Saturday 18 October 2025 | Srinagar | Vol. 28 | Issue: 250 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

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# **NC To Contest Budgam, Back Congress In Nagrota**



**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said the National Conference (NC) has requested its ally, Congress, to field a candidate from the Nagrota Assembly seat in the upcoming by-election next month, while NC will contest the Budgam seat. He added that the long-standing alienation between Jammu and Kashmir and New Delhi would end once statehood is restored.

Speaking to media persons in Anantnag, Omar reflected on the first year of his government,

**RS Polls: Independents Key As** 

ith the Rajya Sabha election just a week away, independent MLAs in the Jammu and Kashmir

last-minute unity talks between the National Conference

(NC) and Congress failed. Congress had publicly an-

Sabha seat. Negotiations had nearly | More on P6

lack control of the elected government. Once

**Delegation To Russia** 

Return Of Buddha's Relics

**LG Leads Indian** 

statehood is restored, this alienation will end."

nounced it would not contest the "riskier" fourth Raiya

Assembly have emerged as crucial players after

WE ARE DEPRIVED OF STATEHOOD. BUSINESS

General is absent, and several organisations

**RULES ARE NOT IN PLACE**, the Advocate

**NC-Congress Talks Stall** 

saying, "A year has passed, but we still have four years left. The work is before the people, and we stick to our promises. People should not judge us for a week, a month, or a year – we have been given a full term of five years."

On the by-elections, he said Congress had sought consent from its high command for Nagrota. "We have assured our complete support to Congress if they field their candidate from Nagrota. Once approved, nominations will be filed, and Budgam will remain for NC," he said.

Regarding the regularisation of daily wagers | More on Pe

HM On Anti-Terror Operations In J&K

# No One Responded Like Modi: Shah

**KO Web Desk** 

Union Home Srinagar: Minister Amit Shah on Friday said the Modi-led government has dealt with terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir with unmatched resolve and strength, asserting that no previous administration responded in a similar manner.

Addressing a public rally, Shah recalled the violence during Congress rule, saying terrorists carried out a "khoon ki holi" (blood-soaked Holi) across India. "Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we entered their homes and wiped them out through 'Operation Sindoor,'" he said.

Shah highlighted that the perpetrators of the Pahalgam terror attack were brought to justice under 'Operation Mahadev,' while their handlers in Pakistan were also



targeted. "The way Modi ji responded to terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, no one did in the past several decades," he added.

He cited the abrogation of Article 370 as a historic decision permanently integrating I&K with the rest of the country. "From removing Article 370 to fighting terrorism, we have acted on every front.

When terrorists tried to rise again, we launched Operation Sindoor and taught them a lesson in their own homes," he said.

Shah also noted the government's social and cultural achievements, including ending triple talaq and fulfilling the long-standing promise of constructing the Ram Temple in Ayodhya.

Taking a dig at opposition parties, he accused them of misleading people with "unrealistic promises" and reviving the politics of corruption and fear. He said the Modi government remains focused on development, welfare, and national security, adding, "The Indian economy is now among the fastest-growing in the world, inflation is under control, and the country's global standing has strengthened."

Urging public vigilance, Shah stressed that "only a stable government can ensure continuity of development and the safety of the nation." He also criticized RJD leader Lalu Prasad Yadav and the INDI Alliance, recalling Bihar's "jungle raj" era, and expressed confidence that the NDA would return to power in the state with the largest majority in two decades. | More on P6

# **KU Postpones** Oct 20 Exams

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir has postponed all examinations scheduled for October 20, 2025, in view of the public holiday on account of Urs of Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Noorani (RA).

A notification issued by the Assistant Controller of Examinations (Conduct), "Due to the public holiday declared for Urs-Sheikh Nooruddin Noorani on October 20, 2025, all university examinations scheduled on that date stand postponed."

The new dates for the deferred examinations will be announced separately, notice reads.

# **Dry Weather** Till Oct 20: MeT

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The Meteorological Department on Friday predicted mainly dry weather conditions across Jammu and Kashmir over the next several days, with only a brief spell of very light snowfall likely over a few isolated higher reaches of north Kashmir during the coming week.

According to the fore-cast issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), generally dry weather is expected to prevail across most parts of the Union Territory on October 17, 19, and 20. The department, however, noted that the weather may turn partly to generally cloudy during the afternoon or evening hours on October 18 and 21.

"On October 21, there is a possibility of a brief spell of very light snow over isolated higher reaches of north Kashmir," the forecast said, adding that the overall conditions are expected to remain stable with no significant precipitation activity

### **Hizb Chief Decalred Proclaimed** Offender

**Press Trust Of India** 

Srinagar: A court in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district has declared Pakistan-based Hizbul Mujahideen chief Mohammad Yousuf Shah alias Syed Salahud-Din as a proclaimed offender in a 2012 case, police have said.

The court of the chief judicial magistrate, Sopore, has declared Shah a proclaimed offender under section 153-B of the Ranbir Penal Code (imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration) and section 506 of the Indian Penal Code (criminal intimidation).

"The war against terror continues: J&K Police secures proclamation orders against the proscribed self-styled Commander of Hizbul Mujahideen, Md Yousuf Shah alias Syed Salahuddin, who has been provided sanctuary | More on P6

### Multi-Crore Land Fraud Case

# BJP Srinagar VP, 7 Others Booked

CBK Files Chargesheet Over Illegal Occupation and Manipulation of Land Records in Srinagar

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: In a major crackdown on corruption and land fraud, the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Crime Branch Kashmir (CBK) has filed a chargesheet against eight individuals, including a senior BJP leader and four revenue officials, in connection with a multi-crore land scam in Srinagar.

chargesheet,



submitted before the Court of the Special Judge Anti-Corruption, pertains to the alleged illegal encroachment and manipulation of records

ACCORDING TO THE CBK, NADEEM QASBA and his associates

allegedly forged multiple mutation entries under the pretext of an

oral gift (Hiba Zabani), despite having no legal or familial claim

gation, conducted under FIR No. 23/2019, exposed extensive irregularities in land record management, including fraudulent mutation entries and illegal occupation of state land.

for over 52 kanals of land in

Ahel Danihama. The investi-

**Key Accused:** Nadeem Ahmad Mayer, alias Nadeem Qasba: BJP Srinagar district vice president, resident | More on P6

> across the plains. The MeT office further stated

that the weather is likely to remain partly to generally cloudy but dry | More on P6

# 'Hoping For More Powers': CM Omar Renews Call For J&K Statehood

stressing on the restoration

of statehood, because that is

a promise made to the people

of Jammu and Kashmir, and

it should be fulfilled." Omar

said. "Only the Centre and the

BIP can explain why J&K re-

mains without statehood, but

Mehbooba Mufti sought gov-

ernment support for her par-

ty MLA's private member bills

in return for backing the rul-

ing party in the Rajya Sabha

polls, | More on P6

On reports that PDP chief

we will not stop trying.'

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday reiterated his demand for the early restoration of Jammu Kashmir's statehood, saying it would empower the elected government to fulfil the promises made to the people during last year's assembly elections.

Speaking to reporters in south Kashmir's Kulgam district. Omar said he had expected the Centre to honour its commitment to restore statehood – a pledge made both in Parliament and before

the Supreme Court. "We are hoping for more powers and that is why we are

**KO Web Desk** 

triggering widespread controversy in the area.

on Friday hit out at the Jammu and Kashmir government over its reported decision to reduce the Residents of Backward Areas (RBA) quota, calling it a "calculated attempt to disempower Kashmiris." Taking to X, the Pulwama legislator accused Chief Minister Omar Abdullah of advancing a "disempowerment agenda" | More on P6

# **Para Slams CM Over RBA Quota Cut**

over the property. The duo reportedly sold the land to over 70 families,

DP MLA Waheed Para

# **JDF Quits PAC Just Months After Alliance Formation**

**KO Web Desk** 

Srinagar: Less than four months after three political parties in Jammu and Kashmir announced the formation of People's Alliance for Change (PAC), one of its constituents Justice and Development Front (JDF), a party comprising of former members of banned outfit Jamaat-e-Islami— on Friday walked out of the coalition due to differences in its "modus operandi." The alliance, formed just

a few months ago, included Sajjad Lone's Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference, the People's Democratic Front (PDF) and JDF.

"We wish to announce, with great mutual respect, that the Justice and Development Front (JDF) has decided to exit the People's Alliance for Change (PAC), which came into existence a few months ago in collaboration with the People's Conference (PC) and the People's Democratic Front (PDF)," the JDF said in a statement.

The outfit said it believes pursuing an independent course will better serve its vision, values, and principles.

"...within | More on P6

# **MHA Orders Judicial Probe Into Leh Violence**

**KO Web Desk** 

**KO Web Desk** 

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir

Lieutenant Governor Manoj

Sinha arrived in Russia to bring

back the holy relics of Lord

Buddha to India following their

exposition in Elista, the capital

New Delhi:The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Friday ordered a probe into the September 24 violence in Leh by retired Supreme Court judge B S Chauhan to find out the circumstances leading to the serious law and order situation, police action and the resultant death of four persons.

of Kalmykia Republic.

Sinha, who is leading the

Indian delegation, was received

by First Deputy Chairman of

the Government of Kalmykia,

Tserenov Erdni Nikolayevich,

Deputy Chairman Dzhambinov

According to an official statement, on September 24, a serious law and order situation had arisen in Leh town, resulting in police action leading to the death of four | More on P6

# **Restrictions Imposed In Leh**

he District Magistrate of Leh, Romil Singh Donk, has imposed restrictions under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) 2023 following reports of a possible disturbance to public peace and order in | More on P6

# **First Salt Freight From Gujarat Reaches Kashmir**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The first 21-wagon consignment of industrial salt from Gujarat reached south Kashmir's Anantnag on Friday, marking a new milestone in freight transportation for the Jammu division of Northern

Railway, officials said. The train, carrying 1,350 tonnes of industrial salt from Kharaghoda Goods Shed in Gujarat, arrived at the Anantnag goods shed earlier in the day.

Senior

Divisional Commercial Manager of Jammu Division, Uchit Singhal, said, "The Jammu Division of Northern Railway on Friday received the first 21-wagon consignment of industrial salt from Gujarat at the Anantnag goods shed."

The consignment, officials said, will cater to industries such as tanning, pulp, soap manufacturing, and brick kilns in the Valley.

They added that the new rail-based mode of transport will ensure a consistent supply of essential commodities, cut logistics costs and transit time, and | More on P6

# **SC Upholds Widow's Inheritance** Rights Under Muslim Law

**Observer News Service** 

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has upheld a widow's right to inherit property under Muslim law, ruling that an agreement to sell does not transfer ownership rights and that all assets left behind by a deceased person must be treated as ancestral property to be divided according to Islamic inheritance principles.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Karol and Prashant Kumar Mishra delivered the verdict while allowing a plea filed by Zoharbee, who had challenged



a Bombay High Court order in a family property dispute.

The case revolved around the estate of Chand Khan, who died childless. His widow, Zoharbee, claimed three-fourths of his property, asserting that it was matruka-a term in Muslim law for property left behind by a deceased person. Chand Khan's brother, Imam Khan, opposed the claim, arguing that the properties had already been sold to third parties through agreements executed during Kĥan's lifetime.

Rejecting the argument, the Supreme Court observed, "An agreement to sell does not confer any rights nor does it vest any interest into the party that agrees thereby to buy a particular property. This is a wellacknowledged | More on P6



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#### PUBLIC NOTICE

I Mohammad Amin Wani s/o Mohmmad Shafi Wani R/o Naqashpora, Srinagar, hereby inform that I am the Registered Consumer of PDD having Electric Connection bearing Consumer no.- 0201050003188 intend to transfer the electric connection in my name to Taria Ahmad Shah S/o Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Shah R/o Professors Colony Naseem bagh, Hazratba

If any person or party has any objection in this transfer. They may file their objection in writing in the office of the Sub Division Habba Kadal within (seven) days from the Date of Publication. No objection shall be ed after stipulated Time Period.

> From: Mohammad Amin Wani S/o: Mohmmad Shafi Wani R/o Naqashpora, Srinagai

#### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in Name in data to the License No.JK-0420130018832 issued in favour of MOHAM-MAD ASHRAF GANAIE Parentage MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH

Whereas an application has been recieved by one MOHAMMAD ASHRAF GANAIE Parentage MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH GANIE wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as MOHD ASHRAF GANIE Which needs to be changed as MOHAMMAD ASHRAF GANAIE Parentage MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH GANIE.

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

**Assistant Regional Transport officer** mcb **Budgam Kashmir** 

#### **NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC**

This is information for the general public that i have lost my passport while travelling from Mahwara to Budgam. if anybody found please return below mentioned address, Now i want its duplicate copy If any body having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days, After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

SYED MOHAMMAD RAZVI S/O SYED RAZA RAZVI R/O MAHWARA BUDGAM CELL: 7889883956

mcb

S. No.

Form No 3 [See Regulation -13(1)(a)

# **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL CHANDIGARH (DRT I)**

2nd Floor SCO 33-34-35

Sector-17 A, Chandigarh Case No. OA/1377/2024

Summons under Sub Section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with sub rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993

Exh. No: 29610 **JAMMU AND KASHMIR BANK LMITED** 

M/S BRANDUB FRUIT TRADERS

To.

(1) Magsood Ahmad Wani S/o: Abdul Karim Wani R/o: Maqboolabad Vohlutra Rafiabad Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir

<u>SUMMONS</u> Whereas , OA/1377/2024 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/ Registrar on 01.08.2025

Whereas this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons / notice on the said application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs 7024425.48/- (application along with copies of documents etc, annexed).

In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under:-

(i) to show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be

other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3 A of the original application;

with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties;

sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/ or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;

(v) you shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realised by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such

You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on 04.11.2025 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date: 04.08.205

**Signature of the Officer Authorised to** 

#### NORTHERN RAILWAY

FIRST CORRIGENDUM

For Tender No.: 756-TRD-JAT-2025-26 due on 03.11.2025 Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TR), Northern Railway, Jammu Tawi has invited the above tender. The Tender Notice was published in leading newspapers on 12.10.2025 to be opened on 03.11.2025. The following changes have been made in the above tender and may be read below:

1) Description of Schedule-2 has been changed. Previously written "@ 100% Extra on Erection Rates for work done under Power Block". Has been changed to new description "GST @ 18% for all the items under schedule-1 as per extent rules" is changed. No other change has been made.

Other terms and conditions will remain unchanged. No.: 756-TRD-JAT-2025-26 Dated: 16.10.2025

# **SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

I, Mohmmad Amin Wani R/o Nagashpora, Srinagar, hereby inform that I am the registered consumer of PHE having Consumer Id. - 020202016553 and intend to tra the PHE connection in my name to Tariq Ahmad Shah S/o Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Shah If any person or party has any objection to this transfer, they may file their objection i writing at the office of the Sub Division- Habba Kadal within 7 (seven) days from the

PUBLIC NOTICE

From: Mohmmad Amin Wan S/o:- Mohmmad Shafi Wani R/o: Nagashpora, Srinagar

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that I. Asifa Oudus, D/o Abdul Oudus Bhat, have lost my Marks Certificate issued by the University of Kashmir pertaining to B.ED, Session Aug-Sep 2012, bearing Roll No. 31974, Registration No 18158-NW-2006. Now I want a duplicate marks Certificate from the University of Kashmir.

If anybody has any objection in this regard, they may contact the office of the Controller Examination University Kashmir Hazratbal, Srinagar within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Name of the Work

tender

#### **NOTICE**

I have changed my name from (old name) Abdul Ahad Bhat to (New Name) Ab Ahad Bhat. In future I will be known as (New Name) Ab Ahad Bhat. If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in his/her Adhaar card as Anha Hamid while his/her correct name is Qurat Ul AIN. Now I have applid for the correction of the same if anybdy has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained. Abdul Hamid Jagal

F/o Ourat Ul Ain R/o Amshipora Distt Shopian

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

My name has been wrongly written in my Adhaar card as Wahid Ahmad Shergojree while my correct name is Wahid Razag . Now I have applid for the correction of the same if anybdy has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained. Wahid Razaq

S/o Ab Razag Sheergoiree R/o Allowpora Distt Shopian

Contracto completi head

29. RDDDC2526101010-(CONSTRUCTION OF

#### NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old name) Haja Bano to (New Name) Hajra. In future I will be known as (New Name) Hajra. If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

#### Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan.

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

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

IT is inform to general public that applicants father's legal hair certificate is under process in this office in this matter report was sought from Patwari concerned which reveals that applicants father namely Mohammad Ramzan Mian s/o Gh Mohammad Mian R/o Pattan died on 07/04/2016 and left fallowing legal hairs.

1 Zaina Begum wife of deceased Age 58y (widow).

2 Ishfaq Ahmad Mian son of deceased Age 3ly( unmarried). 3 Khushboo Ramzan son of deceased Age 19 y ( unmarried).

4 Shabir Ahmad Mian Age 23 y (unmarried) 5 Adil Ahmad Mian Age 27 y (unmarried).

fko

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

Naib Tehsildar Pattan

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Malik Zaffar Mehdi s/o Gh Hassan Malik R/o Sonpah Beerwah (Budgam) want to apply for D Class (Civil/ Sanitary) Contractor Card in Public Works (R&B) Circle Srinagar South. Anybody having any objection, can file it in the office of SE concerned within 07 days, failing which, it shall be presumed that, no body has any objection, in the matter.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

# OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER REW DIVISION PULWAMA

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS** 

e- NIT No. 106/2025-26 Dated 14-10-2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Of Union Territory of JandK, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with UT of Janc Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

			/Adv. Cost (In lacs)	docum ents (In Rupees)	(in %)	r	on	
1.	RDDDC2526100232-{CONST IMP OF 2 NO LANES 1. FROM HOUSE OF RAJAB NAIK TO HOUSE OF MANZOOR AHMAD LONE 2. FROM HOUSE OF AB RAHIM DAR TO ONWARDS AT AMIRABAD)	Dadsara	1.980	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
2.	RDDDC2526100248-(CONST OF LANE DRAIN FROM TANGBUG NAG TO HOUSE OF AB QUDOUS RATHER AT BUCHOO)	Dadsara	1.682	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
3.	RDDDC2526100257-(CONST OF 2 NO CULVERTS WITH ROAD ON GANDAR KULL SUNDER KULL OPP PHE DUGWELL AND OPP LAND OF SHAKEEL AHMAD GANIE AT LARIYAR)	Dadsara	1.068	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
4.	RDDDC2526100281-(CONST OF CULVERT ON NOORPORA CANAL NEAR LAND OF MOHD YOUNIS KHAN AT SHAHABAD BALA)	Dadsara	1.000	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
5.	RDDDC2526100458-{TILING OF LANE FROM MAIN ROAD TO ASTAN SHARIEF BATAMALOO SAHIB RH VIA HOUSE OF	Aripal	1.000	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
6.	FAROOQ MIR AT GUTROO ARIPAL)  RDDDC2526100459-(TILING OF LANE FROM UPS GUTROO TO HOUSE OF HYDER SHAH VIA HOUSE OF RASHID SHAH AT GUTROO ARIPAL)	Aripal	1.000	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
7.	RDDDC2526100460-{CONSTT OF DRAIN NEAR MASJID SHARIEF SHEIKH MOHALLA TO HOUSE OF MOHD YOUSUF AHANGAR AT GUTROO ARIPAL)	Aripal	1.240	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
8.	RDDDC2526100461-(CONSTT OF LANE FROM HOUSE OF JAMAL DIN TO IRRIGATION CANAL NEAR HOUSE OF MOHD SHAFI GOJER AT RANGMANDO GUTROO ARIPAL)		1.400	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
9.	RDDDC2526100464-(CONSTT OF CONCRETE TOE WALL FROM MAIN ROAD HOUSE OF REHMAN KHAN TO ONWARDS ON MASJID DARAH AT GUTROO ARIPAL)	Aripal	1.190	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
10.	RDDDC2526100474-(DEV. OF SALFIA EIDGAH AT KHANGUND ARIPAL)	Aripal	1.495	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
11.	RDDDC2526100477-(CONST OF LANE INCLUDING FILLING IN SUBMERGED PORTION FROM HO MOHD SHAFI BHAT TO HO GH RASOOL BHAT AT KHANGUND ARIPAL)	Aripal	1.390	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
12.	RDDDC2526100480-(CONST OF LANE NEAR SHEIKH MOHALLA GREVEYARD AT KHANGUND ARIPAL)	Aripal	0.698	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
13.		Aripal	1.490	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
14.	RDDDC2526100509-(CONSTT OF FLUSH POINT LATERINE NEAR MASJID SHARIEF MUJDAJAN NARGISTAN BLOCK ARIPAL)	Aripal	1.200	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
	RDDDC2526100512-(CONSTT OF CULVERT ON BUNKUNARD KHULL NEAR LO GH AHMAD LONE AT NARGISTAN ARIPAL.)	Aripal	1.485	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
	RDDDC2526100681-{CONST OF WALLING MAIN GATE AND TILE PATH AT GOVT MIDDLE SCHOOL NAHIR KHASIPORA TRAL)	Tral	1.80	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/	30 Days	PRI
17.	RDDDC2526100683-{CHAINLINK FENCING AROUND MUSAFAR GRAVEYARD PH II AT NAHIR KHASIPORA TRAL)	Tral	1.00	200/=	2%	Adj  DEE/Other/	30 Days	PRI
	RDDDC2526100694-(CONST OF CULVERT NEAR HO BASHIR LONE AT KHASIPORA TRAL) RDDDC2526100759 (C/O 01 NO. BATHROOM	Tral	2.440	200/=	2%	Adj DEE/Other/	Days 30	PRI
	NEAR JAMIA MASJID SHAREEF AT LARKIPORA AWANTIPORA RDDDC2526100784-{CONST OF LANE R.WALL	Awantipora	1.260	200/=	2%	Adj DEE/Other/	Days 30	PRI
21.	FROM HO MOHD ASLAM MIR TO SHOP OF FAYAZ AHMAD MIR AT BARSOO) AWANTIPORA RDDDC2526100924-(DEVELOPMENT OF	Awantipora	1.099	200/=	2%	Adj DEE/Other/	Days 30	PRI
	GRAVEYARD NEAR PEER MASJID AT DRABGAM A (SHADIM))  RDDDC2526100948-(CONSTRUCTION OF	Shadimarg	2.472	200/=	2%	Adj DEE/Other/	Days 30	PRI
23	LANE FROM HOUSE OF MANZOOR AHMAD BHAT TO HOUSE OF AB RASHID BHAT AT GABERPORA (SHADIM)) RDDDC2526100951-(CONSTRUCTION OF 02	Shadimarg	1.08	200/=	2%	Adj DEE/Other/	Days 30	PRI
20.	NO LANES FROM (1) FROM HOUSE OF MOHD AYOUB WANI TO MASJID SHAREEF AND (2) FROM HOUSE OF GH HASSAN BHAT TO FRAYZ AHMAD DAR AT KALAMPORA (SHADIM))	Shadimarg	1.731	200/=	2,0	Adj	Days	
	RDDDC2526100952-(CONSTRUCTION OF 02 NO LANES FROM (1) FROM HOUSE OF AB GANI MIR TO MOHD YOUSUF MIR AND (2) FROM HOUSE OF MUSHTAQ AHMAD MALIK TO DARSGAH (SHADIM))	Shadimarg	1.731	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
	RDDDC2526100961-(RENOVATION OF PANCHAYAT GHAR WITH PATH TILES AT KAMRAZIPORA (SHADIM)	Shadimarg	1.647	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
	RDDDC2526100962-{IMPROVEMENT OF NOWKUL FROM THOKERKANI TO HOUSE OF AB RASHID GANIE AND OTHERS FROM MASJID SHARIF CHOWANTIWARI AT KAMRAZIPORA (SHADIM))	Shadimarg	3.118	200/=	2%	DEE	30 Days	PRI
27.	RDDDC2526100968-(CONSTRUCTION OF BOREWELL NEAR JAMIYA MASJID JADEED AT	Shadimarg	1.953	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI

25.	LANE WITH STEPS FROM TRANSFORMER TO AHLIHADEES MASJID (SHADIM))	Shadimarg	1.932	200/=	270	Adj	Days	- 100
30.	RDDDC2526101057-(CONST OF R WALL WITH FENCING OF NEW JINAZGAH PH II AT LARIBAL TRAL)	Tral	1.42	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
	RDDDC2526101081-(CONST OF P BUND AROUND MASJID SHARIEF TABRI MAIDAN ZARIHARD MACHAMA A TRAL)	Tral	1.00	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
32.	RDDDC2526101089-(CONST OF REMAINING PART OF LANE FROM ADIL AH SHAH TO RAFIQ AH SHAH AND OTHERS BAGENDAR MACHAMA A TRAL)	Tral	0.51	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
33.	RDDDC2526101168-(CO LANE DRAIN NEAR MASJID SHARIEF AT HERPORA NAZNEENPORA TRAL)	Tral	0.80	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
34.	RDDDC2526101403- Chainlink fencing of Graveyard back side Uzrampathri	Pulwama	0.990	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
35.	RDDDC2526100564-(CO DUGWELL NEAR LO NISAR AH RATHER AT WATKHA CHEWAKALAN)	Newa	0.386	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
36.	RDDDC2526100741-(CONSTRUCTION OF R WALL WITH FENCING OF GRAVEYARD NEAR MORNING STAR SCHOOL AT KARIMABAD)	Newa	1.791	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	PRI
37.	FINDC2526105452-(CONST OF CULVERT LEADING TO HO AB RASHID SHAH AND OTHES AT BAGENDAR DANGIBAL TRAL)	Tral	1.150	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC 3 <sup>rd</sup> call
38.	FINDC2526100948-(CONSTRUCTION OF DRAIN NEAR HO MUZAFFAR AHMAD DAR TO MOHD AMIN DAR AT DRABGAM BALA (SHADIM))	Shadimarg	0.481	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
39.	FINDC2526101506-(CONSTRUCTION OF BOREWELL NEAR THE HOUSE OF MANZOOR AHMAD SHEIKH MOHD RAMZAN AND OTHERS CHANAPORA BELLOW (SHADIM))	Shadimarg	1.566	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
40.		Shadimarg	1.566	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
41.	FINDC2526101508-(CONSTRUCTION OF BOREWELL NHO MOHD AKRAM BAKSHI AND OTHERS AT BELLOW (SHADIM))	Shadimarg	1.566	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
42.	FINDC2526101141-{C O P BUND FROM L O RIYAZ AH BHATTO GH QADIR DAR AND OTHERS AT PARIGAM B BLOCK NEWA)	Newa	0.689	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
43.	FINDC2526101046-C/O Borewell NLO Mushtaq Ahmad Ganie at Karewa Payer	Pulwama	2.475	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
44.	FINDC2526101077-C/O Borewell Kral cheeq Chandgam NLO Mohd Ashraf Malik Chandgam	Pulwama	2.376	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
45.	FINDC2526101163- Construction of Bore well near the L/o Sajad Ahmad Dar & others at Karewa Koil	Pulwama	1.98	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
46.	FINDC2526101333- Const of Borewell NLO Syed Mohd Hussain shah Mushtaq ahmad Arjumand hussain and others at sheikhar	Pulwama	1.762	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	DDC
47.	FINDC2526100016-(ADDITION OF R. WALL NEAR HOUSE OF BILAL AH. KUTCHAY S/O MOHD. JABBAR KUTCHAY AT BARSOO PHASE II AWANTIPORA.	Awantipora	0.99	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	BDC
48.	FINDC2526100139- Constt. of bore well at kasi Nard Karewa Koil near the L/O Khurshid Ahmad Ganie S/O Ab. Aziz Ganie & others	Pulwama	2.129	200/=	2%	DEE/Other/ Adj	30 Days	BDC

Position of A/A: - Accorded

Position of T/S: - Accorded

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	14-10-2025			
2.	Online Bid submission Start Date	14-10-2025 from 06:55 PM			
3.	Online Bid Submission End Date	24-10-2025 up to 06:55 PM			
4.	Date and time of opening of Online Bids	25-10-2025 at 09:00 AM or any convenient day In the office of the Executive Engineer REW Pulwama			
5	Note: - Fee Receipt and EMD shall be deposited after the financial bids opened. Incase  The original Tender Document Fee Receipt and EMD is not Deposited within 5 days after the Financial Bids Opened for all				

SC02: - Contractors Strictly not eligible

The Bidders who had participated in 2023-24/2024-25 and has not completed the works within stipulated time frame/who had left the work midway/ who had not started/taken up the works are strictly not eligible. Any such participation may lead to cancellation of their bid and No claim shall be entertained in this regard.

Xen/REW/Pul/4400-4506 Dated: -17/10/2025

**Executive Engineer REW Division Pulwama** 

(ii) to disclose particulars of properties or assets you are restrained from dealing you shall not transfer by way of

issue summons

Note: Strike out whichever is not applicable

DASBAYAR A (SHADIM))

BOREWELL NEAR JAMIYA MASJID JADEED AT | Shadimarg | 1.953 RDDDC2526101009-(CONSTRUCTION OF

30

# **Visitors Slam Authorities Over Poor** Sanitation at Badamwari

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Visitors to Srinagar's historic Badamwari Park have voiced strong dissatisfaction over its deteriorating condition, citing poor sanitation, unkempt lawns, and lack of maintenance despite being charged an entry fee of 30.

Nestled at the foothills of Hari Parbat, Badamwari Park — famed for its almond blossoms and panoramic views — has long been one of the Valley's prime recreational spaces and a favourite among both locals and tourists. However, visitors say its current state falls short of expectations, with basic amenities either absent or in deplorable condition.

'The bathrooms are filthy and unusable. It's outrageous to charge 30 for such poor facilities," said Bilal Ahmad, a visitor from Srinagar. "There's no visible cleaning staff, and dustbins are overflowing

Tourists and locals alike questioned the justification for the entry fee, arguing that it should ensure at least minimal upkeep. "For a park of such historic and cultural importance, one would expect better management. Some areas look completely abandoned," remarked another visitor.

Complaints poured in over the lack of drinking water facilities, damaged benches, and neglected flowerbeds. "The lawns are drying up, the walkways are broken, and the overall atmosphere feels neglected," said a family visiting the park on Friday afternoon.

Urging swift intervention, visitors called on the concerned authorities to inspect the park and take immediate corrective measures. They demanded improved sanitation, functional washrooms, regular cleaning drives, and accountability from staff responsible for maintenance. (with KNT inputs)

# **Solina Residents Allege Use of Inferior Road Material**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Residents of Solina area in Srinagar on Friday staged a protest, accusing the executing agency of using substandard material in the ongoing macadamization of local roads. The protesters alleged corruption and negligence by officials supervising the project.

Locals said the roads in Solina were being macadamized after nearly 15 years, but their long wait for better infrastructure turned into frustration when the freshly laid surface began to peel off within a day. Scores of residents assembled in the locality, raising slogans against the concerned department and demanding accountability.

"The blacktopping has started coming off already. This is sheer corruption and malpractice," said a resident,

Rouf Bhat. "We waited over a decade for proper repairs, but the work is so poor that even light vehicle movement damages the surface."

The residents leged that inferior material was used in violation of prescribed standards and called for strict action against the Junior Engineer and Supervisor overseeing the work. They appealed to the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) Commissioner to personally inspect the site and urged local police to probe what they termed a "deliberate misuse of public funds.

The protesters expressed concern that if the poor-quality work continues unchecked, the entire road stretch may before the onset of winter. (with KNT inputs)



# **AI & Robotics Take Center Stage at KU's Three-Day Innovation Bootcamp**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: A three-day bootcamp on "AI and Robotics: Designing Futures, Building Pathways" concluded on Thursday at the University of Kashmir's Institute of Technology (IoT), Zakura Campus.

Organised by the Centre for Design Your Own Degree (CDYD), the bootcamp aimed to equip students with essential skills in artificial intelligence and robotics through experiential learning and hands-on sessions. The programme featured practical workshops on AI prototyping, mini projects, and team-based problemsolving to foster innovation, collaboration, and critical thinking among participants.

Speaking at the valedictory session, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir, Prof. Nilofer Khan said such initiatives are vital in preparing students for the fast-evolving technological landscape.

"We are committed to nurturing young minds with the skills,

creativity, and confidence required to lead in the era of artificial intelligence and automation," she said, lauding the organisers for creating a collaborative learning platform.

Registrar KU, Prof. Naseer Igbal, underlined that such programmes promote multidisciduce students to the fundamentals of AI and robotics through interactive and problem-based learning approaches.

The sessions included expertled demonstrations and interactive modules aimed at bridging the gap between theoretical understanding and real-world applications.

We are committed to nurturing young minds with the skills, creativity, and confidence required to lead in the era of artificial intelligence and automation,"

plinary engagement and innovation among students, which are crucial for the region's technological growth.

Director IoT Zakura Campus, Prof. Tariq Banday, said the bootcamp reflects the University's growing emphasis on emerging technologies and its mission to build an innovationdriven ecosystem.

Earlier, in her welcome address, Prof. Syeda Afshana, Coordinator CDYD, highlighted that the camp was designed to intro-

Students from the University of Kashmir, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Amar Singh College, and Islamia College of Science and Commerce participated in the camp. During the valedictory function, they shared their experiences and expressed satisfaction over the practical exposure gained through the bootcamp.

The event proceedings were conducted by Dr. Baasit Abubakar, faculty at CDYD, IoT Zakura Campus.

# Defunct Streetlights Plunge Jawahar Nagar Roads into Darkness

Srinagar: Several key localities in Srinagar, including Jawahar Nagar, Ikhraj Pora, and Raj Bagh, are reeling under darkness as most lights along the main roads have remained defunct for the past two The blackout has turned these bustling neighborhoods into ghostly stretches during night

hours, causing immense inconvenience to locals and commuters.

Locals said that despite repeated appeals, the authorities, particularly the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), have failed to take action. "The entire stretch remains pitch dark after evening prayers. It becomes difficult to walk or drive, especially for women and elderly people. The presence of stray dogs has made it even more dangerous," said Shabir Ahmad, a local from Jawahar Nagar.

The darkened streets have also sparked security and safety concerns among locals. "Even minor accidents are happening because vehicles can't spot pedestrians on time. Streetlights were installed with much fanfare, but no one seems to care about maintenance," said another resident from Ikhraj Pora.(KNT)



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**

**RAILWAYS** 

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243

BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

#### **HIGHWAY STATUS**



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



**PRAYERS FAJR** 5:16 **ZUHR** 12:16 **ASR** 4:17 6:00 Magrib **ISHA** 7:18

# This Day In History

- 707- John VII ends his reign as Catholic Pope
- 1009- The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem is destroyed by the Fatimid caliph Al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah, who hacks the Church's foundations down to bedrock
- 1016- Danes defeat Saxons at Battle of Assandun
- 1081- Battle of Dyrrhachium: Southern Italian Normans under Robert Guiscard defeat Byzantine army under Alexios I Komnenos (modern Durrës, Albania)
- 1267- Battle at Marienholz: Henry III, Otto II van Gelre beat Keuls archbishop Engelbert III
- 1561- Fourth Battle of Kawanakajima -- Takeda Shingen defeats Uesugi Kenshin in the climax of their ongoing conflict
- 1572- Spanish troops attack Maastricht
- 1622- French King Louis XIII & Huguenots sign Treaty of Montpellier
- 1648 1st labor organization forms in North American colonies (Boston Shoemakers)
- 1667 English fleet plunders Suriname plantations 1672- Poland & Turkey sign Peace of Buczacz
- 1685- French King Louis XIV revokes Edict of
- Nantes cancelling rights of French Protestants 1748- Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle signed, ending
- War of Austrian Succession 1767- Boundary between Maryland and
- Pennsylvania, the Mason-Dixon line is agreed
- 1775- African-American poet Phillis Wheatley freed from slavery

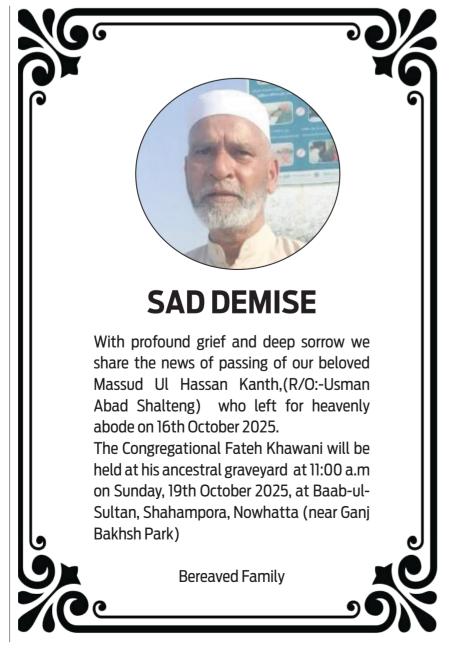
### Unregulated **Minibus Operations** Add to City's Traffic Woes: SSP

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: The Srinagar Traffic Police have sounded an alarm over the growing menace of unregulated minibus operations within the city, warning that continued violations by operators could worsen traffic congestion and compromise commuter safety.

Superintendent Senior of Police (SSP) Traffic City, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, said several minibus operators have been flouting norms by introducing vehicles from other districts into Srinagar's city routes without proper authorization. "These operators are running their fleets without any regulation and are often seen switching routes at will, creating serious operational confusion on city roads," he said.

Officials said that despite repeated directions, many operators have failed to submit detailed information about their fleets-data that authorities require to assess the number of minibuses operating on each route. Reports suggest that several drivers keep multiple route boards and frequently alter routes, making it difficult for both enforcement agencies and transport managers to monitor compliance.



# OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, TLMD-VI (6), BEMINA, SRINAGAR

Tele No: 0194-2492429 Fax: 0194-2492429.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER e-NIT No: TLMD-VI/10 of 2025-26 Dated: 17/10/2025

Executive Engineer, TLMD-VI, Bemina Srinagar on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir UT invites e-tenders (In Two Cover System) valid for 180 days from reputed, experienced and financially sound Contractors and Executors fulfilling the eligibility criteria specified in the standard bidding documents for the work detailed below. E-Tenders need to be accompanied by earnest money deposit (EMD) in the shape of DD/CDR from any Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank pledged to Executive Engineer, TLMD-VI, Bemina Srinagar, J&K. The complete bidding process is online. However, hardcopies are to be submitted only by the Lowest Bidder in the office of Executive Engineer, Trans. Line Maintenance Division-VI Bemina Srinagar, on the day which will be communicated to lowest bidder. Financial bids must be submitted online only as per prescribed format.

The Standard Bidding Document is available at website http://jktenders.gov.in.

S. No	Scope of work	Qty	Adv. Cost (in Lacs)	Cost of T/D	Cost of EMD	Time of
01	C   (14 + 1   0   + 1   1   0   1   1   1   1   1   1   1	1	(2.571-11	in Rs. 1000/-		Completion
01	Supply of Material & construction of 220kV Tower		41.5/lakns	1000/-	84000/-	120ďays
	"Tower No.74 D+9" including civil works for under	1				
	costruction 220 KV D/C Wagoora _Budgam- Zainakote					
	Transmission line at village Reshipora Budgam for					
	maintaining vertical clearance between 220 KV WBZTL					
	and 132 KV Ircon Budgam Transmission line.					

The information regarding schedule of downloading of the tender document and submission dates thereof is as per the table below:

CRI	TICAL DATES:-	
1.	Issue of NIT.	17-10-2025
2.	Downloading of bidding documents (Start).	18-10-2025 (1400hrs)
3.	Downloading of bidding documents (End).	11-11-2025 (1230hrs)
I. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Downloading of bidding documents (End). e-Bid submission (Start) date & time (Submission).	20-10-2025 (1400hrs)
5.	e-Bid submission (end) date & time (Submission supporting documents in PDF for-	11-11-2025 (1230hrs)
	mats).	, ,
6.	Online Techno-Commercial e-Rid opening date and time	12-11-2025 (1230hrs)
6. 7.	Venue of opening of Techno-Commercial-Bids.	Office of the Executive Engineer, TLMD-V
	i e	Bemina, Srinagar
8.	Cost of e-Bid document (to be submitted in the form of DD/CDR Pledged to Executive	1000/-
	Engineer, TLMD-VI, JKPTCL Bemina Srinagar.	
	3	

- Only the bidders possessing the qualifying criteria as mentioned in the SBD should participate in the bidding process.
- Clarifications can also be sought from the office of the under signed on E-mail
- Before participating in the bids, the bidder shall acquaint himself with the site of work and local conditions. The department reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

**Executive Engineer** TLMD-VI, Bemina Sgr.

No: TLMD-VI/ DIPK-NB-2225/25 Dated:-17-10-2025

# KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of

Kashmir Observer LLP

Printed at: K.T Press Pvt. Ltd 120-Electronic Complex,

Industrial Estate, Rangreth-Budgam Published from: 5-Boulevard Srinagar J&K Editor-in-Chief: Sajjad Haider Managing Editor: Bilal Handoo News Editor: Farzana Nisar Online Editor: Syed Hamid

Head Layout & Design: Muntazir Yaseen, Digital Media Head: Amir Ali Shah Distribution & Advertising: Firdous Ahmad RNI Registration No: 69503/98

Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16

Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja

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Editorial: (0194) 2502327 Email: editor@kashmirobserver.net

# **Smart Investing**

# A New Frontier for Kashmiri Investors

Irshad Mushtag

nvesting is more than just a financial strategy — it's a pathway to stability, growth, and long-term prosperity. For Kashmiri investors seeking to navigate the complex world of finance, understanding different investment options is the crucial first step. Here's a comprehensive guide to diverse instruments that can help build a secure and rewarding financial future.

#### 1. Shares: A Piece of Ownership

Owning shares means holding a stake in a company. For Kashmiri investors, this offers a chance to participate in a company's success. By buying shares, you can earn dividends and benefit from the company's growth over time — effectively letting your money work alongside the business you believe in.

#### 2. ETFs (Exchange-Traded Funds): Diversification Made Easy

ETFs offer a basket of assets — stocks, bonds, or commodities — bundled into one investment. They provide diversification in a simple, cost-effective way, helping investors spread risk across sectors and markets without managing each asset individually.

#### 3. Global ETFs: Investing Beyond Borders

Global ETFs allow investors to tap into international markets. In today's interconnected economy, this diversification offers exposure to global growth opportunities while reducing dependence on domestic market conditions.

## 4. Gold & Silver ETFs: Investing in Precious Metals

Gold and silver have always been trusted stores of value. Through ETFs, investors can gain exposure to these metals without the burden of physical storage. This provides a safe hedge against inflation and economic uncertainty.

## 5. REITs (Real Estate Investment Trusts): Real Estate Without the Hassle

For those interested in property but reluctant to buy directly, REITs provide an efficient alternative. They enable investors to benefit from the real estate market's returns without worrying about maintenance or management issues

## 6. Futures & Options: Planning for Tomorrow

Futures and ontions give investors the ability to speculate on or hedge against future price movements. While potentially rewarding, they carry higher risk and require a clear under standing of market behaviour and timing.

## 7. Option Expiry Selling: Turning Expiry Days into Opportunity

Selling options on expiry days can help lock in profits through well-calculated risk strategies. For seasoned Kashmiri investors, this approach can be an effective way to maximise returns — provided it's done with discipline and market

## 8. Commodities: Trading Tangible Assets

Trading commodities such as gold, silver, crude oil, and copper on exchanges like MCX and NCDEX allows investors to diversify into markets driven by real-world demand. Commodities can balance a portfolio with tangible value.

# 9. Company Fixed Deposits: Safe and Steady

Company fixed deposits offer guaranteed returns over a fixed period. For risk-averse investors, they provide security, predictable income, and capital preservation — essentials for a stable financial plan.

## 10. SIP (Systematic Investment Plan): Consistency is Kev

SIPs make regular investing effortless. By contributing a fixed amount at regular intervals, investors benefit from compounding and rupee cost averaging, which helps manage market volatility over time.

## 11. Mutual Funds: Power in Numbers

Mutual funds pool money from multiple investors and invest across a range of securities. Managed by professionals, they offer diversification and convenience, ideal for those who prefer expert management of their portfolios.

## 12. SWP (Systematic Withdrawal Plan): Income with Flexibility

An SWP allows investors to withdraw a fixed amount regularly from mutual fund investments. It's an excellent tool for generating steady income while keeping capital invested for continued growth.

Investing is a journey — one that demands awareness, patience, and strategic thinking. For Kashmiri investors, the variety of options available today underscores the importance of diversification, risk assessment, and long-term vision. By combining discipline with informed decision-making, you not only secure your financial future but also contribute to the broader economic growth of the region.

Whether your goal is wealth creation, regular income, or capital protection, the right investment strategy — grounded in knowledge and prudence — can help you achieve it. In the dynamic world of finance, understanding your options is the first step toward true financial empowerment.

The author is a financial analyst and editorial consultant at Kashmir Observer

# **Elderly Oversight** Vanishing in Kashmir

As Kashmir's elders fade into silence, the Valley risks losing its moral compass, cultural memory, and guiding wisdom

Dr. Ashraf Zainabi bhatashraf@gmail.com

## Once, elder

intervention carried social weight - wrongdoers were corrected, disputes defused, and harmony maintained. Now, even that informal authority is waning. The once unthinkable sight of elders in old-age homes is becoming common. While such institutions may provide comfort, they cannot replace the warmth of one's own home.



The loss of elder oversight is not just sentimental; it strikes at the heart of Kashmir's social structure. A society that stops listening to its elders loses its continuity, its moral grounding, and its sense of belonging.

nce, every mohalla and village in Kashmir had its respected elders the babs, kaks, tooths and sobs - who commanded influence, honesty, and authority. Figures like Hassan Bab, Rahim Sob, or Assadullah Kak were not only known for their wisdom but also served as community judges, counsellors, and moral guides.

Today, that generation is fast disappearing. The grandfathers born before 1950 — men who witnessed wars, transitions, and the evolution of Kashmiri society — are leaving behind not just mourning families, but a Valley poorer in guidance, tradition, and moral authority.

In their later years, many chose silence — perhaps out of fatigue or the realisation that their advice no longer held weight. Their passing has created a void that younger elders, shaped by different times and values, have struggled to fill.

The new generation, now in their fifties and sixties, grew up amid political turmoil, social fragmentation, and material struggles. Few possess the patience or influence to act as moral anchors, as their predecessors once did. The result is a visible social drift — families more divided, disputes unresolved, and

communities less cohesive.

This decline is more than nostalgia. Elderly oversight once ensured fairness, preserved traditions, and reminded the young of their roots. It provided a steady hand that kept households and neighbourhoods intact. Without it, the social fabric weakens. To grasp the loss, one must

remember what elders meant to Kashmiri life. They were bridges to the past — keepers of oral history, stories of struggle and resilience, of floods before embankments, winters before heating, and silence before smartphones. Their lived memory was a moral compass for those who came after. Elders also sustained cul-

tural life. Through idioms, proverbs, and folk tales, they kept the Kashmiri language and traditions alive. They mediated disputes with fairness and compassion, reminding people that dignity lay in patience and dialogue.

But modern life has changed the equation. Education, jobs, and migration have scattered families. Children live far away, grandparents grow old in isolation, and the everyday intimacy that once defined Kashmiri homes has faded.

Decades of conflict and unrest have also silenced many. Having lost homes, loved ones, and hope,

many elders chose quiet over confrontation. Speaking up was once an act of courage; now, it often feels futile.

Meanwhile, the digital age has shifted values. Speed, convenience, and self-interest dominate. Respect and patience, once central to Kashmiri culture, are now seen as old-fashioned. Maintaining large households has become expensive, and caring for elders increasingly feels like a burden for families under economic strain.

Once, elder intervention carried social weight — wrongdoers were corrected, disputes defused, and harmony maintained. Now, even that informal authority is waning. The once unthinkable sight of elders in old-age homes is becoming common. While such institutions may provide comfort, they cannot replace the warmth of one's own home.

Women elders suffer more. Widows often live quietly on the margins, their decades of service and sacrifice recognised only after their passing.

The pain of neglect is not only physical but emotional. Many elders feel invisible — not because they are weak, but because they no longer seem relevant. When no one listens, when stories die untold, loneliness deepens.

The loss of elder oversight is not just sentimental; it strikes at the heart of Kashmir's social structure. A society that stops listening to its elders loses its continuity, its moral grounding, and its sense of belonging.

Still, not all is lost. In the few remaining spaces where elders are heard, there lies hope. Through small gestures — listening, remembering, honouring — Kashmir can still reclaim what is

slipping away. The Valley may endure political storms and economic hardship. But without its elders — its living conscience and memory it risks losing something far more precious: its soul.

Dr. Ashraf Zainabi is a teacher and researcher based in Gowhar Pora, Chadoora, J&K.

(Vision Versified - I)

ithout commenting on the travel of her Vakhs from oral tradition to popularly acceptable documented compilations available today, Lal Ded (born in1320 or 1335 AD), is the saint - poetess widely regarded as the greatest icon of Kashmiriyet; saviour of the Kashmiri language - who warded off the potential threat of Sanskrit; and the true mystic transcending compartmentalization; remembered by Baba Nasr as "manind humsheera Mansoor Halaj". Although semantics and legends have got mixed up and scores of vakhs attributed to Lal Ded have to be winnowed, credit goes to Sir George Greirson – who got 109 Vakhs gathered from Mukandram Shastri in 1914AD. Thanks to Richard Temple for his work on mystic lines and to dozens of local scholars for their contribution towards our great legacy and literature.

Unflinching faith in ideology and poetic mastery complement one another in the poetry of the revered mother in such a visionary manner that the charter of interfaith harmony and cosmic vision seems relevant even today.

Shiv chhoye thalle thalle roozaan Mou zaan Heund tai Musalmaan Trook hai chhookh te paan parzenav Soyye chhay Sahibas zaeni zaan.

Shiva- the divine energy, resides ev-Discriminate not between a Hindu and a Muslim

Realize the true self, if you are wise That alone is true acquaintance with the Lord.

Rau matte thalle thalle taepetann

Taepetann votim daish Varrun matte looke garri ae-tsy-tam Shiv chhoye kruoth te ts-ain wopdaish

# Vision Versified

S.Sarwar.Malik

Doesn't the sun shine alike, on all Does it only bless the highlands? Doesn't the rain- god visit all roofs; high and low? Grasp the truth, Shiva isn't easy to realize. (Vision Versified-II) Popularly known as the Staff Bearer of Kashmir(-i mysticism /

Ryoshoet), Nünd Ryosh (1377-1438 AD ) - the patron saint, is not only held in high esteem for being the spiritual heir of Lull Ded - whom he reverently called Mother of our Avatars, but also as the real saviour of Kashmiri language. His poetry -Wa-ts-oen and Shroik, survives in hearts as well as in popular idiom of common people. Through his ethical poetry Nünd Ryosh (Sheikh Noor-u- Deen Wali ) preached nonviolence and religious tolerance; rendering Islamic tenants and teachings in understandable Kashmiri (-of his contemporary time), instead of Persian or Sanskrit language and spoke openly against Mulla-ism / Pandit-ism and hypocrite Rishis. For finding a place in the celestial constellation around the Sun his exhortation to become King-Swans; not ignorant crows, by seeking company of wise, reminds me of Shiekh Saidi Sheerazi's ba gul nishistumm and Maulana Rumi's sohbatte Saleh and the symbolic dance form of latter's order.

Winnowing the attributed ones from the original verses is a difficult task and writing a credible biography of Shiekh Noor-u-Deen Wali is not easy because writers/ researchers often find themselves in a piquant situation where consid-



erations of sentimental attachment to myths and legends has to be respected; as going beyond accepted writings of Baba Nassr, Baba Naseeb, Baba Mishkati and numerous others- including G.M.D Sofi, PNK Bamzai, Ab.Ahad Aazad, leads to a tortuous path.

Without going into the controversial Arabic Khati- Irshaad - letter of authority to enroll in Kubravi mystic order, and the Elegy of his own female disciple Shamme Bibi, let us dwell on the report telling us that Mir Mohammad Hamdani (15 th century) and Shiekh Hamza Makhdoom(16 th century) paid homage to Nünd Ryosh; and so did sultan Zainul-abbideen Budshah and sultan Ali Shah Chak. In 19 th century governor Atta Mohammad Khan struck coins in the name of this local saint and in 20 th century Bhakhshi Gulam Mohammad and Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah did much practically- beyond voicing tribute. His shrine at Ts-rari Sharief is a much thronged place

and was rebuilt recently. Nünd Ryosh, known for his piety, humility and humble life style, believed that by closing the six gates of senses, union with "Meem-less Ahmad" can be achieved. He also states that First Rishi was Ahmed Rishi – identified by all writers as prophet Mohammad (saw).

Internal evidence provided by some of his verses- for example, "Kasheeri Pheuroes ande ande" reveal that people did not pay much heed to his teachings immediately, especially in the areas influenced by Persian missionaries.

Though Sheikh Noorudin addressed his verses to both- "Asl Hendyeh Mosalmana," communities and preached "LOVE—that makes inner nightingale sing hymns" he employed Quran, Sunnah and Hadees in explaining the concept of unity of Godhead -"Towheed/Koneir" and what is expected of a Muslim—"Soi Dapzehay Mosalman."

Know that imbibing the essence of first Surah ("Alhamdu") – called epitomized/ brief version of holy Quran; understanding truly the concept expounded in Surah Ikhlas 112 ("Qulhoo Allaho"), — together comprising of eleven Aayats only; reciting with utmost devotion Atehayyaato i.e. Tashahod [followed by integral part- Darood—Allahum Sallialla Mohammad (s.a.w.) wa alla Aale Mohammad (s.a.w.)] prescribed for daily 'Nimaz'; is equivalent to complete Quran ("Palkhai Tae Chhoie Qoranus Yootei), says Nünd Ryosh in one Quatrain.

Readers may recall Maulana Abul Kalam's commentary of invocative Surah no. 1 in The Tarjumaanal-Quran- "If a person were to read nothing but this from Quran and grasp its meaning, he could understand all the essentials of the faith.'

"Aeksi mael te majje hindein Timmun deaye thhovaeth keiya Mosalmanun kyo Henddein ker banddan toshe khoddaye" Born of the self-same parents Muslims and Hindus -Why are they estranged? When will they earn the sight -of God's Pleasing countenance?

> The author can be reached at sarwar.ms@gmail.com

Is Domestic Harassment Happening Only to Women?

# Silenced Husbands, Shattered Homes

Dr. Fiaz Maqbool Fazili

In the quiet, hallowed halls of my clinic — amid the sterile scent of antiseptic and the distant hum of the city — a different kind of pain is often confessed. It is not a pain that shows up on an X-ray or can be measured by a blood test. It is a silent, festering ache of the spirit, carried by men who, in the public eye, appear to be the very pillars of strength and composure.

They are husbands, fathers, professionals — the supposed architects of their own domains. Yet, in private, they share with me stories of profound and unspoken misery: a life of quiet compromise and emotional desolation. They come not seeking a prescription, but a voice — pleading that their untold stories be heard in a world seemingly concerned only with the woes of women.

These men — whether newly married with dreams still fresh in their eyes or veterans of decadeslong unions — narrate a chillingly similar tale: a story of apathy and emotional neglect. They speak of returning home exhausted after long days of work, consciously leaving their shoes — and their egos — at the doorstep, hoping to create a sanctuary of peace. They practise resilience as a daily ritual, swallowing retorts, accepting blame for

mishaps not their own, and bending over backward to appease an ever-present sense of dissatisfaction that seems to emanate from their spouses.

They operate on the sacred belief that marriage is not disposable — not a shirt to be changed when worn. To them, it is a lifelong covenant, a tapestry woven with shared history, children, and social fabric. Yet, they often find themselves standing alone in that belief. Their spouses, they lament, show little willingness to reciprocate — to leave their own egos outside the sanctum of home.

The consequences of this onesided emotional labour are devastating. Outside, these men may appear perfectly fine - smartly dressed, professionally composed, even jovial with friends (often avoiding female company to prevent misinterpretation). They are masters of disguise, hiding a deep pain behind practiced smiles. Few know the stories behind those smiles: the sting of constant mockery over small mistakes, the humiliation of being ridiculed in front of guests, the slow corrosion caused by daily taunts about their careers, families, or mannerisms.

Every act — from how they parent to how they load the dishwasher is met with sarcasm or rejection, sending a message that they are



perpetually inadequate, perpetually wrong.

This creates a bizarre, painful reality: a man living under the same roof as his family, yet feeling utterly alone. To preserve a fragile peace, he leaves behind his rights, opinions, and dignity at the door. He becomes a robot—creating a situation that is not a legal divorce but a chilling "grey divorce"—an emotional and psychological separation that is just as real and just as painful. These men are married bachelors, ghosts in their own homes, sharing space but not lives.

#### **Society's Blind Spot**

Our Kashmiri society, with its deep-rooted traditions and complex social codes, often adds another layer to their suffering. We live in a society that, while admirably women-centric as a corrective to historical injustice, can sometimes develop blind spots.

In domestic disputes, the assumption is often automatic: the husband is at fault. Even if he is right, the verdict is already passed. The phrase "You are a man; you should bear it" is common — dismissing his pain as a tax he must pay for being male.

If he dares to seek a legal separation, the stigma is swift and severe. He is branded the villain, the one who "broke the home", the failed patriarch. The truth of his years of silent endurance is buried under social condemnation.

#### A Paradox of Modernity

What makes this phenomenon more perplexing is the profile of the spouses these men describe. They are often educated, articulate, and professionally accomplished — women from respected families, financially independent, and socially aware. Many even hold higher positions or earn more

than their husbands.

One would assume such empowerment would foster equality and partnership. Yet, paradoxically, it sometimes fuels competition — a subtle struggle for dominance, where the husband's comparative position becomes a weapon in a domestic cold war.

#### A Call for Balance and Empathy

This discussion is not an attempt to diminish the very real and documented struggles women face — domestic violence, economic deprivation, and systemic injustice remain harsh realities demanding constant attention.

Rather, it is a plea to expand our circle of empathy. Pain does not have a gender. Emotional harassment, psychological manipulation, and spiritual exhaustion can victimise anyone — husband or wife.

mise anyone — husband or wife.

Marriage thrives on mutual respect, compromise, and kindness. When one partner monopolises the right to be unhappy and weaponises that unhappiness, the foundation collapses. We must begin to have this difficult conversation — to create safe spaces where men, long conditioned to appear stoic, can express vulnerability without fear of being dismissed or ridiculed.

A man's home should not be his battlefield — it should be his sanctuary.

#### Terrey Naam

Dedicated to a dear friend and to many like him — men who outwardly excel in their professions yet inwardly yearn for understanding and empathy. Everyone carries a pride that whispers, "All is well," even while they are melting or burning inside. Countless stories die within us — unheard, unspoken, buried in silence.

**PP** 

# THEY ARE HUSBANDS, FATHERS, PROFESSIONALS - THE SUPPOSED ARCHITECTS OF THEIR OWN DOMAINS.

Yet, in private, they share with me stories of profound and unspoken misery: a life of quiet compromise and emotional desolation."

The men who have shared their stories with me are not seeking dominance or revenge. They are seeking partnership — a space where their pain is acknowledged, their compromises respected, and their humanity recognised.

For a society that prides itself on its values and compassion, healing this silent rupture within the family is not just a social imperative — it is a moral one.

The author is a medical doctor, counsellor, and columnist who writes on social evils and societal norms. He can be reached at: drfiazfazili@gmail.com

# Should I Take A Magnesium Supplement? Will It Help Me Sleep Or Prevent Muscle Cramps?

THESE MEN-WHETHER NEWLY MARRIED

WITH DREAMS STILL FRESH IN THEIR eyes

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Nial Wheate

Wai-Jo Jocelin Chan

agnesium supplements are everywhere – lined up on pharmacy shelves and promoted on wellness blogs and social media.

Maybe you have a friend or family member who swears a daily tablet will help everything, from better sleep to alleviating muscle cramps.

But do you really need one? Or it is just marketing hype?

# What is magnesium and why do we need it?

**eed it?** Magnesium is an essential metal the dependence. Older adults are also more likely to be deficient.

You will only need a magnesium supplement if you show signs of low magnesium. One of the most common signs is muscle spasms and twitches. Other symptoms to look out for include low appetite, nausea and vomiting, or your heart beating abnormally.

Magnesium deficiency can be properly diagnosed by a blood test ordered by your doctor. If you need this test, it's covered by Medicare.

# What conditions can it help?

Commercially available magnesium supplements have been promoted to prevent muscle cramps, manage insomnia and help with migraines.



body needs to make and operate more than 300 different enzymes.

These enzymes build protein, and regulate muscle and nerve function, help in the release of energy from our food, and help to maintain blood function. The body doesn't produce magnesium so we need to get it from external sources.

The government recommends a daily magnesium dose of 310–420 mg a day for adults and 30–410 mg for children, depending on age and sex.

This is easily met through a good diet. Foods rich in magnesium include nuts and seeds, whole grains, seafood, meat, legumes and green leafy vegetables.

You can even get some of your magnesium needs met through dark chocolate. It has 146 mg per 100 g of

# How do I know if I'm deficient?

People at risk of experiencing magnesium deficiency include people with restricted diets, gastrointestinal problems such as Crohn's and coeliac diseases, type 2 diabetes, and alcohol

While magnesium deficiency is linked to muscle cramps, the cause of most muscle cramps is unknown.

And the current evidence does not demonstrate that magnesium supplements can prevent muscle cramps in older adults.

There is conflicting data as to whether the use of magnesium helps with sleep. One study reported magnesium was able to reduce the time for a person to fall asleep by 17.4 minutes while others didn't show an effect.

For migraines, the most recent research suggests taking 122-600 mg of magnesium supplements daily for 4–24 weeks may decrease their frequency and severity.

# **Are magnesium supplements safe?**Magnesium supplements are generally well tolerated.

However, they can cause gastrointestinal discomfort such as nausea, abdominal cramping and diarrhoea. Magnesium causes diarrhoea by drawing water into the intestine and stimulating movement in the gut.

It is possible to take too much magnesium and you can overdose on it. Very large doses, around 5,000 mg per day, can lead to magnesium toxicity.

Most of the research investigating the clinical use of magnesium focuses on magnesium in oral formulations.

# What other formulations are available?

As magnesium is a small metal ion, it can pass through skin – but not easily.

Magnesium bath salts, patches and topical cream-based formulations may be able to raise your blood magnesium levels to some extent.

nesium levels to some extent.

But due to the amount needed each day, tablets and foods are a better

# Things to watch out for when taking magnesium

Commercially available magnesium products can vary widely in dose, formulation and cost. Magnesium supplements have between 150 to 350 mg of the metal per tablet. Your required dose will depend on your age and sex, and whether you have any underlying health problems.

Magnesium supplements some-

times contain other vitamins and minerals, such as vitamins C and D, and the metals calcium, chromium and manganese. So it's important to consider the total quantities if you're taking other vitamins and supplements.

Many magnesium supplements also include vitamin B6. While this vitamin is important for supporting the immune system, high intakes can it can cause serious health issues. If you're already taking a B6 supplement, a magnesium supplement that also includes it can put you at risk

# What if you're considering supplements?

If you think you might be deficient in magnesium, speak to your doctor who can order a blood test.

If you suffer from migraines, cramps, or poor sleep, talk to your doctor or pharmacist who can advise on and monitor the underlying cause. It may be that a change in lifestyle or an alternative treatment may be more appropriate for you.

If you do decide to take a magnesium supplement, check you won't be taking too much of any other vitamin or mineral. A pharmacist can help select a supplement that suits you best.

-By arrangement with the Conversation

# **Stigma of Period Poverty**



Syed Nabil Ahsan

Before we define period poverty, it is important to unearth the flaws which are rooted deep within the patriarchal society. The stigmatised society has enclosed the women, young girls, and non-binary individuals in a societal prison, in front of the sneering faces of financial pressure, cultural shame, and poor hygiene accessibility.

Menstruation is the normal vaginal bleeding where the uterus sheds its monthly build-up of tissue lining. Menstruation is a natural cycle triggered by hormonal changes and continues from a woman's/girl's first stage of puberty until the end of their fertility.

This is tinted with stains of cultural shame, where menstruating individuals are deemed as "impure" or "dirty", thus casting a shadow of taboo which has etched itself into society's walls.

This cultural shame has led to heightened problems for women and girls in society. In the face of cultural shame, women and girls are deprived of basic hygiene needs and are unable to even purchase sanitary pads.

As the "pink tax" lurks in-between menstrual hygiene products, period poverty is born. Moreover, menstruating young girls who have reached the first stage of puberty have inadequate knowledge about managing their periods with care and, most importantly, with dignity.

However, companies which have labelled women and girls through the colour "pink" through the pink tax have made it financially distressing for menstruating individuals to afford their basic human needs. Even though many countries have banned the pink tax and many

# COMBAT

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families cannot afford menstrual products and use old clothing, according to Unicef.

In India, only 12% have access to sanitary products, leaving the rest to use unsafe materials like rags and sawdust as an alternative. The price is increasingly making the population living in poverty, especially in developing countries, vulnerable.

For example, menstruating young

girls are deemed as "eligible" for marriage, resulting in child marriages. Due to the lack of adequate sex education, most people are not comfortable talking about periods. As a result, the taboo embracing it hugs this issue tighter.

Period poverty also follows when

a poverty-stricken household cannot afford sanitary pads and instead has to use alternatives. The price labels have only made the companies richer and the poor -- poorer. To combat period poverty, we

To combat period poverty, we have to dismantle and destroy the taboo and stigma that have had society in their grip for generations. However, eradicating the pink tax on sanitary pads cannot alone solve

this problem.

To build some traction against period poverty, it is imperative to arm pre-adolescent boys, girls, and their peers and caregivers with mainstream knowledge about menstruation and why it is a vital part of a woman and a girl's health so that they can manage their periods with confidence.

It is important for the community to invest in safer and convenient access to menstrual hygiene products to promote menstrual hygiene across all households. Also, corporate offices, schools, universities, and restaurants should provide free sanitary pads and other menstrual hygiene products to make them accessible and convenient for the women and girls in society.

Advocating for menstrual hygiene using approaches to promote comfort, invulnerability, and respect is necessary to uproot the social stigma and make societies liveable, led by a force of equity.

- Syed Nabil Ahsan is a freelance contributor.

# Fankar-E-Kashmir Rekindles Valley's Folk Spirit at Tagore Hall

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar, Oct 17: The rich melodies of Kashmir's folk heritage reverberated through Tagore Hall on Friday evening as Fankar-E-Kashmir Season 3 celebrated the Valley's timeless musical traditions in a vibrant display of talent and culture.

Organized by Kashmir Rabab Academy, ShowCase Events, and The Eagle, the event brought together some of the region's most promising young voices. Contestants mesmerized audiences with soulful renditions of Kashmiri folk, Sufi, wanwun, and chhakri numbers—reviving the Valley's musical roots with passion and authenticity.

Shakeel Åhmad Mir emerged as the winner of the contest, taking home a cash prize of 20,000, a memento, and a trophy, while Taufeeqa Ali was

trophy, while Taufeeqa Ali was declared the runner-up and awarded 10,000. Other participants were also felicitated for their performances.

The third season of the contest featured a Live Talent Hunt, interactive sessions with music experts, and a grand finale that recognized outstanding young performers and offered

mentorship opportunities.

In a special tribute, the organizers also honored four living legends of Kashmiri music—Begum Jaan, Abdul Rashid Hafiz, Rashid Jahangir, and Ustaad Samadju Sofi—for their lifelong contribution to preserving the region's folk traditions.

"What began as a humble effort to reconnect our youth with

their roots has now evolved into a movement," said Nanni Singh, CEO of ShowCase Events. "Folk music is our emotional history it deserves to be heard, shared, and sustained."

Senior journalist and cultural activist Nazir Ganaie added, "Fankar-E-Kashmir is our collective attempt to keep our dying art alive and thriving."

Angelina Fernandes, founder of The Eagle, praised the Valley's hidden talent: "My curiosity for Kashmiri voices brought me in—and now I'm completely invested. The passion here is pure and inspiring."

Beyond a celebration of music, Fankar-E-Kashmir aims to build a cultural economy, creating sustainable career

opportunities for local artists and strengthening the ecosystem for Kashmiri folk and Sufiana music.

As the evening concluded with the Rabab's resonant notes echoing through Tagore Hall, one sentiment prevailed—Kashmir's folk music is not fading; it is being reborn, one performance at a time.

# PIB Debunks Fake Video of Western Command Chief on Taliban

**Press Trust Of India** 

Jammu: The PIB's Fact Check unit said Pakistani propaganda accounts are circulating a digitally altered video of Western Command Chief Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar in which he is heard falsely claiming that payments have been made to the Afghan Taliban to encourage actions against Pakistan.

Lt Gen Katiyar has not given any such statement, Press Information Bureau's Fact Check unit clarified.

"Pakistani propaganda accounts are circulating a digitally altered video of Western Command Chief Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar, claiming that payments had been made to the Afghan Taliban to encourage actions against Pakistan," it said on X.

It also shared a link to the real, unedited video to counter the fake content.

"These Al-manipulated videos are being spread to create panic and mislead people. If you spot such content, please report it to us," it added.

# HC Fines Air India ₹35,000 Over Hair in Food

Press Trust Of India

Chennai: The Madras High Court has directed private carrier Air India to pay Rs 35,000 to a passenger, who suffered health complications after eating the food provided by the airline that contained hair.

He suffered a vomiting sensation and stomach pain after eating the food.

Justice P B Balaji gave the directive recently while partly

allowing the appeal filed by Air India Limited, which challenged an order of a trial court that directed it to pay a compensation of Rs one lakh.

In his order, the judge said it was seen that the Air India officials have blown hot and cold even in their written statement.

In one breath, they claimed that there were seven airline staff on board and the plaintiff (passenger) never complained to any of them.

# CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

#### **NC To Contest**

after CPWs, the Chief Minister said a committee headed by the Chief Secretary has made progress, and appropriate action will follow once the report is filed.

Omar dismissed allegations by Congress leader Vikar Rasool Wani, who accused him of keeping Congress away under the directions of Home Minister Amit Shah. "Why waste time responding to a leader who stood third in his constituency?" he said.

He emphasized that alienation persists due to the Union Territory setup. "We are deprived of statehood. Business Rules are not in place, the Advocate General is absent, and several organisations lack control of the elected government. Once statehood is restored, this alienation will end," he added.

Omar expressed hope that the progress made in the first year of his tenure would continue into the second, reiterating his government's commitment to fulfilling promises made to the people.

# **RS Polls: Independents**

resulted in Congress agreeing to field a candidate for the competitive seat, but differences over independent MLAs' voting methods disrupted the talks.

There are seven independent MLAs in the Assembly — five supporting the government and two aligned with the fragmented opposition bloc. The government-backed independents include Satish Sharma (minister), Pyare Lal (Inderwal), Muzaffar Khan (Rajouri), Choudhary Akram (Surankote), and Dr. Rameshwar Singh (Bani). They submitted letters of support to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah when he staked his claim to form the government last year.

On the opposition side, Sheikh Khursheed (Langate) and Shabir Ahmed Kulley are the independents. Notably, Kulley accompanied NC's Rajya Sabha candidates to submit their nomination papers on October 13. Khursheed contested as an independent after his party, Awami Ittehad, was not recognized by the Election Commission of India.

The focus on independent MLAs stems from opaque voting rules. In Rajya Sabha elections, party-affiliated MLAs must show their marked ballots to their party's authorized agents. Independent MLAs, however, insert their ballots directly into the box without displaying them to any agent, making their votes decisive in a tightly contested fourth seat.

Officials said the BJP is just one vote short of victory on the fourth seat, amplifying the importance of how independent MLAs cast their votes. This has placed the spotlight firmly on them as political parties scramble to secure support. (KNO)

# **No One Responded**

Shah paid tribute to late BJP leader Brijmohan Ji and remembered Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan and Bhikhari Thakur, calling them symbols of Bihar's political and cultural pride.

# **Dry Weather**

between October 22 and 23, while another short spell of light snow over isolated north Kashmir areas is possible around October 24. From October 25 to 26, conditions are likely to remain mostly dry throughout Jammu and Kashmir

Officials said no major weather disturbance is expected during the forecast period, providing favorable conditions for outdoor activities, harvesting, and travel across the region. The department advised tourists and trekkers visiting higher altitudes to remain cautious of sudden temperature drops during the evening and early morning hours.

# **BJP Srinagar VP**

of Iqbal Colony, Shalteng. Irfan Ahmad Mayer: Brother of Nadeem, resident of Iqbal Colony, Shalteng. Abdul Hamid Kathu: Retired Patwari, resident of Astanpora Tailbal.

Ghulam Jeelani Rather: Former Patwari, resident of Dara Harwan.

Ali Mohammad Dar: Retired Patwari. Nazir Ahmad Palla: Resident of Chandpora

Bilal Ahmad Dar: Resident of Mufti Bagh Harwan, currently at New Theed Srinagar.

According to the CBK, Nadeem Qasba and his associates allegedly forged multiple mutation entries (numbers 13, 16, 17, 18, 30, 31, and 34) under the pretext of an oral gift (Hiba Zabani), despite having no legal or familial claim over the property. The duo reportedly sold the land to over 70 families, triggering outrage in the area. Qasba, who faces multiple cases in various courts, joined the BJP earlier this year and soon managed to rise to the post of district vice

Investigators found that approximately 40 kanals of state land were illegally occupied in addition to private property. The scam was allegedly facilitated with the connivance of four revenue officials—three retired and one serving—who manipulated records, bypassed legal procedures, and misused their positions.

Investigation Findings: Absence of official mutation records (Parti

Sarkar) and treasury voucher numbers.

Unauthorised mutations carried out by a single co-owner, ignoring the legal rights of

Illegal occupation of significant state land. Active collusion of revenue officials enabling the fraudulent transactions.

The accused have been booked under Sections 420 (cheating), 447-A (criminal trespass), 467, 468, 471 (forgery), and 120-B (criminal conspiracy) of the Ranbir Penal Code, along with Section 5(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

SSP EOW, Abdul Waheed Shah, confirmed the filing of the chargesheet and reiterated the CBK's commitment to tackling corruption and safeguarding public assets. "The department will continue its efforts to bring corrupt elements to justice and protect public property from misuse," he said.

The case has drawn significant attention due to the involvement of a BJP functionary, raising concerns over the misuse of influence in illegal land dealings. Legal proceedings are currently underway. (With inputs from KNT, KNC)

# **Hizb Chief Decalred**

by #Pakistan, in FIR 67/2012 of PS Dangiwacha!" the Jammu and Kashmir Police said on X.

In July this year, a National Investigation Agency (NIA) court here declared Shah a proclaimed offender under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

(Prevention) Act.

The court in Srinagar had issued a proclamation requiring the appearance of Shah, resident of Soibugh, Badgam, in connection with serious charges under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Ranbir Penal Code.

# **'Hoping For More**

Omar said the Speaker decides which bills are allowed in the Assembly.

"My government won't be a hurdle for any bill that benefits the people," he said, adding that his colleague Tanvir Sadiq had also introduced a bill to amend the 2021 Land Grants

Referring to the revival of the bi-annual Durbar Move, Omar said the decision fulfilled a promise made to the people. "When the LG signed the file, we issued the order. It is after 2021 that Jammu and Srinagar are being linked through the Darbar Move again," he said.

The chief minister said his government would continue fulfilling as many commitments as possible within the Union Territory framework. "Even under UT status, we are trying to deliver on our promises," he said, adding that a cabinet sub-committee's recommendations on

reservation had been accepted and would soon be sent to the LG for approval.

Omar said discussions were underway with the Centre for a special relief package for fruit growers affected by recent losses. "Wherever crops have suffered, an assessment has been done, and we are in talks for a compensation package cimilar to other states." he said.

package similar to other states," he said.
On revoking FIRs filed during the Covid-19 pandemic, Omar said the government would act once police and law and order powers were restored.

Earlier, the chief minister virtually inaugurated several urban infrastructure projects in Kulgam, including a Solid Waste Management Facility, Municipal Shopping Complex, and Modern Abattoir. He also chaired a district review meeting, assessing progress under CAPEX 2025-26 and CSS schemes, and directed officials to ensure uninterrupted power and water supply during winter, expedite restoration of damaged infrastructure, and complete ongoing projects on time.

# Para Slams CM Over

by endorsing the Cabinet sub-committee's

recommendations on reservation.

"The J&K government's decision to slash the RBA quota under the guise of 'rationalisation' is a calculated attempt to disempower Kashmiris," Para posted. "By endorsing it, @ OmarAbdullah isn't defending equity — he's

advancing the disempowerment agenda."

The remarks came a day after the chief minister said the Cabinet had accepted the subcommittee report on reservation, which would soon be sent to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for approval. The government, however, has not disclosed details of the report.

The Cabinet sub-committee was constituted on December 10 last year to examine grievances raised by various sections of aspirants regarding the Union Territory's existing reservation policy.

In another post, Para demanded that the report be made public, saying the new reservation framework aims to dilute Kashmiri representation. "Kashmiris gave @OmarAbdullah a historic mandate to defend their rights — yet he stands with the most anti-Kashmiri decision in decades. The new reservation matrix is a political project to dilute Kashmiri representation." he wrote.

Para said National Conference founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah's mission of empowering Kashmiris was being "reversed by his own party to defend an illegal, BJP-driven reservation policy."

# **JDF Quits PAC**

the alliance framework, JDF has always exercised its democratic right to express differing opinions. After due reflection, we believe that pursuing an independent course will better serve our vision, values, and principles," the statement said.

Though the JDF cited "certain differences" in the working style of the PAC, it didn't provide the specifics. However, sources in the know say that the outfit wanted to field their candidate in the upcoming bypolls in the Budgam assembly seat, scheduled to go to the polls in November. But the PAC is believed to be pushing for Hakeem Yaseen as its joint candidate.

With the exit of JDF, it will be a difficult run for the PAC candidate as the outfit could have managed support from this region.

The PAC was a new political grouping in Jammu and Kashmir, formed only in June this year to challenge the existing political structure and offer an alternative to the region's long-established parties. (With PTI Inputs)

# **SC** Upholds

position in law."

The bench held that since the sale deeds were executed only after Chand Khan's death, the ownership continued to vest in him at the time of his demise and must therefore be

treated as matruka property. "The property agreed to be sold was, at the relevant time, still the property of Chand Khan and therefore would be subject to division of property as per the applicable law," the court said.

Referring to inheritance provisions under Muslim law, the judges noted that a wife is entitled to one-fourth of her husband's property if he leaves no children, and one-eighth otherwise.

Before concluding, the Supreme Court expressed "strong dissatisfaction" over the poor English translation of the trial court's judgment, calling it a serious concern for fair adjudication in appellate proceedings.

"In matters of law, words are of indispensable importance. Each word, every comma has an impact on the overall understanding of the matter," the bench remarked, urging courts to ensure translations preserve the meaning and spirit of the original text.

# First Salt Freight

reduce dependence on road transport — especially during harsh winters when highway connectivity often remains disrupted.

In recent months, freight activity in Kashmir has expanded steadily, with increased transport of apples to Delhi and inflow of vehicles and goods from other parts of the country.

Singhal said the latest consignment is expected to pave the way for more such freight movements, strengthening trade ties between Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir.

"With such initiatives, Indian Railways continues to expand its logistics network in the Union Territory, ensuring efficient movement of essential and commercial goods for both people and industries," he added.

# MHA Orders

individuals.

"In order to ensure an impartial inquiry, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, today, notified a judicial inquiry to be conducted by Hon'ble Dr Justice B S Chauhan, former Judge of the Supreme Court of India, into the circumstances leading to the serious law and order situation, the police action and the resultant unfortunate death of the four individuals," the statement said.

The government has always been open for dialogues at any time and it would continue to welcome the discussion with Apex Body Leh (ABL) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) through the High-Powered Committee on Ladakh or any such platform.

"We are confident that continuous dialogue would yield the desired results in near future. The government stands committed to the aspiration of the people of Ladakh," the statement

Clashes between security forces and protesters demanding Ladakh's statehood and Sixth Schedule status left four people dead and 90 injured on September 24. Two days later, the police arrested climate activist Sonam Wangchuk under the National Security Act (NSA) for allegedly inciting the violence and shifted him to Jodhpur jail.

# **Restrictions Imposed**

the district.

The order prohibits rallies, processions, and public gatherings of five or more persons without prior permission from the competent authority.

It also restricts the use of loudspeakers and public statements that may disturb tranquillity or incite unrest.

The restrictions, issued in the interest of maintaining law and order, will remain in force within the jurisdiction of Tehsil Leh, and violations will invite punitive action under Section 223 of BNSS 2023.

# LG Leads Indian

Vladimirovich and India's Deputy Chief of Mission Nikhilesh Giri.

The delegation will accompany the relics back to India on October 19. The Holy Relics have been enshrined at the Geden Sheddup Choikorling Monastery, the main Buddhist monastery in Elista – popularly known as the 'Golden Abode of Shakyamuni Buddha' – since October 11.

The Kalmyks, descendants of the Oirat Mongols who migrated from western Mongolia in the early 17th century, follow Mahayana Buddhism.

Geden Sheddup Choikorling Monastery, also known as the Golden Abode of Shakyamuni Buddha, a major Tibetan Buddhist centre inaugurated in 1996.

The sacred relics have been showcased at the

Sinha expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for facilitating this sacred

In a post on X he said, "Leaving for Kalmykia, Russia, where I will lead the delegation to bring back holy relics of Lord Buddha after a weeklong exposition. I sincerely thank the Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi Ji for this sacred opportunity."

The exhibition was jointly organised by the Ministry of Culture, the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), the National Museum, and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA).

The relics are part of the Piprahwa collection, housed at the National Museum in New Delhi. Piprahwa, located near Birdpur in Uttar Pradesh's Basti district, is identified with the ancient city of Kapilavastu, the capital of the Shakya clan to which Lord Buddha belonged.

The relics were transported to Russia with full religious sanctity aboard a special Indian Air Force aircraft, accompanied by a delegation of senior Buddhist monks, officials, and Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya.

The week-long cultural programme also included a special exhibition tracing the historical journey of the Buddha's relics.

The Elista exposition follows a series of recent international displays of Buddha's relics. In 2022, the Piprahwa relics were taken to Mongolia; in 2024, relics from Sanchi were exhibited in Thailand; and earlier this year, relics from Sarnath were displayed in Vietnam.

In July, Prime Minister Modi had welcomed the repatriation of the sacred Jewel Relics associated with the Piprahwa stupa, calling it a proud moment for India and a reaffirmation of the nation's deep-rooted connection with Lord Buddha and his teachings.

The relics, believed to include bone fragments of the Buddha, were scheduled to be auctioned by Sotheby's in Hong Kong on May 7, 2025. However, a timely and coordinated intervention by the Government of India led to their successful retrieval.

Last week, a press conference was held at the Golden Abode of the Buddha Shakyamuni, where the Holy relics of Lord Buddha are enshrined.

Batu Khasikov, Head of the Republic of Kalmykia, Keshav Prasad Maurya, Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Indian Ambassador to Russia Vinay Kumar Abhijit Halder, Director General, IBC, His Holiness 43rd Sakya Trizin Rinpoche, Head of Sakya Order and His Eminence Shajin Lama of the Kalmyk people, other monks, devotees, dignitaries and officials participated in the press conference. They spoke about the importance of the visit of the Holy Relics of Lord Buddha

to Kalmykia.

"The visit will provide a great opportunity for the people of Kalmykia and neighbouring regions for a profound spiritual pilgrimage. This will help in spreading Lord Buddha's message of peace to the world and further deepen India-Russia cooperation, academic exchanges, including in Buddhist Studies and people-to-people ties," the Embassy of India in Moscow posted on X.

# CM Omar Criticized for Comparing Prepaid Meters to Mobile Recharges



**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has come under criticism after likening prepaid electricity meters to mobile phone recharges, a statement that opponents say contradicts his pre-election assurances.

The rollout of smart meters has been a contentious issue in Kashmir, with residents expressing concerns over higher costs and the requirement to pay in advance for electricity units. During the election campaign, Abdullah had criticised the meters and assured voters that he would address the matter after taking office.

office, the Chief Minister has described prepaid electricity meters as similar to prepaid mobile phones, noting that ing that the meters have been installed throughout the region, not just in Jammu.

The apparent shift in stance has drawn criticism from political leaders and social media users alike. People's Conference president Sajad Gani Lone called the change a "coffee and toffee" moment, suggesting that the Chief Minister had misled voters with his previous statements.

"Now this is no longer about free 200 units of electricity. This is about CM sahib reversing his position," Lone said. "The comparison between his pre- and post-election statements on smart meters clearly highlights the change."

Senior Congress leader Vikar Rasool echoed the sentiment, noting that pre-election promises now appear inconsistent with the current remarks.

Social media users have also highlighted videos from Abdullah's campaign alongside his recent comments, accusing him of a U-turn on the issue.

The debate over prepaid meters continues to be a flashpoint in the region, reflecting growing public scrutiny of government policies and political accountability.

# **NOW THIS IS NO LONGER ABOUT FREE 200 UNITS** OF ELECTRICITY.

This is about CM sahib reversing his position,"

Rajya Sabha Polls

# **Returning Officer Sends Ballot to Kathua Jail for MLA Mehraj Malik**

**Agencies** 

**SRINAGAR:** The Returning Officer for the Rajya Sabha polls has sent postal ballot papers to the Superintendent of District Jail Kathua, where Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA Mehraj Malik is detained under the Public Safety Act, 1978, to enable him to cast his vote.

Sources revealed that Secretary of the Legislative Assembly, Manoj Pandita-who is serving as the Returning Officer for the polls-has dispatched the ballot papers via post to Malik so that he can participate in the election. Three ballot papers have been sent because every MLA is entitled to cast three votes in the election," they said, adding that the ballot papers were sent in a sealed cover.

The Jail Superintendent is also required to sign a declaration to verify Malik's identity.

As per the rules, Malik can cast his vote before the scheduled polling date on October 24.

The Representation of the People Act, 1951 permits detainees to exercise their voting rights but disallows voting rights to undertrials and convicts lodged in jails. Since Mehraj Malik is currently detained under the Public Safety Act (PSA), he has been provided the postal



ballot facility.

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

After the announcement of the Rajya Sabha polls, the Election Commission had written to the Jammu & Kashmir administration seeking details of detained elector(s) for the Rajya Sabha elections, along with information about the prison(s) where they are lodged. "The J&K administration submitted details of Malik to the Returning Officer for the polls," they added—(KNO)

# **Cop Killed After Service Rifle Goes Off Accidentally**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A 32-year-old policeman from Bandipora district lost his life on Friday after his service rifle went off accidentally in the Police lines in Bandipora.

The deceased has been identified as Arfeen Lone, son of Darwesh Lone, a resident of Malangam Tulail in north Kashmir's Bandipora district. According to officials,

the tragic incident occurred when the rifle of the on-duty cop went off accidentally, resulting in critical injuries. He was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Police have registered a case in this regard, and an investigation has been initiated to ascertain the exact circumstances that led to the incident. (KNS)



BEEKEEPERS TENDING TO THEIR beehives in the open fields of Ramhama village of Budgam. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

# **CEO Reviews Preparedness** For By-Polls To 77-Nagrota AC



**Observer News Service** 

JAMMU: Chief Electoral Kashmir, Sanjeev Verma chaired a review meeting to assess preparedness for the upcoming by-polls to 77-Nagrota Assembly Constituency (AC), scheduled to be held on November 11, 2025.

During the meeting, District Election Officer (DEO), Dr. Rakesh Minhas, presented a detailed account of the election arrangements being made in the constituency. He highlighted key parameters from the updated constituency profile and informed that 150 polling stations, with robust polling infrastructure and 100% assured minimum facilities like ramps, lighting, drinking water and sanitation, have been established

for the bye poll to the Constituency, having 97,893 registered voters.

tions were held on EVM and VVPAT management, transport planning, SVEEP campaigns, strong room arrangements and facilities for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) and senior citizens during the meeting.

Addressing the officers, CEO Sanjeev Verma stressed that the bye-election must be conducted in a free, fair and transparent manner, ensuring voter confidence through strict adherence to the Model Code of Conduct and timely redressal of grievances. He added that the byeelection represents a "festival of democracy", which should witness inclusive participation from all sections of society.

# **Retaining Wall Collapse on NH Disrupts Traffic**

**SRINAGAR:** The damages and destructive effects caused by the landslide are still evident on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

On Thursday evening, a major retaining wall suddenly collapsed in the Dalwas area near Ramban. resulting in the closure of one tube of the highway to

According to reports, a section of about 50 meters of the retaining wall, as well as a large portion of the link road leading to the Saoni Panchayat, suddenly collapsed in the Darwas area of the highway. As a result, a part of the fourlane highway was affected, and vehicle movement in this area has slowed significantly.

It was stated that after the wall collapsed and one tube of the highway was closed, traffic from both sides was diverted to another road. By this evening, hundreds of passenger and freight vehicles had traveled via the highway, while repair work continued at the Dalwas site.

Local residents said over the phone that the collapse of the highway wall also took away a large part of the link road to Saoni Panchayat, severely affecting the movement of the local population.

When contacted ham Yadav, Project Director of the National Highways Authority of India, told KNO that about 40 to 45 meters of the concrete retaining wall in the Darwas area had collapsed, and since last evening, one tube of the highway has been closed to traffic.

He said that restoration work has begun to make the affected road passable again, and efforts are underway to reopen the closed tube to general traffic as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, after several weeks, passenger vehicles have been allowed to move in both directions on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, while freight vehicles are still only allowed to move in one direction.—(KNO)

# **Police Arrest 19 Long-Time** Absconders

n a major breakthrough, Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday apprehended 19 long-time absconders from Kulgam, Anantnag, Shopian, Ganderbal, and Awantipora. These individuals had evaded arrest for years, some for over three decades, in connection with serious criminal cases, a police spokesman said. In Kulgam, two absconders—Aijaz Ahmad Sheikh (FIR 107/2005, NDPS Act) and Bilal Ahmad Ganie (FIR 223/2006, NDPS Act) were arrested after 19-20 years on the run.

In Anantnag, five absconders involved in abduction, rape, and theft cases, including Mohd Yasin Wani, Abdul Gani Dar, Sabir Khatana, Riyaz Ahmad Gigi, and Manzoor Ahmad Bakerwal, were produced before court and placed in judicial custody. Shopian police arrested Ab. Rashid Sheikh, evading since 1989 (FIR 160/1989, RPC & Forest Act).

Lateef Khatana, wanted under FIRs 83/1995 and

In Ganderbal, Shabir Ahmad Pakhtun and Mohd 84/1990, were traced after decades. In Awantipora, nine absconders linked to cases

at PS Pampore, including Mohd Shafi Bhat, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Mohd Shafi Mir, Zahoor Ahmad Bhat, Mudasir Manzoor Shah, Mudasir Ahmad Sofi, Faheem Ahmad Darzi, Javid Ahmad Mir, and Muzaffar Ahmad Mir, were arrested by a special team led by SHO PS Pampore under SDPO supervision. "The arrests reflect J&K Police's commitment to justice, proving that while justice may be delayed, it will never be denied," the spokesman said. (Observer News Service)

# **Former Minister Charak Passes** Away at 83

Jeteran politician and former minister from Jammu region, Gulchain Singh Charak, passed away here on Friday after a prolonged illness. He was 83.

His demise has been widely mourned across political and social circles, with leaders recalling his contributions towards the development of the region and the preservation of Dogra heritage. According to family sources, Charak had been unwell for some time and breathed his last in Jammu.

A senior political leader known for his long association with the Congress, Charak served as a cabinet minister in the PDP-Congress government headed by Ghulam Nabi Azad in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir from 2005 to 2008.

He was also the president of Dogra Sadar Sabha and the founder of a chain of Dogra educational institutions. Charak had earlier served as AICC(I) in-charge for Punjab and Bihar.

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh expressed grief on X, saying, "Deeply saddened by the sudden demise of former Minister in J&K State Government, veteran politician and prominent public figure, Thakur Gulchain Singh Charak. My sincere condo-

lences to Smt. Charak and the entire family." Former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad described his former party colleague as a "dedicated, social and upright leader who always worked for the welfare and upliftment of the people." (PTI)

# **Aghanzpora Residents Seek Bridge over River Jhelum**

esidents of Aghanzpora village in Awantipora area south Kashmir's Pulwama district have urged the administration to construct a bridge over the river Jhelum at Awantipora, saying the long-pending demand is vital for connecting the area with the rest of the region.

Locals said that despite raising the demand for decades, authorities have failed to initiate any steps for the construction of the bridge.

They said the absence of a bridge has left them cut off, forcing them to rely on unsafe boats to cross the river.

Mohammad Younis, a resident of Aghanzpora, said that villagers have repeatedly appealed for a bridge near Ziyarat Shareef Awantipora but their pleas continue to fall on deaf ears. "Every election season, politicians come here seeking votes, but once they win, our demand is forgotten," he said.

Another local, Mukhtar Ahmad Dar, said people risk their lives every day while crossing the river. "We are forced to use boats to reach schools, hospitals and markets. It feels like the government is waiting for another tragedy, like those seen elsewhere, before taking action," he remarked, adding that several drowning incidents have already occurred in recent years.

Residents said successive governments and officials have made repeated promises, yet none have materialized. "We have approached the concerned departments multiple times, but no progress has been made on the ground," they said. –(KNO)

# **Amazon Great Indian Festival 2025 Shatters All Records with 276 Crore Customer Visits**

**Observer News Service** 

NEW DELHI: The Amazon Great Indian Festival 2025 has rewritten India's e-commerce record books with an unprecedented 276 crore customer visits, marking the largestever participation in the company's annual festive sale. With five days still remaining in the 30-day celebration, Amazon India announced that this year's event has outperformed all previous editions in sales, customer engagement, and delivery performance.

According to Amazon, more than 70% of total customer visits came from tier 2 and tier 3 cities, reflecting the deepening reach of digital retail across India's smaller towns and semi-urban regions. Shoppers from



across the country flocked to the platform to purchase everything from smart-phones, smart TVs, and home appliances to sarees, festive décor, beauty products, and daily essentials, turning the festival into one of the most successful retail events in India's online shopping history.

Saurabh Srivastava, Vice President of Amazon India, said the overwhelming response demonstrates the growing trust customers and sellers have placed in the platform. "The Amazon Great Indian Festival 2025 has once again set new benchmarks

with record-breaking participation from customers and sellers across India. We are humbled by the trust millions of Indians have placed in us. This year's festival enabled more than ₹1,000 crore in customer savings through bank offers, GST benefits, and cashback rewards. Our sellers-from small businesses and local artisans to Madein-India brands-have experienced multi-fold growth across diverse categories," Srivastava said.

Prime members, Amazon said, enjoyed faster deliveries than ever before. Over four crore products were delivered the same day or the next day, with next-day deliveries rising by 22% compared to last year. Amazon's delivery network also expanded its reach significantly, achieving 37% growth in two-day deliveries across tier 2 and tier 3 cities. Nearly 70% of new Prime members this year were from smaller towns, a trend that underscores how premium online shopping is expanding beyond metropolitan areas.

The 2025 edition also witnessed the highest-ever participation of small and medium businesses, with more than two-thirds operating from tier 2 and 3 cities. Sellers from diverse regions such as Kangra, Haridwar, Muzaffarpur, Jamnagar, Darjeeling, Shimoga, and Salem recorded their bestever festive sales. Amazon's "Bazaar," which focuses on ultra-affordable products, saw double the number of participating sellers compared to last year. Over half of them achieved their highest single-day sales ever.

# OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL **GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, ANANTNAG, J&K**

Phone No. 01932-227624

Dated: 17-10-2025.

(MAIN CAMPUS DIALGAM, ANANTNAG) e-mail: principal.gmca@jk.gov.in

e-Tender Notice No: 17 -GMCA of 2025 Dated: 17 -10-2025

On behalf of Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of J&K, online tenders through JKtenders Portal (www.jktenders.gov.in), under two bid system, are invited from reputed and eligible firms/agencies registered with Govt./CPWD/State PWD/BSNL/IT Department or other competent authorities for the Supply, Installation, Testing, and Commissioning of LAN Connectivity for Central Laboratory. Establishment Section, Pediatrics Department. Non Clinical Departments of Main Campus Dialgam and Central Library at GMC Anantnag, as per detailed list/specifications given

at Annexure "I. II. III. IV" of the tender document: -

Schedule of events is given nereunder: -									
	Sr.No	Particulars	Date and time						
	1.	Date & Time of floating of bid	17 -10-2025	03:30 PM					
		Date & time of online bid submission. (Any query to clear can be done through	Start Date & Time:	End Date & Time:					
		e-mail ld on principal.gmca@jk.gov.in from 17 -10-2025 to 18 -10-2025	17-10-2025 03:30 PM	10-11 -2025 03:30 PM					
	3	Date & time of online Technical bid opening	11-11-2025 02:00 PM						
	4.	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 20,000/= (Rupees Twenty thousand only						
	5.	Cost of tender document	Rs. 500/= (Rupees five hundred only)						

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including Schedule of Requirement and terms and Conditions can be  $downloaded\ from\ our\ official\ website: www.gmcanantnag.net\ and\ www.jktenders.gov.in.$ The interested bidders are advised to register themselves with e-procurement portal (jktenders.gov.in) in order to participate in e-tender.

The competent authority reserves the right to accept or reject the tenders received without assigning any reason thereof. No:- GMCA/Pur/238/3289-92

Sd/ DIPK-7276-25 Principal, DT: 17/10/2025

Govt. Medical College, Anantnag

# Auqib's Fifer Sets Up Thrilling Day 4 With **J&K 222 Runs From Upsetting Mumbai**

SRINAGAR: J&K have been set a challenging target of 243 runs to pull off an upset against domestic heavyweights Mumbai, who were bowled out for 181 in their second innings on the third day of the Ranji Trophy Elite Group D clash at the Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Sta-

dium here on Thursday. Earlier, J&K posted 325 in their first innings, powered by a magnificent 144-run knock from veteran Paras Dogra, before Mumbai's second-innings collapse brought the hosts right back into the contest.

Mumbai's second innings began disastrously as they lost three wickets within the first six overs. Musheer Khan (8), Ajinkya Rahane (0), and Ayush Mhatre (13) were all dismissed cheaply, leaving the visitors reeling.

Siddhesh Lad and Sarfaraz Khan then attempted to rebuild the innings, but Auqib Nabi's fiery spell derailed the recovery.



Nabi trapped Sarfaraz leg-before for 32 off 43 balls and later dis-

missed Lad, who managed just 4 off 40 deliveries

Akash Anand (31) and Shams Mulani (41 off 108) offered brief resistance before falling to Nabi and Abid Mushtaq respectively. The tail folded soon after, with Tanush Kotian (10), Shardul Thakur (9), and Irfan Umair (4) adding only 23 runs combined.

Auqib Nabi was the standout performer, taking a sensational fivewicket haul, while Yudhvir Singh and Abid Mushtaq picked up two wickets each. Umar Nazir claimed one.

Earlier in the day, J&K were bowled out for 325, falling short of Mumbai's first-innings total of 386, but not before Paras Dogra delivered a vintage performance. Resuming from 273 for 7, the

40-year-old right-hander continued his gritty resistance, farming the strike expertly as wickets tumbled around him. His 208-ball knock, decorated with 19 fours and a six, stood out as a - the highest individual score of the match so far.

Dogra's wicket, claimed by Mumbai skipper Shardul Thakur, ended a remarkable innings that kept J&K within striking distance. Earlier, Auqib Nabi (21) and Yudhvir Singh (10) contributed valuable runs before falling to Tushar Deshpande and Shams Mulani respectively.

Mumbai's bowling was led by Deshpande, who picked up 3 wickets, while Thakur, Mulani, and Tanush Kotian claimed two each. Irfan Umair also chipped in with one wicket.

At stumps on Day 3, J&K reached 21 for 1, still needing 222 runs for an outright win. With four sessions remaining and both teams evenly poised, a gripping final day's play awaits at the Sher-e-Kashmir Stadium.

If the match ends in a draw. Mumbai will pocket three points for their first-innings lead, while lesson in patience and precision J&K will settle for one. (KINS)

# **India Football Drops Two Places To 136 In FIFA Rankings**

he Indian men's football team on Friday slumped to 136th in the FIFA rankings, the lowest in nine years, after a draw and defeat to Singapore which snuffed its hopes of qualifying for the 2027 Asian Cup. The Indian team dropped two places from the previ-

ous 134th to lie one place below Kuwait and a spot above Botswana. The last time the Indian team had a worse ranking

was in November 2016 (as well as in October 2016) when it was placed at 137. India's best ever ranking was

India had played a lucky 1-1 draw against Singapore in their away match of the Asian Cup qualifying third round and then lost the home-leg game 1-2 in Margao on October 14. (PTI)

# **Spain Ranked No. 1 Team In** The World; Argentina 2nd

pain still topped the FIFA men's world rankings published Friday that show Germany back on track to be a top-seeded team in the World Cup finals tournament draw on Dec. 5.

Germany rose two places to No. 10 after back-toback wins in a World Cup qualifying group against Luxembourg and Northern Ireland.

Croatia, runner-up at the 2018 World Cup and a semifinalist in the 2022 edition, fell to No. 11 after drawing one of its games at the Czech Republic

Current No. 9 Italy is likely heading to European playoffs in March as runner-up in a qualifying group led by Norway, meaning the No. 10-ranked team should be assured of avoiding other top-seeded nations

in the draw for the June 11-July 19 tournament. Spain leads from World Cup title holder Argentina, followed by No. 3 France, England, Portugal, the Netherlands, Brazil and Belgium in eighth. (AP)

# **Yamal Back From Injury A Week Before Barcelona Faces Madrid**

amine Yamal is fit again and ready to play a week before the first clasico of the season, Barcelona ✓coach Hansi Flick said Friday.

Yamal and midfielder Fermín López have both recovered from injuries and could play at least part of Barcelona's La Liga game against Girona on Saturday. "They're back, but they can't yet play the full 90

minutes," Flick said. After Girona, Barcelona hosts Olympiakos on Tuesday in the Champions League and then visits Real Madrid on Oct. 26 in the Spanish league.

Yamal has been affected by a groin injury for weeks. The 18-year-old star missed four games for Barcelona before he returned for two appearances, only to aggravate the injury in a loss to Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League on Oct. 1.

Second-placed Barcelona trails Madrid by two points at the top of the Spanish league. (AP)

# **BMHSS Bijbehara Wins U-19 Anantnag Inter-School Cricket Tourney**



**Observer News Service** 

**ANANTNAG:** Government Boys Model Higher Secondary School Bijbehara emerged victorious in the Under-19 District Level Inter-School Cricket Tournament, defeating BMHSS Brakpora by a commanding margin of 49 runs in the final held on Friday at the Turf Wicket Ground, BHSS Bijbehara.

Batting first, BMHSS Bijbehara posted a competitive total of 117 runs in the allotted overs. The innings was anchored by solid contributions from Salig (33) and Ikklas (29).

On the bowling front for Brakpora, Owais was the standout performer, claiming 4 wickets, while Vikas and Luqman chipped in with two wickets each.

In response, BMHSS Brakpora faltered under pressure and were bowled out for 82 runs. Owais top-scored for his team with 36 runs, but received little support from the other end.

Tafheem was adjudged Man of the Match for his impressive performance, taking 3 crucial wickets and holding onto several catches that turned the game in Bijbehara's favour.

# Silly To Put Rohit & Kohli On Trial In **Every Game: Ajit Agarkar**

**Press Trust of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** Senior Indian batting stars Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma will be "assessed" but it would be "silly" to put them on trial in each and every ODI that they play from hereon, chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar said on Friday.

On the eve of their return to international cricket against Australia after a seven-month gap, speculation is rife that the two former skippers will be judged on a series to series basis going into the 2027 ODI World Cup in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

"It will be silly to put them on trial for every game. Once they start playing they will be assessed but they are not on trial." Agarkar said at the 'NDTV World Summit'.

Agarkar also clarified

that it was Kohli and Rohit, who had decided to quit Test cricket and the selection committee would have been happy to have their experience.

"If any place where we would have liked experience is England. Both are



stalwarts and they had approached us. And once they have decided, you have got to respect their decision,' Agarkar said.

# Labuschagne Replaces Green In Australia ODI Squad For India Series



**Press Trust of India** 

**PERTH:** Marnus Labuschagne on Friday replaced injured all-rounder Cameron Green for the three match ODI series beginning here on Sunday.

Green will miss the series due to side soreness with the selectors not ready to take a chance ahead of the Ashes beginning next month.

"Green will complete a short period of rehabilitation and is tracking to return to play in round three of the Sheffield Shield to continue his preparation for the Ashes," Cricket Australia said in a statement suggesting that Green not playing the ODIs is a precautionary step.

His replacement Labuschagne was not part of the initial squad but has been drafted in following his 159 in a Sheffield Shield game for Queensland on Thursday, his fourth hundred of the domestic season.

It is the third forced change Australia have had to make for the first ODI against India with Josh Phillippe replacing injured Josh Inglis and Matthew Kuhnemann set to play in place of Adam Zampa who will miss the game due to personal reasons.



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