showing. Waiters, once busy ferrying trays of mutton rogan josh and kebabs, now linger

by the counter, glancing at the door for customers who may never come. Some chefs admit they are cooking smaller batches to avoid wastage, while others are slashing menu items altogether.

Officials have again warned all Food Business Operators — especially those dealing with high-risk, perishable goods — to maintain strict cold-chain storage and hygiene measures. "This is about saving lives, not hurting livelihoods," an enforcement officer said. "Clean kitchens and safe meat are the only way forward."

For Srinagar's once-thriving restaurant sector, the battle ahead is not just about passing inspections. It's about winning back a public whose trust — like the city's dinner tables — now sits half empty.

First Freight

Upadhyay, the cement transported on this train will be used for the construction of roads, bridges, public infrastructure, and residential housing in the valley.

With this development, the Kashmir rail network is now seamlessly integrated with the Indian Railways freight corridor, enabling the direct movement of goods from across the country into the Valley.

This development is set to boost economic activity by creating new trade opportunities, reducing transportation costs for businesses and essential commodities, ensuring year-round supply delivery despite weather challenges, and strengthening regional connectivity within the national rail framework.

Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project of total length 272 Km has been recently commissioned. USBRL project covers the districts of Udhampur, Reasi, Ramban, Srinagar, Anantnag, Pulwama, Budgam and Baramulla of Jammu and Kashmir.

The USBRL project is one of the most difficult new railway line projects undertaken in the country post-independence. The terrain passes through young Himalayas, which are full of geological surprises and numerous problems. In this project, Railway has made the world's highest Railway Bridge over Chenab river in Reasi district of Jammu & Kashmir. The iconic Chenab Bridge is 1315 m long having an arch span of 467 m and height of 359 m above river bed. Indian Railway's first cable-stayed bridge has been constructed over Anji Khad in this project. Its bridge deck is 331m above the river bed level and height of its Main pylon is 193m.

In accordance with international norms, adequate safety provisions have been kept in the USBRL project. All tunnels having length more than 2 Km have been provided with mechanical ventilation systems to ensure air quality. Firefighting systems comprising fire hydrants and fire extinguishers have been provided to promptly address and contain potential fire incidents in all the tunnels. Further, to ensure the safety of passengers, escape tunnels have also been made where the length of the tunnel is more than 3 Km. A total of 66 Km escape tunnels have been made in this project.

A Great Day

enhance both progress and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Prime Minister posted on X; "Great day for commerce and connectivity in Jammu and Kashmir! It will enhance both progress and prosperity."

Nearly 19K From

national level, Uttar Pradesh led with 5,49,673 ECs issued in the same period, followed by West Bengal (1,24,979) and Tamil Nadu (96,619). While Jammu and Kashmir's share is far lower, over half of its total clearances were recorded in the two post-COVID years

of 2022 and 2023.

6 Pak Aircraft

from their weapons like long-range glide bombs that they have. They have not been able to use any of those because they have not been able to penetrate the system," said the Air chief.

The IAF had also struck hangars in Jacobabad and Bholari in Pakistan. Some US-made F-16s, which were under maintenance at one of the hangars, were destroyed in the aerial strikes. In Bholari, another AEW&C aircraft is also believed to have been destroyed.

"We have an indication of at least one AWC in that AWC hanger, and a few F-16s, which are under maintenance there, (were destroyed)," the Air chief said.

The Indian forces were able to cause so much damage that Pakistan realised they would suffer more losses if the conflict continued, said the Air Chief Marshall. This prompted the Pakistani side to seek a ceasefire, he added.

The hostilities ended May 10. Air Chief Marshal Singh also credited the political leadership for giving the forces the full freedom to plan and execute the attacks.

"A key reason for success was the presence of political will. There were very clear directions given to us. No restrictions were put on us. If there were any constraints, they were self-made. We decided how much to escalate. We had full freedom to plan and execute. Our attacks were calibrated because we wanted to be mature about it," said Air Chief Marshall Singh.

Singh's comment came in the wake of opposition leaders, including senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, attacking the Prime Minister and the government for agreeing to the ceasefire when our forces were getting the better of Pakistan.

The IAF chief also emphasised the importance of "terminating a war".

"Our objective was very clear. Our objective was to teach the terrorists a lesson that they will think twice before doing something; now they know what kind of price they can pay. And once we have achieved those objectives, we should look for all windows of opportunity to stop that, rather than just continuing.

"We were actually on a song that night. I heard from so many people...some people very close to me also said 'Aur Marna Tha'," he said.

He also shared 'before and after' satellite images of the terror targets that were struck during the May 7 attack. "Not only did we have satellite pictures, but also from local media, through which we could get inside pictures," said the Chief of Air Staff, recalling that it was difficult to convince people without such evidence after the Balakot attack.

On the takeaways from Operation Sindoor, Singh said, "The biggest takeaway of the operation has been that the primacy of air warfare has come to the forefront once again. People have realised that air warfare is the first responder that any country has, and air warfare can actually react in a quick time, attack deep inside with precision, and just achieve your objective without any collateral."

Untreated Water

was available, suggesting that mismanagement at the water works level was to blame.

Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE), Quality Control Procurement, Sub Division, Mohammad Umar denied there was a shortage of alum, claiming that the chemical had been supplied, and suggested that plant staff should have collected it.

Chief Engineer of the Jal Shakti Department, Mohammad Taj Chaudhary, acknowledged there had been a supply delay caused by funding and coordination issues. "The problem has now been addressed and fresh alum stocks have reached the plant," he said.

However, he did not clarify why untreated water was supplied in the interim or whether accountability would be fixed.

Public health experts say prolonged consumption of untreated water can cause outbreaks of waterborne diseases, including diarrhoea, typhoid, hepatitis, and gastroenteritis. "If people have been drinking raw water for two weeks, we may see a spike in hospital cases very soon," one senior doctor at SMHS Hospital warned.

Can People Be

and appeal to the government to listen to the demands of the people, and to solve these problems peacefully, because it is not good for any border area to have instability there," he said.

The climate activist stressed that people of Ladakh have stood by the Indian Army, helping them in every possible way in every war that India has fought, but rued that due to "short-sightedness" of some leaders, their demands are not getting the attention they deserve.

"I think this is very short-sighted; some narrow visioned leaders are doing this for the benefit of a few companies. But this will cause a lot of damage to the country, which can unfortunately affect our security," he said.

He, however, hoped that the government would pay heed to their demand. "Our hope and prayer is that the government will understand our pain and resolve it. We do not want to come to Delhi again," he said.

Last year, Wangchuk and other activists walked from Leh to Delhi to press for their demands. He even held an indefinite strike outside Ladakh Bhavan in the national capital.

"But...if some companies are given priority over people of Ladakh...we will be forced to take such steps. There can be a longer hunger strike of 5-6 weeks; it's also being said that if we have to march to Delhi from Leh ten times, we will do that," he said.

"The world should see how difficult it is to follow Gandhi's path," Wangchuk added.

Ladakh, which was separated from Jammu and Kashmir and carved out into a Union Territory in 2019 after the abrogation of Article 370, has witnessed a series of protests over the last few years with demands for safeguards under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution and statehood being among the key demands.

A three-day hunger strike was started in Kargil on Saturday, alleging delay by the Centre in holding the next round of talks concerning the demands of Ladakh.

The last meeting of the High Powered Committee (HPC) was held in New Delhi on May 27 and was chaired by Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai, in which the issues of reservation and domicile were settled.

Chhari Mubarak

'ice lingam' at the holy cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas.

Congress Begins

reporters, Karra said the party has launched a "struggle to awaken the blind, deaf and dumb government in Delhi".

"We selected this day as it is the day when the 'Quit India Movement' was launched. From August 9 to 21, the party will observe six hunger strikes across various districts of J-K," he said.

The JKPC president said the peaceful hunger strike has been launched for the wishes and aspirations of the 1.40 crore citizens of J&K.

He said that as the Parliament session is going on, the party would wait for any development related to the restoration of J&K's statehood.

"If there is no development, then on August 21 (when the session ends), a new programme will be given," he added.

Man City Midfielder Rodri Dealing With Injury Setback

AP

MANCHESTER: Manchester City midfielder Rodri could be sidelined for the start of the Premier League season because of an injury sustained at the Club World Cup, manager Pep Guardiola said.

The 2024 Ballon d'Or winner sat out nearly all of last season after tearing his ACL, and Guardiola described the Spain international's latest setback as a "big injury."

It is believed to be a groin problem this time and occurred during City's 4-3 loss to Al-Hilal at the Club World Cup on June 30. Rodri was a second-half substitute but left the game in extra time.

"Rodri's getting better but he had a big injury in the last game against Al-Hilal and for the last five or six weeks," Guardiola said.

"He's training right now and in the last two or three days is better. Hopefully maybe the international break is when he will be really really fit."

Hayden Feels Gambhir Should Have Toned Down In Spat With Oval Curator

"He could have used better language."

Press Trust of India

MELBOURNE: Former Australian opener Matthew Hayden feels India head coach Gautam Gambhir could have toned down his language during a fiery exchange with the Oval curator ahead of the crucial fifth Test, but noted it was a typical case of an English groundsmen asserting authority over the pitch.

Gambhir was involved in a heated exchange of words with the Oval's chief curator Lee Fortis ahead of the fifth Test and was heard telling him "you don't tell us what we need to do" while pointing fingers at the groundstaff.



"They (curators) can get pretty protective about the surfaces. This is a typical case in England. It is a bit of a flex, here we are, final Test match, this is my venue, and they are going to try and make it difficult on Gautam Gambhir," Hayden said on 'All Over Bar The Cricket'.

"But I think he's got every right to tone it down. He could have used better language. But the reality is, his team is trying to train ahead of the most important Test match," Hayden added.

With England leading the series 2-1 after the fourth Test, India needed a win to draw the five-match Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy.

India eventually went on to win the final match of the series in thrilling fashion, by a slender margin of six runs.

According to India batting coach Sitanshu Kotak the tiff took place after Fortis asked the Indian coaching staff to stay 2.5 metres away from the main square, despite them not wearing spikes, prompting frustration from the visiting camp.

Gambhir replied "You don't tell any of us what we need to do... you have no right to tell us. You are just a groundsmen, nothing beyond."

Marsh To Open Alongside Head In T20 World Cup

Press Trust of India

DARWIN: Captain Mitchell Marsh has confirmed he will open the batting alongside Travis Head for the "foreseeable future" as Australia lock in a key combination ahead of next year's T20 World Cup.

Marsh's promotion to No. 3 ahead of the 2021 T20 World Cup had proved decisive, as he starred in the final with a player-of-the-match performance to help Australia secure their maiden title.

Now leading the T20I side, the 33-year-old said he will stay at the top of the order after opening in all five matches against the West Indies last month, having done so only once before the tour of the Caribbean.

"It'll be myself and Heady up the top for the foreseeable future," Marsh told reporters on Friday, ahead of the three-match T20I series against South Africa.

"Obviously we've played a lot together, (we've) got a great relationship, so (we'll) start there. "As a group leading into the World Cup the messaging has

been about requiring guys to be flexible," he added.

While Marsh and Head are yet to open together in T20Is, they boast an outstanding record as an ODI pairing, scoring 282 runs in five innings at a superb 70.50 average.

Since David Warner's retirement post the T20 World Cup last year, Australia have tried multiple openers, including Matthew Short, Glenn Maxwell, Jake Fraser-McGurk.

India and Sri Lanka will co-host the T20 World Cup next year in February.

The all-rounder added that he will not be rolling his arm over as he continues to be cautious following his back issues that have troubled him earlier this year.

"For me, the bowling is currently offline, but it is certainly not offline forever," Marsh said.

"At this stage it will be series by series (and) we have plenty of options. We have 15 games to the World Cup, so we will keep working on the style we want to play (and) make sure our guys are enjoying every bit of it."



Real Kashmir Take On NEROCA FC In Durand Cup Today

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Real Kashmir FC is set to battle local favourites NEROCA FC on Sunday in a crucial Group F match of the 134th Durand Cup at Khuman Lampak Main Stadium in Imphal, Manipur.

The game kicks off at 4:00 PM and will be broadcast live on the Sony Sports Network (Sony Ten 2 HD). It will also be available for livestreaming on the SonyLiv OTT platform.

A win for either team could secure qualification for the next round of the prestigious tournament.

nament.

Led by head coach Ishfaq Ahmad, the Snow Leopards bounced back from a 2-1 defeat to Indian Navy FC in the opener with a 2-1 triumph over TRAU FC in their next game.

Forward Marat Tarek from Russia and midfielder Rohen Singh have been leading the attack for the Srinagar-based club. Meanwhile, NEROCA FC drew 1-1 with TRAU FC and 0-0 against Indian Navy FC.

Sunday's game is crucial for Real Kashmir's hopes of making the next round. Indian Navy sit on top of Group F standings

with 4 points, with the Snow Leopards on 3, NEROCA on 2 and TRAU on 1. A win could send either team to the next round, and playing at NEROCA FC's home ground will make the task more daunting for Real Kashmir.

However, Ishfaq believes his team can find a way to win.

"It's going to be a tough match against NEROCA on their home ground," Ahmed said at a pregame press conference. "The entire ground will be cheering for them and we have to fight the mental battle. The atmosphere will be electric, but we know what's required to get the three points."

Man United Signs Benjamin Sesko As Attacking Revamp Continues

AP

MANCHESTER: Manchester United signed Slovenia forward Benjamin Sesko on Saturday in an attempt to bounce back from its worst season in the Premier League era.

United paid Leipzig a fee that could reach 85 million euros (\$99 million) for the 22-year-old Sesko, who signed a five-year contract.

Sesko is the third forward United has signed this offseason

after a lack of goals last term saw the 20-time English champion record its lowest finish in the modern era when it placed 15th, just three places above the relegation zone. His arrival follows the signings of forwards Mathew Cunha and Bryan Mbeumo as coach Ruben Amorim has prioritized revamping his attack ahead of his first full season in charge.

"The history of Manchester United is obviously very special

but what really excites me is the future," Sesko said in the team's announcement.

"When we discussed the project," he added, "it was clear that everything is in place for this team to continue to grow and compete for the biggest trophies again soon."

Strikers Rasmus Hojlund and Joshua Zirkzee scored just 18 goals between them in all competitions last term as United fell to a club-record 18 losses in the

Premier League era and its lowest points total of 42.

Only four teams scored fewer goals than United in the top flight last term — including the three relegated clubs.

Sesko has been compared to former Paris Saint-Germain and United striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic because of his height — both are 1.95 meters (6 feet, 5 inches) tall — and flashes of technical skill. He has proved he is capable of scoring

spectacular goals, but his statistics for Leipzig have been modest after two years in Germany.

He scored 14 goals in his first season with the club and followed that with 13 last term.

Sesko has six goals in 28 Champions League games for Leipzig and his previous club Salzburg. He's tallied 16 goals in 41 games for Slovenia.

"Benjamin possesses a rare combination of electrifying pace

and the ability to physically dominate defenders, making him one of the most exceptional young talents in world football," said Jason Wilcox, United's director of football.

"We have followed Benjamin's career closely," he added. "All of our data analysis and research concluded that he has the required qualities and personality to thrive at Manchester United."

The move for Sesko comes

after United's reported interest in Liam Delap, Viktor Gyokeres and Ollie Watkins.

Sesko is unproven in England, but Cunha and Mbeumo are tried and tested in the Premier League.

Mbeumo scored 20 league goals for Brentford last season, with only Mohamed Salah, Alexander Isak and Erling Haaland netting more. Cunha scored 17 in all competitions and helped Wolves avoid relegation last term.

Tyndale Biscoe & Mallinson School Organises Annual 'One Mile Swim'



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Tyndale Biscoe and Mallinson School organised its Annual One Mile Swim, which has been a hallmark of the school's outdoor and adventure programme.

The swim, held in the serene waters of the world famous Dal Lake, saw participation from students and teachers, symbolising endurance, camaraderie and love for Kashmir's natural heritage.

The event was flagged off by Director TBMS Rahul Rex Kaul and the Principal, Mabel Yonzon. The swim began from Kotarkhana and concluded at Nehru Park, with participants braving the mile-long stretch under the guidance of trained instructors and safety teams.

The activity, rooted in the school's tradition of building character through outdoor challenges, continues to inspire generations of students.

Speaking on occasion, the Overall In Charge of this Dal activity, Aftab Ahmed Shah, said:

"The One Mile Dal Swim is more than a sporting event; it is a living tradition that connects students to our history, values and the beauty of our valley."

In total 85 students including 15 girls participated in the event. Out of 85 participants, 84 students qualified.

The school expressed gratitude to local authorities, SDRF and the Dal Lake community for their cooperation in making the event safe, memorable and successful. (KNT)

Volleyball Selection Trials, Martial Arts & Cricket Held In Anantnag



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Anantnag organised a series of sports events across various zones on Saturday, aimed at promoting physical fitness, sports culture and a drug-free lifestyle among youth, with special outreach to tribal communities.

At SRJ HSS Khanabal, DYSSO Anantnag held the second day of Mixed Martial Arts competitions, featuring Judo, Wushu and Taekwondo for girls across the district. A total of 130 participants competed across various age and weight categories. Winners were felicitated for their exceptional performances.

At MS Bondailgam, DYSSO

Anantnag concluded its two-day selection trials for U-15 Boys and Girls Volleyball teams.

The trials were aimed at scouting talent for the upcoming Provincial Level U-15 Volleyball competitions. On the concluding day, 18 girls from different zones competed to impress selectors, resulting in the selection of a 12-member girls' team. The boys' team had been finalised a day earlier at the same venue.

Meanwhile, Zone Qazigund conducted Inter-School Cricket Trials for U-14 Girls at Sports Stadium Wanpora Kewa. The event saw enthusiastic participation from 154 players representing almost all Government and Private schools of the zone.

S H O R T T A K E S

New Zealand Crushes Zimbabwe In Record Win

AP

BULAWAYO: New Zealand recorded its biggest-ever test win when it crushed Zimbabwe by an innings and 359 runs in the second test to wrap up a lopsided series 2-0 on Saturday.

Zimbabwe, trailing by 476 runs, was bowled out for 117 in an extended first session on Day 3 against a rampant four-pronged New Zealand pace attack.

Debutant fast bowler Zakary Foulkes followed his four-wicket haul in the first innings with 5-37 in the second outing and narrowly missed out a 10-wicket haul in his memorable debut test.

But still Foulkes' match haul of 9-75 was New Zealand's best bowling figures by a test debutant, surpassing Will O'Rourke's match figures of 9-93 against South Africa at Hamilton last year.

Fast bowlers Matt Henry (2-16) and the two other pace bowling debutants Jacob Duffy (2-28) and Matthew Fisher (1-22) were also among the wickets as Zimbabwe was dismissed in 28.1 overs for its lowest total in the series.

Obviously we lost the toss, but we bowled very well in the first innings," New Zealand captain Mitchell Santner. "We talked

about keeping the standards up."

No. 3 batter Nick Welch remained unbeaten on 47 off 71 balls and was one of only two Zimbabwe batters to reach double figures along with captain Craig Ervine, who made 17.

New Zealand had earlier declared its first innings at the overnight monumental 601-3 with Rachin Ravindra (165 not out) and Henry Nicholls (150 not out) combining in a blazing 256-run fourth-wicket stand. Devon Conway (153) also made his first test century after more than two years in New Zealand's highest-ever total against Zimbabwe.

Hasan Nawaz Leads Pakistan To Win Over WI

AP

TAROUBA: Hasan Nawaz hit an unbeaten 63, including a six and a clinching boundary in the second-to-last over, to help Pakistan beat West Indies by five wickets in the first one-day international.

Pakistan reached 284-5 with seven balls to spare after the home side scored 280 after being sent in to bat by Pakistan, which won the preceding Twenty20 series 2-1 played in Florida. Captain Mohammad Rizwan added 53 runs for Pakistan.

"At the start, the spinners were great, but once the dew came in it got easier," player-of-the-match Nawaz told the host broadcaster.

Earlier, Evin Lewis, captain Shai Hope and Roston Chase scored half-centuries for West Indies. Shaheen Shah Afridi led the Pakistan bowlers with four wickets for 51 runs while Naseem Shah added 3-55.

"It was tough to play in conditions like this, and the toss had a big part," Hope said. "Maybe we could've got more runs. Credit to our bowlers for fighting at the end. We needed to score more in the middle overs. But all in all, we're still one step behind."

The second match in the ODI series is scheduled for Sunday and the third and final on Tuesday, also at Brian Lara Stadium.

AIFF Assures Referees Of Contract Renewals

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Grappling with unprecedented uncertainty over the fate of the upcoming Indian Super League (ISL) season, the AIFF on Saturday moved in to "calm" fears among its referees, assuring them that their contracts will be renewed "as per established procedure."

The AIFF said it received a joint letter from nine referees on August 5, requesting extension of their professional match official contracts due on August 31. "The AIFF urges all parties to remain calm, as several competitions are currently ongoing, where many of our referees are officiating in matches, like in Durand Cup, and the

Futsal Club Championship," added the AIFF.

"Other activities such as the U20 women's National Team's matches in the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers in Myanmar, and the U23 men's and U17 women's National Team camps in Bengaluru are currently underway as well."

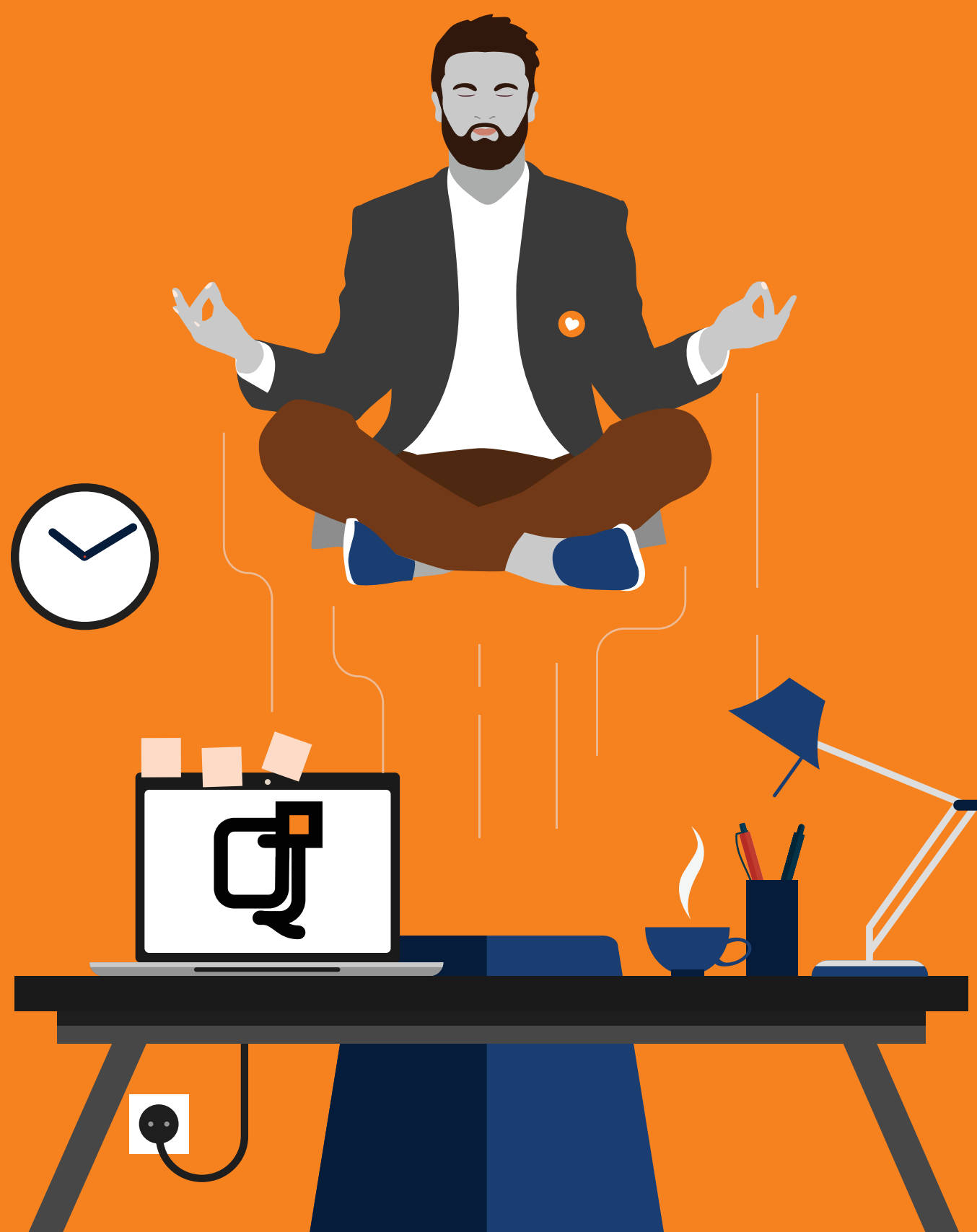
The anxiety among referees could be traced to the ongoing deadlock over the ISL's 2025-26 season.

On July 11, league organisers Football Sports Development Limited announced the season was being put "on hold" due to uncertainty surrounding the renewal of the Master Rights Agreement it signed with the AIFF in 2010.

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