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Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir

Lieutenant Governor Manoj

Sinha on Wednesday said his

administration is committed

to ensuring justice, respect, and dignity for families of civilians killed by Pakistan-

backed terrorists, asserting

that "a new era of justice has

begun" in the Union Territory.

in Kupwara, Sinha met the

families of civilian martyrs

and assured them of proper

rehabilitation and strictest

punishment to the perpe-

trators. He also addressed

a gathering of terror vic-

tim families at Government

members that their decades-

long trauma, torment, and

suffering is over. We will

"I have assured the family

Degree College Kupwara.

During his visit to Dardpora



New Batch's commencing on

20 October 2025



Register Now

ASSEMBLY SESSION

J&K Cabinet Gives Nod To Introduce 3 Bills

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet on Wednesday gave its nod for the introduction of three key bills in the upcoming session of the Legislative Assembly.

Sources said that the bills include amendments to the J&K Panchayati Raj Act, 1989, the Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017, and the introduction of the J&K Shops and Business Establishment Bill, 2025.

The proposed amendment to the Panchayati Raj Act seeks to raise the upper age limit for the State Election Commissioner from 65 to 70 years. The Shops and Business Establishment Bill, mooted by the Labour & Employment Department, aims to regulate working conditions, employment practices, and operational standards for shops and business establishments in the Union

Territory.
The Cabinet also approved amendments to the GST Act, removal of the educational qualification requirement under the State Marriage Assistance Scheme, and updates to the J&K

BILLS CLEARED FOR INTRODUCTION:

- » Amendments to J&K Panchayati Raj Act, 1989
- » Amendments to GST
- Act, 2017 J&K Shops and Business
- Establishment Bill, 2025

OTHER APPROVALS:

- Remove educational requirement for SMAS
- **Update Engineering** >> Services Rules for senior posts

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS:

- » E-auction of limestone blocks
- Gulmarg sewerage project (Rs 45.8 crore)

Engineering (Gazetted) Services Recruitment Rules 1978, enabling recruitment of Chief Engineers and other senior posts in engineering departments.

In addition to legislative mea-

HC Promotes 10 Judicial Officers

KO Correspondent

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Wednesday ordered promotion of ten judicial officers to senior division on adhoc basis.

According to order by M K Sharma, Registrar General (Officiating), the promotion of 10 junior division judicial officers has been made after considering comparative seniority, vigilance report and performance of all Judicial officers falling in the consideration zone, evaluated in terms of Rule 7 of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh Judicial Service Rules, 2025.

Those promoted include Maleeka Sharma; Ananta Shabir Ahmad



All Barriers Removed, Justice For

Says Over 250 Terror Victims Given Jobs; Remaining Cases In Progress

Terror Victims Assuréd: LG

ensure all the support so that they can reclaim their lives," the Lieutenant Governor said. Sinha noted that families

deep trauma, unemployment, and loss of hope over the past three decades. "Families of civilians who were killed by of civilian martyrs have faced Pakistan-backed terrorists

also suffered systemic barriers which stifled their progress. They were denied their rights and access to resources. All obstacles are now removed, and we are ensuring justice and dignity for terror victim families," he added.

The Lieutenant Governor said that the administration has so far provided government jobs to around 250 terror victim families and the process will continue until iustice is done to every affected family. "This is the beginning of a new era of justice in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Sinha also highlighted a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the High-range Rural Development Society (HRDS India) and the Divisional Commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir

Curbs Lifted From Leh After 22 Days

Press Trust Of India

Leh: Authorities on Wednesday lifted the restrictions in the Leh district of Ladakh, 22 days after they were imposed following violence during the statehood protests that left four people dead and over 80 others injured.

The district administration had on September 24 promulgated prohibitory orders under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Suraksha Sanhita Nagarik (BNSS) in Leh, banning the assembly of five or more persons.

No incident of violence had been reported since then, officials said.

"I do hereby withdraw the restrictions imposed vide this office order dated September 24 with immediate effect," District Magistrate Leh, Romil Singh Donk, said in an order on Wednesday. He said certain restrictions

were imposed under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, to prevent any breach of peace and disturbance to public tranquillity.

The Senior Superintendent of Police, in a report submitted on Wednesday, said that there is no imminent apprehension of breach of peace and public order and recommended withdrawal of the restrictions under Section 163 BNSS, the DM said.

Police arrested climate activist Sonam Wangchuk on September 26, two days after clashes between security forces and protesters

SC Adjourns Hearing On Wangchuk

he Supreme Court on Wednesday adjourned to October 29 the hearing on a plea filed by Sonam Wangchuk's wife Gitanjali J Angmo challenging the climate activist's detention after noting that she wants to amend her petition. A bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N V Anjaria noted that an affidavit filed by the jailor of Jodhpur

Speaker Reviews Arrangements

Observer News Service

head of the upcoming Assembly session starting October 23, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather reviewed all arrangements to ensure smooth proceedings. During the meeting at the Assembly Secretariat, the Speaker impressed upon the officers from various departments to put in place all required

J&K RS Polls

Detained AAP MLA May Vote Via Postal Ballot

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Detained J&K AAP MLA Mehraj Malik is likely to be granted a postal ballot facility for the upcoming Rajya Sabha elections scheduled on October 24, sources said.

Malik, who has been lodged under the Public Safety Act (PSA) since September 8 for allegedly disturbing public order, has also approached the J&K High Court seeking permission to attend the upcoming Assembly session starting October 23 and to cast his vote in the Rajya Sabha elections.

Under the Representation of the People Act, 1951, individuals under preventive detention retain their right to vote, unlike undertrials or convicts serving sentences. "The law permits

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar

Abdullah on Wednesday said

that illegal mining in Jammu

and Kashmir can only continue

with internal collusion and em-

phasized the need for stronger

transparency and accountabil-

ity across the sector.



detainees to exercise their voting rights, and since Malik is under preventive detention, he is likely to be allowed to vote through a postal ballot from jail," sources said.

According to sub-section (5) of Section 62 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, individuals confined in prisonwhether serving a sentence of imprisonment, undergoing

Illegal Mining Needs Internal Collusion: CM

Calls for End to Collusion and Push for Transparency



NC Marks One Year Amid Growing Pressure To Deliver

Agencies

Srinagar: The pressure to deliver on the promises has been mounting for the ruling regime in Jammu and Kashmir as the National Conference (NC) government completed one year in office on Wednesday, while all the promises from one lakh jobs to free units of electricity and 12 gas cylinders remain unfulfilled.

On October 16, 2024, the first government in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, led by Omar

Abdullah, assumed office here after the NC-Congress alliance secured an absolute majority in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, winning 48 seats. NC carried the alliance to victory by winning 42 seats, while Congress could win only six seats. The mood across Jammu and

Kashmir is a mix of cautious

main in the realm of rhetoric.

hope and growing impatience. Riding a wave of optimism, the NC swept to power last year, pledging 12 flagship promises made on the party's manifesto ahead of the 2024 trust to fight

Assembly elections. Yet, as the government marks its first anniversary, many of those promises re-

The ruling regime after taking over has kept its promise so far only on passing the resolution on statehood restoration in the first Assembly Session while the other pledges like free 200 units of electricity, 12 gas cylinders to economically weaker sections, Rs 5,000 per month to women belonging to EWS, establishing a medical

AP To Contest Budgam Seat, **Announces Candidates**

Expels Chief Spokesperson Muntazir Mohiudin

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Apni Party on Wednesday announced its candidates for the upcoming byelections for the Budgam and Nagrota assembly segments. According to a press re-

lease issued here, "Apni Party's Parliamentary Affairs Committee (PAC) held a crucial meeting here to decide the candidates for the upcoming byelections in the Budgam and Nagrota assembly segments. The meeting was presided over



Dilawar Mir. After a thorough discussion, the committee unanimously named candidates for both seats.

Mukhtar Ahmad Dar, son of Gh. Rasool Dar

J&K By-polls: BJP **Announces Candidates**

Aga Mohsin for Budgam, Devyani Rana for Nagrota **KO Web Desk**

Srinagar: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday announced its candidates for the upcoming Assembly by-elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to a list issued by the BJP, the party's Central Election Committee has approved the names of Aga Syed Mohsin for the Budgam constituency (No. 27) and Devyani Rana for the Nagrota constituency (No. 77).

The announcement marks the BJP's formal entry into the electoral fray for the J&K bypolls, with both constituencies expected to witness high-stakes contests.

announcement comes just weeks before the November 11 polling date, with the constituency - a traditional BJP stronghold having fallen vacant following the untimely death of Devyani's father and senior BJP leader Devender Singh

Rana, on October 31, 2024. Devyani Rana, 32, the





daughter of the late MLA and niece of Union Minister Jitendra Singh, expressed unbridled confidence in carrying forward her father's "winning streak" during a media interaction at her residence in Jammu.

Surrounded by jubilant BIP workers and supporters who celebrated the news with traditional dhol beats, she stated, "I would like to continue with my father's winning streak. I have received a lot of love and blessings from the people, especially the youth, and the party. We are confident of winning.

He made these remarks while chairing a comprehensive review meeting of the Mining Department at the Civil Secretariat to assess modmanagement and surveillance ernization initiatives, reguacross Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting was attendlatory reforms, and ongoing efforts to strengthen mineral ed by Deputy Chief Minister

Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister



by PAC Chairman Mohammed



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Death Rates Among Youth Not Declining, Despite Overall Drop Globally: Lancet Study

Press Trust Of India

espite overall death rates declining by 67 per cent across the world, mortality rates among young adults have not witnessed a similar pattern due to factors such as suicide, drug overdose and high alcohol consumption, according to a global study published in The Lancet journal.

The findings are part of the 'Global Burden of Disease (GBD) 2023', which has analysed data from about 3,10,000 sources and over 14,000 researchers and experts worldwide.

China reported the highest number of deaths in 2023 at 10.7 million, followed by India (9.85 million) and the US (over three million).

However, upon adjusting for population sizes, India ranked 73rd in terms of death rate, while China and the US were placed at 166th and 160th, respectively.

India also led the list of five countries with the highest number of COVID-19- related deaths, with over three million fatalities, followed by 1.21 million in the US and over one million in Russia, the study found.

The researchers added that nearly

name "Ganai Maqbool Ahmad."

the date of publication of this notice.

Name: Ganai Maqbool Ahmad

Father of: Mohsina Maqbool

Contact No.: 9906733099

as Rifta zahra

(Mehmood Ali Wani) F/o Sagi Haider Wani

Lal Bazar, Srinagar

The correct name is Rifat Zahra.

R/o Wani Mohalla, Amda Kadal,



The evidence presented in the Global Burden of Disease study is a wake-up call, urging government and health care leaders to respond swiftly and strategically to the disturbing trends that are reshaping public health needs

half the deaths and disabilities across the world could be prevented by addressing 88 risk factors, including high blood pressure, air pollution, smoking and obesity. They also found that life expectancy has increased by more than 20 years since 1950. Pre-pandemic, women had an average life expec-

tancy of 76 years life, while men

lived over 71 years on average. "The rapid growth in the world's aging population and evolving risk factors have ushered in a new era of global health challenges," said Dr Christopher Murray, director of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington, US, which coordinates the GBD study.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION SRINAGAR,

NEAR J&K BANK(ZALDAGAR)

Telefax No. 0194-2952696 e.mail Id: amitabhman.721013@jk.gov.in

Sub: - Extension in bidding time for e-NIT No. 19 OF 2025-26, Dated:29-08-2025 for below

LIS Lethpora - Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 02 pumping units, allied

Civil Works including Foundation Works, Submersible Pump for Priming, 3-Ton

Travelling Crane with Chain Pulley Block, Operator's Cabin and allied electro-mechanical

Due to No response to above mentioned e-NIT for the subject works, the critical dates

24/10/2025 at 1230 hrs

Sd/-

Mechanical Irrigation Division

Srinagar

Executive Engineer

Ref: - JK Government official e-Procurement portal Tender ID No.: - 2025_IFC_285969_1

Bid submission/ Document download / sale end Date 23/10/2025 at 1400 hrs

Rest of the terms and conditions shall remain un-altered as laid down in the original e-NIT

"The evidence presented in the Global Burden of Disease study is a wake-up call, urging government and health care leaders to respond swiftly and strategically to the disturbing trends that are reshaping public health needs," he added.

Though observing a significant progress in combating infectious diseases globally, the researchers said that diabetes, mental disorders, and obesity remain growing challenges.

They highlighted that causes of death could possibly be shifting from infectious to non-communicable diseases, creating new global health challenges, particularly for low-income countries, the team said.

They also pointed out that about half of the top 10 leading causes of early death and disability worldwide are non-communicable diseases, of which diabetes, anxiety and depressive disorders are among the fastest growing ones. COVID-19 -- the leading cause of death in 2021 -- fell to the 20th place in 2023, with heart disease and stroke becoming top ranked causes, followed by chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, lower respiratory infections, and neonatal disorders.

Study Links Patterns In RNA Sequences With Genes Contributing To Psychiatric Disorders

Press Trust Of India

new study has found a connection between special patterns in RNA sequences within the ribosome -- the **L**cell's protein production machinery -- and genes known to contribute towards psychiatric disorders, including autism, ADHD, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia. The findings, published in the journal "Nature Communications", also help explain why these mental conditions often co-exist in individuals, the researchers said.

A genetic sequence -- DNA or RNA -- are made from building blocks called 'nucleotides'.

"If you consider each rRNA (ribosome RNA) sequence to be a 'sentence' then nucleotides are the letters comprising that sentence, author Isidore Rigoutsos, a researcher at the Thomas Jefferson University in the US, said. "If you can find a 'motif', i.e. a combination of nucleotides that repeats frequently, it's reasonable to assume that you have found a word, but you do not yet know the word's meaning and its purpose in a sentence, Rigoutsos said.

Instructions in certain RNAs are read for making proteins and because RNA sequences can determine how a cell functions, studies look for patterns in the sequences that may offer clues for multiple purposes, including disease.

In this case, identifying the patterns is likened to determining words of an unknown language, according to Rigoutsos.

The researchers analysed the full human genome, which was published in March 2022. and discovered rRNA motifs that frequently appeared in genes related to the nervous

These genes are more likely to be associated with mental health conditions like autism, ADHD, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder than "one would expect by chance". Moreover, the copies of these motifs overlapped with gene variants previously linked to brain disorders in genome-wide association

While it is not yet fully known in how these motifs of rRNA sequences influence the mental disorder, the findings suggest "the importance of casting a wider net", Rigout-

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Principal Government ANMT School Baramulla Tel: 01952351001 Email id anmtschoolbla @gmail.com

Advertisement Notice Session 2025-26

The Application are invited on the prescribed format undergoing FMPHW course at ANMT School Baramulla for session 2025-26 as Notified by President J&K Nursing Council, Government Medical college Jamm/Srinagar vide No. JKNC-25/157/3006-3014 dated: 08-10-2025. The eligible candidates should submittheir application forms complete in all respects by or before 28th October 2025 till 4PM to the office of undersigned along with the attested copies of the certificates.

Terms and Conditions

1. Eligibility for Admission.

Candidates applying for Admission to 10th based Paramedical Diploma Course must fulfill the following eligibility candidates namely. A candidate must:

be a Domicileof UT of J&K

have passed 10th class or equivalent examination from a recognized Board. have not crossed upper age as 35 years upto 01-01-2025 have a valid certificate if

- The candidates applying for these trainings must attach Photostat copies of the following certificates.
 - a. Domocile Certificate.
 - b. Date of Birth 10th c. Marks certificate 10th.
 - d. Valid reserve Category Certificate if any.
- Selection will be purely made on merit basis i.e marks obtained in 10th class. If upon verification any certificate is found ineligible her admission shall be cancelled ab-initio.

The details of the course/Duration/Intake/eligibility for admissionaregiven below as under: S.No Name of Course Duration of the training course 10th Pass

- The application form can be obtained from office of the undersigned
- Incomplete application forms will not be accepted in any case.

DIPK-7235/25 dated: 15-10-2025

No.ANMT/BLA/2025-26/834-40



PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ganai Magbool Ahmad, father of Miss Mohsina Magbool,

resident of Hari Pari Gam, Awantipora (Tral), Pulwama, J&K,

do hereby inform the general public that the name of the father

of my daughter Mohsina Maqbool, a student of Class 9th at

Hamdard Grammar School, Hamdardabad, Tral, has been

wrongly recorded as "Ganai Maqbool" instead of the correct

correction, they may raise the same within seven (7) days from

I hereby declare that both names refer to one and the same

person, i.e., myself. If anyone has any objection to this

Address: HariPari Gam, Awantipora (Tral), Pulwama

I, Sham Su Zamah Bhat, S/o Nazir Ahmad Bhat, resident of Deedarpora, Qaziabad Kralgund, Handwara, Kupwara, J&K - 193302, hereby declare that my name has been incorrectly written as "Sham Us Zamah Bhat" in my Driving License (License No. JK09 20210004049). While my correct name is 'Sham Su Zamah Bhat."

Henceforth, I shall be known as Sham Su Zamah Bhat for all official and legal purposes.

In this connection if any body having objection for the same he /she may contact to the office of within 07 days during office time after that no objection shall be entertained.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mehmood Ali, R/o Wani Mohalla, Amda Kadal, Lal Bazar, Srinagar, do hereby declare that the mother's name of my

son, Saqi Haider Wani, has been wrongly entered in the school records of The Heritage School of Knowledge, Gasiyar, Srinagar,

The same is to be corrected accordingly. Objections, if any, may

be submitted to the concerned authorities within seven (7)

days from the date of publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Birth Certificate of my son the name is entered as MOHAMMAD AZAAN WANI while his actual name is AZAAN SHABIR WANI. Now i want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BUDGAM with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that. SHABIR AHMAD WANI F/o AZAAN SHABIR WANI

R/o OMPORA BUDGAM mcb CELL. 7889569546

J&K Bank

are extended as under: -

No. MIDS/Ts/3288-93

Dated: -13-10-2025

DIPK-7229/25

dated: 15-10-2025

Date and time of Bid opening

The Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd Technology & Developmen Fifth Floor, Air India Building Residency Road, Srinagar 190001

Online RFP For Selection of vendor to provide **SLA-bound Data Centre Management Services to the** Bank for all its infrastructure components and services hosted in its Primary Data Centre (DC), Near Line Site and Disaster Recovery Site (DR)

RFP Notice along with complete documents outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal https://jkbank.abcprocure.com w.e.f. October 15, 2025, 16.00 Hrs. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of Bids is November 14, 2025, 17.00 Hrs. e- RFP Ref.JKB/CHQ/T&D/DC-Management/2025-1535 Dated: 13-10-2025

Registered office: Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T:+91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F:+91 (0)194 248 1928; E:info@jkbmail.com; W:www.Jkb.bank.in

DIPK-NB-2192/25 dated: 15-10-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mehmood Ali, R/o Wani Mohalla, Amda Kadal, Lal Bazar, Srinagar, do hereby declare that the parentage of my daughter, Ayna Zehra, has been wrongly entered in the school records of The Heritage School of Knowledge, Gasiyar, Srinagar, as Mahmood Ali Wani, and the mother's name is Rifat Zehra. The correct parentage is Mehmood Ali Wani, and the mother's name is Rifat Zahra.

The same is to be corrected accordingly. Objections, if any, may be submitted to the concerned authorities within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice.

(Mehmood Ali Wani) F/o Ayna Zehra R/o Wani Mohalla, Amda Kadal, Lal Bazar, Srinagar

anko

anko

سرطيفكيك كالمشدكي

میری آٹھویں جماعت پاس کی Character certificate زیرایڈمشن نمبر 4514 سیشن 2005 گم ہوگئی ہےاب آئل ڈ پلی کیٹ نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔اگر کسی کوکوئی اعتراض ہوتو وہ سات دنوں کے اندرا پنااعتراض پرنیال گورنمنٹ بائز ہائر سینڈری اسکول سوئبگ بڈگام کے ِفتر میں بیش کریں۔میعاد گذر نے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتر اضْ قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ رۇ ف احمد بٹ ولدعبدالسلام بٹ

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) Division Chadoora NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

SINGLE COVER SYSTEM

E-NIT No. 59/ RNB/3707-16 /Chadoora of 2025-26 Dated: 14/10/2025

E-tenders (In single cover system) from qualified contractors registered with the J&K UT Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments are invited for Snow Clearance (Stage-wise) on a Percentage Rate basis for a contract period of one year that may be extended to three years depending on the performance of the successful bidder

S. No	Stage Name	Cost of tender document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Snow Clearance for the year 2025-26 – Stage 15	200.00	5000.00	3054- Snow	All Registered Classes (Civil)
2.	Snow Clearance for the year 2025-26 – Stage 16	200.00	5000.00	3054- Snow	All Registered Classes (Civil)
3.	Snow Clearance for the year 2025-26 – Stage	200.00	5000.00	3054- Snow	All Registered Classes (Civil)
4.	Snow Clearance for the year 2025-26 – Stage 18	200.00	5000.00	3054- Snow	All Registered Classes (Civil)
5-	Snow Clearance for the year 2025-26 – Stage 19	200.00	5000.00	3054- Snow	All Registered Classes (Civil)
6.	Snow Clearance for the year 2025-26 – Stage 20	200.00	5000.00	3054- Snow	All Registered Classes (Civil)
7.	Snow Clearance for the year 2025-26 – Stage	200.00	5000.00	3054- Snow	All Registered Classes

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, (if any), Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of schedule of dates given below:

Critical Duics.					
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	14/10/2025			
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	14/10/2025			
3	Bid submission Start Date	14/10/2025			
4	Bid Submission End Date	22/10/2025 upto 4.00 P.M			
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	23/10/2025 (11:00 AM) in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division			
		Chadoora			

- Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid submission start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora (Tender Inviting Authority) as the cost of the tender document.
- All bidders are required to submit bid security or earnest money for an amount of 8.5000/= at the time of tendering in the form of CDRs, FDRs, or BGs pledged to the authority responsible for receiving bids, in this case Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora. In strict accordance with the Government's circular and other instructions as required, the successful bidder will be required to provide Performance Security in the amount of Rs.10,000/= at the time of contract award. Following the fixing of the contract in favor of the successful bidders will receive the earnest money/bid security. The successful bidder's performance security will be released only after completed successfully performance of the Contract.
- Unbalance Bid: In case bid of the successful bidder is unbalanced, the Successful bidder will have to provide additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora (Tender Receiving Authority) as per the Circular issued by Finance Deptt. Vide No. FD-Code/441/2021-02-158Dated: 08.08.2025 & endorsed by Chief Engineer (R&B) Central Kashmir vide endorsement No. CE/R&B/CK/ WS/6375-96 dated 12/08/2025, which is reproduced as:-
- Where the bid price is below 10% but not below 20% of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee/security percentage shall be Incremented by 0.1% for every percentage of bid price below 10% of the project cost put to bid starting at 11% with the additional performance guarantee being 0.1% and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
- Where the bid price is 20% or more below of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee percentage shall be Incremented by 0.2% for every percentage of bid price below 20% of the project cost put to bid in addition to 1% of the bid price and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.
- The additional performance guarantee percentage shall be rounded off to the next lower percentage based on whether the decimal point of percentage of bid price is below 0.5% or next higher percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of bid price is
- d) The additional performance security shall be treated as part of the performance security.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.iktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora (Tender Receiving Authority). e)
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 30 days from the date of opening of technical bids.
- g) The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT No. 3707-16

Executive Engineer. DIPK-7215/25 DATED: 15/10/2025 PW(R&B) Division Chadoora

Mirwaiz Lays Foundation Stone of Masjid Usman in Hawal

Srinagar: Mirwaiz Muhammad Umar Farooq, on Wednesday laid the foundation stone of Masjid Usman (RA) at Usman Colony, Hawal, Srinagar, amid a warm and heartfelt welcome by the men and women of the locality.

mosques, it is vital to establish Maktabs—Qur'an learning centres for children-so that the vounger generation remains connected to the Book of Allah and grows up with moral and spiritual values.

Mirwaiz said that mosques must serve as the heart of the



Addressing the gathering, Mirwaiz said that building mosques is among the most virtuous acts in Islam, as they are not only places of worship but also centres of learning, guidance, and unity. He emphasised that along with

community, fostering compas sion, brotherhood, and social responsibility. He urged people to maintain the cleanliness, sanctity, and transparency of all community initiatives and to work together for both religious and social betterment

Police Conduct Raids on Residences of Terrorist Aides Across City

Observer News Service

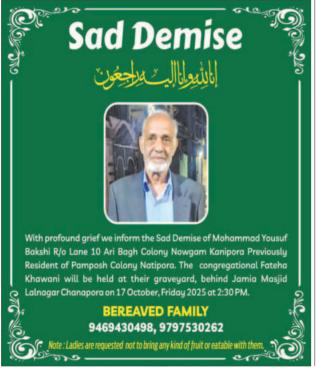
Srinagar: In a continued crackdown on terror networks and their support structures, Srinagar Police on Wednesday carried out extensive raids at multiple locations across the city as part of an ongoing effort to dismantle the terror ecosystem and curb unlawful activities.

According to police, the searches were conducted at the residences of several suspected terrorist associates and overground workers (OGWs) linked with proscribed terrorist organisations. The raids were carried out in connection with investigations registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The coordinated opera-

tions were executed in various parts of Srinagar, targeting individuals suspected of facilitating, aiding, or abetting terrorrelated activities.

Residences raided included those of Asrar Ahmad Bala, son of Rafi Bala, of Omer Colony Lal Bazar; Shahbaz Ahmad Bhat, son of Farooq Ahmad Bhat, of Palpora Noorbagh; Fayaz Ahmad Ganie, son of Guam Mohammad Ganie, of Suthsu Kalan; Burhan Nazir, son of Nazir Ahmad Kushoo, of Beeroni Kathidarwaza; Sajid Majeed Shah, son of Abdul Majeed Shah, of Nowpora Sekidafar; Ashiq Bashir Najar, son of Bashir Ahmad Najar, and Umer Adil Dar, son of Ghulam Hassan Dar, both residents of Soiteng; as well as several others from New Theed and Indra Nagar areas.





GCW Marks 75 Years of Excellence in Women's Education

College Celebrates Legacy of Empowering Women and Shaping J&K's Educational Landscape

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Government College for Women (GCW), M.A. Road, Srinagar, celebrated its 75th year of excellence in women's education, highlighting its immense contribution to the intellectual, cultural, and social development of Jammu

The celebrations, themed "75 Years: A Celebration of Excellence in Women's Education," were graced by Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo; Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education, Shantamanu; Director Colleges, Prof. Sheikh Aijaz; Principal GCW, Prof. Yasmeen Farooq; Nodal Principal, Prof. Seema Naz; and Dean Academic Affairs, Cluster University Srinagar, along with former principals, faculty members, alumni, and students.

In her address, the Minister lauded the college's legacy of nurturing generations of women lead-

Bids is October 28, 2025, 17.00 Hrs.

criteria given in Request for Proposal (RFP).

Notice inviting request appointment

J&K Bank invites Request for Proposal (RFP) from Firms/ LLP's

of Chartered Accountants for appointment as Goods & Service

Tax Consultant. The detailed document for Request for Proposal

(RFP) consisting scope of work, selection criteria, terms &

conditions etc. together with annexures can be downloaded from

ttps://jkbank.abcprocure.com w.e.f. October 07, 2025, 16.00

and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Porta

Hrs. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of

The selection of Tax consultant shall be based on the qualifying

J&K Bank

This institution **has**, over the decades, been a cornerstone of women's empowerment nurturing generations of leaders who have contributed meaningfully across

ers, educators, and professionals, describing GCW Srinagar as a "beacon of empowerment and enlightenment." She emphasized the college's pivotal role in fostering academic excellence, confidence, leadership, and social responsibility among young women.

diverse fields,"

She also highlighted the government's commitment to strengthening higher education in J&K, noting efforts to improve access, quality, and innovation in women's education, alongside budgetary allocations and recruit-

The Jammu and Kashmir Bank

Corporate Headquarters, M.A Road, Srinagar 190001

Finance Department

ment of faculty to enhance educational outcomes.

Principal Prof. Yasmeen Farooq welcomed the guests, recalling the college's remarkable journey and achievements over the past seven and a half decades.

The Minister unveiled a Coffee Table Book documenting the college's history and released College Times, Zoological Chronicle, and books authored by faculty, alumni, and students. She also felicitated outstanding students, faculty, and alumni.

The celebrations featured a blend of cultural and intellectual presentations, including an audio-visual documentary, storytelling sessions with eminent alumni, and performances like Hindi invocation songs, Punjabi and Ladakhi dances, poetry, classical music, Baet Baazi, Ladi Shah, Qawwali, and Kashmiri Rauf.

The event concluded as a grand tribute to GCW Srinagar's enduring legacy, which continues to empower and inspire women across the region.

DPS Bags Top Honours at Media Fest 2025

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Showcasing exceptional creativity and cinematic skill, students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Srinagar clinched the first prize in the Student Short Film Competition at Media Fest 2025, hosted by Green Valley Educational Institute.

The DPS team's short film stood out among entries from leading schools across the Valley, earning accolades from the jury for its technical finesse, creative storytelling, and emotional depth.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

nder Notice No:- 770-W/01/WA/JAT/2025-29-25-2025-26-DRM-JAT, 30-2025-26-DRM-JAT, 35-2025-26-DRM-JAT, 36-2025-26-DRM-JAT, 38-2025-26-DRM-JAT, 40-2025-26-DRM-JAT & 41-2025-26-DRM-JAT (to be opened on 06.11.2025) acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 06.11.2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to the closing date and time only, Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer receive

Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through payment modes available on the IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card, etc. Manual payments through Demand

Tender Type		Т	Tendering Section		Bidding System		
Open			Works		Single Packet System		
			Bid Starting Date		Bid Closing Date/Time		
14.10.2025			23.10.2025	06.11.2025			
SN. Tender Number			Details of Tender				
29-2025-26-DRM-JA	T AT Wel	ding of I	ails in situ with RDSO specifications in the jurisdiction of ADEN/PTK.				
Advertised Value (Rs.)			Validity of Offer		Period of Completion		
5493563	3.69		60 Days		12 Months		
30-2025-26-DRM-JA	Replaci	ng Old	Mechanical lifting Barriers	on level cro	ssings under ADEN-PTK.		
Advertised V	alue (Rs.)		Validity of Offe	r	Period of Completion		
11825079.84		60 Days		12 Months			
3 35-2025-26-DRM-JAT Repair to leaky roofs of Railway Health Unit, CPWI Office, Power House and Other & Replacement of Worn-Out doors & Windows AT PTK in the section of SSE/W/PTK							
Advertised Value (Rs.)		Validity of Offer		Period of Completion			
6499260	0.59		60 Days		09 Months		
4 36-2025-26-DRM-JAT Special Repair an			nd Maintenance of service Building & Station Building in the section of SSE/W/MEX.				
Advertised Value (Rs.)		Validity of Offer		Period of Completion			
7461864.79		60 Days		09 Months			
5 38-2025-26-DRM-JAT New Toilet Block a			at Platform No-1 at KTHU Railway Station in the section of SSE/W/KTHU.				
Advertised Value (Rs.)		Validity of Offer		Period of Completion			
5388670.47		60 Days		06 Months			
40-2025-26-DRM-JAT Special Repair and Maintenance of service Building & Station Building (Excl JAT) in the sect of SSE/W/JAT.			& Station Building (Excl JAT) in the section				
Advertised Value (Rs.)		Validity of Offer		Period of Completion			
798821	1.08		60 Days		12 Months		
41-2025-26-DRM-JAT	Replac	ng Old	Mechanical lifting Barriers	chanical lifting Barriers on level crossings under ADEN-JAT.			
Advertised Value (Rs.)			Validity of Offer Period of Con		Period of Completion		

60 Days

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

09 Months

3181/25

5999977.79

NOTE: Contractors are advised to check the IREPS website for any



TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 OAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



PRAYERS FAJR 5:10 **ZUHR** 12:18 **ASR** 4:23 6:06 Magrib **ISHA** 7:25

This Day In History

- 533 Byzantine General Belisarius makes his formal entry into Carthage, having conquered it from the Vandals
- 1522 Emperor Karel I names Hernán Cortés governor of Mexico
- 1552 Khanate of Kazan is conquered by troops of Ivan Grozny.
- 1756 Saxon army surrenders to Prussia
- 1815 -Napoleon Bonaparte arrives on island of St Helena to begin his exile
- 1842 Karl Marx becomes editor-in-chief of Rheinische Zeitung 1888 - German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche
- decides to write his autobiography "Ecce Homo" on his 44th birthday
- 1904 The Russians are driven back by the Japanese in the Battle of Shaho; both sides suffer high casualties: Japanese (16,000) and Russians
- 1914 Battle of Warsaw, begins (ends Oct 21) 1924 - US President Calvin Coolidge declares
- Statue of Liberty a national monument 1932 - Tata Airlines (later to become Air India) makes its first flight.
- 1940 Heavy German air raid on London, 400
- 1941 Hideki Tojo appointed Prime Minister of
- Imperial Japan 1946 St Louis Cards beat Boston Red Sox, 4 games
- to 3 in 43rd World Series

From KO Archives

Matric Exams Postponed: Teachers Threaten To Sabotage Govt Move

Observer News Service

rinagar- The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education BOSE, this evening announced its decision to postpone he examinations of 10th class soon after the day long negotiations failed to resolve the crisis raised by the teachers boycott of the examinations duty.

The Board authorities while announcing the decision to post pone the examinations said that the fresh date sheet would be sued

Earlier representatives of the Teachers Forum and Lecturers Association held negotiations with the Government to resolve the crisis. The Government was represented by the Commissioner Secretary Education and the Director Education besides Minister of State of Education, Muhammad Sharief Tarig.

Sources said that teachers remained adamant as they demanded that Government should accept all their demands in black and white before they would call off their strike. The Government today showed willingness to re-solve the crisis by assuring teachers that their genuine demands will be fulfilled at the earliest. But sources said, the teachers remained adamant saving that their past experience has been bitter. The promises made with them in the past had been hollow as Government backtracked from its decision, the teachers representative reportedly told the Government during the meeting.

The representatives of the Government told the teachers that the decision involving financial implications has to be taken by the Cabinet as nobody from the Government has authority to pass such orders. The Minister of Education, Muhammad Sharief Tariq, earlier in the day appealed the teachers to defer their strike upto October 26 so that the teacher's demands would be decided in the cabinet.

The Government later passed an order asking the Chairman of the State Board of School Education to conduct the examination immediately. The Chairman of the BOSE, Prof Ali Muhammad Charu told Observer News Service that the examinations would commence from October 20 as they have to recruit employees from other departments.

The Chairman said that the Board needs 4405 employees to conduct the exams. The staffers to be taken from the department of Revenue, Agriculture, Engineering, said the Chairman. As the conduct of the examinations is a technical job the recruits have to be imparted the necessary training, he said. The new staff will be given training in the district head-quarters on October 17, 18 and 19 and the examination would start from October 20, Chairman hoped.

Meanwhile a statement issued by the Joint Co-ordination Committee of Teachers Forum has advised the state government to shun the rigid attitude and issue orders for the implementation of demands put forth by teachers forum so that precious time of the students is not wasted. The statement said that the government is pursuing a policy of delaying tactics and is trying to nullify some demands of the Forum. But this time teachers community will not compromise on any of its demand, the statement added.

Statement condemned the rigid attitude of government and made it clear that Teachers Forum will boycott the house examinations of 8th and 11th class as well. If the Government goes ahead with the examination pro-cess all the schools in the valley will be locked, adds the statement justified the boycott of teachers and appealed the people and students misunderstand the strike issue.

Statement appealed all trade unions to support the Teachers demands

(Kashmir Observer, October 15, 1998)



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KO VIEW

A System in **Need of Care**

ocietal trends shaped by political priorities in Jammu and Kashmir have stripped the teaching profession of its status and sanctity, reducing it to little more than a routine vocation, indistinguishable from hawking garments on the street. Once an adventurous and inspiring endeavour — kindling, illuminating, and shaping young minds teaching has become uninspiring, drained of the spirit it so desperately needs. Successive leaderships, preoccupied with other concerns, have neglected the cornerstone of society: education. The result is visible in the faltering condition of schools and their declining performance.

Ironically, teaching has long been seen as a last resort for the capable, a fallback for those unable to fit elsewhere. Screening for entry into this vital profession, which underpins the social edifice, has often become perfunctory, with minimal regard for talent, skill, or temperament.

Successive ruling classes have largely abandoned responsibility for public education, favouring expensive private schools and enabling a mushrooming of profit-driven copycats. It is now a scandal that parents often avoid government schools, no matter how affordable, preferring overcrowded and commercial pri-

The academic outcomes are stark. A 2024 report found over 52% of Class VIII students in government schools in J&K unable to read Class II texts, with low numeracy and basic division skills. Recently some urban schools have shown improved pass rates; overall performance remains uneven. Systemic neglect, under-enrolment, and a lack of accountability continue to erode learning outcomes.

Under-enrolment is particularly alarming: out of 18,724 government schools, 119 have zero students, and 848 report no new enrollments. Thousands more are being merged or closed due to low attendance. Many schools in rural Kashmir operate with skeleton staff, sometimes with one teacher managing multiple classes and hundreds of students. Meanwhile, urban schools are overcrowded with surplus staff, reflecting a stark imbalance that leaves rural students disadvantaged.

The government's hope that private schools would gradually replace the state system has allowed the situation to drift for far too long. Some measures were taken in the recent past to reverse the trend, but their effectiveness remains uncertain. For low-income, rural, and agrarian communities — for whom government schools have historically been the mainstay of hope these reforms may determine whether education remains a ladder to opportunity or a hollow promise.

Kashmir's education system, once a beacon of possibility, now teeters precariously. Restoring its dignity and functionality will require political will, accountability, and a renewed respect for the teaching profession — before an entire generation is left behind.

Trapped Between Merit & Reservation

Examinations that were once a test of knowledge now feel like a lottery where birth and category matter more than ability writes Muhammad Arbaaz Niazii

HERE are moments in history when people face a choice: do we heal the scars of the past, or do we protect the hope that carries us into the future? For a generation raised on the belief that hard work, discipline, and perseverance open doors, Jammu and Kashmir presents a cruel paradox. The doors remain, yet many lead nowhere. The barrier is no longer conflict or poverty alone; it is the shifting landscape of opportunity itself.

The system of reservation, intended to correct historical injustices, has inadvertently left a large section of aspirants feeling trapped Merit, once a reliable measure of effort and ability, is increasingly overshadowed by the circumstances of birth and geography. Philosophers from Aristotle to John Rawls remind us that fairness must account for inequality, yet merit must remain a possibility — an open door for talent and perseverance to pass through.

The Shrinking Path of Opportunity

Open merit, which once accounted for half of government jobs, university seats, and professional streams, has now been reduced to around 40 percent. Horizontal reservations further shrink the "real share" for general category students to roughly 30 percent. Examinations that were once a test of knowledge now feel like a lottery, where birth and category often outweigh ability.

In 2023, for example, of the 71 candidates who passed the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service examination, only 29 belonged to the general category; the rest came from reserved quotas. For general category aspirants, statistics like these feel less like data and more like destiny mocking effort.

For students in Kashmir, effort alone is no longer enough. Ambition can be constrained, sometimes negated entirely. Families invest not just money, but belief itself, nurturing dreams like fragile saplings, only to see hope tested by a system that feels indifferent.

Unequal Access and Regional Disparities

Reservation itself is uneven. Jammu districts have received the majority of reserved category certificates, while Kashmir often remains on the periphery. This dual disadvantage — fewer open merit seats and limited access to reserved opportunities — leaves many students feeling sidelined twice over.

The psychological toll is profound. Students report exhaustion, loss of motivation, and creeping despair. In villages and cities alike, parents watch as their children withdraw, their youthful energy tempered by a system that seems to value circumstance over skill. Education, once a ladder to opportunity, can feel like a treadmill

The Human Cost of a Well-Intentioned Policy

Reservation is not inherently wrong. It has provided opportunity to those historically deprived of education and employment. Success stories exist: a young Pahari woman in Rajouri earning the first government job in her family, or a Bakarwal boy pursuing higher studies thanks to reserved quotas. These victories mat-

But the human cost is in the thousands of general category students left behind. Merit, in its rawest form, is no longer a dependable pathway. Talent and effort often feel like fragile currency insufficient to secure the life imagined. The consequence is societal tension, simmering resentment, and the slow erosion of trust in in-

The Numbers Speak

The Supreme Court's 1992 Indra Sawhney verdict capped reservations at 50 percent to protect the principle of equal opportunity. In Jammu and Kashmir, amendments to the Reorganisation Act — 10 percent for Paharis and 8 percent for OBCs — have pushed reserved seats

Jammu and Kashmir's

vouth have grown

strikes, and political

uncertainty. Education

was their refuge. Now,

shrinking, the refuge

itself feels precarious.

up amid curfews,

with opportunity

Yet, hope persists.

Students continue

persist"

to learn, to dream, to

RESERVATION

to 70 percent for just 30 percent of the population. Open merit has shrunk further, compounding already high youth unemployment, which stood at an alarming 23.1 percent in 2022 (CMIE).

With few private-sector jobs and limited public-sector opportunities, every reduction in open merit amplifies frustration. Students invest in coaching, borrow money, and sacrifice years of their youth, yet the probability of success continues to shrink. The perseverance of these young aspirants is remarkable, but it comes at a cost: mental strain, delayed dreams, and quiet disillusionment.

Seeking Solutions

The path forward requires structural change. Expanding opportunities beyond government jobs, promoting entrepreneurship,

and encouraging private-sector growth would reduce the zero-sum nature of competition. Refining the reservation system through sub-categorisation or socioeconomic surveys — could ensure that benefits reach the truly disadvantaged rather than the relatively better-off within reserved categories.

Restoring open merit to at least 50 percent would signal that effort, diligence, and skill still matter. Not as charity, but as fairness. Without it, the system risks alienating the most ambitious youth, stunting the talent it claims to nurture.

The Quiet Defiance of Youth

Despite structural obstacles, students continue to study, often in dimly lit rooms. revising past papers and memorizing formulas. Their commitment is sometimes hope, sometimes stubbornness, sometimes survival. Every page turned, every note taken, is a testament to resilience — a quiet defiance in the face of a system that has invested little in them.

The philosophical question is simple yet profound: what is justice if it excludes the majority? What is merit if effort no longer counts? Education, meant to be a bridge to stability and dignity, can no longer promise the lift it once did.

Hope Endures

Jammu and Kashmir's youth have grown up amid curfews, strikes, and political uncertainty. Education was their refuge. Now, with opportunity shrinking, the refuge itself feels precarious. Yet, hope persists. Students continue to learn, to dream, to persist.

The 14th-century Kashmiri sage Sheikh-ul-Alam once said, "Ann poshi teli yeli wan poshi" — food will last as long as forests last. Today, we might say: hope will last as long as merit lasts. Once merit is starved, the forest of aspiration dies. Yet in these young students, an invincible summer endures — a hope that refuses to die, even when opportunity seems reserved for all

Views expressed in this article are the author's own and don't necessarily reflect the editorial stance of the Kashmir Observer. The author can be reached at: <arbazniyaz011@gmail.com>

Women's Harassment in Public Transport

A Growing Pain in Kashmir

s a Kashmiri girl and a law student, I feel deeply disturbed by what I see every day. Harassment of women in pub-

lic transport has become alarmingly common — especially here in Kashmir. Every day, girls and women travelling to schools, colleges, or offices face unwanted touching. staring, or inappropriate behaviour from men around them.

What's most heartbreaking is the silence that follows. Many women choose not to speak up — not because they lack courage, but because they fear damaging their family's name or losing their own respect in society.

"Women stay silent not out of weakness, but out of fear that speaking up will cost them their dignity.

an evil way."

and shame.

(Surah Al-Isra 17:32)

(Surah At-Tawbah 9:71)

(Surah Al-Hujurat 49:11)

Law and Enforcement Must Work Together

punishment for such acts:

"The believing men and believing wom-

'And do not insult the women of others,

These verses remind us that women de-

As a law student, I strongly believe that

Section 73 - Punishes assault or

Section 74 - Deals with sexual ha-

Section 79 – Punishes words, ges-

use of criminal force on a woman with

rassment, including unwelcome physi-

cal contact, advances, or remarks.

legal protection must go hand in hand with

moral awareness. The Bharatiya Nyaya

Sanhita (BNS), 2023, which replaced the

Indian Penal Code, clearly provides strict

intent to outrage her modesty.

serve respect, safety, and dignity - not fear

en are allies of one another. They enjoin

what is right and forbid what is wrong.'

so that you are not insulted in return."

Once, we only heard about such incidents; now, we witness them daily. For school and college girls, travelling in local buses or sumos has turned into a fearful experience. Some even start questioning whether education or independence is worth it when their self-respect feels constantly at risk.

A Daily Struggle with a Bigger Impact

This situation is deeply alarming. Not every family in Kashmir can afford a car for their daughters — public transport is a basic necessity. If such harassment continues unchecked, it will directly harm girls' education, freedom, and confidence. And when women's progress is hindered, the entire society suffers.

A Reminder from Faith

Islam has always emphasised respect, dignity, and protection for women. Allah

(SWT) says in the Qur'an: "And do not approach women with evil intentions; indeed, it is an immorality and

Khushboo Amin Bhat



tures, or acts intended to insult the modesty of a woman. However, laws must not just exist on

paper - they must be implemented effectively. Police and transport authorities must take strict, visible action against offenders so that no woman feels unsafe inside a bus or sumo.

Safety Before Convenience

While the government's free bus service for women is a welcome step, I strongly urge authorities to introduce separate buses for girls, especially school and college students. Safety should come before convenience or cost.

A dedicated transport service for women will allow them to travel freely — with dignity, confidence, and peace of mind.

"A safe bus is not a luxury for girls it's their basic right."

Women Are Not Weak — They Are Powerful

It's time to change the narrative. Girls are not weak or helpless; they are strong, brave, and capable of defending themselves when supported and encouraged. Women have the power to raise their voices, stand against injustice, and transform society with their courage.

A Call to Conscience

Harassment is not a small issue it's a deep social wound that destroys confidence and humanity. Every man must understand that if he disrespects another woman, he dishonours his own family's dignity too.

If we truly want our daughters and sisters to study, work, and live freely, we must build a Kashmir where even if a girl steps out at night, she feels safe and protected.

Respecting women is not just a moral duty — it is a religious, legal, and human responsibility. Let's take this matter seriously before more girls lose hope in their dreams.

Let Kashmir become a place where every woman travels with dignity, safety, and peace.

Cancer Surge in Kashmir

A Call for Active Living and Dietary Reform

Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad Wani

The serene valleys of Kashmir, once synonymous with vitality and vigour, are now facing a silent crisis – a dramatic rise in cancer cases. Data from the Sheri-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) paints a sobering picture: 28,457 new diagnoses between 2019 and 2024, including over 5,200 cases in just the first half of 2025. This marks a steep climb from the 44,112 cases reported between 2013 and 2023.

As a physical activity expert, I see this alarming surge as a clarion call to revive Kashmir's active traditions and rethink our dietary habits to confront this growing threat.

A Growing Epidemic: The **Numbers Speak**

The State Cancer Institute at SKIMS reports a 52% spike in gastric cancers in districts like Budgam, with cases rising from 50 in 2014 to 76 in 2023. Lung cancer, driven by widespread tobacco use, accounts for over 5,200 cases since 2014 making it the region's fastest-grow-

ing malignancy.
Nationally, India's cancer burden is projected to reach 1.56 million new cases in 2024, and Kashmir mirrors this grim trajectory. As one senior oncologist at SKIMS notes, "We're seeing over 12,000 annual diagnoses in Jammu and Kashmir. This isn't just about ageing—it's about how we live."

Sedentary Lifestyles and Modern Diets: The Culprits

Having spent years advocating for physical activity, I'm deeply troubled by Kashmir's shift from its physically demanding past — tilling fields, trekking hills, or playing traditional sports like kho-kho — to increasing-



BRISK WALKS ALONG DAL LAKE, cycling along Foreshore Road, or community cricket matches can lower breast and colon cancer risks by 20–30%.

ly sedentary urban lives. Desk jobs, long commutes, and screen-heavy routines in cities such as Srinagar and Anantnag have fuelled obesity, a known risk factor for breast, colorectal, and endometrial cancers.

Research indicates that 30-50% of cancers in Kashmir are preventable through lifestyle changes, with physical inactivity being a major contributor.

Our dietary transition is equally concerning. The traditional wazwan, once rich in yoghurt, saffron,

and greens like haak, is steadily being replaced by processed and fast foods that line Srinagar's streets. High-calorie, low-fibre diets - greasy street snacks and sugary drinks - are driving a rise in gastrointestinal cancers. Tobacco use, from hookahs to smuggled cigarettes, remains rampant, while pesticide residues in fruits such as apples add another layer of risk.

A 2024 health audit of Jammu and Kashmir confirms that lifestyle shifts not genetics — are the primary cul-

SAWALKOTE HYDEL PROJECT

Ramban district Submergence

Chenab river

prits behind this growing crisis.

Prevention Through Movement and Nutrition

The path to reversing this trend lies in rediscovering our active roots and nourishing our bodies wisely. As a sports advocate, I believe physical activity remains our most powerful weapon. The World Cancer Research Fund suggests that 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week-brisk walks along Dal Lake, cycling along Foreshore Road,

or community cricket matchescan lower breast and colon cancer risks by 20-30%

In a region where trekking to Amarnath or tending orchards was once a way of life, reviving such habits is both cultural and curative. Schools should reintegrate sports like volleyball and football into their schedules, and communities must organise local fitness drives in every mohalla

Equally vital is dietary reform. Let's return to Kashmir's nutrientrich traditions: walnuts, apples, and kangchi (fermented greens) brim with cancer-fighting antioxidants. Swapping red meat, linked to colorectal cancer, for haak and rajma can reduce risk by up to 40%. Processed namkeens should give way to home-cooked gushtabas, where yoghurt's probiotics offer protection. Alcohol, though rare in the Valley, should be avoided entirely. As nutritionists often say, "A plant-forward plate isn't a sacrifice

it's our heritage." Lifestyle tweaks round out the picture: maintain a healthy weight through mindful eating, quit to-bacco with help from SKIMS' community programmes, and embrace stress-relieving practices like yoga amid our orchards. Annual cancer screenings for those over 40 are crucial, as early detection saves lives. A Collective Call to Action

Kashmir's resilience has weathered countless storms, and this cancer crisis will be no exception. The "Kashmir Cancer-Free" campaign, launched through schools and mosques, is a welcome step but true change begins with us: families, educators, and sports enthusiasts.

As I often tell my students, everv step counts - a morning jog, a home-cooked meal, a tobacco-free

KASHMIR'S RESILIENCE HAS WEATHERED COUNTLESS STORMS,

and this cancer crisis will be no exception. The "Kashmir Cancer-Free" campaign, launched through schools and mosques, is a welcome step — but true change begins with us: families, educators, and sports enthusiasts.

promise. Let's move our bodies, honour our culinary roots, and live fully to keep cancer at bay.

For guidance, reach out to SKIMS' helpline or join local fitness initiatives. Together, we can make Kashmir's valleys vibrant, active, and healthy once again.

The author is Assistant Professor, Directorate of Physical Education & Sports, University of Kashmir

Sawalkote Hydropower Project

A New Dawn for Ramban

As the Chenab carves its path through deep gorges and lush valleys, it carries with it the story of Sawalkote — a story of delays, determination, and dreams.

Er Navaid Runyal

or generations, the people dof Ramban district have watched the mighty Chenab River flow through their rugged mountains - powerful, unending, and full of promise. It has been a river of hope and hardship alike, carving its way through rock and time, carrying with it a dream that refused to fade - the Sawalkote Hydroelectric Project.

After four long decades of waiting, that dream is finally being realized. The Government of India has cleared the ₹31,380-crore Sawalkote Hydropower Project, a monumental decision that marks the revival of one of India's largest and most ambitious hydropower ventures. For the people of Ramban, this isn't just an engineering project — it is the rebirth of a promise, a ray of hope, and a turning point in their history.

The Dream That Survived Four Decades

The Sawalkote project was first conceived in the 1980s when the idea of harnessing the Chenab's energy was just beginning to take shape. Engineers surveyed, planners dreamed, and the local population waited — believing that someday the project would bring jobs, electricity, and development to their hills.

But the years that followed were marked by silence and setbacks - endless bureaucratic delays, environmental debates, and political instability. For nearly forty years, the Sawalkote project remained trapped between paperwork and promises.

That changed in October 2025, when India's Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) finally recommended environmental clearance for the project. This decision came shortly after India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) - a historic 1960 agreement that limited India's use of the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab).

With this bold policy shift, the government opened a new chapter in national hydropower

development, paving the way for Sawalkote's long-awaited

Engineering the Power of the

The 1.856 MW Sawalkote Hydroelectric Project, to be built by NHPC Limited, will be the largest hydropower station in Jammu & Kashmir. Designed as a run-of-the-river project with limited storage, it features a 192.5-metre-high roller-compacted concrete dam — among the tallest in the country.

When completed, it will generate around 7,534 million units of electricity annually, meeting peak power demand across northern India and contributing significantly to the nation's renewable energy capacity.

The project spans Ramban, Reasi, and Udhampur districts, covering around 1,401 hectares of land, including 847 hectares of forest area. While the sheer scale of construction is immense, NHPC's plan ensures a careful balance between infrastructure and ecology.

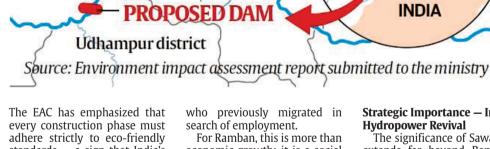
A Commitment to Green **Development**

older hydropower Sawalkote's design models. reflects India's modern environmental ethics. The project's updated Environmental Management Plan (EMP) allocates ₹594 crore — a substantial increase from earlier provisions for ecological protection and restoration.

This includes:

- Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) to prevent soil erosion and siltation in the Chenab basin.
- Biodiversity conservation efforts to safeguard both aquatic and terrestrial habitats.
- Muck disposal and stabilization plans to manage debris responsibly.
- Continuous monitoring of air, water, and soil quality to prevent long-term environmental degradation.

Moreover, the Kishtwar High Altitude National Park, the nearest protected area, lies around 63 km away, ensuring minimal impact on core wildlife zones.



Reasi

district

standards — a sign that India's energy future can coexist with nature's harmony.

The Heartbeat of the Project

Beyond turbines and transmission lines, the real story of Sawalkote lies in its people the villagers who have waited for decades, the youth who sought work elsewhere, and the families who continued to hope that their homeland would one day be transformed.

Around 13 villages and nearly 1,500 families will be directly affected by the project. Yet, this time, there is a sense of optimism. NHPC has committed to a comprehensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Plan, ensuring that no one is left behind.

- **Key provisions include:** New homes with essential amenities for displaced families.
 - Livelihood training and employment opportunities for local youth. Education and healthcare
 - facilities in newly developed townships. Fair and transparent compensation for land and as-
 - sets lost. During construction, the project will provide around 1,500 local jobs, and once operational, around 200 technical and maintenance posts will remain per-a lifeline for many

who previously migrated in search of employment.

For Ramban, this is more than economic growth; it is a social rebirth — a chance for its people to live with dignity and opportunity in their own homeland.

Development Ripple

Mega projects like Sawalkote often bring unseen benefits beyond electricity. The construction phase will drive massive improvements in infrastructure and connectivity across the Chenab Valley.

New access roads, bridges, and tunnels will link remote villages to main highways. Better transportation will attract small businesses, hospitality ventures, and service industries. Schools and health centers planned under the project will improve quality of life, especially in interior hilly areas where public facilities remain limited.

For Ramban - often associated with highway closures and landslides — the Sawalkote project brings not only light but stability and progress.

Strategic Importance — India's **Hydropower Revival**

INDIA

Srinagar

The significance of Sawalkote extends far beyond Ramban's boundaries. It symbolizes India's strategic assertion over its river resources, especially following the Indus Waters Treaty suspension.

Under the 1960 Treaty, India was allocated full rights over the eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) but limited use over the western ones (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab). For years, diplomatic caution and technical delays prevented India from maximizing these rights.

Now, projects like Sawalkote represent a new national strategy - to fully harness India's entitlement for non-consumptive use, including hydropower generation.

In this context, the revival of Sawalkote is both a developmental necessity and a strategic move, reinforcing India's energy security, water management capacity, and regional influence.

Together with other Chenab basin projects — Pakal Dul (1,000 MW), Kiru (624

MW), and Ratle (850 MW) -Sawalkote completes India's vision of transforming Jammu and Kashmir into a renewable energy hub for northern India.

Voices from the Valley

In 2016, when public hearings vere conducted, the response was emotional yet divided. While many welcomed the idea of development, others worried about losing land, forests, and traditional livelihoods.

Today, as environmental and social clearances align, the mood has changed. Many villagers now see Sawalkote as the long-awaited promise of equality — an assurance that Ramban too can stand shoulder to shoulder with developed districts.

A young graduate from the

project area puts it simply: "We've seen engineers and officials come and go, but this time it feels real. Maybe now our generation will finally see the Chenab bring us not just

water, but power and pride.' Such words echo across villages along the river, reflecting a blend of patience, pain, and renewed hope.

Beyond Power — A Symbol of **Faith and Resilience**

Ramban has endured much over the years - road blockades, natural disasters, landslides, and migration. Yet, its people have never given up hope. The Sawalkote project, in many ways, is their reward for decades of endurance.

It stands as a monument of resilience, showing that even in regions forgotten by time and policy, faith can move mountains – or in this case, harness rivers.

When completed, the project will not just illuminate homes: it will illuminate identities, redefining Ramban's image from a remote mountain district to a center of power and progress.

An Emotional Ending — Hope Flows Again

As the Chenab carves its path through deep gorges and lush valleys, it carries with it the story of Sawalkote - a story of delays, determination, and

dreams. For the government, this project is a milestone in energy security. For engineers, it is a technical triumph. But for the people of Ramban, it is far more - it is homecoming, hope, and history reborn.

The Sawalkote Hydropower Project reminds us that development is not just about about empowering people, protecting nature, and healing forgotten lands.

When the turbines Sawalkote begin to spin and the first currents of power surge through the grids, the light that reaches Indian homes will carry something special - the spirit of Ramban, the strength of Chenab, and the dream of a people who never stopped believing.

Forgotten Valleys, Rising

Amid the cheers and celebrations across Ramban, there lies a quieter hope — in the valleys of Pogal Paristan and Neel, where people have lived for decades feeling unseen and unheard. When the NH-44 four-lane project brought progress to other regions, these valleys remained in the shadows, their roads broken, their youth migrating, their dreams buried under dust and distance. Yet, the people never complained – they kept faith that one day the government would remember them too.

Today, with the revival of the Sawalkote Hydropower Project, that faith flickers back to life. For the people of Pogal and Neel, this project is more than just electricity - it is recognition after years of silence, justice after years of neglect. They hope that when the Chenab roars again with power, it will carry light not just to the cities but also to their forgotten hamlets. The elders pray that before their eyes close, they will see their mountains shine, and their children work proudly on their own land.

Let the light of Sawalkote reach Pogal Paristan and Neel – where the hearts have waited longest, and hope still flows deeper than the river itself.

-The author is a electrical engineer from Marnal Maligam Pogal (Ramban) Jammu and Kashmir.



THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SAWALKOTE **EXTENDS FAR BEYOND RAMBAN'S BOUNDARIES.** It symbolizes India's strategic assertion over its river resources, especially following the

Indus Waters Treaty suspension.

J&K Bank Opens New Cluster Office In Udhampur To Boost Operations

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In line with its strategic focus on enhanced customer convenience through operational excellence, J&K Bank has inaugurated a new Cluster Office in Udhampur to further strengthen its service delivery and business operations in the region.

The Bank's Chief General Manager (Business Development) Sunit Kumar inaugurated the newly established office in presence of Zonal Head (Udhampur) Lalit Prakash, Cluster Head Naresh Kumar, and other senior officers of the Bank.

Speaking on the occasion, CGM Sunit Kumar said, "The creation of Udhampur Cluster Office is part of the Bank's ongoing plan to align its infrastructure efficiently with operational requirements, ensuring better coordination among branches and improved customer service. The Udhampur Cluster Office will act as a focal point for



guidance, monitoring, and thereby enabling support, faster decision-making and deeper business outreach.'

He further added that the initiative underscores commitment the Bank's provide convenient, customer-centric banking services while strengthening its internal systems for future growth.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from officers and staff, reflecting their collective dedication to the Bank's mission of excellence and customer satisfaction.

Pak, Afghanistan Agree To 48-Hour Ceasefire

Press Trust Of India

Islamabad: Pakistan Wednesday said a 48-hour ceasefire has been agreed with Afghanistan, amid border clashes between the two countries that have killed dozens of people on both sides.

"A temporary ceasefire has been decided between the Pakistani government and the Afghan Taliban regime, with the mutual consent of both parties, for the next 48 hours from 6 PM today, at the request of the Taliban," the Foreign Office said.

However, the Taliban-led Afghan government's chief Zabihullah spokesperson Mujahid said that "at the request and insistence of the Pakistani side, a ceasefire between the two countries will take effect today after 5:30 PM."

In a post on social media, Mujahid said the government has directed all its forces to respect the ceasefire, unless any aggression takes place.

Pakistan's Foreign Office said that during the ceasefire, both sides "will make sincere efforts to find a positive solution to this complex but solvable issue through constructive dialogue." The ceasefire came hours after state-run PTV News reported

that Pakistan conducted "precision strikes" in Afghanistan's Kandahar province and capital Kabul, killing dozens of foreign and Afghan operatives.

"Pakistan Army's retaliatory action against Afghan Taliban aggression, key hideouts destroyed. Key hideouts of Afghan Taliban successfully targeted by Pakistan Army," it said in a statement on X, quoting security sources.

"These precision strikes were carried out in Afghanistan's Kandahar province. As a result of these strikes, Afghan Taliban Battalion Number 4 and Border Brigade Number 6 completely destroyed. Dozens of foreign and Afghan operatives killed."

It added that the Pakistan Army possessed the "full capability to give a strong and com-plete response to any external aggression".

Earlier in the day, the Pakistan Army said that it repulsed multiple attacks by the Afghan Taliban while killing over 40 attackers in separate incidents of border clashes

The Afghan Taliban attacked

four locations in the Spin Boldak area of Balochistan province, which were effectively repulsed by Pakistani Forces, the army said.

"While repulsing the attack, 15-20 Afghan Taliban have been killed and many injured," the army said, adding that the situation is still developing as there are "reports of further build up in staging points of Fitna Al Khwarij and Afghan Taliban."

The Pakistan government last year notified the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) as "Fitna al-Khawarij", a reference to a group in earlier Islamic history which was involved in violence.

The attack was orchestrated through divided villages in the area, with the Taliban showing no regard for the civilian population, it said.

"The Afghan Taliban also destroyed Pak-Afghan Friendship Gate on their side that clearly displays the mindset with regard to mutual trade and easement rights of the divided tribes," the army said.

The attack in Spin Boldak was not an isolated event, as on the night of October 14, the Afghan Taliban and TTP tried to attack Pakistani border posts in the Kurram Sector in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

"These attacks were effectively repulsed, causing heavy losses to Afghan Posts. Eight posts, including six tanks, were destroyed in the effective yet proportionate response of Pakistani troops, (and) 25-30 Afghan Taliban and Fitna Al Khwarij fighters were suspected to have been killed," it said.

The army rejected the insinuations that Pakistan initiated the attack by calling it "outrageous and blatant lies, just like the claims of capturing Pakistani posts or equipment".

It further said that the propaganda of the Taliban regime can be debunked with basic fact checks.

The army further asserted that all acts of aggression against Pakistan will be responded to with full force.

Islamabad has consistently urged the Taliban government to prevent terrorist groups from using Afghan territory for crossborder attacks.

Kabul, however, denies these allegations, insisting that Afghan soil is not being used against any neighbouring country.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

J&K Cabinet

Cabinet gave administrative approval for e-auctioning limestone mineral blocks and a sewerage project at the Gulmarg tourist resort at a cost of Rs 45.80 crore.

The bills will now be formally introduced in the Assembly during the upcoming session starting October 23. (inputs from KNO)

Speaker Reviews

facilities and ensure that all necessary preparations are made in advance to facilitate the smooth conduct of the forthcoming session.

He took an in-depth review of all the arrangements and called upon the concerned to work in a coordinated manner to ensure the session runs smoothly.

"It is our collective responsibility to ensure the smooth functioning of the assembly and all departments have to be prepared in advance in this regard," he said.

He asked the General Administration Department to ensure that the reply to the Assembly Questions shall reach the Assembly Secretariat as early as possible and necessary instructions need to be issued to all the departments in this regard.

He also called upon the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs that Government Bills be forwarded to the Assembly Secretariat well on time and necessary instructions be issued to all the concerned departments.

Speaker called upon the Information Department to ensure proper coverage of the proceedings of the House. He also asked the Information Department to provide logistical support by making available technical equipment like public address systems, mikes and other related items for the media.

Information Technology Department was asked to ensure Wifi and Internet Services with High Speed and installation of Routers wherever required before the ensuing Assembly Session.

He also called upon the security agencies for deployment of adequate staff well versed with Parliamentary traditions within the premises of J&K Legislative Assembly at Srinagar and make adequate arrangements for safety and security of Legislators.

Speaker further called upon the Estates department to expedite execution/completion of repair/ renovation works within the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Srinagar particularly in the Assembly Hall and VIP Chambers.

They have been also asked to install intercom telephone facilities within the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly at Srinagar, besides checking of telephones already installed within the VIP Chambers.

To ensure proper regulation of traffic on roads leading to J&K Legislative Assembly Complex/Civil Secretariat Srinagar and MLA's Hostel Srinagar, Speaker called upon the concerned to put in place necessary measures for avoiding inconvenience to general public on this account.

Regarding water supply, the Speaker called upon the Jal Shakti Department to keep necessary measures for providing sufficient and regular water supply to the Legislature Complex and Legislator's Hostel, Srinagar.

He also called upon the Power Development Department to check loopholes in transmission lines, if any, in order to ensure uninterrupted power supply during the course of session, besides ensuring uninterrupted power supply in the MLA' hostel.

Srinagar Municipal Corporation was asked to keep the entire premises and lawns of the Assembly and MLA's Hostel neat and clean, before the commencement of the session.

Speaker also issued necessary directions to the concerned departments to make advance preparations and put in place foolproof arrangements to provide timely medical support, installation/restoration of telephones in VIP chambers, emergency assistance, fire safety, cafeteria, proper hospitality for members, staff, and visitors throughout the session.

The Speaker emphasised that all protocol measures should be meticulously followed to ensure smooth functioning and the safety of all stakeholders during the proceedings.

All Barriers Removed,

divisions for constructing houses for terror victims whose homes were destroyed by terrorists. "Under this initiative, families having their own land will get new homes. The administration will ensure that every such family is rehabilitated with dignity," he said.
Paying homage to civilians killed by

Pakistan-sponsored terrorists, Sinha said it was difficult to fully articulate the pain and psychological trauma faced by victim families, but the government will handle each case with "full sensitivity and responsibility."

He also lashed out at Pakistan and its support system in the Valley, saying that those who peddled its "false narrative" for decades to absolve the country of its terror crimes will be brought to justice. "Pakistan, the breeding ground of terrorism, is exposed now, and those involved in propagating its lies will face consequences," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg, DIG North Kashmir Range Maqsood-Ul-Zaman, DC Kupwara Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, SSP Kupwara Syed Al-Tahir Gilani, and members of Save Youth Save Future Foundation were among those present on the occasion.

Curbs Lifted

demanding Ladakh's statehood and Sixth Schedule status left four people dead and 90 injured. He was detained under the National Security Act (NSA) for allegedly inciting the violence and shifted to Jodhpur jail. Wangchuk, a leading voice of the Leh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA), has been spearheading a five-year-long agitation demanding statehood and constitutional safeguards for the residents of Leh and Kargil.

SC Adjourns

jail has filed an affidavit that Wangchuk's elder brother and lawyer met the detenue.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Angmo, said they will file an application to amend the petition and challenge the grounds

During the hearing, Sibal requested that Wangchuk be permitted to exchange some notes with his wife.

The apex court noted the submission of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta that he has no problem with the detainee sharing notes with his wife.

The top court on October 6 had issues no-

tices to the Centre and the Union Territory of Ladakh. It, however, refused to pass any order on her plea for providing her the grounds of detention and posted the matter for hearing on Wangchuk was detained under the stringent

National Security Act (NSA) on September 26, two days after violent protests demanding statehood and Sixth Schedule status for Ladakh left four people dead and 90 injured in the Union territory. The government had accused him of inciting the violence.

The NSA empowers the Centre and states to detain individuals to prevent them from acting in a manner "prejudicial to the defence of India". The maximum detention period is 12

months, though it can be revoked earlier. Wangchuk is lodged in Jodhpur jail in Rajasthan. (PTI)

Detained AAP MLA

or held in police custody-are not entitled to vote. However, the proviso to this sub-section clarifies that the restriction does not apply to individuals subjected to preventive detention under any law currently in force.

This legal provision makes it unambiguously clear that persons under preventive detention retain their right to vote in all elections.

According to sources, Commission has written to the J&K administration requesting details of detained voters, including the prisons where they are lodged. The administration has submitted Malik's details to the Returning Officer, who will send the postal ballot to Kathua jail.

Malik had filed a habeas corpus petition challenging his detention and claiming Rs 5 crore in compensation. Senior advocates including Rahul Pant, S.S. Ahmed, Muzaffar Igbal Khan, and others submitted a petition for him to participate in the Assembly session and vote

in the Rajya Sabha polls. During a hearing, Justice Sanjay Dhar directed

the government to file its reply by October 18 for Malik's application and by November 7 for the main petition. Senior Additional Advocate General Monika Kohli and advocate Sunil Sethi appeared for the government.

A spokesperson for AAP said the applications are of an emergent nature and should be considered expeditiously to allow Malik to exercise his rights as a legislator and voter.

NC Marks One

against serious diseases like cancer, reinstating free education up to the university level have remained unfulfilled.

The NC had also promised a comprehensive job package for youth, and redrawing the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, and the Transaction of Business of the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Rules, 2019 have also been oversighted so far.

For many, the past 12 months have felt more like a year of waiting than one of transformation.

One of the key planks of NC was tackling unemployment, promising a comprehensive job package for the youth. However, the unemployment rate, instead of witnessing a decline, has increased further as no major recruitment has taken place in the year, and the policy is nowhere in sight.

"We have been promised employment. But a year has elapsed; it seems nothing is going to happen for the educated youth with no measures in sight over the promised job policy," Aijaz Ahmad, one of the unemployed youth,

Looking Ahead

As the Omar Abdullah government enters its second year, the pressure to deliver is

With the government continuing to make promises over delivering their pledges mentioned in the manifesto, the road ahead is far from easy

The Chief Minister has repeatedly mentioned that they have been given a five-year time to deliver on the promises, insisting that systemic change cannot happen overnight.

But for the people, time is a luxury and a year without making any positive change on the ground, over-delivering on the promises has made them quite disappointed.

Opposition Reacts Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National General Secretary and J&K in-charge, Tarun Chugh, slammed CM Abdullah, saying that despite completing one year in office, his government has "failed" to fulfil even a single promise made

to the people. Chugh said the people of Jammu and Kashmir demand accountability from the government, as none of the commitments made during the elections have been honoured.

Accusing the NC government of "not fulfilling" its pre-poll promises, People's Democratic Party (PDP) president and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, a few days ago, drew parallels with the then Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi, saying the latter focused on developmental works despite governing in a Union Territory.

"It has been one year since the government has been in power here, but they haven't done enough despite promising jobs, free power supply and other incentives. Kejriwal gave free electricity to people, while over here, consumers are being charged heavily. There are even talks of water charges now," Mehbooba said.

Taking a dig at the NC government, Apni Party president and former minister, Syed Altaf Bukhari, said the party has failed to deliver on

The people have lost faith as NC has failed to fulfil its commitments. There is no visible development, no electricity waiver, no social welfare schemes, no free 200 units of power, no release of jailed youth, and rising unemployment," he said.(KNO)

J&K By-polls

The work done over the past year has been appreciated by people. I intend to take forward

the vision of Rana sahib for Nagrota.' Emphasizing the enduring bond with the electorate, she added, "Nagrota will always remain with BJP. I am sure the voters will bless me with overwhelming support.'

This decision overrides speculation around other contenders like Nand Kishore Sharma and Anil Sharma, banking instead on the sympathy wave generated by Devender Rana's

The senior Rana had scripted history in the 2024 Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections by securing a record 48,113 votes - the highest margin in the Union Territory at 30,472 votes – defeating National Conference (NC) candidate Joginder Singh.

A former NC loyalist, who defected to the BJP in 2021, Devender Rana had previously won the seat in 2014 on an NC ticket, underscoring the constituency's volatile yet BJP-leaning dynamics since 1996.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Panthers Party (India) Chairman and former Minister Harsh Dev Singh on the same day issued a fervent appeal to the NC and Congress - allies in the ruling INDIA bloc - to back him as their consensus opposition candidate.

Positioning himself as a viable alternative to the BJP's "dynastic politics", Singh argued that a united front was essential to counter the ruling party's dominance in Nagrota, a seat where the NC-Congress alliance had faltered in 2024 by fielding separate candidates.

In a statement shared via social media and addressed to NC president Farooq Abdullah and Congress leaders, Harsh Dev Singh said, "I make a strong appeal to the National Conference (NC) and Congress to support me as the consensus candidate from the INDIA Alliance in the upcoming Nagrota assembly bypoll elections. The people of Nagrota deserve a united opposition voice against the BJP's machinery, not fragmented efforts that dilute our strength. Let us set aside differences for the greater good of democracy and the aspirations of the youth and marginalized sections in our constituency."

Singh, a two-time former MLA from the Ramnagar (now reserved post-delimitation), highlighted his grassroots connect with people during the tenure as Education Minister in

Mufti Sayeed's government during 2002-2006. He cautioned that without unity, the bypoll could reinforce BJP's grip, potentially at the expense of the coalition's broader agenda on statehood restoration and regional equity.

The appeal comes amid reported strains within the NC-Congress partnership, which failed to consolidate votes in Nagrota during the last polls - NC's Joginder Singh polled 17,641 votes, while Congress's Balbir Singh managed 5.979.

Neither the NC nor Congress has announced its candidate yet, leaving room for Singh's

Political analysts view this as a tactical bid by the Panthers Party leader to exploit alliance fissures, especially as the bypoll serves as a litmus test for the ruling coalition's cohesion post the 2024 elections.

Nagrota, encompassing parts of Jammu district with a diverse voter base including urban professionals, farmers, and ex-servicemen, remains a prestige battleground.

The BJP's 2024 triumph here was pivotal in its Jammu sweep, contrasting with the NC's Valley dominance.

With counting slated for November 14, the bypoll - alongside Budgam - is expected to draw national attention, gauging public mood on governance, development, and the push for J&K's full statehood.

As campaigns gear up, Devyani Rana's camp is already mobilizing on themes of continuity and progress, while Harsh Dev Singh's plea underscores the opposition's high-wire act.

Illegal Mining Needs

Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Mining Department Anil Kumar, and other senior officers including Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police, and heads of concerned departments.

A major highlight of the review was a live demonstration of the Integrated Mining Surveillance System (IMSS) - a digital platform developed in collaboration with the Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG). The IMSS enables real-time monitoring of mining activities through GPS tracking, e-challaning, vehicle surveillance, and integrated dashboards, aimed at enhancing transparency and curbing illegal

Officials informed that over 243 triggers have already been generated for field verification through the IMSS, helping authorities detect and act against irregularities.

Appreciating the initiative, Omar Abdullah directed developers to integrate the department's existing portal with the IMSS and expand its use across districts. He also suggested incorporating a citizen grievance feature, allowing the public to report illegal mining via mobile applications with geotagged evidence.

The Chief Minister called for the categorization of active and non-active mineral vendors, establishment of a dedicated monitoring cell at the Directorate level, and stronger data-driven oversight.

Reviewing reforms under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) 2025-26, Abdullah was informed about several new measures, including an auction-based system for mineral block allocation, introduction of mine closure and rehabilitation plans, and operationalization of the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT) to ensure that mining revenues directly contribute to local development.

He also emphasized that all environmental and procedural clearances should be obtained before auctioning mineral blocks to avoid delays and procedural hurdles for successful

Speaking on the issue of illegal mining, the Chief Minister asserted that such activities cannot continue without internal cooperation. "In my previous tenure, illegal mining was never a concern. With the technological tools now available, any such activity is only possible if there's collusion at the lower level. ment must use these systems effectively to eliminate that possibility," he said.

Omar Abdullah underscored the need for accountability within administrative ranks, stating that "illegal operations cannot persist without internal complicity," and directed officers to strengthen enforcement and monitoring mechanisms.

The meeting also reviewed ongoing exploration projects being undertaken by MECL and GSI for sapphire, lithium, lignite, granite, graphite, and other minerals in various districts. Abdullah stressed strict compliance with environmental norms, especially in eco-sensitive zones, to ensure sustainable development.

Commending the Mining Department for embracing digital innovation and institutional reforms, the Chief Minister urged sustained focus on transparency, efficiency, and environmental responsibility in Jammu and Kashmir's mineral sector.

AP To Contest

and resident of Humhamma, Budgam, has been nominated as the party candidate for the 27-Budgam Assembly Constituency. Similarly, Bodraj Bhagat, son of Shanker Das and resident of Domana Machine, Jammu, has been nominated as the party candidate for the 77-Nagrota Assembly Constituency.

Meanwhile, the Apni Party on Wednesday expelled its Chief Spokesperson, Muntazir Mohiuddin, from the party's basic membership with immediate effect for issuing what it termed as "irrelevant and inappropriate" press statements contrary to the party's interests. The decision was taken during a meeting

of the Parliamentary Affairs Committee (PAC) held at the party headquarters in Church Lane, Srinagar, under the chairmanship of Mohammad Dilawar Mir. According to an official statement, the PAC took serious note of recent statements made by

Mohiuddin, observing that his remarks were not aligned with the party's principles and had the potential to harm its image. "After thorough deliberations, the Committee unanimously decided to expel Mr. Muntazir Mohiuddin from the basic membership of the

Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party with immediate effect," the statement said. The PAC reaffirmed that the Apni Party remains committed to maintaining discipline, unity, and collective responsibility among all its members and office bearers.

Party insiders said the leadership viewed the statements issued by Mohiuddin as a breach of internal protocol and an act that went against the party's organizational ethos.

Private Schooling in J&K Costs Parents Over Rs 37,000

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In Jammu and Kashmir, on an average a student of a private senior secondary institute bears a cost of over Rs 37,000 on school expenditure during the current academic year.

Besides, the students of government secondary schools also spent over Rs 14,000 on school expenditure during the current

academic year. The official figures available reveal that on an average, a senior secondary student in both rural and urban areas of Jammu and Kashmir reported spending of Rs 37,291 on school expenditure during the current academic

It also states that on an average the student government higher secondary spends at least



Rs 14,652 on school expenditure during the current academic

Earlier in September, it was reported that in Jammu and Kashmir, 87 percent of students are paying course fees in schools. However, on the contrary only 57.1 percent of students pay such charges at the national level.

The official figures reveal that at least 87 percent of students reported expenditure on course fees by level of current enrolment for Jammu and Kashmir including 89.3 percent among the male and 84.3 percent among the female students.

It also said that the national percentage of students reported expenditure on course fees by level of current enrollment for each state and UT was 57.1 percent in 2025.

According to the official figures, in the rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir, 85 percent persons including 87.7 percent males and 81.7 percent females enrolled in school reported expenditure on course fees by level of current enrolment.

Likewise, in the urban areas of Jammu and Kashmir at least 96.1 percent persons enrolled in school reported expenditure on course fees by level of current enrolment. This includes 95.9 percent of male and 96.3 percent female students respectively—(KNO)

THE OFFICIAL FIGURES **REVEALTHAT AT LEAST 87 PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPORTED EXPENDITURE** on course

fees by level of current enrolment for Jammu and Kashmir including 89.3 percent among the male and 84.3 percent among the female students."

Dy CM Urges Sajad Lone to Exercise Restraint in Language

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary on Wednesday expressed deep respect for senior politician Sajad Lone's late father while advising Lone to maintain civility in his public state-

Speaking to reporters, Choudhary recalled his earlier interactions with Lone, highlighting his educational background and political lineage. "I respect Sajad Lone Sahab because he is well-educated and has studied abroad. More importantly, he is the son of a man who contributed significantly to Jammu and Kashmir. I met him around 1995-96 when I was a trade union leader, and we had a detailed discussion," the Deputy CM said.

however, Choudhary, expressed disappointment over Lone's recent remarks in a video circulating on social media. "I want to remind Sajad that his late father had his own ideology but always maintained civility and culture in his

language. I would request Sajad Sahab to be mindful of that legacy," he added.

The Deputy CM emphasized that their past political engagements had always been respectful and constructive. "We have sat together, even when he was a minister. My intention is not to criticize, but to advise. I hope he doesn't take my words otherwise,"

Responding to Lone's alleged comments targeting another politician, Choudhary questioned his stance. "He directly accused Rajesh of being with the BJP. My question is: if you're against the BJP, then support the candidate contesting against them. Why abstain? Why not take a clear stand?" he asked.

Choudhary described the situation as a "test of sincerity" for all leaders in Jammu and Kashmir. 'This is not just about Sajad Lone. Anyone who claims to stand with the people of I&K must prove it now through action, not just words," he said. (With KNO

Aga Family Rejects BJP Candidate Link, Calls Name **Usage Misleading**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The prominent Aga family of Budgam has issued a strong clarification denying any connection with Mohsin Ali, a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate named for the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir bye-elections, following widespread reports and social media claims suggesting an association.

In an official statement, the family asserted that Mohsin Ali, son of Syed Ali Shah of Mirgund, has "absolutely no connection or affiliation, personal, familial, or ideological, with the Aga family." The clarification comes in the wake of the BJP announcing the candidature of "Aga Syed Mohsin," which led to confusion among sections of the public regarding the candidate's identity.

"It has come to our attention that Mohsin Ali is being falsely linked to the Aga family of Budgam. This individual is not related to us in any way," the statement read, describing such associations as "deceptive, unethical, and wholly unacceptable."

The family alleged that the BIP was attempting to "misuse the name of Aga Syed Mohsin Al-Mosavi Sahib for petty political gains," warning that such acts mislead the public and tarnish the family's reputation. The statement reiterated that Aga Syed Mohsin Al-Mosavi Sahib, who has historically opposed the BJP's ideology and policies, and his family's political and religious positions remain unchanged.

Aga Owais, son of Aga Syed Mohsin, emphasized the distinction, stating, "His actual name is Syed Mohsin, and he is not from the Aga clan. The similarity in names is being exploited to create misunderstanding." He added unequivocally, "The BJP's candidate is not from our family."

The clarification comes shortly after the BJP announced candidates for the Jammu and Kashmir byeelections, including "Aga Syed Mohsin" and Devyani Rana, intensifying the need for the Aga family to publicly distance themselves from the party's candidate.

Former IGNOU VC Inspires at IUST's 'Meet the **Eminent' Session**



Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) on Monday hosted a distinguished academic interaction under its 'Meet the Eminent' programme featuring Prof. M. Aslam, Former Vice Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi. The event, organized by the university's Rumi Library, provided faculty and students a platform to engage with an eminent scholar and gain insights into contemporary academic and research trends.

During his address, Prof. Aslam underscored the importance of scholarly pursuit, research excellence, and knowledge sharing in building a strong academic culture. Drawing from his professional journey spanning over 47 shared experiences from his contributions to higher education at both national and international levels.

The session was presided over by IUST Vice Chancel-

lor, Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo. who lauded Prof. Aslam's remarkable contributions to academia and open learning in India. He urged the university faculty to emulate such dedication and strive for greater academic excellence to help IUST attain prominence nationally and globally. "Such interactions serve as a source of motivation for our faculty and play a vital role in the university's growth trajectory," he said.

Welcoming the guests earlier, Dr. S. M. Imran, Librarian, highlighted the role of such initiatives in fostering a culture of intellectual exchange and academic inspiration within the university community.

The event witnessed the presence of Prof. Abdul W. Makhdoomi, Registrar; the Finance Officer; Deans; Directors; Heads of Departments and Centres members; and library staff.

The session concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Muneejah Khan, Head, Department of English Language and Literature.

DPS Bags Top Honours at Media Fest 2025



ic skill, students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Srinagar clinched the first prize in the Student Short Film Competition at Media Fest 2025, hosted by Green Valley Educational Institute.

The DPS team's short film stood out among entries from leading schools across the Valley, earning accolades from the jury for its technical finesse, creative storytelling, and emotional depth.

The festival, themed "A Celebration of Imagination, Innovation, and Inspiration," served as a vibrant platform for young filmmakers to express their artistic vision and storytelling flair. Principal Shafaq Afshan commended the students for their "sensitive and skillful" approach to storytelling, while Chairman Vijay Dhar said the win underscores the school's enduring commitment to fostering creativity and holistic excellence. The victory marks a proud moment for DPS Srinagar's media and arts department and serves as an inspiration for students to continue pursuing their creative passions with dedication and confidence. (Observer News Service)

Padshahi Bagh Residents Seek Immediate Repair of Crumbling Road

esidents of Padshahi Bagh on the outskirts of Srinagar on Wednesday staged a protest of Srinagar on wednesday staged a process demanding immediate repair and restoration of the main road, which they said has remained in a dilapidated condition for years.

The agitated locals blocked traffic for a brief period to draw the attention of the authorities towards their long-pending grievance. They alleged that despite repeated appeals to the concerned departments, no steps have been taken to address the issue, leaving the stretch riddled with potholes, stagnant water, and damaged surfaces.

"Padshahi Bagh road has become a nightmare for commuters and pedestrians alike. We have approached the officials several times, but our pleas have fallen on deaf ears," said one of the protesting residents.

Locals complained that the crumbling condition of the road has severely affected their daily lives and is causing frequent vehicle damage. "Even ambulances and school buses struggle to move through this stretch," another protester lamented. (With KNT inputs)

Renzushah Pays Tributes to APJ Kalam

Srinagar: On the birth anniversary of former President Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, Khwaja Faroog Renzushah, Chairman of the Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore Global Family of Kashmir Society International, paid heartfelt tribute to India's 'Missile Man.'

Renzushah highlighted Dr. Kalam's legacy as a visionary in science, education, and nation-building, emphasizing his belief in the Renaissance of the mind—a philosophy shared with Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. He noted that both leaders championed education as a means to empower youth, nurture creativity, and foster responsibility toward society.

The Tagore Global Family appreciated Dr. Kalam's contributions, which resonate with Tagore's ideals of holistic education and nationalism. Renzushah urged the youth to draw inspiration from their teachings, reminding all of Tagore's words: "You can't cross the sea merely by standing and staring at the water." (Observer News Service)

Executive Engineer

PMGSY (JKRRDA)

Division Pulwama

DC Shopian Reviews Progress of Rural Development Works



Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Shishir Gupta, today chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the status and progress of projects being executed under the Rural Development Department (RDD) sector as part of the District Capex Budget, 2025-26.

During the meeting, officials informed the DC that a total of 1,565 works have been approved across various blocks of the district under the current financial year. Of these, 250 projects have been completed, while the remaining works are ongoing.

Emphasizing the need for timely completion, the DC directed concerned officials to accelerate project execution, keeping in mind the approaching winter season. He also stressed transparency, quality control, and regular field inspections, with proper booking of expenditures for completed works.

While reviewing the block-wise progress, the DC urged officers to prioritize public utility and community-oriented projects that directly benefit rural populations. He highlighted the importance of judicious fund utilization and coordination to achieve both phys-

Three Long-Time Absconders Arrested in Srinagar & Shopian: Police

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a major development in its ongoing drive against absconders and proclaimed offenders, Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday arrested three individuals who had been evading the law for years in Srinagar and Shopian.

A police spokesperson said that in Srinagar, two absconders were apprehended following specific intelligence inputs. They have been identified as Waseem Bhat, son of Abdul Majeed Bhat, a resident of Al-Farooq Colony and currently residing in Hamdaniya Colony, Bemina, who had been absconding

since 2013, and Ab Rashid Sheikh, son of Ab Ahad Sheikh of Athwaian Panthachowk, evading arrest since 2021. After completing all legal formalities, the accused were produced before the concerned court in Srinagar.

Meanwhile, in Shopian, police arrested Ab. Hamid Sheikh, son of Gh. Mohd Sheikh of Peerpora, who had been on the run for over a decade. He was wanted in connection with FIR No. 81/2015 under Section 307 RPC, and a warrant under Section 512 CrPC had been issued by the court. Following his arrest, he was presented before the court in accordance with legal procedures.

Amazon Great Indian Festival 2025 Launches Diwali 'Festive **Delight Offers'**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: This festive season, Amazon India has unveiled its much-awaited Great Indian Festival 2025, bringing a wide array of Dhanteras and Diwali offers across categories including smartphones, laptops, TVs, fashion and beauty, home décor, appliances, furniture, and groceries. Customers looking to welcome prosperity with a new vehicle can order Bajaj and Hero twowheelers by midnight on October 14 for guaranteed delivery before Diwali in cities such as Mumbai, Delhi NCR, Hyderabad, Bangalore, and others.

For jewelry enthusiasts, Amazon.in has expanded its selection to meet the surge in demand for traditional Dhanteras purchases. The platform now offers over five lakh jewelry designs, including more than 50,000 styles of lab-grown diamonds, starting at ₹21,699 from trusted brands like Caratlane, PN Gadgil, Joyalukkas, PC Chandra, and Malabar Gold & Diamonds. Customers can also rely on Amazon. in for authentic, hallmarked gold and silver coins, which are ideal for auspicious occasions like Akshaya Tritiya and Dhanteras. The platform provides the widest range of gold coins across price points, with grammage options from 10g to 19g. Special festive offers include up to 20% off on jewelry, up to 10% instant bank discount, and a

Gold jewelry sales have surged by 96% year-over-

flat ₹21,000 coupon on select

year this season, led by hallmarked pieces from brands such as Caratlane, PN Gadgil, Joyalukkas, PC Chandra, KIS-NA, and Malabar Gold & Diamonds. A clear shift toward 14K and 18K purity jewelry is evident, with 14K pieces growing 50% year-over-year as customers increasingly seek modern, everydaywear designs. Rings and neckwear have emerged as the most popular categories, registering 18% and 45% year-over-year growth respectively. Caratlane's exclusive collection featuring premium 9K and 14K designs has recorded double month-on-month growth since its recent launch on Amazon.in. Customers can purchase fine jewelry starting at ₹2,000 for 925 Sterling Silver (92.5% purity) up to ₹40,000 for premium gold and diamond pieces.

To make every Dhanteras purchase more rewarding, Amazon Pay is offering exclusive e-gift cards from India's most trusted jewelers including Tanishq, Kalyan, Malabar, Joyalukkas, and GIVA. Customers can enjoy up to 12% off on GIVA Silver Jewelry, 5% off on Kalyan Diamond and Ketan Gold Jewelry, and 2-3% off on leading brands such as Joyalukkas, Tanishq, Jos Alukkas, and Mia by Tanishq. Additionally, using the Amazon Pay ICICI Bank Credit Card on Amazon Pay Gift Cards entitles customers to an extra 2% cashback. Customers can also buy digital gold on Amazon Pay, providing a safe, convenient, and trusted way to start their festive investments from the comfort of home.

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PMGSY (JKRRDA) DIVISION PULWAMA.

Email:- xenpmgsy-pul@jk.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING E- TENDERS

E-NIT No.18/EE/PMGSY-Pulwama/e-tendering of 2025-26, Dated 15/10/2025

For and on behalf of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama invite e-tender for stage contracts on Percentage

basis from the eligible & approved contractors of Jack Govt. Cr wb, Kallways and Other States, for the following works.							
S. No	Name of Work with Package No.	Cost of document (Rs in Rupees.)	Earnest Money (Bid Security) (Rs in Lacs.)	Period Of Contract	Tender Call	Time and Date of opening of Technical Bid online	Class of Contracto
1	2	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Stage Contract of roads under the jurisdiction of PMGSY Division Pulwama on emergency basis (i.e.) by way of clearance of Snow, slides/slips other allied works required during maintenance of roads, failure of maintenance of road by regular contractor and any other emergent work likely to occur during financial year 2025-2026	1100	0.80	2025-26	1 st	28-10-2025 11:00 AM	AYY & BEI - Class civil

Position of Funds : Available, (Detailed Head : 023-Maintenance & Repairs)

Dated- 15/10/2025

1.	The important dates and time areas under:-					
1.	Date of issue of tender notice	15/10/2025				
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	16/10/2025 at 10:30AM to 27/10/2025 upto 04:30PM				
3.	Pre Bid Meeting	16/10/2025 at 11:00 AM				
4.	Bid submission start date	16/10/2025 at 10:30 AM				
5.	Bid submission end date	27/10/2025 at 04:30 PM				
6.	Date & time of opening of Technical/financia lBids(Online)	28/10/2025 at 11:00 AM				

Cost of Bid Form @ Rs 1100/- (non-refundable) only in form of e-challan/treasury challan/receipt.

Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and bids should be submitted online on website www. pmgsytendersjk.gov.in. The bidders are required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website; www.pmgsytendersik.gov.in, Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

Bids must be uploaded along with scanned copy of cost of Tender Document as mentioned in column 4 in shape of e-challan/treasury challan/receipt favouring Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama by crediting the requisite charges to MH 0059-PWD (Revenue) and scanned copy of Bid Security as mentioned in column 5 pledged to Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama The original documents, viz., the cost of tender document, Bid Security submitted by L1 should be same as uploaded online (scanned copies) otherwise

the allotment will not be issued. The tenders will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further/future tendering process in

PMGSY for a period of one year. (a) The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in from 16/10/2025 to 27/10/2025 up to 04:30 PM. (b) The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in from 16/10/2025 to 27/10/2025 up to 04:30 PM. (c) A pre-bid meeting will be held on 16-10-2025 at 11:00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama to clarify the

DT: 15/10/2025

No:- EE/PMGSY/Pul/e-Tendering/ DIPK-7233-25

Day 1: Mumbai Fight Back To Reach 336/5 Against J&K In Srinagar

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Siddhesh Lad struck a gritty 116 while Shams Mulani made an unbeaten 79 to drive Mumbai to 336 for five after an early wobble on the opening day of their Ranji Trophy Elite Group D match against Jammu and Kashmir here on Wednesday.

Mumbai were in a spot of bother at 141 for four after being asked to bat first with young star Ayush Mhatre (28) and Musheer Khan (0) falling early.

Former captain Ajinkya Rahane (27) also could not convert his start.

India batter Sarfaraz Khan (42) was involved in a fourth-wicket stand of 67 with Lad but the former's run-out in the 40th over put Mumbai in a precarious position.

But from there, Lad, who compiled his knock in 156 balls (17x4, 3x6), and Mulani

(79 not out off 125 balls, 8x4, 1x6) bailed their side out with a strong 159-run stand.

Lad, at No 4, began the Ranji season with a fine hundred as his knock held the Mumbai innings together against relentless Jammu and Kashmir bowlers.

Lad's innings ended when he ventured out of the crease against Abid Mushtaq in the 70th over and wicketkeeper Kanhaiya Wadhawan did not miss the opportunity to break the stumps.

Yudhvir Singh accounted for both Mhatre and Rahane as J&K made a bright start with the ball, but Mumbai all-rounder Mulani once again played a vital knock.

Brief scores:

Mumbai 336/5 in 83 overs (Siddhesh Lad 116, Sarfaraz Khan 42, Shams Mulani 79 not out; Yudhvir Singh 2/82) vs Jammu and Kashmir.



UT Level Volleyball For Boys U-14 BCCI President I & U-19 Concludes In Budgam Attends Ranji Op



Dabirah Hassan

BUDGAM: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Budgam-hosted Division Level Volleyball Tournament for Under-14 and Under-19 boys concluded at Government Boys Higher Secondary School Beerwah on Wednesday.

In the Under-14 category, Kashmir Division emerged as the winner, while Jammu Division secured the runner-up position. In the Under-19 category, Jammu Division lifted the winner's trophy, and Kashmir Division finished as runner-up.

During the closing cer-

emony, trophies and medals were distributed among the winning and runner-up teams. The event was held under the direction of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Budgam, Ghulam Hassan Lone, and was attended by Incharge Activity DYSSO Budgam, Ghulam Hassan Khanday,

ficials of the department.

The dignitaries congratulated the players for their spirited performances and highlighted the department's continuous efforts to promote sports and identify young talent across the district.

along with other senior of-

BCCI President Mithun Manhas Attends Ranji Opener In Srinagar

Agencie

SRINAGAR: The Shere-Kashmir Cricket Stadium in Srinagar witnessed a momentous day on Wednesday as newly-elected BCCI President Mithun Manhas spent almost the entire day at the venue during the Ranji Trophy Elite Group D match between J&K and Mumbai.

The visit of the BCCI chief added excitement and prestige to the season's opening match, which drew a large crowd of cricket enthusiasts.

Fans cheered from the stands as the two teams battled it out under bright autumn skies in the Valley.
A senior J&K Cricket Association said all arrangements were in place for the first match of the season.

"We ensured that players, officials, and spectators had the best possible experience," the official said. As the game progressed, young fans waved J&K flags and applauded every wicket, celebrating the return of top-class domestic cricket to Srinagar.

"The atmosphere at the ground was electric. It's heartening to see the people of Kashmir turn up in such large numbers to support their team," Manhas said. (KINS)



Football Selection Trials For Junior Girls On October 17 & 18



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Sports Council announced Wednesday that it will conduct Open Selection Trials to select the J&K Junior Girls Football Team for participation in the Dr. Talimeren Ao Junior Girls National Football Championship 2025-26.

The trials will be held on October 17 and 18 in Srinagar and Jammu simultaneously. The trials will begin from 3:00 PM onwards at Synthetic Turf TRC in Srinagar and Mini Stadium Parade Ground in Jammu.

"All eligible junior girls footballers from across J&K are invited to participate. Players must report at their respective venues in proper playing kit along with their Aadhaar Card, Date of Birth Certificate, and two recent passport-size photographs," a statement read.

"This is a golden opportunity for young female players to showcase their talent and represent J&K at the national level," the J&K Football Association said.

Team India Heads Down Under: Kohli, Rohit Leave In 1st Batch

enior stars Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma were among the first batch of Indian cricketers who flew off on Wednesday for a three-match ODI series against Australia beginning October 19.

Kohli and Rohit were joined by Test and ODI skipper Shubman Gill, opener Yashasvi Jaiswal, allrounder Nitish Kumar Reddy, and pacers Arshdeep Singh and Prasidh Krishna along with some members of the support staff.

The group made their way into the Indira Gandhi International Airport in the morning with a handful adoring fans lining up outside the entrance to catch a glimpse of them.

India is due to play three ODIs starting Sunday in Perth followed by Adelaide and Sydney.

It will be followed by a five-match T20 International series and the format specialists will leave on October 22 tentatively. The series will begin on October 29. (PTI)

Pakistan Ends South Africa's 10-Match Winning Streak In 1st Test

Pakistan ended world test cricket champion South Africa's 10-match winning streak with a clinical 93-run victory on a turning wicket in the first test on Wednesday.

Left-arm spinner Noman Ali continued to prosper on turning home wickets with a rich match haul of 10-191 as the Proteas were bowled out for 183 after lunch on Day 4.

Noman has bagged 46 wickets in his last five home tests, including 20 against England and another 16 against the West Indies, after Pakistan chose last year to counter touring sides by making spinning wickets.

Noman followed his 6-112 in the first innings with a haul of 4-79 in a marathon unchanged spell of 28 overs, while Shaheen Shah Afridi mopped up the tail with some impressive reverse swing to finish with 4-33, as South Africa fell way short of its 277-run target. (AP)

Cristiano Ronaldo Sets Goalscoring Record In World Cup Qualifiers

nother goal, another record for Cristiano Ronaldo.

The 40-year-old Ronaldo became the player with most goals in World Cup qualifiers after scoring twice for Portugal in its 2-2 draw with Hungary on Tuesday. His first goal — from close range in the 22nd minute — was Ronaldo's 40th in a World Cup qualifying match, breaking a tie with former Guatemala player Carlos Ruiz.

The Al-Nassr striker then added a second in first-half stoppage time to extend his record to 41 goals in the 50 World Cup qualifiers he has played.

Ronaldo now has a record-extending 143 goals in men's internationals.

He left the field in the 78th minute with the score at 2-1 and Hungary equalized in stoppage time through Dominik Szoboszlai, preventing Portugal from clinching a spot in the World Cup with two group games to spare. (AP)



Contact: M I Securities - 9906518342 / 9906684475

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