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Light Rain, Snow Likely On Nov 4-5: MeT

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Meteorological Centre Srinagar (MeT) has issued a weather forecast and advisory for Jammu and Kashmir, predicting mainly dry conditions over the next few days, followed by a brief spell of rain and snow in parts of the Union Territory next week.

As per the weather forecast the weather will remain generally dry from November 1 to 3 across both Jammu and Kashmir divisions.

However, on November 4 and 5, the region is likely to witness generally cloudy weather with a possibility of light rain or light snowfall over higher reaches at scattered places during the evening and night of November 4 and continuing till the morning or forenoon of November 5.

The forecast further suggests generally dry weather again from November 6 to 13, with no significant precipitation expected.

In its advisory, the MET department has cautioned that thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds may occur at a few places on the evening of November 4. It also warned of a significant drop in day and night temperatures from November 5 onwards in many areas.

Farmers have been advised to suspend | [More on P6](#)

Around 90% Of J&K's Population Covered Under Ayushman Bharat: LG

» Inaugurates 200-bedded Amandeep BR Medicity Hospital

» Calls for Strong Public-Private Collaboration to Boost Healthcare in J&K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday called for stronger collaboration between the public and private sectors to enhance healthcare outcomes and ensure equitable access to quality medical services across Jammu and Kashmir.

He was speaking at the inauguration of the 200-bedded Amandeep BR Medicity Hospital at Tengpora-Bemina Bypass in Srinagar. The hospital, established in collaboration with Ujala Cygnus Healthcare, is equipped with state-of-the-art infrastructure and advanced medical technology aimed at providing



quality and affordable care to the people of the region.

Highlighting the government's progress in the health sector since 2020, the Lieutenant Governor said that

modern healthcare facilities, new hospitals, and a record increase in MBBS and nursing seats have significantly strengthened the medical ecosystem in J&K. | [More on P6](#)

'Rahi Masoom Raza's Legacy A Beacon Of Cultural Harmony'

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said that the life and works of Dr. Rahi Masoom Raza continue to serve as an enduring symbol of India's

cultural richness, inclusivity, and shared human values. He was delivering the keynote address at an International Seminar on Dr. Raza, organised | [More on P6](#)

New Era Has Begun For Startups & Small Industries: LG

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said a new era has begun for startups and small-scale industries in Jammu and Kashmir, with the government determined to bridge the funding gap and boost entrepreneurial growth through stronger public-private partnerships.

He was speaking at the first-ever "Self-Reliant India (SRI) Fund Outreach" event held in Srinagar, organised by the Union Ministry of MSME, NSIC Venture Capital Fund Limited (NVCFL), J&K Entrepreneurship

Development Institute (JKEDI) and the Department of Industries & Commerce, J&K.

"We must leverage existing strengths, better infrastructure, and build strong linkages between J&K's industrial ecosystem and national financial institutions to bridge the funding gap for MSMEs and startups," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He said the SRI Fund Outreach would build awareness among entrepreneurs about venture capital opportunities and promote equity-based financing for emerging businesses.

The SRI Fund, launched under the | [More on P6](#)

Man Gets Life Term For Murdering Wife



Observer News Service

Ganderbal- A local court in Ganderbal has sentenced Abdul Majeed Khan, son of Abdul Ahad Khan and a resident of Gounchi Mohalla, Akhal Kangan, to life imprisonment after finding him guilty of murdering his wife in 2020. The conviction stems from case FIR No. 50/2020 registered under Sections 302 and 201 of the Indian Penal Code at Police Station Kangan.

Investigations conducted by Ganderbal Police established Khan's direct involvement in the brutal killing, which had triggered widespread outrage in the area at the time.

After a sustained investigation and comprehensive presentation of evidence before the court, the prosecution successfully secured a life sentence for the accused.

Police officials said the verdict reflects the department's steadfast commitment to upholding the rule of law and ensuring justice for victims of heinous crimes.

They added that | [More on P6](#)

We Don't Discriminate On Religion Or Region: CM

Vows to Correct '10-Year Neglect' of Jammu, Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday said that both Jammu and Srinagar have suffered years of neglect and assured that his government would correct the "wrongs of the past" through inclusive and balanced development across the Union Territory.

Omar was speaking after laying the foundation stone for the widening and four-laning of the Boulevard Road from Nehru Park to Kral Sangri here — a landmark project aimed at improving connectivity along the picturesque Dal Lake.

The Rs 19.94 crore project, being executed by the Public Works (R&B) Department, marks a major push towards strengthening



Srinagar's tourism infrastructure and easing traffic congestion along one of the city's busiest lakefront stretches.

"Srinagar has not been given its due attention for more than 10 years now. But all wrongs will now be corrected and undone under our government," Omar said.

He added that the neglect was not limited to Srinagar alone. "Even Jammu has not got its due over the said period. The neglect faced by both cities in the last 10 years will be set right by my | [More on P6](#)



A farmer picks saffron flowers in a field at Pampore. KO Photo By Abid Bhat

OP SINDOOR

India Targeted Terrorists, Not Civilians: Army Chief

Press Trust Of India

Rewa: Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Saturday said India fought with the combined strength of principles and technology during Operation Sindoor and did not target civilians or military installations in Pakistan.

Speaking to reporters in Madhya Pradesh's Rewa district, Gen Dwivedi asserted that India only destroyed terrorist infrastructure in the neighbouring country.

In response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7, targeting terrorist infrastructure in territories controlled by Pakistan. The strikes triggered four days of intense clashes that ended with an understanding on stopping the military actions on May 10.

"Operation Sindoor was successful because we fought with the combined strength of our



principles and technology. We made it a point that no innocent civilians in Pakistan suffered. We only targeted terrorists and their bosses," the Army chief said.

All citizens should work for nation building to achieve the target of Viksit Bharat by 2047, he said.

Gen Dwivedi, who also addressed a gathering at his alma mater, Rewa Sainik School, said that during Operation Sindoor, Indian forces ensured that no action was taken while prayers or namaz were | [More on P6](#)

DIPR Orders Crackdown On Fake Journalists Misusing Media Identity

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a significant move aimed at tackling the growing menace of individuals posing as journalists to extort or coerce officials, the Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) has issued a stringent directive to all District Information Officers (DIOs) across Jammu and Kashmir, calling for heightened vigilance and coordinated action against such activities.

According to the circular issued on Friday, the DIPR noted that it had received "repeated complaints" from field officers, public representatives, and media houses regarding individuals falsely claiming to represent media organisations. These individuals, the directive said, have been "misusing the name of media for blackmail, extortion, coercion of officials, and



circulation of unverified and defamatory material against public institutions and officers."

"In several instances, such individuals were apprehended and booked for extortion and misuse of media identity," the DIPR observed, underlining the seriousness of the issue.

Mandatory Verification of Media Personnel

To curb this trend, all DIOs have been directed to maintain and regularly update a verified list of accredited, authorised,

and bona fide media persons operating within their respective districts. This list is to be prepared in consultation with the Directorate and recognised media houses.

The directive further instructs officers to ensure that press releases, media invites, and official briefings are shared only with verified journalists and authorised media outlets through official channels such as email or social media.

District officers have also been asked to keep a close watch on individuals or entities "misusing media credentials, indulging in coercion, or attempting to malign officials or institutions for personal or financial gain."

Wherever such cases arise, the DIPR has directed DIOs to coordinate closely with deputy commissioners and police authorities to | [More on P6](#)

USG Showing Cysts Not Sole Diagnosis For PCOS: Director SKIMS

Launches Monthly Initiative To Share Research Findings With Public

Sameer Hussain

Srinagar: Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura on Saturday launched a monthly initiative to share its latest research findings with the public — a platform aimed at translating scientific outcomes into better patient care and local health awareness.

Speaking during the inaugural session, Director SKIMS Prof. Mohammad Ashraf Ganie — who also led the country's largest and most comprehensive study on Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) under the Indian Council of Medical



Research (ICMR) — clarified that the presence of cysts on an ultrasound alone should not be mistaken for a PCOS diagnosis.

"Prevalence of ovarian cysts in girls up to 18 years of age

is a normal phenomenon. It is part of the maturation of the reproductive axis," Prof. Ganie explained. "Ultrasound findings showing cysts should not alarm patients or families. Many girls and even adult

women may have cysts that carry no clinical significance."

He urged both doctors and the public to refrain from repeated ultrasounds in young girls, emphasizing that "mere presence of cysts is not PCOS, and vice versa — absence of cysts does not rule it out."

"PCOS is diagnosed only when a woman has multiple symptoms together — irregular menstrual cycles, signs of metabolic dysfunction such as high insulin levels, or other hormonal abnormalities," he said. "That's why SKIMS has set up a multidisciplinary PCOS clinic with different specialists to study and manage | [More on P6](#)

PGIMER Flags Rise in Rare Chest Infections in North India

Press Trust Of India

A team at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, has reported a significant rise in infections caused by a lesser-known bacterium that mimics whooping cough in north India, officials said on Thursday.

Pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious respiratory illness that has historically been a major cause of childhood mortality, with fatality rates reaching 10 per cent in the early 20th century, a PGIMER statement noted.

The study, titled 'Emergence of Bordetella holmesii-Associated Pertussis-Like Illness, Northern India, 2019–2023', was published in the Emerging Infectious Diseases journal (of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA) and analysed 935 suspected pertussis



cases. Researchers discovered that nearly 37 per cent of infections were caused by Bordetella holmesii (bacterium), surpassing the number of infections from Bordetella pertussis, which used to be relatively more common. The most significant increase was recorded in 2023, predominantly among children aged 5-10 years in northern India, the statement said.

According to the data obtained under the ongoing surveillance programme at the PGIMER since 2015, the prevalence of B pertussis declined from 15-20 per cent to just 2-5 per cent, while infections from B holmesii rose markedly. This shift signals an evolving pattern in the etiology of pertussis-like respiratory illness in the region, the statement said. This long-term research was spear-

headed by Dr Vikas Gautam's laboratory at PGIMER, in collaboration with Dr Prabhu Patil of the CSIR-IMTECH, Chandigarh, it said. In Asia, pertussis continues to pose a significant public health burden, particularly in India and China, primarily affecting young infants and children, the PGIMER statement noted. After a brief decline during the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of cases has sharply rebounded. India recently reported approximately 13.6 million cases, while China's incidence rose from 0.13 per 1,00,000 in 2013 to 2.15 per 1,00,000 in 2019, exceeding 58,990 reported cases by early 2024, it said. The PGIMER team's findings underscore the institute's pivotal role in identifying emerging pathogens and follow the scientific team's earlier identification of stenotrophomonas seplia, a new bacterium responsible for sepsis, it added.

From Office of the Advocate

Adv Ishfaq Rasool

In the case of

1. Mst. Mymoona Begum D/O, Late Abdul Rashid Waza W/O, Abdul Hamid Rather R/O, Goshbugh Pattan

2. Mst. Lateefa Begum D/O, Late Abdul Rashid Waza W/O, Abdul Hamid Chopan R/O, Nowpora Jageer Tehsil Baramulla

3. Mst. Jameela Begum D/O, Abdul Rashid Waza W/O, Ghulam Hassan Bhat R/O, Khawaja Bagh Baramulla District Baramulla

V/s

Public at large

In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap- peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irrepa- rable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

fko

Sd/advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

My son's name has been incorrectly mentioned in school records as TAIMOOR MALIK S/O ABDUL HAMID MALIK R/O DOULTHPORA while his correct name is MOHAMMAD ATIF MALIK S/O ABDUL HAMEED MAILK R/O DOULTHPORA and his DOB is 31/7/2014 as per birth certificate. which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of PRINCIPAL GREENLAND ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL DOULATHPORA KREERI within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained.

Name: ABDUL HAMEED MALIK F/O MOHAMMAD ATIF MALIK R/O DOULTHPORA TEHSIL.... KREERI

FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Sout Ul Haq Lone while my correct name is Sawu Tul Haq . Now I have applid for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in thsi regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Sawu Tul Haq S/O Mushtaq Ahmad Lone R/o Tujar Pahlihar

FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from Rukhsana Akhter to Rukhsana Begum. In future I will be known as Rukhsana Begum Rukhsana begum .If anybody has any objection in this regrad he/she may file them in the Passport Office Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Rukhsana begum W/o zahoor ah Pandith R/o Manglara kunzer

fko

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office of the Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama.

e-mail id: xenpmgsy-pul@nic.in.

Dasti Quotation

For & on behalf of the Governor of Jammu & Kashmir UT , sealed quotations affixed with revenue stamp of Rs.10/= (Rupees Ten Only) along with CDR of Rs.2000/= (Rupees Two Thousand Only) Pledged to Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama are invited from Registered /Authorized Dealers /Suppliers of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) for supplying and refilling of Commercial Gas Cylinders for the financial year 2025-2026 (up to 31th of March 2026) for the office of Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama on the following terms and conditions:-

Terms & Conditions:-

1. Quotation should clearly indicate the maximum discount on Govt. Approved rates for refilling of per No.of 19Kg LPG commercial cylinders inclusive of all the charges.

2. Sealed Quotation shall reach the office of Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama by or before 7th of November 2025 upto 04:30PM by registered post / Speed post or to be delivered personally.

3. The sealed tenders will be opened on 8th of November 2025 at 10:30 AM in the office chamber of undersigned by the purchasing committee.

4. It shall be sole responsibility of the successful tenderer to ensure trouble free delivery / supply of refilled 19Kg LPG commercial Gas cylinders to this office as per the requirements from time to time during the winter season of 2025-2026.

5. The successful tenderer should ensure sufficient stock of 19Kg LPG commercial Gas Cylinders at its disposal to meet the time to time requirements of this office.

6. Any other condition deemed fit in the best interest of Government Services shall be incorporated in the supply order.

7. Approximately 09No's commercial Gas Cylinders have to be provided by the successful tenderer to the office of the undersigned against no security for use which shall be taken back after 31st of March 2026.

8. Tender must be accompanied with valid authorized dealership / distribution certificate.

9. The undersigned reserves the right to reject / cancel any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

No.:-EE/PMGSY/Pul/2025/

Dated:-

DIPK-7670/25

dated: 01-11-025

Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama.

Annexure – (A)

BIDDING DOCUMENT

ITEM	SPECIFICATIONS	DISCOUNT (%AGE) ON COMPPANY PRICE /MRP
Supply and Refilling of LPG Gas Cylinders	19Kg LPG Commercial Gas Cylinders (as and when Required)	

Name and Sign of the Authorized Dealer / Distributor along with Seal.

E-Mail:-

Phone No.:-

Place :-

Date :-

Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Pulwama.

सत्यमेव जयते

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT

announces

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SCHEDULED CASTE

students to pursue Higher Education under the

Post-Matric Scholarships Scheme for SC students for the Year 2025-26

ELIGIBILITY	SCOPE	ENTITLEMENT
<div><div>Parents'/Guardians' annual income not exceeding Rs. 2.50 Lakh</div><div>Students pursuing courses in recognised institutions/ Universities/Colleges/ Schools</div></div>	<div><div>All recognised courses from class XI onwards</div><div>Applications are accepted and verified by the State Government/Union Territory</div><div>Coverage of the poorest households</div></div>	<div><div>Compulsory non-refundable fees (including tuition fee)</div><div>Academic allowance ranging from Rs. 2500 to Rs. 13500 per annum</div><div>10% extra allowance for Divyang (specially abled) students</div></div>

Student should have a valid Mobile Number, Aadhaar Number (UID), Aadhaar seeded Bank Account, Income Certificate, Previous Year Marksheet and Caste Certificate.

Scheme guidelines and detailed eligibility criteria available on below mentioned link:

https://socialjustice.gov.in/schemes/25

Scan QR Code for Scheme Guidelines

CBC 38101/11/0026/2526

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Mohammad Yaqoob Chak while my correct name is Mohd Yaqoob Check. Now I have applid for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in thsi regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohd Yaqoob Check S/o Mohd Ibrahim Check R/o Nowgam Distt Shopian

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that i have lost my passport during travelling from Bugchill to Budgam. Now i want to apply for its duplicate. In this regard. If any body having any objection he/she may contact Regional Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

GHULAM HASSAN WANI S/O MUSSA WANI R/O BUGCHILL KHANSAHIB BUDGAM.

MCB

NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC THE JAMMU & KASHMIR STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION CERTIFICATES-KD, NEW CAMPUS BEMINA SRINAGAR ATTENTION PLEASE

I have passed /appeared in SSE/HSE-I/HSE-II (Class 10th,) under Roll No. 139021045 Session Annual Year 2025. Through the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the School records against my name and mothers name as RUTBA mothers name SHAGUFTA instead of RUTBA AKHTAR mothers name SHAGUFTA RASOOL.

Now i have applied for correction / rectification of error in the Jammu & Kashmir board of School Education, New campus Bemina, Srinagar. If any person has any objection in this regard may file the same in the office of the Deputy Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, afterthe expiry of said period, no objection will be entertained.

This is published for the information of the general public. The Correct particulars be recorded as under: Name: RUTBA AKHTAR, Fathers Name: AKHTAR HUSSAIN, Mothers Name, SHAGUFTA RASOOL Date of Birth: 05-03-2009, Residence:- RAMBAGH SRINAGAR.

MCB

از نیابت یومی

عنوان :- درخواست منجانب محمد رمضان انگریز ولد غلام رسول انگریز ساکنہ ترقیبیلی بارہراہ برادر عطا گنگی OBC تحت 176 SRO بحق اولاد ان محمد عامر ، بہرینہ اختر، عابد رحمان

اشہدار ہر خاص و عام

محامل مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمرہ انگریز پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکنہ واقعی بنگر ذات سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور ساکن تجریبیلی بارہراہ رہائش پذیر ہے اور بھی تہذیب سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکنہ کا کنیہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے محمد رمضان انگریز ولد غلام رسول مزدوری 60 سال 6000 نیسہ بیگم زوجہ محمد رحمان گھریلو کام 55 سال محمد عامر انگریز پسر محمد رمضان مزدوری 28 سال راشد رمضان پسر زیر تعلیم 22 سہرینہ اختر دختر -- 24 عابد رمضان پسر -- 26 ساکن مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواں ہے اور کنیہ کی مہوار ادنی 6,000 روپے تک ہے سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجرا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشہد اخبار رسالت دن کے اندر اندر آجپنے عذر یا اعتراض عدالت حد اکو فتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے یہ عدا کو بی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

فکو

نائب تحصیلدار

از نیابت یومی ذہنگیر

عنوان :- درخواست منجانب عبدالحمید میر ولد محمد بیجان میر ساکنہ برات برادر اجرائی لیگل بہر سرٹیفکیٹ بحق خود

اشہدار ہر خاص و عام

محامل مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض لیگل بہر پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا والد مورخہ 10-08-2017 کو فوت ہوا ہے اور موتی کے دارثان جائز بذیل ہے

عبدالحمید میر ولد محمد بیجان میر زمینداری 65 سال پسر موتی محمد امین ولد -- مزدوری 55 سال -- نذر احمد ولد -- سرکاری ملازم 60 سال -- ظریف بیگم دختر -- گھریلو کام 66 سال دختر -- حنیف بیگم -- -- 60 سال -- عبدالحمید پسر مسائیت فاطم بیگم 51 سال پوتا موتی سمیر احمد پسر -- -- 45 سال -- غلیل احمد -- امام مسہد 45 سال -- شہید بیگم دختر -- گھریلو کام پوتی

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کنیہیں ہے سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجرا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشہد اخبار رسالت دن کے اندر اندر آجپنے عذر یا اعتراض عدالت حد اکو فتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے یہ عدا کو بی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

فکو

نائب تحصیلدار

5th Edition Of Kashmir World Film Festival Opens

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The 5th edition of the much-awaited Film Festival commenced today at Tagore Hall, Srinagar, marking a vibrant celebration of cinematic art, creativity, and cultural exchange.

The inaugural ceremony witnessed an impressive turnout of film enthusiasts, artists, and students of cinema. Veteran film and television personalities Raza Murad, Shishir Sharma, Jayati Bhatia, and Sunit Tandon graced the occasion as chief guests. They were felicitated with traditional Kashmiri shawls and mementos in recognition of their contributions to the entertainment industry.

Renowned actors and filmmakers Rajit Kapur, Madhur Bhandarkar, and Lalit Parmoo are expected to join the

creative work and contributions to regional cinema.

This year's edition attracted an impressive 123 film submissions from across India and abroad. Of these, 60 films have been shortlisted for screening — 55 in the competition section and 5 in the non-competition category.

Reflecting its global outlook, the festival features international entries from Bangladesh, Egypt, Germany, Iran, Nepal, Palestine, Sri Lanka, and the UAE. The Indian section showcases linguistic and cultural diversity with films in Kashmiri, Dogri, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Ladakhi, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Pahadi, Punjabi, Tamil, Tibetan, and Urdu.

Starting tomorrow, the festival will host a series of interactive sessions, masterclasses,



festival in the coming days, adding further charm to the star-studded celebration.

Prominent names from Jammu and Kashmir's own film and television fraternity — including Tariq Javaid, Dr. Aiyash Aarif, Ashraf Shawl, G. M. Wani, Deepak Kumar, Ameen Bhat, Mushtaq Bala, Shahzad Rasool, Waheed Jee-lani, Gul Javaid, Mir Sarwar, and Shahid Lateef — were also invited and felicitated for their

and filmmaking workshops led by acclaimed Bollywood directors, actors, and technical experts — offering aspiring filmmakers a platform to learn, network, and exchange ideas.

With its blend of cinematic excellence, cross-cultural participation, and creative dialogue, the 5th edition of the Film Festival promises to be a memorable celebration of storytelling and artistic collaboration in the heart of Kashmir

SIA Arrests Key Handler In Narco-terror Case

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) Kashmir Saturday achieved a major breakthrough in a Narco-Terror case after a key handler was arrested from Bemina area of Srinagar city.

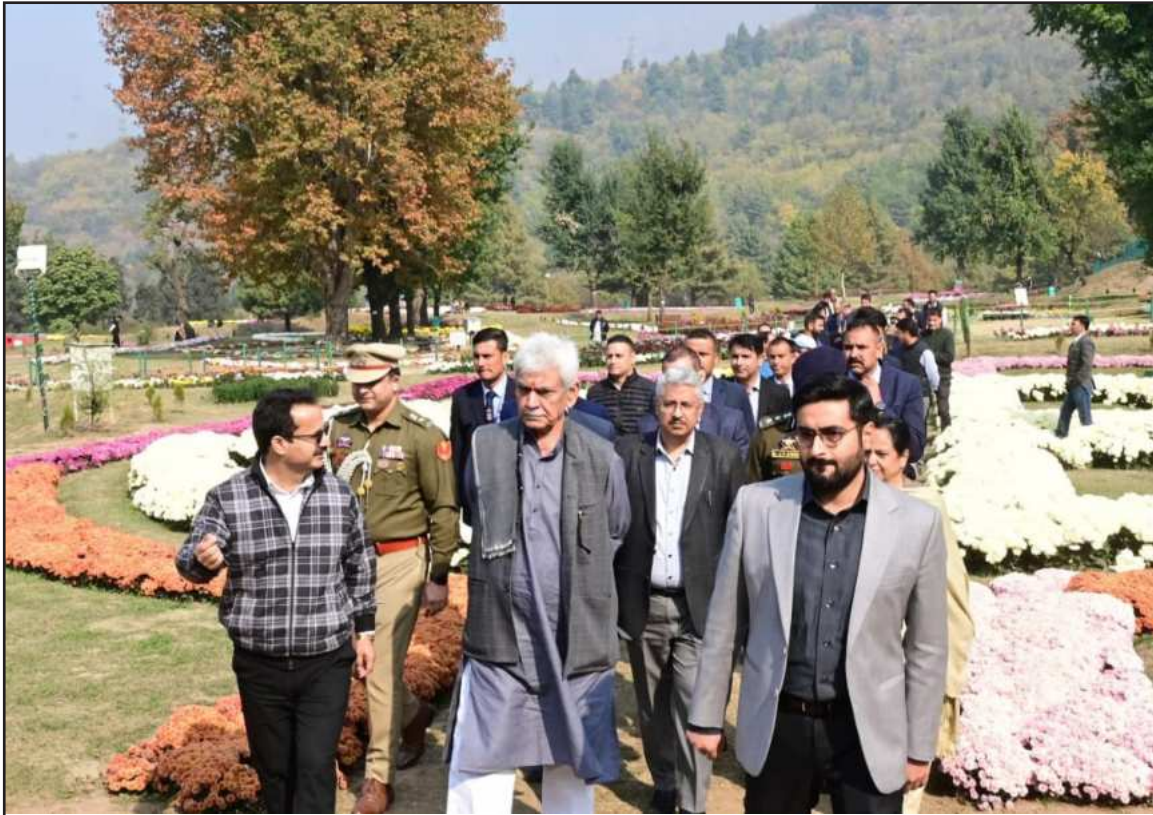
In a statement, the accused named Basharat Ali S/o Mohd Sadeeq a resident of Tad Karnah Kupwara was evading arrest in case FIR No 19/2022 of SIA Kashmir for the last three years.

The statement reads that the case pertains to a Pakistan sponsored Narco-Terror module of Lashkar-e-Toiba involved in smug-

gling of narcotics and weapons from across the border in Karnah sector.

"The proceeds from the sale of narcotic substances was pumped in to sustain terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir. Basharat is the fourth proclaimed absconder to be arrested in this case and SIA is optimistic of unraveling more linkages of the case with his arrest," it reads.

It added that this year SIA Kashmir has conducted numerous successful operations in its endeavor to dismantle the menace of narco-terrorism, resulting in the arrest of some key operatives of terror organisation.



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday visited the Valley's first Chrysanthemum Theme Garden at the Botanical Garden Srinagar

CM Lays Foundation For Boulevard Widening & Four-Laning

Rs. 19.94 Cr Project To Widen 5 Km Stretch Along Dal Lake

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday laid the foundation stone for the widening and four-laning of the Boulevard Road from Nehru Park to Kral Sangri, marking a major step in strengthening Srinagar's scenic and tourism infrastructure.

The project, being executed by the Public Works (R&B) Department at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.94 crore, will upgrade a key 5-km stretch along the iconic Dal Lake, improving connectivity and easing traffic congestion.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Khanyar Ali Mohammad Sagar, MLA Hazratbal Salman Ali Sagar, MLA Zaidal Tanveer Sadiq, MLA Chanapora Mushtaq Guroo, Chief Engineer R&B, and other senior officials were present on the occasion.

Speaking at the event, Omar Abdullah said the project will not only decongest traffic but also enhance the aesthetic and tourism value of the Dal Lake precincts.

"Travelling on Boulevard Road has become tortuous—it takes hours to reach one's destination," he said, adding that his government is planning several initiatives to decongest Srinagar's road network and provide relief to residents and tourists alike.

The Chief Minister said that for over a decade, Srinagar had not received due attention, but his government was determined to correct the neglect. "All wrongs will now be corrected and undone under our government," he asserted.

Omar emphasized that the focus on development extended beyond

Srinagar. "Even Jammu city has not got its due. The neglect faced by both cities in the past ten years will be set right by my government. We do not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, or region," he said, citing the res-

"We now plan to make it motorable again—a two-storey bridge with one level for pedestrians and another for vehicular movement," he announced.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary said the Boulevard project



toration of the Darbar Move tradition as a symbol of regional unity.

Highlighting urban planning challenges, the Chief Minister said that his government was seriously exploring decongestion and vertical housing solutions for Srinagar. "Land in Srinagar is shrinking, and we must now go vertical. Sustainable housing and city planning are top priorities for us," he added.

Referring to the footbridge near Silk Factory Rajbagh, Omar recalled that the bridge was originally designed as a motorable structure during his earlier tenure but was later downgraded to a pedestrian bridge.

will greatly improve road safety and accessibility, benefiting locals and visitors alike. Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani remarked that the initiative reflects the government's focus on infrastructure-led growth, while MLA Ali Mohammad Sagar lauded the government's sustained developmental push in Srinagar.

Once completed, the project is expected to ease traffic congestion along the picturesque lakefront corridor and offer a smoother, safer, and more scenic route for commuters and tourists, further enhancing Srinagar's reputation as one of the world's most beautiful destinations.

CCG Delegation Meets Mirwaiz

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Delhi-based Citizens' Group (CCG) called on Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq here on Saturday.

In a first such meeting after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, a CCG delegation led by former Union Minister Yashwant Sinha and comprising retired air vice-marshal Kapil Kak, senior journalist Bharat Bhushan and social activist Sushobha Barve met the Mirwaiz at his residence in Nigeen, the Mirwaiz's office said in a statement.

It said that during the interaction, the overall situation in Jammu and Kashmir and matters of public concern were discussed.

"The conversation also touched upon issues such as the need for sustained engagement, addressing humanitarian aspects including the situation of political detainees, and the importance of easing public hardships," the statement said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat hereby solemnly affirm that my wards name in the school records is unfortunately recorded as Ziyen Imtiyaz instead of Aarham Ahmad Bhat needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objections can contact Principal Noorani Pacific School Bakura within 7 days from the publication. After that no objection will be entertained.

Mob:9622442108

Media line adst

NUMBER PLATE LOST

This is to inform the public that I Zahoor Ahmad Mir S/o Gh Ahmad Mir R/o Bakura Ganderbal that the front number plate of my motorcycle, bearing Registration No JK16B-4702, has been lost.

If anyone finds the number plate, kindly contact me at 7780873995. If the number plate is not recovered, I will be applying for a duplicate through the appropriate authorities.

If anybody having any objection he/she may contact RTO Office, Ganderbal, within 7 days. After that no objection will be accepted.

Media line adst

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My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Saveeda Begum while my correct name is Saida Begum. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Saida Begum W/o Ghulam Mohamed Wani R/o Taper Waripora Tehsil Pattan fko

GOVERNMENT OF (U.T) JAMMU & KASHMIR

Office Of The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Deptt. Ground Water Division Srinagar

Baghi-Ali-Mardan, Nowshara Srinagar.

Tel./FaxNo:-0194-2411285

Extension Notice 4th

Subject: 1. Installation of Bore wells at different Spots of Chuntwaliwar District Ganderbal. 2. Installation of Bore wells at different Spots of Block Gund District Ganderbal.

Reference: This office e-NIT No. 42-JS-PHE/GWDS/Mech. of 2025-26, issued vide endorsement No: JS-PHE/GWDS/25-26/Camp./ 6630-40, dated: 11-09-2025. Bearing Tender ID No. 2025_PHE_288027_1 & 2.

Due to "POOR Response" for the above mentioned works advertised vide e-NIT No. and Tender ID No's under reference. Which was scheduled to be downloaded till 29-10-2025 Up-to 11:00 AM are extended as per the details given below: -

S.No.	Item	Fresh Date
1.	Period of submission of bids	06-11-2025 Up-to 11:00 AM
2.	Date of opening of tenders	07-11-2025 11.00 AM

NOTE: All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the aforesaid e-NIT Issued vide above referred endst: nos.

No:-JS-PHE/GWDS/25-26/Camp./ 10705-14
DIPK-7696/25
Dated: 01-11-2025

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

- 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: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJBHARA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



HIGHWAY STATUS

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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
10 Jumada al-Awwal
1447

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 26
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	4: 00
Magrib	5:41
ISHA	7: 02

This Day In History

- 676 - Donus begins his reign as Catholic Pope replacing Pope Adeodatus II
- 1327 - King Alfonso IV of Aragon crowned
- 1355 - English invasion army under King Edward lands at Calais
- 1642 - Second Battle of Breitenfeld, aka First Battle of Leipzig; victory for the Swedish army under Field Marshal Lennart Torstenson over Holy Roman Empire army under Archduke Leopold Wilhelm of Austria
- 1675 - A combined attack by the Plymouth, Rhode Island, Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut colonies attacks the Great Swamp Fort, owned by the Narragansetts during King Philip's War
- 1698 - Scottish settlers make landfall in Panama, establishing the ill-fated 'Darien Venture' colony
- 1772 - Boston: anti-English Committee of Correspondence forms
- 1783 - General George Washington, later 1st US President, bids farewell to his army after the American Revolutionary War
- 1835 - 2nd Seminole War begins in Osceola
- 1841 - Akbar Khan successfully revolts against Shah Shuja in Afghanistan
- 1861 - American Civil War: Western Department Union General John C. Fremont is relieved of command and replaced by David Hunter.
- 1868 - Time zone: New Zealand officially adopts a standard time to be observed nationally.
- 1880 - James A. Garfield (R) elected 20th US President
- 1898 - Theodor Herzl arrives in Jerusalem
- 1914 - Russia declares war on the Ottoman Empire
- 1914 - Great Britain declares the entire North Sea a military area: neutral ships will transit it at their own risk
- 1917 - Balfour Declaration proclaims support for a Jewish state in Palestine
- 1917 - Lansing-Ishii Agreement; US recognizes Japan's privileges in China
- 1920 - Warren G. Harding elected 29th US President
- 1942 - 11th day of battle at El Alamein: British assault on Tel el Aqqaqir
- 1948 - US President Harry Truman re-elected in an upset over Republican Thomas E. Dewey
- 1954 - Taiwan & US sign military pact
- 1956 - Hungary appeals for UN assistance against Soviet invasion
- 1956 - Israel captures Gaza & Sheham
- 1959 - The first section of the M1 motorway, the first inter-urban motorway in the United Kingdom, is opened between the present junctions 5 and 18, along with the M10 motorway and M45 motorway
- 1964 - Faisal succeeds Saud as king of Saudi Arabia
- 1966 - The Cuban Adjustment Act comes into force, allowing 123,000 Cubans opportunity to apply for permanent residence in the US
- 1972 - USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/ Semipalinsk USSR
- 1972 - Government of the Republic of Ireland introduce a bill to remove the special position of the Catholic Church from the Irish Constitution
- 1974 - USSR performs nuclear test at Novaya Zemlya USSR
- 1976 - Jimmy Carter (D) defeats Gerald Ford (R) for US President
- 1977 - Microbiologist Carl R. Woese and scientists from the University of Illinois announce the identification of methanogens, a form of microbial life (Archaea) dating back some 3.5 billion years
- 1978 - Crew of Soyuz 29 returns to Earth aboard Soyuz 31
- 1982 - Fire in Salung tunnel, Afghanistan, 1,000+ Russians die
- 1984 - Velma Barfield becomes the first woman executed in the United States since 1962
- 1988 - Computers virus strikes Pentagon, SDI research lab & 6 universities
- 1991- Bartholomew I becomes the Patriarch of Constantinople, head of 300 million followers of the Eastern Orthodox Church
- 1992- First test flight of Airbus A330
- 2000- The first crew arrives at the International Space Station
- 2004- George W. Bush is re-elected as President of the United States, defeating Democrat candidate John Kerry

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KO VIEW

Well Done,
Information Department

After years of unchecked chaos on social media,
Kashmir’s information department has finally
drawn a line. The era of phone-camera “reporters”
may soon face long-overdue scrutiny.

Kaisar Mir

In Srinagar, it’s now common to find someone standing in the middle of a crowd, phone in hand, talking breathlessly into the camera.

“Full story coming soon,” they say, as people gather around, some curious, others amused. A video is uploaded within minutes. Shares and comments pour in.

By evening, that “breaking” clip is everywhere, sometimes with facts bent, names twisted, and stories reshaped to fit a dramatic frame.

This has become the new identity of news in Kashmir’s digital bazaar. Almost anyone with a smartphone can be a “reporter.” A protest outside a government office, a family dispute, or a scuffle on the street becomes content.

What began as a way to show life on the ground has now become raging and reckless pursuit.

The intention was once noble. In the absence of mainstream access and representation, young Kashmiris turned their cameras toward daily life, giving visibility to people often unseen. But the platforms rewarded something else.

Algorithms favoured outrage over accuracy, emotion over evidence. Soon, the most viral stories were the noisiest.

Over time, social media news in Kashmir began to look less like journalism and more like performance. The lens followed anger. A camera pointed at an official’s desk or a roadside argument became a tool of intimidation rather than inquiry. A few voices started using the word “journalism” as a license to coerce or shame, collecting views and sometimes favours.

Behind many of these viral videos was no newsroom, editor, or verification, rather a person with a phone and a need to be seen.

Meanwhile, trained reporters who spent days chasing facts and verifying quotes found their work overshadowed. Their stories, grounded in reality, were often drowned out by the noise of handheld outrage. The audience, caught between distrust of institutions and attraction to immediacy, started to confuse spectacle with truth.

That confusion, for years, went unchecked.

Until now.
On October 31, 2025, the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) in Kashmir issued a sweeping directive to all District Information Officers. It was a rare official acknowledgment of what many in the media had discussed for years: the misuse of “media identity” by individuals with no credentials, ethics, or accountability.

The order, signed by Joint Director Information Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari, doesn’t mince words. It notes that “certain individuals, without any formal accreditation or authorization, are posing as journalists,” misusing media names for “blackmail, extortion, coercion of officials, and circulation of unverified and defamatory material.”

For the first time, the administration has directed district officers to maintain verified lists of authorized journalists, report misuse immediately, and coordinate with police and deputy commissioners on legal action.

For many in Kashmir press circles, this feels like long-overdue justice. It marks a moment when the system finally acknowledges that journalism has been under siege, from within its own collapsing ecosystem.

The unchecked rise of “freelancers” without ethics has harmed genuine reporters and eroded public trust.

The directive also calls on media houses to clean up their own spaces: to verify their stringers, issue proper ID cards, and distance themselves from anyone misusing their name. It reminds editors to uphold the code of ethics laid down by the Press Council of India. The message is simple but firm: credibility must return to the center of journalism.

For audiences, too, this could mean a change.

A new line is being drawn between free expression and impersonation, between a citizen’s right to speak and a journalist’s duty to verify. The state’s renewed vigilance may finally create a distinction that digital chaos had blurred.

Kashmir mediascape has always existed under extraordinary pressure. But amid that struggle, social media once offered hope: a window for young storytellers to speak in their own voices. Somewhere along the way, that hope got hijacked by ambition, ego, and misinformation.

This new directive is not a cure-all. It won’t instantly separate genuine reporters from pretenders. Nor will it solve the deeper crisis of trust that plagues journalism everywhere. But it sets a tone, that journalism is not an open mic for manipulation. It’s a public trust built on credibility, compassion, and care for facts.

If implemented honestly, this could restore some order to Kashmir’s digital storytelling. Real reporters might finally regain space and respect. Citizens might once again learn to question before sharing.

In the long run, the story of Kashmir media may well be remembered in two phases: before this directive, when everyone claimed to be a journalist, and after it, when the meaning of journalism began to recover.

Maybe that’s how justice begins here, with accountability, slowly stitched back into the profession that once gave Kashmir its most honest mirror.

The author is a Srinagar-based media scholar and can be reached at mirkais111@gmail.com

Basit Rasool Thokero

The decision by Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to revive the Darbar Move, a colonial-era practice of shifting the Civil Secretariat between Srinagar and Jammu, has reopened an old debate about the region’s governance priorities.

First introduced in 1872 by Maharaja Ranbir Singh, the move was intended to balance administrative presence between the two capitals and adapt to seasonal extremes: Jammu’s heat and Srinagar’s cold.

Over the years, it became a political ritual wrapped in symbolism, until it was suspended in 2021 by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for being economically wasteful and administratively unnecessary.

Four years later, its reinstatement feels like a step backward. The question is not about history or symbolism. It is about whether the government can afford such an expensive exercise when the region is still struggling with unemployment, poor healthcare, and underfunded education.

According to official estimates, the biannual shift costs around 200 crore every year. This includes the transportation of files, furniture, and equipment, the payment of travel allowances and accommodation for thousands of employees, and the logistics of running two capitals.

For a Union Territory that continues to rank among India’s most resource-constrained regions, this expenditure raises tough questions.

Can a government that claims to be digitized justify spending this much money on a symbolic migration of files and officials?

The funds could instead be used for repairing flood-hit infrastructure, improving hospitals, building schools, or creating jobs for young people who are increasingly leaving Kashmir in search of livelihood.

When a single administrative tradition consumes the equivalent



of dozens of developmental projects, it reflects a deep mismatch between governance and ground realities.

Supporters of the Darbar Move often argue that it boosts local economies in both regions, as officials and their families spend money on housing, travel, and services. But this argument overlooks who truly benefits.

Many believe that the move primarily enriches a small class of officials and business owners, particularly those with hotels and commercial properties in Jammu.

Each transfer season guarantees a surge in demand for accommodation, creating steady profits for the well-connected few while the larger public foots the bill.

The practice also imposes a serious human cost on employees.

Twice a year, thousands of families are forced to pack up and relocate, disrupting children’s schooling and separating families. Many employees leave behind elderly parents and young children as they move between the two capitals.

What was once considered a matter of prestige has become a recurring emotional and financial strain.

For many civil servants, the Darbar Move is a dreaded ordeal that drains both morale and savings.

It is telling that the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, in its 2020 judgment, called the practice

an unnecessary and wasteful activity with “no legal justification or constitutional basis.”

The court observed that such movements consume “a tremendous amount of time, effort, and energy” that could be better spent addressing the needs of the people. It even questioned the logic of diverting limited public resources toward non-essential traditions at a time when the Union Territory was struggling to provide basic services.

Despite this clear judicial disapproval, the government’s decision to bring the Darbar Move back reflects a troubling sense of misplaced priorities.

It shows how political symbolism often triumphs over administrative sense.

The same machinery that struggles to meet employment targets or restore proportionate reservation for students has acted with remarkable efficiency to revive a colonial legacy.

This contrast reveals that governance in Jammu and Kashmir is often about what can be done easily, not what must be done urgently.

The revival also exposes the limits of political imagination. Instead of using the opportunity to invest in technology-driven governance or sustainable economic models, the administration has chosen to pour

resources into nostalgia.

Such decisions send the wrong message to the citizens of a place still recovering from economic shocks, political fatigue, and environmental challenges.

At its core, the Darbar Move debate is about power, privilege, and public accountability. When 200 crore can be spent on moving offices, it becomes fair to ask why the same urgency is absent in creating jobs for thousands of unemployed youth.

When digitization has already made physical relocation redundant, reviving the practice feels less like a necessity and more like a gesture to maintain political optics.

Kashmiri people deserve more than symbolic governance. They deserve leaders who understand that progress is measured not in ceremonial traditions but in schools built, hospitals upgraded, and young people employed.

Reviving an outdated administrative ritual will not unite the two regions or heal their divisions. It only deepens the gap between those who make decisions and those who live with their consequences.

The return of the Darbar Move might remind some of the days of royal grandeur and administrative rhythm. But in today’s context, it represents something different: the triumph of nostalgia over necessity.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir have every right to ask why an archaic practice has been given precedence over their everyday struggles.

For a region that has spent decades waiting for stability, accountability, and growth, this decision feels like another reminder that governance here often moves, like the Darbar itself, in circles.

The author is a law student at the University of Kashmir. He can be reached at basitrasool765@gmail.com.

A Green Wave in Budgam?

As Budgam heads into by-elections, the political mood feels restless. Once a stronghold of National Conference, the district now wrestles with disappointment, nostalgia, and the promise of a revived People’s Democratic Party.

Raqif Makhdoomi

The streets of Budgam are alive again. From the narrow lanes of Charar to the open fields near Humhama, a familiar chorus rises each evening: “Zoun ho Zoun ho, PDP’an Zoun ho.”

The chant, once born of a mispronunciation, has become a declaration. Even as the autumn chill deepens, people stay out late, drawn by the thrill of rallies that stretch into the night.

The phrase itself has a curious history.

During the 2024 assembly campaign, People’s Democratic Party (PDP) leader Iltija Mufti, unused to the Kashmiri accent, mistakenly said “Zoon ho” instead of “Zoun ho.” The slip went viral.

Now, a year later, it echoes across Budgam as both a slogan of hope and mockery, reshaped by the people as only Kashmiris can.

The last election left Budgam in an odd state, represented, yet forgotten.

When Omar Abdullah, the National Conference (NC) leader and current Chief Minister, contested from both Budgam and Ganderbal, he promised to retain whichever seat gave him a stronger mandate. Budgam did. But he chose Ganderbal.

To many, it felt like a betrayal. For a district that shares borders with Srinagar yet remains among the least developed in Kashmir, it was another reminder of its political neglect.

Budgam’s roads are pitted, its water taps often dry. Government buildings appear frozen in the past, their paint peeling, and their purpose dimmed.

People still talk of the promise that came with 2024, of jobs, better schools, and clean water, but none of it arrived. “They said five years, but one is already gone,” a shopkeeper in Beerwah says, shaking his head.

That lost year is now at the center of this by-election.

The campaigns feel different this time: more personal, and desperate. The star campaigner missing from NC’s rallies says everything about the party’s troubles.

Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, a parliamentarian from Srinagar and once a trusted NC face, has distanced himself after months of frustration with the government’s unfulfilled promises.

Ruhullah’s silence cuts deep because his presence once defined the party’s credibility in central Kashmir.

In 2024, he had been reluctant to contest the parliamentary seat. It took persuasion from top NC leaders, who assured him they would fight for the restoration of rights taken after August 2019 and review the reservation policy. He eventually ran and won decisively, defeating PDP’s Waheed Para by over a lakh votes. His fiery first speech in Parliament made him a symbol of Kashmiri dignity.

But today, the same leaders downplay his voice. When Omar Abdullah addresses rallies, his tone toward Ruhullah borders on dismissive. In political circles, it feels like a slow unraveling, a split between old loyalties and new realities.

Meanwhile, PDP’s new face in Budgam, Aga Syed Muntazir, draws crowds that hum with energy. The chants at his rallies sound both defiant and devotional: “Ase chu Aga’as wadie kourmt, Ase chu Aga’e badshah banavun.” We have promised

“Budgam’ich seat kass, Aga’ie sebus bie kass.” Who will win Budgam? The people laugh as they chant: None other than Aga. Whether that chant becomes prophecy or parody will decide not just Budgam’s fate, but perhaps the tone of Kashmir’s politics for years to come.

Aga we will make him king.

Under the cold sky, people respond to his call of “La ilaha illa Allah” with “Kalam dawat nishaan soun”, their voices merging with the party’s pen-and-inkpot symbol.

These moments reveal how deeply people want to believe again, and how fatigue can turn into faith when the old power starts to crack.

For NC, this election is a referendum. A victory here would mean people still trust its leadership despite a year of stagnation. A loss would signal the erosion of its dominance in central Kashmir.

PDP, on the other hand, views Budgam as its redemption arc. Winning this seat would prove that it remains a living force in a post-Article 370 Kashmir where regional parties are still searching for purpose.

The Congress, meanwhile, appears missing in action. Though

formally part of the INDIA alliance, it has kept its distance from both sides. NC offered it the Nagrota seat as a gesture of cooperation, which the Congress declined, leaving Budgam to unfold as a two-way contest.

The people, however, seem less interested in alliances than in accountability. Across tea shops and roadside stalls, the talk is simple: development, dignity, delivery. “We’ve heard every promise,” says a retired teacher in Chadoora. “Now we want to see work.”

As the campaign heats up, the slogans grow louder and the stakes higher. Each party claims Budgam as its moral ground, the place that will reveal which way the Kashmiri heart beats after a year of governance fatigue.

The NC leans on its legacy, the PDP on its revival. Between them stands a restless electorate, eager to end the long wait for tangible change.

When the votes are cast and the results uploaded, the numbers will tell one story. The real story, however, is already unfolding on the streets, where people chant under the fading lights, warming themselves by the hope that their voices, this time, might matter.

“Budgam’ich seat kass, Aga’ie sebus bie kass.” Who will win Budgam? The people laugh as they chant: None other than Aga.

Whether that chant becomes prophecy or parody will decide not just Budgam’s fate, but perhaps the tone of Kashmir’s politics for years to come.

The author is a law student and rights activist based in Kashmir. He can be reached at raqifmakhdoomi818@gmail.com

Kashmir Can't Afford Late Diagnoses Anymore

AI and precision oncology are transforming breast cancer care, but doctors say early screening remains Kashmir's biggest need.

Aashiq Hussain Andrabi

Every October, Kashmir, like much of the world, turns pink. Ribbons decorate hospital walls, social media floods with statements, and everyone talks about awareness. But behind all the colour and campaigns, a painful truth remains: too many women are still being diagnosed too late.

Breast cancer has become the most common cancer among women across India. In Kashmir too, doctors are seeing a steady rise, especially among younger women.

"Symbolism doesn't save lives, early action does," says Dr. Shabnam Bashir, Director of Surgical Oncology, Division of Breast & Colorectal Cancers & Non-Cancer Disorders at Paras Hospital, Srinagar.

Dr. Shabnam has treated countless women who come in when the disease has already advanced. Many delay checkups because of hesitation, stigma, or lack of awareness.

"The pink ribbon should remind us to act, not just observe," she says.

To her, awareness is essentially about starting conversations at home, getting regular screenings, and breaking the silence that still surrounds breast health in Kashmir.

She believes the fight against breast cancer is entering a new phase. Artificial Intelligence is helping detect tumours earlier, and precision oncology now allows doctors to design treatments that fit each patient's unique needs.

Survival rates are improving, but Dr. Shabnam says technology alone cannot save lives. "Unless women feel safe to speak up and seek help early, we will keep losing precious time."

In a detailed conversation with *Kashmir Observer*, the oncologist explains how timely screening, em-

pathy, and open discussion can help change the story of breast cancer in the valley.

Every October, everything turns pink: ribbons, T-shirts, campaigns. But does it actually make a difference?

It can, if we let it. The pink is powerful, but only when it leads to action.

Awareness without follow-through is like lighting a candle and walking away before it burns.

Book your mammogram, do a self-exam, talk about breast health with your family. The colour should remind us to act, not just to observe.

The real power of pink is when someone says, "Because I saw that ribbon, I got myself checked." That's when it works.

Everyone says, "check for lumps." Is that the only red flag?

Lumps are the most talked about, but they're not the only clue. The body has other ways of waving red flags.

Notice if there's nipple discharge (especially from one side), if the nipple looks different, like it's pulled in, thickened, or has a sore that won't heal.

Even the skin can tell you something: dimpling, thickening, or discoloration. Basically, if something feels off or looks unusual, don't ignore it.

We usually think of breast cancer as a "women's disease." But men get it too, right?

Yes, and that's one of the biggest awareness gaps.

About 1% of breast cancer cases are in men, and because it's unexpected, it's often caught late. Men have less breast tissue, so the disease spreads faster. Plus, many hesitate to see a doctor because they feel embarrassed.



The message needs to be clear: breast cancer doesn't discriminate by gender.

And what about young women? It feels like they're often left out of the conversation.

Exactly. Many people assume women under 40 are "too young" to worry, but that's not true.

We're seeing more cases in younger women. They face different challenges: fertility concerns, lack of regular screening, and the emotional weight of dealing with cancer early in life.

We need to make sure awareness includes them too.

You must have heard some wild myths over the years. Which one frustrates you the most?

Oh, where do I start? The idea that breast cancer treatment always means removing the entire breast, that's a big one. Many women can safely have breast-conserving surgeries.

Then there's the fear that chemo causes permanent hair loss. It doesn't.

And the worst: "Cancer means death." That one breaks my heart because it's simply false.

Today, so many breast cancers are curable, especially when caught early. Myths create fear, and fear delays care.

Speaking of fear, mammograms scare a lot of women. They say they're painful or unsafe. What's the truth?

The truth is, it's neither painful nor unsafe. It might feel a bit uncomfortable for a moment, but it's completely worth it.

The radiation from a mammogram is minimal, less than what you get from your surroundings in a few months. It's so safe that even pregnant women can get screened with proper shielding.

The test takes a few minutes, and it can literally save your life. That's a trade-off worth making.

How has treatment changed over the years? It feels less terrifying now.

You're right, it's changed dramatically. We've moved into an era of precision medicine. That means every patient's treatment is tailored to their unique cancer type, genetic makeup, and lifestyle.

We call it "de-escalation", using just enough treatment, not more than necessary. It's smarter, more personalized, and helps patients recover better both physically and emotionally.

That emotional part, how important is mental health and fertility support during treatment?

It's huge. Cancer shakes your

entire world. Patients go through fear, anxiety, and anger. Families too. Sadly, we often overlook the psychological side. That needs to change.

And for younger women, fertility is a big concern. They should know all their options early: egg freezing, embryo preservation, whatever aligns with their life goals.

When you give people choices, you give them strength.

If you had to pick one thing everyone should do, what would it be?

Start a conversation. That's it. Talk about breast cancer at home, in schools, in offices. Talk about screening, myths, and survival.

When people talk, fear fades. And while you're at it, book your screen-

treatments are more effective, less harsh.

When awareness and science move together, hope becomes real.

Family support can make such a difference. What should loved ones actually do to help?

The best support isn't always about doing. It's about being. Be there, really listen. Let her talk about her fears, anger, confusion. Don't brush it off or tell her to "stay strong." Just listen and validate.

Then help with daily life, like rides to the hospital, cooking, and handling chores. Respect her choices, whether she wants reconstructive surgery or not, whether she wears a wig or goes natural.

And celebrate the small wins: hair growth, clear scans, and finishing treatment. Those moments are gold. They tell her she's not alone, that every step forward matters.



DON'T LET THE PINK FADE AWAY IN NOVEMBER. KEEP THE CONVERSATION ALIVE. Remind yourself and others that awareness isn't seasonal. It's survival. Every time you talk about breast cancer, you're breaking silence, busting myths, and maybe even saving a life.

ing, or remind someone else to.

Every small act of awareness can save a life.

You sound optimistic. What gives you the most hope right now?

The shift I'm seeing in people.

Women, and men, are more informed than ever. They're asking questions, showing up for screenings, supporting survivors.

And science is evolving fast:

AI seems to be everywhere now. Is it really changing breast cancer care too?

Oh yes, in big ways! AI-based 3D mammography can spot cancer years before it becomes visible to the human eye. It can predict who's at risk based on genes, lifestyle, and family history. It's helping doctors decide the best treatment, estimate recurrence risks, and even guide recovery.

And here's something beautiful: AI chatbots are helping patients emotionally too, guiding them through appointments, explaining reports, reminding them of meds.

It's like having a tech-savvy friend walking beside you on your cancer journey.

That's both hopeful and human. Any last message before we wrap up?

Don't let the pink fade away in November. Keep the conversation alive. Remind yourself and others that awareness isn't seasonal. It's survival.

Every time you talk about breast cancer, you're breaking silence, busting myths, and maybe even saving a life.

— The author is a senior scribe from Pulwama. He can be reached at cj.saha.18@gmail.com

The New Great Game

A physicist's idea, a century-old humiliation, and a Cold War opening all converge as Trump and Xi meet to redraw the world's political map.

Wajahat Qazi

Three themes, two historical events and the other a concept from physics, may best describe (or even define) the meeting between Donald Trump and Xi Jinping.

Physics first.

In this schema, singularity is a point of infinite density and spacetime curvature [...] where concepts of space and time break down. A derivative from mathematics, 'singularity' is a point where the mathematical function is not "well behaved". Conjoined together and meshed with technology, singularity is a point in time in the future where stupendous and irreversible changes lead to unknown and unpredictable changes to human civilization.

Now consider historical events.

In the 19th century Qing China, when country ran a trade surplus with the world, exporting more and importing less, imperial Britain sought to open China to the Opium trade.

Resisted by China, all in vain, leading to the First Opium War, this era, a defining one for the country, led to the unravelling of Qing China. (This including territorial losses over regions like Hongkong.) Thus was born what Chinese scholars called 'the century of humiliation'.

A pivotal time for China, the 'century of humiliation' can, in modern parlance, be held to be the country's 'foundational myth' (that has roots in real history).

The implications of 'the century of humiliation' have been stark. A bedrock principle internalized by China's political and intellectual elite, the lessons drawn are: never again and never negotiate from a position

of weakness.

Historical event two.

In 1971, at the peak of the Cold War, between the United States and the former USSR, the able but very cynical practitioner of realism, Henry Kissinger, made an opening to Mao Tse Tung's China. The aim was to engineer a split between Soviet Russia and China.

Against the backdrop of the Vietnam war and Richard Nixon's domestic shenanigans, Kissinger was eminently successful. The China opening was a historical event of great import.

Albeit seemingly unrelated, the concepts of singularity, the historical events delineated here, separated by time, all come eloquently and poignantly together in the historic meeting between Trump and Xi today. The question is how.

Consider the concepts of singularity first.

A defining feature of Donald Trump's approach to politics, all forms of the concept- physics, technological, and mathematical- mesh in the 47th president of the United States.

A 'disruptor', to borrow an inaccurate term from the start-up lexicon, Trump appears to roll back time to the 'Golden Years' of the United States, the post 1950's interlude. This naturally and inevitably has both domestic and international implications.

Emblemized by the 'Make America Great Again' (MAGA) slogan, Trump, given the US constitutional term limits on presidential office, does not have much time. To obviate this, Trump is compressing politics- international, domestic- economics, politics and cultural aspects of the same in the overall framework informed by sin-



POST AN OPTIMAL MEETING DENOUEMENT OF TWO LEADERS, Trump and Xi, whose respective notions of what is best for their people will determine war and peace, it may be duopoly for the great powers, loose form of oligopoly for others (among themselves and in relation to the duopoles) and a kind of monopsony for the rest (in terms of a favorable buy in terms of the distribution of power and resources). Would this be a fair order? Alas no. Optimal and thereby peaceful? Maybe.

gularity. Tariffs and trade policy are central to this.

The 47th president of the United State's singularity comes into sharp focus in China, a

country that has emerged as a power in its own right, but whose politico-cultural focus and orientation is informed by the 'century of humiliation' and

the lessons drawn thereof.

While the parallel with Kissinger's opening to China is not entirely accurate, but in terms of world historical import, it

holds, the real 'battle' is between Trump's singularity and Xi's conception of China.

Such is the import of the meeting that world peace, global security and the larger all-important questions of war and peace in the 21st century are entirely dependent on the outcome of the meeting.

What then can be expected from the meeting?

Nothing can be foretold given the nature of the conceptual underpinnings and issues at stake. But what is obvious is that both the international system and structure – the structural, operating and conceptual frameworks for international relations – are at this world historical stage dependent on personalities and leaders of two important nations. This is not an aberration; it has happened in the past and the past being determinative of the future, both leaders, Trump and Xi must seize the present. What would this entail?

For Trump, it means understanding in clear and lucid terms where Xi comes from, the well springs of the Chinese presidents' fears, hopes and aspirations for his country. (The century of humiliation and the never again lesson is central to these.)

On his part, the Chinese president must understand in same terms the fears, hopes and aspirations that Trump has for his country.

This starting point for negotiations between Trump and Xi will have implications for international relations. What could be the best outcome of the negotiations?

Given the stakes and the nature of the issues involved, there can unfortunately be no best outcome. What there can

be is an optimal one that corresponds to the micro-economics notion of 'pareto optimality' – 'a condition where resources are allocated on such an efficient basis that it is impossible to make one person better off without making the other worse off'.

What structure, the question is, would international relations and world order correspond to?

Given the fluidity of international relations, multiple inflection points and so on, no single theory or concepts of power, system polarity and structure appear to capture the Trump-Xi moment.

Again, microeconomics may offer an approximation.

Post an optimal meeting denouement of two leaders, Trump and Xi, whose respective notions of what is best for their people will determine war and peace, it may be duopoly for the great powers, loose form of oligopoly for others (among themselves and in relation to the duopoles) and a kind of monopsony for the rest (in terms of a favorable buy in terms of the distribution of power and resources).

Would this be a fair order? Alas no. Optimal and thereby peaceful? Maybe.

For this to happen the peoples of the world must keep their fingers crossed and pray for a trade deal between Trump's America and Xi's China!

— Wajahat Qazi holds a Distinction in International Relations from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, and brings a rare blend of scholarship and real-world engagement to global affairs. His work spans academia and media, including his tenure as Associate Editor at *Kashmir Observer*.

DM Orders Mandatory
Tenant, Employee Verification
In Jammu By Nov 6

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Authorities in Jammu have made it mandatory for all landlords, property owners, and business establishments to disclose details of their tenants, domestic helpers, and employees to the local police within seven days, officials said on Saturday.

District Magistrate Rakesh Minhas said the order, issued on Friday under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), follows a report from the Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu, highlighting the need for such a verification.

It comes a couple of days before the reopening of move offices, which were closed in Srinagar on October 31 and are scheduled to reopen here on November 3 in accordance with the age-old practice of 'Darbar Move'.

According to the directive, all property owners, contractors, and commercial establishment heads must submit particulars of their tenants and workers through a declaration form, duly signed by both the owner and the tenant/worker, either in person or via registered post to the SHO concerned.

Those who have already rented out premises or engaged workers prior to the issuance of the order must furnish the details by November



6, the directive said. Those who will do so in the future will have to similarly inform the SHO within the stipulated period of seven days.

The order directs every police station in Jammu district to maintain a separate register for tenant and employee verification records.

It clarified that all arrangements of hiring workers, as well as letting or sub-letting the property to paying guests and tenants, shall be covered by this order.

Any violation of the order will attract legal action under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the order said.

Under the Darbar Move system in Jammu and Kashmir, government offices function from Srinagar during the summer months and shift to Jammu in the winter.

The tradition was reinstated by the Omar Abdullah government on October 16, after being abolished by the lieutenant governor's administration in 2021.

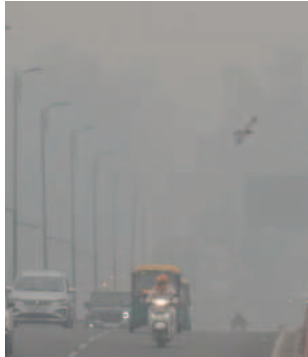
Delhi's Air Quality
Deteriorates, Slips Into
'Very Poor' Category

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Showing no signs of relief, Delhi's air quality worsened on Saturday, slipping into the 'very poor' category, with an overall Air Quality Index (AQI) reading of 303 compared to 218 recorded the day before. A thick haze of smog continued to envelop the city despite anti-pollution measures being implemented across the National Capital Region (NCR).

At 8 am, the Anand Vihar monitoring station recorded an AQI of 298, while several other locations reported 'very poor' air quality levels. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the city's average Air Quality Index stood at 303 at 4 pm, indicating a sharp decline in air quality.

An AQI between 201 and 300 is considered poor, 301-400 very poor, and 401-500 severe, per CPCB norms. Efforts to curb pollution levels. The worsening air quality follows the post-Diwali spike, typically caused by emissions, stagnant weather, and residual smoke. Stage 2 of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) remains in effect across Delhi-NCR. Wazirpur reported the highest pollution level in the city with an AQI of



383, placing it in the 'very poor' category, according to data on the CPCB's Sameer app.

Out of 38 monitoring stations in the national capital, 26 recorded air quality in the 'very poor' category (above 300), while the remaining stations fell in the 'poor' category (below 300). According to the CPCB classification, an AQI between zero and 50 is considered 'good', 51-100 'satisfactory', 101-200 'moderate', 201-300 'poor', 301-400 'very poor' and 401-500 'severe'.

The maximum temperature was recorded at 30.5 degrees Celsius, three notches below the seasonal average, while the minimum settled at 19.4 degrees Celsius, 3.3 notches above normal, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The humidity

level stood at 73 per cent at 5.30 pm. Additionally, the IMD has forecast shallow fog for Sunday morning, with the maximum and minimum temperatures likely to hover around 31 and 18 degrees Celsius, respectively.

To discourage vehicular pollution, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has doubled parking fees at all designated sites. Meanwhile, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has banned entry of non-Delhi-registered BS-III and lower commercial goods vehicles from Saturday. Passenger vehicles are currently exempt. Authorities said these measures aim to reduce vehicular emissions, one of the biggest contributors to urban smog.

Cloud seeding suspended after failed trials. Plans to induce artificial rainfall through cloud seeding have been temporarily suspended after trials earlier this week failed to produce rain due to low moisture levels. Officials said further attempts would depend on favourable atmospheric conditions. Residents—particularly children, the elderly, and people with respiratory conditions—have been advised to limit outdoor exposure as pollution levels remain elevated.

Tourists Visiting J&K Must
See Chrysanthemum
Garden: Farooq Abdullah



Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah on Saturday said the recently opened Chrysanthemum garden here would be a beautiful attraction for the tourists visiting the Valley in the autumn season. Abdullah, the president of the ruling National Conference (NC), visited the Valley's first Chrysanthemum garden, also known as Bagh-e-Gul-e-Dawood, at the Nehru Memorial Botanical Garden here.

The garden was opened to the public by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on October 25.

"This is a beautiful garden. None of the flowers here have been imported; they have been grown here. I think after the

Tulip Garden this will be the garden which would require less maintenance," the senior Abdullah told PTI Videos.

The former chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir said the Valley had nothing much to show for the autumn season, but the garden was the most beautiful attraction for the people of the country.

"They (tourists) should come here and see how beautiful this garden is and how many colourful flowers have been grown here," the NC president said.

He congratulated the Floriculture department, including the gardeners who have worked on the garden, for placing the flowers beautifully and attractively.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Around 90% of

"Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, we built new medical colleges, launched universal health insurance, and created high-quality, accessible healthcare for the people of J&K," the LG said.

He noted that around 90 percent of the population in the Union Territory is now covered under Ayushman Bharat – the universal health coverage of Rs 5 lakh per family, adding that J&K's health infrastructure has seen major transformation and is now attracting private investments in the sector.

Calling for judicious use of resources, the LG stressed the need to serve patients with compassion, sensitivity, and dedication to ensure the highest standards of care.

The event was attended by Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition in the J&K Legislative Assembly; Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson, J&K Waqf Board; Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Secretary, Health and Medical Education; Dr. Amandeep Kaur, Founder Director, Amandeep Group of Hospitals; and Nitin Nag, Managing Director & CEO, Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services, besides senior of-

ficials, doctors, and staff of the hospital.

New Era Has Begun

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, is a ₹50,000 crore Fund of Funds Scheme designed to support the growth of MSMEs and startups through a Mother Fund–Daughter Fund structure. It aims to enhance access to equity capital for enterprises across India, including emerging regions like Jammu and Kashmir.

"Entrepreneurs, investors, and policymakers are gathered here today at one place, and I am confident that a new era has begun for startups and micro and small-scale industries. The investors of Jammu and Kashmir will directly benefit from the reforms being implemented under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji," the LG said.

Calling upon venture capitalists and investors to assess J&K's potential with "sensitivity and responsibility," Sinha said industrial development and rejuvenation of startups and MSMEs in J&K is not merely a business exercise but "a duty towards the nation."

He also urged investors to provide better resources and opportunities to young

entrepreneurs, noting that the Union Territory is witnessing a growing startup culture and greater interest from private players in the industrial sector.

The event was attended by Mercy Epao, Joint Secretary, Ministry of MSME; Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, J&K; Dr. Subhanshu Sekhar Acharya, Chairman, NVCFI; Dr. Amandeep Kaur, Founder Director, Amandeep Group; Khalid Jahangir, Director, JKEDI; and senior government officials, business leaders, venture capitalists, and startup representatives.

'Rahi Masoom Raza's

at the University of Kashmir, which brought together eminent literary figures, scholars, and artists from across India and abroad.

"Dr. Rahi Masoom Raza was deeply rooted in the spiritual and cultural traditions of the country and always believed in shared humanity that transcended individual differences. He promoted interconnectedness, inclusivity, peaceful coexistence and harmony among different faiths," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Terming Dr. Raza as one of the greatest writers of his generation, Sinha said his contributions to Hindi and Urdu literature have left an indelible mark on India's literary and cultural landscape.

"The tangible and intangible legacy of Dr. Rahi Masoom Raza is priceless and a beacon of light for young generations. His writings reflected the social fabric of India – the struggles, aspirations and the unifying thread of humanity that binds us all," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor said the timeless wisdom of Dr. Raza's work carries important lessons for the present times, where harmony and collective identity remain vital for national progress.

"The rich legacy of Dr. Rahi Masoom Raza will continue to guide our society toward progress and prosperity by fostering shared identity, social cohesion, and the values of inclusivity," he added.

Calling for a revival of India's cultural and intellectual heritage, Sinha said strong national identity, rooted in tradition yet open to innovation, is key to the country's holistic growth.

"Our cultural heritage can foster collective identity, build resilience and solidarity among diverse groups to drive economic growth. We must learn from the past, gain self-confidence,

and let historical wisdom and ideals guide us toward future opportunities," he said.

The LG emphasised the need to blend tradition with technology to ensure equal opportunities for all, adding that development must be rooted in cultural consciousness.

"Our sole aim is to foster peace and prosperity to achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat," he said.

The seminar was attended by Prof. Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir; Prof. Naveen Chandra Lohani, Vice Chancellor, Uttarakhand Open University; noted film lyricist Sameer Anjaan; Brij Mohan Sharma, Principal Secretary, Culture Department; Asif Azmi, Director IDEA Communications and Convenor of the Seminar; Prof. Pervez Ahmed, Dean Students Welfare, University of Kashmir; besides senior officials, literary scholars, and a large gathering of students and academicians.

Man Gets

the outcome serves as a reminder that those involved in such acts will be brought to justice through diligent investigation and due process.

Light Rain,

farm operations on November 4 and 5 to avoid any weather-related losses.

We Don't Discriminate

government. We do not discriminate on the basis of religion, race or region," the chief minister said.

Omar cited the restoration of the Darbar Move tradition – introduced by the Dogra rulers of Jammu – as proof of his government's commitment to unity and equality across regions.

The chief minister said the widening of the Boulevard stretch would not only decongest traffic but also enhance the aesthetic and tourism value of the Dal Lake precincts.

"Travelling on Boulevard Road has become tortuous – it takes hours to reach one's destination," he said, adding that his government was planning a series of projects to decongest Srinagar's road network and provide much-needed relief to both residents and tourists.

Touching upon the city's growing housing challenges, Omar said his government was working on sustainable solutions for urban expansion. "Land in Srinagar is shrinking, and we must now go vertical. Sustainable housing and city planning are top priorities for us," he said.

Referring to the footbridge near the Silk Factory at Rajbagh, Omar recalled that it was originally designed as a motorable bridge during his earlier tenure but was later downgraded to a pedestrian bridge. "We now plan to make it motorable again – a two-storey bridge with one level for pedestrians and another for vehicular movement," he announced.

The chief minister said his government's priority was to ensure equitable and region-balanced development. "This is not just about roads and bridges – it's about restoring faith that both Jammu and Srinagar matter equally," he said.

India Targeted

underway.

"We attacked places that had the presence of terrorists. We did not target innocent civilians or defence installations. We achieved our goal in Operation Sindoor and sent a message to Pakistan that we are not like them," he said.

USG Showing Cysts

the condition comprehensively."

During the "Research Dissemination Meet", he discussed SKIMS' leadership in the ICMR-PCOS Task Force study, recently published in JAMA Open Network, which assessed 9824 women aged 18–40 years across 18 premier medical institutions in India.

Prof Ganie revealed that nearly one in five women in India is affected by Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS).

The study found alarming metabolic risks among women with PCOS – 43.2% were at risk of obesity, 91.9% for dyslipidemia, and nearly one in three for non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.

Prof. Ganie called the findings a "transformative moment for women's health in India." He said that the study offers the first robust national data on PCOS prevalence and its complications, revealing rates of 7.2% (NIH 1990 criteria), 19.6% (Rotterdam 2003 criteria), and 13.6% (AE-PCOS criteria).

The prevalence of PCOS was highest in Central and North India, and it decreased with increasing age. Urban areas showed slightly higher prevalence rates compared to rural areas.

Highlighting SKIMS' role as both a research and clinical hub, the Director said the new monthly sessions will regularly disseminate key research insights from the institute to the public.

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Athletes from 11 Countries Will Join Kashmir Marathon Today

Kashmir Marathon 2025 To Be Valley's Biggest Event Since Pahalgam Attack: Tourism Director

Observer News service

SRINAGAR: The Director of Tourism, Kashmir, Raja Yaqoob, on Saturday announced that the upcoming Kashmir Marathon 2025 will be the biggest sporting event in the Valley since the Pahalgam attack, saying it will send a powerful message of resilience and unity from Jammu and Kashmir to the world.

"Post-Pahalgam incident, this is the biggest event taking place," Yaqoob told reporters. "A strong message is being sent through this marathon that no matter what kind of terrorism occurs, it cannot break the spirit of Jammu and Kashmir."

The director said that athletes from 27 Indian states and



FILEPIC

11 countries, including Germany, Denmark, the United States, Ethiopia, Kenya, Japan, and Sri Lanka, will take part in the event. "We are expecting at

least 1,500 runners, with over 1,200 athletes already in Kashmir along with their families," he added.

Calling the 2025 edition a

"challenging but symbolic" event due to recent travel advisories and a temporary tourism slowdown, Yaqoob said the marathon represents Kashmir's determination to rise again. "Tourism dipped significantly after the Pahalgam incident, but this marathon proves that our spirit is unbreakable," he said.

The Kashmir Marathon was introduced last year under the initiative of the Chief Secretary to promote adventure and sports tourism. According to Yaqoob, the event will now be an annual fixture, with plans to expand further in scale and participation.

Highlighting the economic impact, Yaqoob said the marathon has already generated thousands of room-night book-

ings and boosted local trade. "Families, coaches, and participants have arrived early, supporting hotels, transporters, and artisans. We also plan to introduce 5K and 10K runs in summer to encourage greater local participation," he said.

The marathon will feature 21 km (half marathon) and 42 km (full marathon) categories, attracting professional runners who have previously competed in international events such as the Boston and London Marathons.

Tourism officials say the event is expected to not only showcase Kashmir's scenic routes and hospitality but also reaffirm the region's enduring message of peace, strength, and revival through sports.

Major General Tushar Sharma Takes Charge Of Kilo Force



Major General Tushar Sharma took over charge of Counter Insurgency Force (Kilo), in North Kashmir, as the 21st General Officer Commanding, succeeding Major General Vivek Narang.

Major General Tushar Sharma, an alumnus of the National Defence Academy (NDA), has tenanted various staff and command appointments in varied terrain and formations and has extensive experience in counterterrorism operations.

Record Tampering

Ex-RDD Engineer Gets 7-Year Jail Term

The Special Judge Anti-Corruption Pulwama, Dr. Noor Mohammad Mir, convicted a former Junior Engineer of the Rural Development Department in a 25-year-old corruption case for tampering with official service records.

The case, registered under FIR No. 24/2000 by the then Vigilance Organisation Kashmir (now Anti-Corruption Bureau), pertained to the manipulation of the accused's service book and date of birth to unlawfully extend his service tenure.

After a detailed trial spanning over two decades, the court found the accused guilty and sentenced him to seven years of imprisonment. The court also imposed a fine of ₹3,52,760 to compensate the loss suffered by the government.

The conviction was recorded under Sections 420, 467, and 471 of the Ranbir Penal Code, and Sections 5 and 2 of the Prevention of Corruption Act. Officials said the verdict underscores the judiciary's and the Anti-Corruption Bureau's firm stance against corruption and misuse of official authority. (KNT)

30 Films From 14 Nations To Light Up TIFFS In Jammu

Thirty films from 14 countries have been shortlisted for screening at the three-day International Film Festival of Srinagar (TIFFS), set to open on November 12, organisers said here on Saturday. The festival, now in its fourth edition, aims to turn the J-K's summer capital into a vibrant hub of global cinema, bringing together filmmakers, artists, and cinephiles. A statement from festival Directors Rohit Bhat and Rakesh Koshan Bhat said that the opening ceremony will be held on the evening of November 12 at the historic Tagore Hall, Srinagar.

"This year, TIFFS received over 100 film entries from 20 countries, out of which 30 projects from 14 countries have been shortlisted by an eminent jury panel for screening. These include 20 short films, six feature films, and four documentaries," it said.

TIFFS has evolved into a symbol of Kashmir's artistic resurgence, drawing filmmakers and audiences from across the world, it said.

"This year's response has been phenomenal, and we are excited to showcase some truly outstanding cinema that bridges cultures and celebrates storytelling," the statement added. (PTI)

Crackdown on Drug Traffickers

2 Held, Properties Worth ₹80 Lakh Attached

Jammu and Kashmir Police arrested two alleged drug peddlers and attached properties of two other individuals accused of being narcotics traders in separate incidents in the Kathua and Poonch districts on Saturday, an official said.

The police arrested Rasheed and Koushal, both residents of Kathua from the Rajbagh area of the district and recovered 10.5 kg of bhukki (poppy straw) from them, a police spokesman said, adding that a case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered against them for further investigation.

In another case, properties including two residential houses and three cars belonging to Nazakat Hussain and Mukhtar Ahmed, both residents of Poonch, were attached by a team of Udhampur police in a case registered against them under the narcotics prevention law and BNS, a police spokesman said. (PTI)

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

"Every soul shall taste death, then unto Us you shall be returned." - (Surah Al-Ankabut, Verse 57)

Death is an undeniable truth — the inevitable journey that every soul must take. What remains eternal are a person's deeds, sincerity, and service to humanity.

With deep sorrow and heartfelt grief, the Intizamia Committee Of Masjid Imam Mahdi (A.S.), Syed Merak Shah Colony, Habak expresses its profound condolences on the passing of the late Ghulam Nabi Nanda son of the Ghulam Mohammad Nanda.



The departed was a man of integrity, simplicity, and dedication — a sincere soul who always strove for the welfare of others. He lived a life of hard work, honesty, and faith. His contribution to public benefit, especially his leading role in the construction of the bridge at Mir Bahri Dal, stands as a lasting testimony to his commitment to community service. That bridge continues to benefit the residents of Takiya Lal Shah — a living Sadaqah Jariyah (continuous charity) for his soul.

Known affectionately as "Saagar," the late Ghulam Nabi Nandah was a symbol of perseverance and dignity. He never shied away from hard work and always earned his livelihood through pure and lawful means. His life remains a lesson in humility, perseverance, and service for all of us. May Almighty Allah forgive his shortcomings, elevate his ranks, illuminate his grave with mercy and light, and reward him abundantly for his good deeds. We pray that the bereaved family is granted patience, strength, and divine comfort in this time of loss.

"Indeed, we belong to Allah, and indeed, to Him we shall return." (Qur'an 2:156)

The Fateha Khwani of the late Ghulam Nabi Nandah will be held on Monday, 3rd November.

From: Intizamia Committee Imam Mahdi (A.S.), Mosque Syed Merak Shah Colony, Habak

Unity In Diversity Is India's Invisible Power: LG Sinha

Foundation Day of 13 States & UTs Celebrated at Raj Bhawan



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Foundation Day of 13 States & Union Territories including Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry was celebrated in Raj Bhawan in presence of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

Addressing the gathering, the Lieutenant Gov-

ernor said that the Foundation Day Celebration of different States and UTs is a key mechanism of cultural bonding.

"It symbolises unity in diversity and shared trust. Our unity is the invisible power, enabling us to work with a shared vision of a strong and Viksit Bharat," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He called upon the people to strengthen the cultural and spiritual bond, celebrate the shared legacy and promote a unified In-

dian identity.

"I strongly believe that cultural, spiritual and emotional bonds forged across different languages and cultures of our great country Bharat can act as a most powerful engine for progress. We must transform our diversity into a multiplier force of resilience and innovation to achieve the collective goal of peace, progress and prosperity," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor complimented the artists for their excellent presentation of folk songs and folk dances of various States and Union Territories.

Officials of Civil and Police administration, Students, and the people of Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry were the special invitees.

Why Don't Politicians Ask Questions In Kashmir?: CM

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: "In Kashmir, we (politicians) are not in the habit of asking questions to people, and people are not in the habit of answering as well," Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah quipped at an event on Saturday.

Speaking after laying foundation stone for the widening of Boulevard Road from Nehru Park to Kral Sangri here, Abdullah said that politicians

in Kashmir has stopped

asking questions to people at public meetings as they were not sure of the responses.

"You must have noticed a huge difference in the speeches made by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary and me. He has done politics in Jammu, where you get a simple reply for a simple question. Here in Kashmir, we don't ask questions to people, we have lost that habit in the last 35 years," Abdullah said in a lighter vein.

"If you are giving a

speech about roads and you ask people what they want, in Jammu you will hear (the audience say) 'roads'. If you ask it in the Valley, you're not sure what response you will get. Hum kya chahte (what do we want)? 'Tai tai phis!' (no response)," Abdullah said referring to separatist slogans in the Valley before 2019, drawing laughter from the audience.

"So, we are not in the habit of asking questions, and people are not in the habit of answering as well," Abdullah said.

Saffron On The Edge: Pampore Growers Report 90% Decline



Abid Bhat/KO

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Kashmir's famed saffron sector is once again in crisis, with growers in Pampore — known as the "Saffron Bowl of Kashmir" — warning that this year's yield has fallen by nearly 90 percent, pushing thousands of families into distress.

Farmers say production this season is barely 10-15 percent of normal levels, with many fields yielding little to nothing. They fear that if immediate measures aren't taken, the centuries-old crop that defines Kashmir's cultural and economic identity may soon disappear.

"This year the corms haven't sprouted properly at all," said Abdul Majeed Wani, President of the Saffron Growers Association J&K. "Production is hardly 15 percent. It isn't even half of last year's crop, which itself was only about 30 percent of the normal harvest. Every year it is decreasing, and the government doesn't seem serious about

safeguarding this sector."

According to growers, repeated long dry spells, lack of irrigation, and the poor quality of corms available in recent years have devastated saffron fields. They have appealed to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and the Agriculture Minister to intervene urgently and take emergency steps.

Their demands include immediate irrigation facilities, regular monitoring of saffron meadows, strict action against illegal corm extraction, and the availability of high-quality corms for replantation.

The area under saffron cultivation has drastically declined — from 5,707 hectares in 1996-97 to just 2,387 hectares in 2019-20, a reduction of nearly 65 percent. Government data shows production dropped from 17.33 metric tonnes in 2021 to 14.87 MT in 2022, with a negligible rise to 14.94 MT in 2023. However, growers claim these figures do not reflect the grim ground reality.

"Last year's real output was barely 20 percent of an average harvest — and this year is even worse," said a Pampore grower.

While the National Mission on Saffron (NMS) has managed to revive some fields through sprinkler irrigation and farmer awareness programmes, experts warn that its impact has been limited. "Siphoning off of corms and poor land management continue to negate the gains achieved under the mission," said an agricultural scientist from SKUAST-K.

Pampore's saffron — prized worldwide for its deep crimson hue, aromatic thread, and medicinal value — has been more than just a crop; it is a symbol of Kashmir's identity and heritage.

"Revival of saffron isn't just about saving a crop; it's about preserving a tradition, a culture, and an identity," said a group of distressed growers. "If immediate and effective measures aren't taken, by 2030 there may be no saffron left in Pampore." (inputs from KNO)

CAT Orders Retrospective Regularisation Of Contingent Worker from 2008

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) Srinagar Bench has directed the Jammu and Kashmir Education Department to retrospectively regularize a long-serving contingent worker as a Class-IV employee with effect from October 16, 2008, under SRO 308 of 2008, while also ordering the counting of 50 percent of his contingent service towards qualifying pension benefits.

The order was pronounced by Mr. D.S. Mahra (Member-Judicial) in O.A. No. 1775/2021 filed by Mohammad Amin Baba, a resident of Barzulla Panzigam, Bandipora. The applicant was represented by Advocate B.A. Tak.

According to the tribunal's findings, the applicant had been engaged on a contingent basis as early as July 5, 1992, and continued to serve continuously and satisfactorily for nearly three decades. Despite fulfilling all criteria

under SRO 308, his regularization was delayed until September 4, 2020, depriving him of lawful monetary and service benefits.

The tribunal noted that the delay in extending regularization was entirely administrative and not attributable to the applicant. It observed that once SRO 308 was notified on October 16, 2008, the respondents were legally bound to consider all eligible contingent-paid employees for regularization from that date.

Referring to a previous judgment in Zerifa Begum's case, the tribunal, as per the news agency Kashmir News Trust reiterated that a contingent-paid or work-charged employee subsequently brought on regular establishment is entitled to count 50 percent of such service towards qualifying service for pension and that regularization should take effect from the date of eligibility under the applicable SRO.

Allowing the application, the tri-

bunal directed the respondents to treat the applicant as deemed regularized from October 16, 2008, fix his pay and seniority accordingly, count 50 percent of his contingent paid service from 1992 to 2008 towards qualifying service for pension, and release all consequential pensionary benefits.

The Education Department has been given eight weeks from the receipt of the order to complete the entire process. The tribunal made no order as to costs. [KNT]

Naseer Ahmad Wani Takes Helm Of School Education Kashmir

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Naseer Ahmad Wani formally took charge as Director School Education, Kashmir (DSEK) on Saturday, receiving a warm welcome from officers and staff who pledged support in advancing the region's educational goals.

Addressing officials after assuming office, Wani outlined his priorities with a clear message: students must remain at the center of every decision.

"Our focus should always



remain on the students," he said. "We must work collectively to ensure their holistic growth and development. Every reform and initiative should help shape responsible, confident, and

capable citizens."

The Department of School Education serves more than a million students across the valley, many studying in government-run institutions that

continue to face challenges ranging from teacher shortages to infrastructure gaps.

Wani's appointment comes at a crucial time as the department works to strengthen learning outcomes and bridge disparities exposed by years of disruption and digital divides.

The Directorate also paid tribute to Dr. G. N. Itoo, Director General of School Education, Jammu and Kashmir, for his impactful tenure marked by accessibility and humane administration.

Mian Altaf Urges LG, CM To Restore Age Relaxation for CCE Aspirants

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) senior leader and Member of Parliament Mian Altaf Ahmad has urged Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to restore age relaxation for aspirants of the Jammu and Kashmir Combined Competitive Examination (CCE).

In a statement, Mian Altaf said he took up the issue

after receiving representations from aspirants seeking parity with other states. He has written to both the LG and the CM, urging them to personally look into the matter and issue necessary directions. "The request of open category candidates regarding age relaxation in the JKPCS Combined Competitive Examination 2025 is genuine, J&K is the only UT in the country with an age limit of 21-32 years," Mian Altaf wrote in his letter.

69th National School Games: J&K Remains Overall Champion With 4 Gold

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The 69th National School Games in Wushu (Under-17 Category) for boys and girls concluded on Saturday at Government College of Physical Education, Ganderbal, marking the end of a thrilling sporting spectacle hosted by the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports J&K.

In a fitting finale, Team J&K emerged as the overall champion, displaying a commanding performance across both boys' and girls' categories. The host contingent clinched 8 medals — including 4 Gold, 3 Silver, and 1 Bronze, establishing its dominance on home turf. Rajasthan followed closely as the runner-up, with impressive bouts and spirited participation throughout the competition.

The championship witnessed intense and disciplined contests among more than 40 teams from various States and Union Territories, showcasing the rapid rise of



Wushu as a leading martial art among school athletes in India.

Among the many memorable performances, J&K's Jiya Manhas stole the spotlight in the Girls' 48 kg category, winning Gold with her clinical and composed display. She was also adjudged the Best Female Player of the tournament for her remarkable technical and tactical brilliance.

In the Boys' section, Mohd Arhaan Par-ray (70 kg), Suryansh Singh (65 kg), and Mohd Haseeb Sheikh (80 kg) also struck Gold for J&K, while Kaphish Bharat Rakwal (52 kg) and Rutba Shabir (65 kg, Girls) added to the medal tally with Silver medals.

Their stellar efforts not only lifted J&K to the top of the medal chart but also reflected the growing sporting culture and youth talent nurtured under the DYSS J&K.

The closing ceremony was graced by enthusiastic participation from athletes, coaches, managers, and officials, who applauded the flawless organisation of the championship.

K2K Cycling Expedition Flagged Off From TRC In Srinagar



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The much-awaited Kashmir to Kanyakumari (K2K) Cycling Expedition was flagged off on Saturday from TRC Stadium by Secretary, J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul.

The event marks the celebration of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 150th birth anniversary, symbolizing the spirit of national integration and unity that the Iron Man of India envisioned.

A total of 150 cyclists from across India have embarked on this remarkable journey, including 20 women and one cyclist from Kashmir, Rafiq Ahmad.

Speaking on the occasion, Nuzhat Gul said, "The K2K expedition is not just a test of endurance but a

tribute to the spirit of unity and the diversity that makes India truly great. Starting this journey from the land of Kashmir the crown of India gives it even deeper meaning. It reflects the nation's strength, inclusivity, and collective resolve to stay united and fit."

Over the next 18 days, the cyclists will traverse 4,249 kilometres pedaling through diverse terrains, climates, and cultures as they move from the serene valleys of Kashmir to the southern tip of Kanyakumari.

The event has been organised with the support of the J&K Sports Council, Fit India Movement, Sports Authority of India, and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.

J&K Deaf Cricket Team Leaves For 9th IDCA Tournament In Delhi

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar on Saturday flagged off the J&K Deaf Cricket team to New Delhi for its participation in the 9th All India T-20 Indian Deaf Cricket Association tournament being held in the National Capital from November 3.

The Divisional Commissioner extended his good wishes to the talented players and motivated them to give their best in the championship and act as ambassadors of J&K. The cricket team is being led by its captain Suhail Ahmad Ganie.

Sports administrator and Member of the Governing Council (Sports), Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board,

Ranjeet Kalra, accompanied the team.

Umar Ashraf, a member of the team, expressed gratitude to business entrepreneurs Aman Modi and Khalid Malik for supporting the team with travel and accommodation logistics. He also thanked the Divisional Commissioner for the warm hospitality extended to the team.

The team consists of Suhail Ahmad Ganie (Captain), Amir Rouf (vice captain), Umar Ashraf (WK) Hilal Wani, Shakir Fayaz, Sharik Majeed, Bilal Bhat, Zaheer Abass, Peer Mohammad Arif, M. Shafi, Syed Azhar, Tajala Gaffor, Muzaffar Ahmad, Hanuman Ram, Irfan Ahmad (Manager) and Sajad Chowdhary (Coach).



Foreign Athletes Soak In Kashmir's Beauty Ahead Of Marathon



Agencies

SRINAGAR: With the Kashmir Marathon just hours away, foreign athletes in Srinagar were seen soaking in the beauty of Dal Lake and the surrounding mountains, calling the Valley "one of the most beautiful marathon routes in the world."

During their media interaction in Srinagar here, the athletes admired the stunning Dal Lake and the snow-capped Zabarwan range that will frame their race on Sunday morning, expressing excitement about running alongside such natural splendour. Thersia, an Olympic-level runner, said she felt deeply moved by the energy of the Valley.

"The feeling here is very nice," she said. "The people are warm and welcoming and it feels peaceful and inspiring."

Another participant from Denmark said this would be her first half-marathon outside Europe. "It is really beautiful here, the lake, the mountains, everything looks like a painting," she said. "I am really, really excited about the run."

Another Danish athlete, who has visited India several times, said Kashmir feels like a new world altogether. "This is my fourth visit to India, but my first time in Kashmir," she said, adding that the culture and nature here are so different. "Running around the lake will be a wonderful experience."

With the second edition of the Kashmir Marathon set to begin Sunday morning, the runners have expressed immense enthusiasm and excitement ahead of the race. (KNO)

12th UT Tennikoit C'ship 2025 Kicks Off In Pahalgam



The 12th UT Tennikoit Championship 2025, conducted by the J&K Tennikoit Association in collaboration with the J&K Sports Council, commenced at the Sports Stadium, Pahalgam, on Saturday.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by ASP Rameez Raja as the Chief Guest, while SDPO Farooq Ahmad Wani and SHO Parveez Ahmad Rather were the Guests of Honour. The event also witnessed the presence of Mohd Isaq, Co-Chairman, Tennikoit Federation of India, Kausar Jabeen, Secretary, JKTA, G.A. Beigh, Patron, JKTA, Sahil Muzaffar, Organising Secretary, Ishtiyag Amin, Organising Chairman, 12th UT Championship, along with District Secretaries and other officials of JKTA.

More than 200 players from across Jammu and Kashmir are participating in the championship. (Observer News Service)

India Women Eye Historic World Cup Glory Against South Africa

Indian women's cricket stands on the brink of a watershed moment, reminiscent of the men's historic 1983 triumph, with the Harmanpreet Kaur-led side determined to end its ICC trophy drought when it faces a formidable South Africa in the Women's World Cup final here Sunday. The 13th edition of the World Cup is guaranteed to crown a new champion — between third-time finalists India and first-time finalists South Africa — both riding on the back of remarkable campaigns.

A title triumph could trigger an unprecedented surge of interest in women's cricket in India, inspiring a new generation of young girls to take up the sport — perhaps even more than the advent of the Women's Premier League did three seasons ago. But the hosts will need to quickly move past their emotionally draining semifinal win here three nights ago — one that might have already earned them the "favourites" tag. (PTI)

3rd T20I: With No Hazlewood, Indian Batters Can Breath Easy

The Indian batters will breathe a little easier in the absence of Josh Hazlewood as they look to put up an improved performance, but the baffling omission of left-arm seamer Arshdeep Singh continues to raise eyebrows ahead of the third T20 International against Australia on Sunday.

Hazlewood's pinpoint accuracy when it comes to hitting the right length, coupled with disconcerting bounce that he always generates around the corridor of uncertainty did become a bit of a nightmare for the Indian batters. (PTI)

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