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## J&K On High Alert After Delhi Blast

500 Locations Linked To Jel Raided



Observer News Service

Srinagar: In one of the largest coordinated crack-downs in recent years, Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday conducted raids at around 500 locations across the Valley linked to terrorist associates and members of the banned Jamaat-e-Islami (Jel) and other proscribed organisations.

Officials said the extensive operation was launched following credible intelligence inputs suggesting attempts by Jel-linked elements to revive their | [More on P6](#)

- Jel-linked associates, OGWs under scanner
- Incriminating material, digital devices seized
- Security checks, patrolling intensified
- CCTV surveillance, frisking, and checking stepped up.
- Police urge public vigilance and cooperation
- Extra forces deployed at key sites

### Police Keenly Monitoring Social Media

Agencies

Jammu & Kashmir Police on Wednesday intensified efforts to curb the misuse of social media platforms for spreading hate, misinformation, and divisive content. Police units across several districts issued separate advisories warning users against posting or sharing anti-national, communal, or inflammatory | [More on P6](#)

## HIV Cases Rise in J&K; 117 in 3 Months

Agencies

Srinagar: The HIV cases in Jammu and Kashmir are showing a steady increase, with 117 positive patients registered for care from April to June 2025.

As per the details, from April to June 2025, 117 HIV-positive individuals, including 80 males, 34 females, and three minors, were registered for HIV care.

This information was disclosed through a Right to Information (RTI) file obtained by RTI activist MM Shuja.

According to the data, 361 new cases were registered in 2019-20, with 17 deaths in the same year. In 2020-21, 206 cases

were registered and 12 people died; in 2021-22, 272 cases were registered with 19 deaths; in 2022-23, 374 cases with 21 deaths; in 2023-24, 338 cases with 14 deaths; and in 2024-25, 403 cases with 16 deaths.

Meanwhile, health experts in Jammu and Kashmir have urged people to adopt preventive measures and spread awareness to protect themselves and others from Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which continues to be a serious public health concern.

Doctors said that despite advancements in treatment and increased awareness, new cases are still | [More on P6](#)

## Red Fort Blast A Terror Attack; JeM 'Doctor Module' Involved: Govt

Cabinet Adopts Resolution, Reaffirms Zero Tolerance to Terror



KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Government on Wednesday termed the blast near the Red Fort as a "terrorist incident", as investigations revealed that Dr Umar Nabi, who was driving the explosives-laden car, had planned an attack to coincide with the Babri Masjid demolition anniversary on December 6.

Officials said the blast, which occurred on Monday evening and claimed 12

lives while injuring several others, was "a heinous act perpetrated by anti-national forces."

A meeting of the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi upon his return from Bhutan, directed investigating agencies to deal with the case with "utmost urgency and professionalism."

The Cabinet adopted a resolution expressing grief over the loss of lives and reaffirmed | [More on P6](#)

### Those Behind The Blast Will Be Punished: PM

Visits Blast Survivors, Assures Justice

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday visited the Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan (LNJP) Hospital in the national capital to meet the survivors of the Red Fort blast, assuring that those behind the attack will be brought to justice.

"Went to LNJP Hospital and met those injured during the blast in Delhi. Praying for everyone's quick recovery. Those behind the conspiracy will be brought to justice," the Prime Minister said in a post on X after his visit.

Officials said that Modi, who returned from his state visit to Bhutan earlier in the



day, drove straight to the hospital to inquire about the condition of those injured in the powerful explosion that ripped through a slow-moving car near the Red Fort traffic signal on Monday evening, killing 12 people and injuring several others.

During his visit, the Prime Minister | [More on P6](#)

## Valley Shivers As Srinagar Hits -1.6°C

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The winter chill has tightened its grip over the Kashmir Valley, with Srinagar—the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir—recording the coldest night of the season at minus 1.6 degrees Celsius, officials from the Meteorological (MeT) Department said on Tuesday.

According to the MeT data, Pahalgam remained the coldest place in the Valley, with the mercury dipping to minus 3.8 degrees Celsius. Qazigund, the gateway to Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 1.5 degrees, while Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at minus 2.0 degrees Celsius.

Gulmarg recorded a minimum temperature of minus 1.0 degrees Celsius, and Kokernag registered a low of 0.8 degrees Celsius.

Unlike the night temperatures, the day temperatures stayed above normal across most parts of the Valley, except in Gulmarg, where the maximum temperature was recorded at 8.4 degrees Celsius—slightly below the normal of 9.2 degrees.

Director MeT, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad said that there is no forecast of | [More on P6](#)

## Terrorism Devastated J&K Youth For 3 Decades: LG

'Youth Must Lead J&amp;K's Growth Through Development Strategies' | Calls On Locals To Help Forces Identify Those Supporting Terrorism

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said terrorism had destroyed the dreams and aspirations of Jammu and Kashmir's youth for more than three decades, but the new generation is now shaping the Union Territory's future through innovation, education, and entrepreneurship.

Speaking at the valedictory session of the Foundation Day celebrations of the Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST) at Awantipora, Sinha said massive infrastructure and institutional growth achieved in the last five years has paved the way for economic transformation.



"We have created massive infrastructure in the last five years, and now young professionals must focus on development strategies to change J&K's fortunes," the Lieutenant Governor said. Sinha inaugurated the IUST

Innovation Campus and a new Administration Block at the main campus, and lauded the university's transformation since 2021. He said the institution had achieved remarkable milestones in research, | [More on P6](#)

### Showcase J&K's Transformation Post 2019: LG To Filmmakers

Observer News Service

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday urged filmmakers to use cinema as a

powerful medium to narrate the ordeals of terror victims, expose the ringleaders of the terror ecosystem, and showcase the transformation Jammu and | [More on P6](#)

## Mian Qayoom's Property Attached Under UAPA

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir's Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Wednesday ordered the attachment of immovable property belonging to former High Court Bar Association (HCBA) president, Advocate Mian Abdul Qayoom, in connection with a 2009 case related to an anti-India seminar.

According to officials, the double-storey house located at Bulbul Bagh, Barzulla in Srinagar, measuring 2 kanals and 1 marla, has been attached under provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The J&K Police, in a post on X, said: "DGP Nalin Prabhat orders the attachment of the property of Pakistani agent and terrorist, Mian Qayoom."

The order, issued by the Police Headquarters, is linked to FIR No. 157/2009 registered at Police Station Shaheed Gunj under

Sections 120, 121, 153-A RPC and Sections 13, 38, 39 of UAPA.

As per the case details, the police had received information that a seminar organised at Hotel Jehangir, Srinagar, on December 31, 2009, marking the death anniversary of Mohammad Ali Jinnah, featured anti-India speeches and secessionist slogans.

The seminar was attended by several separatist figures, including Aasia Andrabi, Shabir Ahmad Najar, and Mian Qayoom.

During subsequent searches, police recovered banned literature, Hizbul Mujahideen documents, a letterhead with seal, and a letter from Syed Salahuddin to former US President Bill Clinton from Qayoom's residence.

Authorities said the property qualifies as "proceeds of terrorism" under Section 2(g) of the UAPA, and its attachment was approved under Section 25 of the Act. | [More on P6](#)

## SC Orders HCs To Display Verdict On Websites

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: To enhance transparency and accountability, the Supreme Court on Wednesday directed all the high courts in the country to create a dashboard on their websites giving details of judgements reserved after January 31, verdicts pronounced, and the date of uploading on their platforms.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi, which has taken a critical view of several high courts, including the Jharkhand High Court, not delivering verdicts in both criminal and civil cases for years together after hearing the final arguments and reserving their decisions, said this data should be in public domain.

"Let everyone know how many judgements were reserved, in how many cases orders were passed and on which date the decision was uploaded on the high court website,"

Justice Kant said.

Concurring with Justice Kant, Justice Bagchi said, "Creating a dashboard or a separate window on the high court's website will show the accountability of the judiciary towards the people".

The top court was hearing a batch of pleas of which one, filed initially by several death row and life convicts

through advocate Fauzia Shakil, complained to the top court that the Jharkhand High Court did not deliver judgements for couple

of years on their appeals against conviction and sentence, after hearing the final arguments and reserving the decisions.

However, immediately after the apex court's nudge, the Jharkhand High Court delivered the verdicts in their matter and most of them were acquitted of their charges.

Similarly, | [More on P6](#)

## Kashmir Students Turn Kitchens Into Climate Frontlines

Climate activist Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat shows students how small daily actions can cut Srinagar's waste by more than half.

Ansar Hussain

Srinagar: On a crisp Wednesday morning at the Government College for Women on M.A. Road, students gathered to hear a warning and a challenge: Kashmir's waste crisis is growing, and the choices made today will decide the valley's tomorrow.

The workshop, focused on shrinking spaces and climate change, highlighted a pressing problem. Urban growth and population pressures are leaving the valley with shrinking land and fewer options for proper waste disposal. Landfill sites are crowded, and authorities are struggling to keep up.

"Families in Srinagar who have even a small garden must start composting kitchen



waste," said Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat, chairman of the J&K Climate Action Group. "If every household does this within a

year, we can cut the city's daily waste from 700 metric tons to 200."

Dr. Bhat urged the students

and staff to lead by example, processing biodegradable waste generated on campus. "Garden leaves, food scraps,

vegetable and fruit peelings can return to the soil instead of piling up in landfills," he said.

Principal Yasmeen Farooq stressed the need for sustainable living. "Climate change is not distant. It is affecting our valley now," she said. She pledged further efforts to make the college campus greener and more climate-friendly.

The workshop included practical demonstrations. Dr. Bhat showed students and faculty how to segregate waste at the source. Professors Asiya Shireen, Suzana Bashir, and M.Y. War joined in, along with multimedia journalist Sajad Rasool and environmental filmmaker Arsalan Ibrahim.

By the end of the session, participants were sorting kitchen scraps and | [More on P6](#)





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2

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
IRRIGATION & FLOOD CONTROL DIVISION, GANDERBAL

PIN: 191201, PHONE: 0194-2416246, EMAIL-exenifcdganderbal@ifckashmir.com

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER  
e-NIT No: 30 of 2025-26 (e-Tendering)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-Tenders (In Single Cover System) are invited on Aggregate Percentage Basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with Union Territory of J & K Government for the following work to be opened by the Executive Engineer Irrigation and FC Jal Shakti Division Ganderbal:-

S No.	Name of Work	AAA	Advertise- ment Cost (in Lacs)	Cost of Tender Doc. (In Rs)	Earnest Money in Rs.	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Head of A/C M-H
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
01	Checking of leakages at New colony Mir Mohalla on Dab Canal D/S Shah Kalander Construction of F/C on minor of Asham Branch of Lar canal near L/o Nazir Ah Bhat at Barkati Mohalla Safapora.	Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circle Sgr/Gbl's Order No. 46 of 2025-26 Dated: 23.10.2025	2.48	200	7450/-	21 Days	DEE	MH 2701 M&R
02	Construction of L/Wall on left embankment of Kanvati B/O Dab Canal Near L/o Bashir Ah Tantray and Others at Bodkha-Batwina B.		2.50	200	7500/-	21 Days	DEE	MH 2701 M&R
03	Construction of L/Wall on R/S of Dab Canal near L/o Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat at Lar		2.50	200	7500/-	21 Days	DEE	MH 2701 M&R
04	Construction of L/Wall near H/O Manzoor Ah Bhat S/o Ali Mohammad Bhat at Wakura.		2.50	200	7500/-	21 Days	DEE	MH 2701 M&R
05	Construction of L/Wall on Dab Canal near H/O Nazir Ahmad at Parraypora Kurhama.		2.49	200	7500/-	21 Days	DEE	MH 2701 M&R
06	Construction of P/Wall on L/S of Nov kul B/O Dab Canal at Lar		2.50	200	7500/-	21 Days	DEE	MH 2701 M&R
07								

Total Number of Work is 07 (Seven Works)  
Position of Funds: 100% Budgetary Provision.

Position of AAA: Accorded

Position of TS: Accorded

1) The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be seen/ downloaded on e-procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

01	Publishing Date	12-11-2025 10:00 A.M
02	Download Date Start	12-11-2025 10:00 A.M
03	Bid submission Date Start	12-11-2025 10:00 A.M
04	Bid submission Date End	17-11-2025 04:00 P.M
05	Bid opening Date	18-11-2025 11:00 A.M

2) The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in

3) The bids uploaded on the Web site up to due date and time will be opened on 18.11.2025 at (11:00 AM) in the Office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Ganderbal in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. In case of Holidays or office happening to be closed on the date of opening of the bids, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. The complete bidding process will be online.

4) Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document (Non- Refundable/ Non- transferrable) to be deposited under MH: 0702-Rev. Misc. in shape of Treasury Challan / receipt or e-Challan (mentioning therein e-NIT No and Serial No of Work) to be pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Irrigation and FC Jal Shakti Division Ganderbal and earnest money/ bid security in shape of CDR/ FDR pledged to the Executive Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control Division Ganderbal, besides the dates on the Instruments must not be prior to date of issuance of this Notice. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of Price bids.

5) All the prospective bidders shall necessarily ensure that the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in shape of CDR/ FDR/ TDR/ BG or any other approved format has been prepared and issued from the same bank account which shall be provided for payments. The details of such bank account shall be uploaded by the prospective bidder necessarily.

6) The documents to be uploaded by all the bidders shall be verified from the issuing authority before accepting the technical bid. If any document uploaded by the prospective bidder is found to be fabricated/ forged/ fraud, the bidder shall be outrightly rejected and action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against such bidder which shall include but not limited to:

A) Debarment of the bidder for at least two years.

B) encashment of the Earnest money deposit.

C) criminal proceedings.

D) Cancellation of Pre Contract Negotiations of all other works where such bidder is lowest or under consideration bids.

7) The Contractor shall complete the work within the stipulated time period as specified in the contract. The time of completion shall be deemed to include execution of the work under all weather conditions, including adverse climatic circumstances. Any delay in execution of the work on account of such conditions shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor, and no extension of time or additional compensation shall be granted for the same.

8) Penalty for Delay on account of Contractor: In the event of delay in completion of the work within the stipulated time period, if such delay is not justified and is attributable to the Contractor, a penalty may be imposed. The amount of penalty shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total contract value. The decision of the Engineer-in-Charge regarding the imposition and quantum of penalty shall be final and binding on the Contractor.

9) The rates quoted for concrete items shall be inclusive of Rapidite / quick setting powder etc to be used during the sub zero temperature. No separate payment shall be made for this.

10) Nothing if even involved during execution shall be paid on account of dewatering, construction of diversion bunds and ramps and roads required during execution, taking of photographs, videography, documentary of 30 minutes and 60 minutes including the required drone shoots.

11) Nothing shall be paid on account of execution of quantities in or under water/ liquid mud, in or under foul conditions, levelling of undulation in the ground, existence of drain and temporary structures etc requiring removal and difficulty due to space constraints.

12) The Bidders who have failed to fulfil the contractual obligations during the financial year 2024-25 as per the specification laid down in the eNIT's issued by this office from time to time or has left the work incomplete despite issuance of several notices. The bids of such bidders will not be accepted.

13) Every participating supplier/ contractor to mandatorily disclose the bank account number which is linked with their GSTIN at the time of bid submission. No payments shall be released by the Government Department/ Agency to any other bank account except the one linked with the GST registered number of the successful bidders.

All other terms and conditions as laid down in the GFR-2017, Manual for procurement of works 2022 with upto date amendments, PWD Form 25 Double shall also remain in force.

NO: IFCD/GBL/7036-85

DIPK-8027/25

Dated: 12.11.2025

(Er. IftikharNadeemMattoo)

Executive Engineer

Irrigation and Flood Control

Division Ganderbal

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
MADINA PUBLIC SCHOOL KRIPALPORA  
BALA-PATTAN (ZONE SINGHPORA, PATTAN).

FEE STRUCTURE FOR ACADEMIC SESSION 2025- 2026,

S.NO.	Class	Monthly Tution Fee	Annual Fee
01	05th Class	465=00	1180=00
02	04th Class	430=00	1180=00
03	03rd. Class	405=00	1180=00
04	02nd. Class	395=00	1060=00
05	1st. Class	365=00	1060=00
06	U.K.G.	330=00	490=00
07	L.K.G.	320=00	490=00
08	Nursery	280=00	1200=00

Note: 100% concession in tuition fee is given to orphans students and 50% concession to handicapp students and wards of employees.

fko

Chairman

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN MADINA  
PUBLIC SCHOOL ARAMPORA-PATTAN  
(ZONE SINGHPORA, PATTAN).

FEE STRUCTURE FOR ACADEMIC SESSION 2025- 2026,

S.NO.	Class	Monthly Tution Fee	Annual Fee
01	05th Class	465=00	1155=00
02	04th Class	430=00	1155=00
03	03rd. Class	405=00	1155=00
04	02nd Class	395=00	1040=00
05	1st. Class	365=00	1040=00
06	U.K.G.	365=00	720=00
07	L.K.G.	355=00	720=00
08	Nursery	315=00	1200=00

Note: 100% concession in tuition fee is given to orphans students and 50% concession to handicapped students and wards of employees.

fko

Chairman

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN MADINA  
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYEEDPORA-SOPORE  
(ZONE DANGERPORA-SOPORE).

FEE STRUCTURE FOR ACADEMIC SESSION 2025- 2026,

S.NO.	Class	Monthly Tution Fee	Annual Fee
01	08th Class	680=00	2065=00
02	07th Class	620=00	1945=00
03	06th Class	560=00	1945=00
04	05th Class	470=00	1180=00
05	04th Class	435=00	1180=00
06	03rd. Class	410=00	1180=00
07	02nd. Class	400=00	1055=00
08	1st. Class	365=00	1055=00
09	U.K.G.	330=00	480=00
10	L.K.G.	320=00	480=00
11	Nursery	280=00	1200=00

Note: 100% concession in tuition fee is given to orphans students and 50% concession to handicapped students and wards of employees.

fko

Chairman

## Study of 4 Million Reports Reveals Half of Indians May Have High Blood Sugar

### Press Trust Of India

An analysis of four million lab test reports by an online healthcare company in India suggests that every other person could be having high levels of blood sugar.

About half of the men and women who tested were found to have had a high blood sugar or 'hyperglycaemia'. Further, over 90 per cent of those having a high blood sugar also showed an abnormality in parameters of liver, lipid, heart or thyroid, the 'Diabetes: The Silent Killer Sweeping Across India' report by PharmEasy said.

Findings of the analysis published ahead of World Diabetes Day on November 14 also show a 22 per cent improvement in blood sugar levels among those who retested within six months, highlighting how regular

monitoring can be crucial to managing diabetes effectively, the authors said. Diabetes tests conducted by PharmEasy during the period January 2022 to September 2025 were analysed.

The authors wrote, "One in two people tested show high blood sugar levels; 51.9 per cent of men and 45.43 per cent of women who tested had high blood sugar." Looking at how high blood sugar varied across age groups, a sharp increase in reports of high blood glucose was seen among those aged 30 and above.

Nearly 60 per cent of the total lab tests — 64 per cent of men, 54 per cent of women — also revealed insulin resistance, where the body's cells do not respond to insulin and which is an early sign of one's metabolic risk.

One can watch out for insulin resistance through indicators such as dark

velvety patches on the back of the neck, armpits or elbows, skin tags on eyelids or elsewhere on the body, or an increase in waist circumference, the authors said.

They also found that one in four people with high blood sugar also have a thyroid problem, most commonly an underactive thyroid or 'hypothyroidism'. More than one in three people with hyperglycaemia showed signs of liver problems — this can happen due to a build-up of fat in the organ, with high blood sugar and insulin resistance as contributing factors, the authors said. Around 90 per cent of the lab reports revealed abnormal cholesterol and fat levels — often a mix of high 'bad' cholesterol (LDL) and triglycerides, and low 'good' cholesterol (HDL) — which can significantly raise the risk of heart disease and high blood pressure.

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
MADINA PUBLIC SCHOOL HANJIWEERA  
PAYEEN- PATTAN  
(ZONE SINGHPORA, PATTAN).

FEE STRUCTURE FOR ACADEMIC SESSION 2025- 2026,

S.NO.	Class	Monthly Tution Fee	Annual Fee
01	05th Class	465=00	1180=00
02	04th Class	430=00	1180=00
03	03rd. Class	405=00	1180=00
04	02nd Class	395=00	1055=00
05	1st. Class	365=00	1055=00
06	U.K.G.	325=00	480=00
07	L.K.G.	320=00	480=00
08	Nursery	280=00	1200=00

Note: 100% concession in tuition fee is given to orphans students and 50% concession to handicapped students and wards of employees.

fko

Chairman

### PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly spelled in my service book as Nissar Ahmad Wani S/o Ab Ahad while my correct spelling is Nisar Ahmad Wani S/o Abdul Ahad Wani. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Nisar Ahamd Wani  
S/o Abdul Ahad Wani  
R/O Berthipora tehsil Keller Distt Shopian

fko

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in his adhaar card as Najmu Sakib & DOB 25-10-2014 While his correct name is Najam Ul Saqib and Correct DOB 28-10-2015 . 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.

Tahseena Habib  
M/o Najam Ul Saqib  
R/o Palpora Khag

fko

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL  
TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in Name in data to the Registration Certificate No.JK04G 2935 issued in favour of MOHD AMIN DEEDED Parentage GHULAM AHMAD DEEDED Whereas an application has been recieved by one MOHD AMIN DEEDED Parentage GHULAM AHMAD DEEDED wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Registration Certificate as MOHD AMEEN Parentage GHULAM AHMAD Which needs to be changed as MOHD AMIN DEEDED Parentage GHULAM AHMAD DEEDED

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

Assistant Regional Transport officer  
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

### PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in School records the father's name, mothers name and D-O-B of my daughter is entered as FEROZ AHMAD KHAN Mothers name SHAFEEQA BANO D-O-B 28-07-2012 while her actual Father's name, mothers name and D-O-B is FEROOZ AHMAD KHAN mother's SHAFIQA BANO and D-O-B is 13-11-2011. Now i want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact PRINCIPAL I-E-I NASRULLAH PORA BUDGAM with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

FEROOZ AHMAD KHAN  
F/o ZUBAIDAH AKHTER  
R/o NASRULLAH PORA BUDGAM  
CELL. 7006777782

mcb

## اطلاع عام

برخاس د عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کی جاتا ہے کہ مجھے اپنے بھائی انگریز سٹریٹ زیر کٹر یوم نمبر 0206010006736 کو میرے نام پر یعنی غلام محمد خان کے نام پر سب اس کو میرے بیٹے کے نام یعنی محمد عمران خان کے نام پر کروانا مطلوب ہے اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر بلا کیڑا ونجیتر نی ڈی ڈی بڈگام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ مبعاد دے کرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

غلام محمد خان ولد محمد رمضان خان

ساکن بانڈر پورہ بڈگام۔ فون 7051531120 MBC.

## NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old name) Ruqiyah Rasool

Pandit to (new name) Ruqiyah Rasool. In future I will be known as Ruqiyah Rasool.

If anybody having any objection he/she may contact

Passport Office Srinagar, within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

Media line advt



## Residents Allege LCMA ‘Stalling’ Construction Permissions

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Scores of residents have accused the Lake Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) of delaying construction permissions without valid reasons, saying that files are piling up even after they have completed all formalities.

They said months have passed since they submitted the required documents.

Residents said every time they approach the office, they are told that “the file is under process.”

One of the residents from the Nishat area said the delay has left many people “frustrated and helpless.”

The locals further said that the delay stems from internal issues, particularly linked to “one executive officer”, who is allegedly not clearing permissions on time.

“It is not a system-wide problem,” a local said on condition of anonymity. “It is mainly one officer whose non-clearance of files is holding up approvals for everyone else.”

Meanwhile, sources in the LCMA department said that a review meeting is expected next week to decide on the pending permissions.

“If this continues, the higher authorities are likely to intervene,” he said.

Meanwhile, the residents urged the Lieutenant Governor administration and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to take note, saying that such bureaucratic delays have stalled genuine residential projects and “opened doors for corruption and selective clearances.”

According to a review of official records by KNO, the LCMA’s Building Operations Controlling Authority (BOCA) has met only twice in 2025 so far as on April 12 (137th) and August 2 (138th), while compared to more frequent meetings in previous years. The minutes of the 138th meeting show that only a limited number of residential and commercial permission cases were discussed, with several files deferred due to “incomplete documentation” or “technical clarifications.”

Despite the backlog, the minutes reflect no major push to clear pending applications from early 2024 and late 2023.

## Admin Issues Fire Safety Advisory for Winter Season

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In view of the increasing number of fire incidents in Srinagar particularly with winters about to set-in, the District Administration Srinagar has issued Fire Safety Advisory (Dos & Don’ts) for the general public to prevent fire hazards in residential areas as well as commercial places.

The District administration has highlighted that dry weather conditions and widespread use of heating appliances significantly raise the risk of fire accidents during winters. Through the advisory, District Administration Srinagar has urged citizens to follow safety precautions to prevent fire hazards in residential as well as commercial areas.

According to the advisory, people have been asked to ensure that all electrical heating gadgets, bukharis, and LPG stoves are switched off before going to bed or leaving their homes. The use of kangris should be handled with utmost care and kept in safe places during nights to avoid its toppling.

The advisory further stresses maintaining good ventilation while using LPG heaters, keeping escape routes and water access points clear, and avoiding careless disposal of live cigarette butts.

Locals have also been advised to avoid storing combustible materials such as dry grass or rejection wood near residential areas, refrain from using faulty or substandard electrical appliances, and to ensure proper wiring and installation of circuit breakers.



KO Photo : Abid Bhat

## After Record Footfall, Tulip Garden Prepares for Another Vibrant Season

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: With soil temperatures dipping across the Valley, preparations are in full swing at the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden, situated at the foothills of the Zabarwan Range, as officials gear up for the upcoming blooming season. The first consignment of tulip bulbs from Holland is expected to arrive this week, officials said.

Imran Ahmad, Assistant Floriculture Officer, informed that sowing of bulbs already available with the department has begun at the garden. “Two lots of tulip bulbs are expected from Holland. The first batch will arrive this week, while the second will arrive next month,”

Ahmad said.

He added that new varieties are imported every year to enhance the garden’s floral diversity. “This year too, around 8 lakh bulbs will be imported from Holland, in addition to the 3 lakh bulbs already available with the

March 26 to April 24, 2025 — the highest ever recorded footfall.

According to KNO, the record-breaking turnout included local, national, and international tourists who thronged the garden to witness the mesmerizing bloom of more than 1.7 million tulips of different varieties.

“We expect a vibrant display this season with 25 to 30 color varieties.”

department,” he said. “We expect a vibrant display this season with 25 to 30 color varieties.”

Asia’s largest tulip garden set a new record earlier this year by attracting over 8.55 lakh visitors during its month-long opening from

ferent varieties.

The Tulip Garden, which has become a major springtime attraction in Kashmir, continues to draw global attention for its breathtaking landscapes and expanding floral collection.

## Police Intensifies Raids on Residences of Terror Associates

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a continued offensive against terror networks and their facilitators, Srinagar Police on Wednesday intensified search operations across multiple locations in the city, targeting individuals linked with proscribed terrorist organisations.

According to officials, the raids were part of ongoing investigations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act - UAPA, aimed at dismantling the ecosystem that supports terrorism and anti-national activities in the region.

## Driver Denies Hit-and-Run Allegation in Rambagh Accident

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A woman sustained injuries after being hit by a vehicle in the Rambagh area of Srinagar.

The injured, identified as 57-year-old Mahtaba, wife of Ghulam Nabi and a local of Rambagh, was crossing the road when she was struck by a vehicle. She was immediately shifted to SMHS Hospital Srinagar for treatment.

“Police have taken cognizance of the incident and initiated further investigation to ascertain the circumstances leading to the accident.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MACHINERY DIVISION SRINAGAR**  
**MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, KASHMIR**  
email: [xenmds-kmr@jk.gov.in](mailto:xenmds-kmr@jk.gov.in)  
Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-NIT No:	MDSK/TS /2025-26/62
Date	12.11.2025

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on **percentage basis** from eligible **contractors/** registered firms for the below mentioned work: -

Name of the Work	Cost of Tender Doc. (In Rs)	Estimated Cost (In Rs)	EMD in Rs	Position of AA	Position of TS
1	2	3	4	5	6
Repairs/replacement to Departmental trucks and other Machinery of Machinery division Kashmir	100/-	18059.00	400.00	Works programme approved by CE vide order No. JAKA/OTANKEE; Account No: 0367010200000027. The bidder should mention the e-NIT No. and date on the treasury receipt/ e-Challan upload receipt thereof.	Sanctioned vide No. 32 of 2025-26 Dated: 03.11.2025

The bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below :-

01	Publish date	12.11.2025 ( 18:00hrs)
02	Period of downloading of bidding document	12.11.2025 ( 18:30hrs)
03	Bid submission start date	12.11.2025 ( 18:55hrs)
04	Bid submission end date	24.11.2025 ( 18:55hrs)
05	Date and time of opening of bids (online)	25.11.2025 ( 14:00hrs)

The bidder/Firm /Contractor shall upload the following documents in the bid: -

**Cover 1 contain:** Scanned copies of following documents:

i	Cost of tender document	in shape of treasury receipt deposited in treasury under Major Head 0059- Miscellaneous Revenue of Executive Engineer, Machinery Division, Srinagar. <b>“OR”</b> e-Challan/ e-Receipt: Bank: J&K Bank Ltd.; Branch: Tankipora, Srinagar; IFSC Code: JAKA0TANKEE; Account No: 0367010200000027. The bidder should mention the e-NIT No. and date on the treasury receipt/ e-Challan upload receipt thereof.
ii	Bid Security (EMD)	The intending bidders have to furnish bid security (EMD) in shape of FDR/CDR/BG pledged to the <b>Executive Engineer Machinery Division Kashmir</b>
iii	Annexures A	Accepted/ confirmed copy of Annexures- A
iv	GST/PAN	GST registration certificate, PAN card and Bank details linked with GST .
v	Financial Turn Over	Average annual financial turnover for last 3 financial years to the tune of not less than 30% of the tender value issued by registered CA under UDIN.
vi	Work Experience	The bidder shall have to furnish documentary evidence of having executed similar nature of work in any Govt./Semi. Govt./PSU during last 7 years along with work completion and performance report issued by the officer not below the Rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent as per the following criteria: -  i. One similar completed work each costing not less than 80% of the estimated cost. or ii. Two similar completed work each costing not less than 50% of the estimated cost or

iii.	Three similar completed work each costing not less than 40% of the estimated cost..
vi	Debarment/Blacklisting
i	The firm shall furnish the following certificates on the letter head of his organization.  > The bidder shall furnish a certificate on account of not being debarred/Blacklisted by any of the central/state/UT Government/Board/Corporation/PSU as procuring entity in India on the date of submission of the tender, in line with the rule 151 of GFR-2017 and "guidelines on debarment of firms from bidding" as per OM issued by Department of expenditure, ministry of finance GOI under no. 1/20/2018-ppd dated 02-11-2021 read with relevant corrigendum. > Declaration of any previous transgressions of code of integrity with any entity in any country during the last three years or of being debarred by any procuring entity. > Has not been declared bankrupt by any institution or government. > Has not been adjudged by any court of law of the land as insolvent.


**Cover II shall contain the price bid which shall be inclusive of all GST duties, insurance, Transportation, Handling, safe Custody at site. The prices bid is to be uploaded in the given BOQ only.**

- The price for the bid shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids. (Cover-II/Price bid)
- The complete bidding process shall be online in the office of the **Executive Engineer, Machinery Division Srinagar** after evaluation of technical bid.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
- The cost of tender documents is non-refundable and the tender shall in no case be accepted if not accompanied with tender document fee.
- Wrong and forged information furnished by the bidder shall invite cancellation of the bid and penal action as warranted under relevant clause of the law. The same can also be initiated even after the placement of allotment order /Supply order with the bidder.
- Cover 2<sup>nd</sup> of only technically qualified bidders shall be opened on the recommendations of the TOC and shall subsequently be evaluated on overall quoted rates. However financial bid of overall LL shall be considered for placement of allotment order.**
- The cost of the work shall not exceed the allotment cost.
- The bidders are advised to visit [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) for any corrigendum/amendment made to the e-NIT during the bidding period.
- The supplier/firm/contractor who have defaulted with the department/division need not to apply. Their bids shall be rejected outright as defaulters hamper Govt. work.
- The Financial bid of only qualifying bidders (cover 1<sup>st</sup>) shall be opened online in the Office of **Executive Engineer, Machinery Division, Srinagar** after evaluation of technical bid. The qualifying bidders who wish to be present shall attend it on the same day and time as notified.
- The AEE concerned must ensure GEO tagging photographing of the works before, during and after completion of work, the expenses of which have been included in the BoQ. The geo tagged photographs, videos shall be carried out at a justified frequency, since the start of work till completion.
- “Any bidder who has been found defaulter in any contract placed by this department need not to participate in the bidding process because such bid shall not be accepted and as the defaulters hamper the Govt. work.”**

Sd/  
Executive Engineer,  
Machinery Division, Srinagar

No: MDSK/TS/3693-96  
Date: 12.11.2025

**DIPK-8035/25 dated: 12-11-2025**

- 
  - 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
- BIJBERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

**HIGHWAY STATUS**  

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

 <b>HIJRI CALENDAR</b> 21 Jumada al-Awwal <b>1447</b>	<b>PRAYERS</b>  FAJR 5: 37 ZUHR 12:14 ASR 3: 51 Magrib 5:30 ISHA 6: 52
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## This Day In History

- 1642 - Battle at Turnham Green outside London: King Charles I vs English parliament
- 1673 - Prince Willem III/Raimundo earl Montecuccoli conquer Bonn
- 1715 - Battle of Sheriffmuir during Jacobite rebellion. Battle inconclusive but Government forces halt advance of Jacobite army lead by Scottish Earl of Mar
- 1775 - American Revolutionary forces capture Montreal
- 1781 - British troops occupy Negapatam, Ceylon (Sri Lanka)
- 1851 - Telegraph connection between London-Paris linked
- 1865 - US issues 1st gold certificates
- 1918 - Russia cancels Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- 1921 - US, France, Japan and British Empire sign a Pacific Treaty.
- 1935 - Anti-British riots in Egypt
- 1954 - 1st Rugby League World Cup: Great Britain beats France 16-12
- 1979 - Ronald Reagan in New York announces his candidacy for US President
- 1986 - NASA launches space vehicle S-199
- 1986 - US President Reagan confesses weapon sales to Iran
- 1990 - Saudis ask US for rights to bid on SPR (Strategic Petroleum Reserve) crude
- 1993 - Pakistani minister of Foreign affairs Faruk Leghari elected president
- 1994 - Sweden agrees to join European Union
- 1997 - UN pulls out arms inspection teams from Iraq
- 2001 - War on Terrorism: In the first such act since World War II, US President George W. Bush signs an executive order allowing military tribunals against foreigners suspected of connections to terrorist acts or planned acts on the United States.
- 2002 - Iraq disarmament crisis: Iraq agrees to the terms of the UN Security Council Resolution 1441
- 2008 - Equity research by Deutsche Bank states that Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines should not experience a recession, despite potential harm to economic growth from falling commodity prices and possible weaker exports

*From KO Archives*

## ‘50 Percent Indians Are Corrupt’

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI: Almost 60 per cent of Indians using government services end up paying bribes, according to a recent survey commissioned by India’s Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). But only 20 per cent actually filed complaints against such corrupt practices.

The study was carried out by the Centre for Media Studies (CMS), which interviewed 2,576 visitors to government offices in five cities across the country from October 31 to November 4.

More than 60 percent of respondents said the problem of corruption was not being tackled seriously and that the judiciary was largely ineffective. Most of the respondents agreed the offices for securing driving licenses and civil supplies were the most corrupt in all five cities — New Delhi, Lucknow, Madras, Hyderabad and Pune.

One-third of respondents admitted to using “influence or favour” to get the service they needed. The survey noted that members of the business community and the self-employed topped the list of bribe givers. According to the survey, the government departments in Lucknow and Hyderabad were the most corrupt. About 42 per cent of people said the departments operated “Middle men” who acted as a paid conduit between the public and officials. The public departments covered by the survey included electricity and telephone boards, civil supplies, driving license and local and urban development offices.

(Kashmir Observer, November 13, 2000)



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KO VIEW

Kashmir's  
Living Past

Kashmir history lives in its stones and waters. The Mughal gardens of Srinagar, the old structures scattered across towns, and the shrines along its rivers all tell stories that stretch back centuries. Tourists come with cameras and curiosity, often unaware that every step leaves a mark. Protecting these treasures has become a daily struggle.

Local caretakers know this struggle well. The Shankaracharya Temple, calm and timeless, overlooks Srinagar, but its steps and walls show the wear of time, weather, and visitors. Small towns with historic mosques face the same challenge. Tourism brings income, but it also chips away at the very heritage that draws people in.

Srinagar roughly sees over 1.5 million tourists each year. Visitors bring money, but they also bring pressure: crowded streets, litter, and delicate carvings at risk. Many of these buildings are centuries old, and keeping them intact requires skills that fewer artisans now practice. Repairs are slow, expensive, and often beyond the means of local communities.

The tension between tourism and preservation is clear in conversations with guides and shopkeepers. Some see heritage as a resource to share and sell. Others worry that turning it into a business erases the soul that makes it special. A guide in Old Srinagar remembers when the market around Jamia Masjid was unruffled. Today, shops fill every alley, and he fears the calm, reflective atmosphere is disappearing.

There are ways to protect Kashmir's past. Community projects maintain key sites, digital archives preserve carvings and frescoes, and training programs revive traditional skills among local artisans. But these efforts need attention, support, and a careful balance between earning a living and honouring culture.

Kashmir heritage isn't just for visitors. It carries the dreams of poets, the visions of rulers, and the memories of generations.

Protecting it requires cooperation between authorities, communities, and travellers.

CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

Protect Your Money

As more Kashmiris enter the stock market, scammers are waiting. Understanding investing versus trading can keep your hard-earned money safe.

Irshad Mushtaq

Kashmiris are increasingly opening demat accounts to grow their wealth. This is a promising step toward financial independence. Along with this opportunity comes risk.

Many investors report receiving persistent calls from strangers promising quick profits. These are not mere coincidences. Personal information can slip through systems meant to help, giving scammers a foothold.

The first lesson is understanding the difference between trading and investing. Trading is fast, risky, and often consumes your day. It demands constant attention, deep knowledge, and emotional control. Scammers push trading because it creates high commissions for them and leads to quick losses for inexperienced investors.

Investing, on the other hand, is long-term. It allows your money to grow while you focus on your work, family, and life. Patience and consistency build wealth, even if the returns are slower.

Be aware of the traps. Unknown callers may pose as experts, promising guaranteed profits. Demo trading accounts may show false gains, luring you into real losses. High-pressure tactics aim to rush your decisions. None of these are signs of a reliable opportunity.

Your most valuable asset is your time. Don't let it slip away chasing instant wealth. Learn the basics from trusted sources, follow disciplined investing, and give your money a chance to work for you. Scammers thrive on urgency and ignorance. Steady knowledge is your defense.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial advisor.

Kashmir's Apple Cold Wars

As cold storage capacity reaches its peak in the valley, growers and investors face a new question: what comes next for the Kashmir's apple economy?



Tajamul Islam Salroo

“  
The CA storage boom was a turning point for Kashmir's apple industry. It helped growers escape the trap of seasonal distress sales and offered investors a chance to build modern infrastructure. But the rapid expansion has now created new challenges. When growth outpaces planning, the risk of overcapacity becomes real. Empty chambers and idle investments can quickly turn success into strain.

In the autumn air of south Kashmir, the scent of apples fills the roads leading to Lassipora.

Over the last decade, the area has transformed into the heart of Kashmir's apple revolution. Rows of steel chambers and cooling units now stand where open fields once stretched.

Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage has changed how apples are preserved, stored, and sold, giving growers the power to decide when to market their produce.

According to the State Industrial Development Corporation, Lassipora alone has 83 CA stores with a combined capacity of around 3,45,000 metric tonnes. Shopian adds about 50,000 MT through 10 units. Anantnag, Srinagar, Budgam, and Baramulla contribute another 75,000 MT.

More than 20 new projects are being built, which will raise the valley's total CA capacity close to 6 lakh MT.

These numbers tell a story of steady progress.

Kashmiri growers for years were forced to sell their harvest at throwaway prices as trucks lined up on highways during peak season. CA storage changed that pattern.

It allowed apples to be stored for months and sold later when prices were higher. The technology helped growers move closer to international post-harvest standards and opened a new chapter in the valley's horticultural economy.

This success, however, raises a serious question. Has the CA storage sector already reached its limit?

Kashmir produces around 21 lakh metric tonnes of apples each year. Only a third of this produce qualifies as A-grade, suitable for long-term storage. That amounts to roughly seven lakh MT.

Out of this, about two lakh MT are sold directly in the open market during harvest season, leaving five lakh MT that actually require CA storage.

With existing capacity already close to that figure, the balance between supply and demand seems to have been reached.

When the first units opened in Lassipora, growers rushed to book space. Now, several chambers remain partly empty even at the height of the season.

Investors who once saw guaranteed profits are struggling with high costs and slower returns. Building more facilities without matching demand risks creating a surplus that could hurt the entire sector.

At the same time, Kashmir orchards are changing fast. Growers are shifting from traditional trees to high-density (HD) plantations that yield more fruit, mature earlier, and have better colour and uniform size.

The new varieties have reshaped the valley's landscape and boosted income in the short term. But, they come with a practical limitation.

HD apples are not suited for long storage. Experts say these apples lose firmness and taste after a month in CA units. This shift could further reduce the need for long-term cold storage.

The next stage of Kashmir's apple economy must focus on improving quality rather than expanding capacity. What matters now is how to increase the share of premium-grade apples through scientific orchard management.

The region also needs modern packhouses, refrigerated trucks, and efficient cold-chain logistics to move fruit safely across long distances.

There is enormous potential in value addition. Apple

juice, concentrates, cider, and dried slices can absorb any surplus and create more stable income sources.

These industries can employ thousands and reduce reliance on raw apple sales, which remain vulnerable to weather and price fluctuations.

Exports also remain an untapped frontier. Most of Kashmiri apples are sold in Delhi and northern Indian cities. Reaching international markets could change the game, bringing higher prices and long-term growth.

To achieve that, Kashmir must invest in better packaging, certification, and compliance with global food standards.

The CA storage boom was a turning point for Kashmir's apple industry. It helped growers escape the trap of seasonal distress sales and offered investors a chance to build modern infrastructure. But the rapid expansion has now created new challenges.

When growth outpaces planning, the risk of overcapacity becomes real. Empty chambers and idle investments can quickly turn success into strain.

The way forward lies in collaboration. Growers, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and researchers need to review the entire post-harvest system together. Investments should go where they add real value: in quality, innovation, and market diversification.

The time has come to move beyond expansion and think about transformation.

The author runs an industrial unit in Lassipora Industrial Area, Kashmir. He can be reached at [tajamul12@yahoo.co.in](mailto:tajamul12@yahoo.co.in)

Letter to Editor

Kashmir Is Raising a Generation of Overthinkers

I always say that human resources are the greatest resources. Investing in people is the best investment a society can make. In Kashmir, that means caring for our youth, their minds, emotions, and sense of hope.

We live in a country that wiped out polio, but many still hesitate to visit a therapist or speak about depression at home. We have reached the Moon, but mental health remains stuck on the ground.

Awareness has grown, but often feels hollow. Everyone says “mental health matters,” but few act on it. Youth has always driven change, and that energy is what we need today, to heal, listen, and rebuild emotionally.

When I joined Amar Singh

College, one subject, Early Childhood Care and Education, changed my view. It showed me that everything starts in childhood. Our mental health as adults often begins with what we experience as children.

This is especially true in Kashmir. Our generation grew up with fear and uncertainty. Our parents lived through crackdowns and curfews, and their worries shaped the way we think and feel. They were focused on surviving, not healing. Many of us carried that anxiety before we even knew its name. Real healing begins when we start to understand it.

Anxiety comes in many forms: social, performance, attachment, or obsessive. It can't be cured by silence. Medication can help, but the real work is

emotional. Anxiety is a signal, not an enemy. It tells us something is off. How we respond to it decides whether it becomes strength or suffering.

Social media has made things worse. Our attention is scattered, emotions hijacked by constant comparison. Algorithms reward outrage over reflection. We scroll more and feel less. What we need are real conversations, fewer screens, and more empathy. Feeling deeply is not weakness. It's strength.

Healing can start in small ways. Schools can begin the day with short emotional check-ins. Talking about feelings builds strength. Parents also need to learn what anxiety is and how it affects the body. Many of our common health problems, including hair loss, IBS, and in-

somnia are signs of stress.

Therapy should be accessible to everyone, especially students. Kashmir has fewer than one psychiatrist per 100,000 people. Like the Golden Health Card, the government could introduce Therapy Cards for those who can't afford help.

Real progress begins when we see mental health as essential. Without healthy minds, no system can hold.

Every idea and institution relies on the people who keep it going. When they break down, everything else does too.

Sincerely,

Musaib Bilal  
[musaibbilal.216061@gmail.com](mailto:musaibbilal.216061@gmail.com)



# The Woman Leading Kashmir's Green Awakening

A Kashmiri ecologist brings science and community together to protect the valley's vanishing biodiversity.

Aashiq Hussain Andrabi

On a foggy morning in Srinagar, a small group of women huddle near the edge of a wetland, notebooks in hand, listening to bird-song and watching ripples on the water.

They're part of a nature education program started by Dr. Mehreen Khalil, a Kashmiri conservationist who believes that saving the environment begins with empowering people, especially women.

After earning her PhD in Ecological Sciences from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Dr. Mehreen returned home to work where conservation is often seen as someone else's job.

She founded the Wildlife Research and Conservation Foundation (WRCF) in 2018 to change that.

Through the foundation, she brings together local communities, students, and policymakers to bridge the gap between science and everyday life.

Her journey began deep in the Himalayas, where she spent years studying langurs.

But what started as curiosity about a rare primate soon became a lifelong mission to reconnect people with the natural world. "I realized that conservation doesn't start in labs or offices," she says. "It starts in the hearts and hands of people who live closest to nature."

Today, WRCF runs training programs that teach women ecological literacy and leadership, turning kitchen waste into compost, classrooms into nature labs, and curiosity into community change.

Dr. Mehreen also collaborates with scientists across India, consults for various conservation projects, and advocates for women in STEM fields.

In this interview, she talks about Kashmir's vanishing wetlands, melting glaciers, and how empowering women could transform the region's environmental future.

**You started your journey as a primatologist, studying Himalayan langurs. Let's begin there. What was so special about them?**

Oh, the Himalayan langurs are incredible. They live in some of the harshest, steepest terrains of the Himalayas and still manage to thrive.

I was fascinated by how little we knew about them. Locals often called them Wan-mohniv, meaning yeti, or sometimes apes and gorillas.

That showed me the huge gap in

awareness about wildlife right at our doorstep.

**So you were looking at animals, but it sounds like you ended up discovering people.**

Exactly. Studying langurs up close opened my eyes to the fragile balance between wildlife, people, and the environment.

You realize very quickly that saving a species is essentially about the forests, rivers, and communities tied to it.

That realization slowly shifted my work from studying primates to working with people who share their space.

**Was there a single moment when you thought, "Ah, conservation is really about people"?**

Actually, there were a few.

The first was when I hired a local Gujar man as my field assistant. He knew the forest inside out. He could read the terrain, predict animal movement, and even tell which areas were sacred.

I learned more from him than from any manual.

**And that changed your approach?**

Completely.

Then there was a moment I'll never forget: a tribal woman caring for two baby langurs separated from their troop. She looked after them like her own children.

Watching her, I realized that empathy for wildlife already existed in these communities.

Conservation was something to build with them.

**You work across science and activism. That's not an easy mix. How do you balance both?**

For me, they go hand in hand. Science gives you facts, activism gives those facts meaning.

My research on langurs revealed how fast their habitats were shrinking. But instead of just publishing data, I sat with local villagers to talk about how they used the forest and how we could protect it.

The insights they shared made my research better, and the science gave their concerns more weight.

**So, it's less about balancing and more about connecting?**

Exactly. Science tells you what is happening. Activism tells you what to do about it.

**Let's talk about the big picture. How**



**do you see Kashmir's environment changing, with all the cloudbursts, drying wetlands, and melting glaciers? What worries you the most?**

The speed of it. Jammu and Kashmir has lost nearly 57% of its wetlands in just ten years, from about 391,500 hectares in 2011 to 164,110 hectares in 2021.

And glaciers are melting too. Between 1980 and 2018, glacier area dropped by about 29%, and the Kolahoi Glacier alone has lost 20-25% of its mass.

**That's huge.**

It is. And it's not just about numbers. When wetlands disappear, the region's water security, farming, and livelihoods collapse. Every ecosystem here is tied to the other.

That's what makes Kashmir's ecology so vulnerable, and so globally important.

**You've said Kashmir's conservation story is a global one. How so?**

Because everything here is connected. The birds that spend winters in Kashmir travel across continents. Our glaciers feed rivers that support millions of people. Our forests help shape the region's climate.

When we protect nature in Kashmir, the impact reaches far beyond these mountains.

So Kashmir becomes a testing

ground for global solutions?

Exactly. What works here can inspire other mountain and wetland regions facing similar crises.

**Your foundation is launching a training program on nature education for women. Why women?**

Because women are already caretakers of nature here.

They collect water, farm, manage households, and make choices that directly affect natural resources.

But they rarely get a seat at the table when decisions are made about conservation.

**And this program changes that?**

That's the idea. By training young women in ecological literacy and leadership, we're helping them turn everyday experience into environmental expertise.

When women learn, they don't keep it to themselves. They share it with families, children, and communities. The ripple effect is incredible.

**Let's say a woman joins your program. How does it actually change her daily life?**

It can be as simple as turning waste into opportunity.

Traditionally, cow dung or organic waste is thrown away to keep homes clean. Through training, women learn to make compost or organic manure,

which improves soil and earns income.

When they understand wetlands or sustainable farming, they can lead community meetings or school programs.

That's how small actions become leadership.

**Sounds powerful. But what are the biggest hurdles women face in joining such work?**

Mobility, mainly. Families are often uncomfortable with young women traveling to forests or remote sites, places seen as male spaces.

There's also a lack of role models.

Would you believe there isn't a single female wildlife or forest guard working in the field in Kashmir?

**Not one?**

Not one. That's why we're building safe learning spaces and connecting women with mentors.

Once they have support and confidence, they can step into leadership naturally.

**A lot of organizations stop at awareness campaigns: posters, events, hashtags. What's different about your model?**

We move beyond awareness to action. Our focus is on field-based learning. Participants lead nature walks, conduct surveys, and design their own outreach projects.

By the end, they don't just "know" about conservation, they can do it.

**What do they actually learn?**

They explore Kashmir's ecosystems, including wetlands, forests, and mountains, while learning about the species that depend on them.

They practice nature journaling, environmental storytelling, and community engagement.

They also gain leadership and communication skills.

And we connect them with women conservationists who mentor them long after the program ends.

**Do you see this work influencing schools or even policy someday?**

Absolutely. When trained young women go back to their schools and colleges, they introduce new ideas and lesson plans.

Over time, that shapes how environmental topics are taught.

And when local officials see women leading conservation efforts, it challenges stereotypes and encourages more inclusive policies, like including

women in wetland management or environmental committees.

**Your foundation connects to global sustainability goals too, doesn't it?**

Yes. Everything we do ties into the UN Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 4 on Quality Education, SDG 5 on Gender Equality, SDG 13 on Climate Action, and SDG 15 on Life on Land.

We also connect our participants to international youth movements. Some have contributed wetland data to global databases, others have spoken at youth climate events.

It shows them that what they're doing in Kashmir is part of a much larger effort.

**Do you imagine a day when Kashmiri women become global voices for the planet, like Greta Thunberg or Vandana Shiva?**

I do. Kashmiri women already carry powerful stories of resilience. They've lived through shrinking resources and climate uncertainty. They don't need inspiration, they just need platforms.

I'd love to see a young woman from Kashmir stand on a global stage and say, "Here's what sustainability looks like where I come from."

**You began with langurs and now run a conservation foundation. What keeps you going?**

The people. Every time I see a young woman confidently lead a nature walk or teach her community about wetlands, it reminds me why this matters.

At the end, conservation is about unlocking human potential.

**Let's end with a dream. Picture Kashmir in 2040. What does it look like?**

I see flourishing wetlands, living rivers, and forests alive with birds.

I see schools where nature education is as important as math or science.

And at the center of it all are women, leading conservation committees, shaping policies, and mentoring others.

**Women as the keepers of Kashmir's future.**

Exactly. If we start today, by 2040 we'll have a generation of women who see conservation as a way of life, one that keeps both people and the planet thriving.

— The author is a senior scribe from Pulwama.

## Those Two Rupees

An ode to the Srinagar we grew up in, where life was slower, hearts were warmer and every day felt enough.

Syed Majid Gilani

Sometimes I slip back in time without even trying. A familiar sound, a faint smell, or the sight of an old school bus is enough to bring back the Srinagar I once knew, the city that moved at its own calm pace and taught us how to find happiness in simple things.

My schooling began at Caset Experimental School, Rainawari, founded by C. L. Vishen Sahib, and later at Greenland High School in Hawal. That school was a world full of warmth, friendships, and teachers who shaped us with patience.

The Srinagar of the eighties and nineties was slower and softer. Mornings smelled of kangri smoke, neighbours greeted each other warmly, and evenings were for tea, laughter, and family talk.

Classrooms had wooden benches and cracked blackboards, water came from a shared tap, and schoolbags were light. We didn't need gadgets or air-conditioned rooms. What mattered was learning respect, honesty, and kindness.

Our teachers made every subject feel alive: Siraj Sir, Farooq Sir, Narinder Sir, and Rita Ma'am among them. Discipline came through care. Parents trusted teachers completely, and that trust built character.

Our school was a reflection of Srinagar itself: Muslims, Pandits, and Sikhs studying and celebrating together. Eid, Nauroz, Shivratri, and Baisakhi belonged to everyone.

What united us was our shared culture, language, and the calm way we treated one another.

Every morning, our principal, the late Mohammad Ashraf Jan Sahib, arrived in his white Fiat. His dignity commanded respect. Even the noisiest student straightened up when he entered.

Around him worked people who formed the school's heart, including



Maqbool Seab, Halima Ji, Kanta Ji, and others. They were always kind and smiling.

Our 52-seater school bus, driven by the cheerful Maqbool Seab, waited under a wide Chinari tree in Botshah Colony. I remember how proud I felt each morning as it took me to school.

Later, a small canteen opened. A cup of tea and a hot samosa cost two rupees. Every morning, my father placed a crisp two-rupee note in my hand, my daily allowance.

It felt like more than money. It was trust, love, and a lesson in being content. That note could buy tea and samosa, an ice cream for fifty paise, or a masala roti for one rupee. Each choice carried small joy.

Lunch breaks were for sharing food and laughter. When the final bell rang, we left in neat lines, waving to our teachers. That sense of order and unity feels precious now.

Then came the uneasy years. I was in Class 7 when unrest began. The bus stopped running. We walked long distances or crammed into crowded TATA buses. Strikes and curfews became normal, but our school kept going whenever it could. Teachers came even on tense days, teaching us courage through their presence.

Evenings still had their familiar charm: the smell of tchuchwer, chil-

dren playing cricket in narrow lanes, radios humming old songs, and families talking across rooftops. That was Srinagar's living pulse: simple, steady, and spirited.

Today, when I see classrooms where students argue with teachers or parents question every rule, I feel an unspoken ache. We have modern schools, but we've lost something softer: the respect and gratitude that once shaped us.

The Srinagar I remember isn't gone completely. It lives in our memories, in our stories, in how we treat each other. We can bring it back by remembering what mattered most: simplicity, kindness, and faith in one another.

I no longer wear my green sweater or carry a tiffin box. But inside, I'm still that boy with two rupees in his pocket and a hot samosa in hand, thankful for everything he had.

Whenever I close my eyes and return to those mornings under the Chinari tree, I find peace, the kind the world seems to have misplaced.

And that peace, like those two rupees, remains priceless.

— The author is a government officer by profession and a storyteller by passion. He can be reached at syedmajid6676@gmail.com.

## When Welfare Turns Fair

By removing the education requirement from the Marriage Assistance Scheme, Jammu and Kashmir has taken a vital step toward equality, inclusion, and trust in governance.

Irfan Jaffer

The recent decision by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to remove the eighth-grade education requirement from the Marriage Assistance Scheme has opened a door long closed for many women.

This rule kept out the very women who needed help most for years.

Those who grew up in poverty, took care of families too soon, or lived in villages where schools were too far or too few were automatically disqualified.

By linking support to education, the state had unintentionally turned a welfare measure into a test of privilege.

The new policy sends a clear message: empowerment is not defined by a classroom. It's defined by fairness.

Thousands of Kashmiri women who could not meet the earlier criteria will now qualify for assistance that can ease a major financial burden.

This change speaks directly to the idea that welfare must meet people where they are, not where we think they should be.

The move also highlights the values behind global development goals, especially those focused on gender equality and reducing inequality.

Sustainable Development Goal 5 calls for empowering all women and girls, while Goal 10 aims to narrow the gaps between different social groups.

The reform translates those global ideals into local action. It shifts policy from



selective charity to a more human-centered approach that values dignity over documentation.

In many rural and underprivileged parts of Kashmir, access to education remains limited. Families still depend on girls for household work, caregiving, or agricultural labour.

Dropping out of school is rarely a choice. It's a necessity shaped by circumstance.

Linking welfare benefits to education, therefore, punished women for conditions beyond their control.

Removing that condition is both practical and moral. It recognizes that women's contribution to society goes far beyond formal schooling. Many without certificates manage homes, raise children, and sustain communities with strength. Their work keeps families together and society functioning.

Supporting them equally restores balance and fairness to social policy.

This change also eliminates a strange divide that existed within poor families.

Imagine two women with the same income and needs,

**THE NEW MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE REFORM MAY APPEAR LIKE A SMALL ADMINISTRATIVE STEP, but for thousands of women across Kashmir, it's a doorway to recognition and hope. Real progress begins when every citizen feels seen, supported, and valued.**

one eligible because she studied till class eight, the other denied because she couldn't.

Such distinctions breed resentment and weaken trust in governance.

The reform ends that imbalance and replaces it with equity. Welfare, after all, should be about need, not qualification.

Still, a reform is only as good as its implementation. For it to truly work, the government must ensure simple, transparent proce-

dures and strong awareness campaigns.

Many women in remote areas remain unaware of their rights or unsure about how to apply for benefits. If they can't handle the paperwork or reach officials, the change will exist only on paper.

Linking this scheme with livelihood or skill programs could multiply its impact, helping women move from dependency to economic independence.

Working in the development sector for the past four years, I've seen how easily women can be left behind in well-intentioned programs.

The barriers are often hidden in practice. Complicated forms, unclear information, or rigid verification steps can discourage those with little literacy or mobility.

I have met women who gave up halfway through applications or who were told they didn't "fit" the criteria because of missing documents.

These moments taught me that empowerment begins when systems listen. Policies must grow from the ground up, shaped by real experiences.

That is why this reform feels so important.

It reflects the government's willingness to learn from the field and correct what wasn't fair. It restores faith among women who had begun to feel invisible in the system.

— The author works at HWVO and holds an M.A. in Gender Studies from the University of Kashmir. He can be reached at jaffirirfan77@gmail.com.



## Jammu Police Calls For Public Alert On Suspicious Movements, Installs CCTV Cameras

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Police on Wednesday reached out to various localities and sensitive areas in Jammu city, urging people—particularly traders—to remain alert about any suspicious movement and to install CCTV cameras as part of the security setup in the capital city.

The move comes in the wake of a high-intensity explosion that ripped through a slow-moving car at a traffic signal near the Red Fort metro station in Delhi on Monday evening, killing at least 12 people and gutting several vehicles.

"We have asked the people, particularly shopkeepers and business establishments, to remain alert about any suspicious movement in their areas. The drive aims to sensitise them," Deputy Superintendent of Police Vikram Bhau told reporters after security meetings.

He said meetings were held with shopkeepers,

transporters, business owners and street vendors at the bus stand to ensure vigilance in the area and seek their support in informing police about any suspicious movement or unattended objects.

Seeking public cooperation in enhancing surveillance, he said, "We urge citizens and traders to install CCTV cameras — preferably high-resolution ones — as part of the broader security setup. This will greatly help the police."

Police have intensified round-the-clock patrolling and are monitoring footage from dozens of cameras across the city as part of strengthened security measures. "We want people to act as our eyes and ears to help prevent any untoward incident," the officer added.

He said that CCTV cameras have been installed in the bus stand area, which had remained in high vigilance. "The quick reaction teams are put in place. Jammu police is always in your

service. Please share any suspected movement", he said.

The officer, however, said that there is no need to panic but remain vigilant, as police and security forces are able to deal with any situation.

Police officers, led by Deputy Inspector General Shiv Kumar Sharma, also conducted outreach activities across Jammu, Samba, and Kathua districts to enhance alertness among security forces as well as the public following the Delhi blast.

Security has been further tightened across the Jammu region, with heightened vigilance along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway, railway tracks and other sensitive installations.

Security has also been beefed up at the cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi and its base camp at Katra in Reasi district, officials said.

A high alert has been sounded across the region.

## Trump Urges Israel to Pardon Netanyahu, Sparks Concern

Agencies

Jerusalem: US President Donald Trump on Wednesday sent a letter to Israel's president asking him to pardon Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a long-running corruption trial that has bitterly divided the country.

It was the latest attempt by Trump to intervene in the case on behalf of Netanyahu, raising questions about undue American influence over internal Israeli affairs. Trump also called for a pardon for Netanyahu during a speech to Israel's parliament last month, when he made a brief visit to promote his ceasefire plan for the war in Gaza.

In Wednesday's letter to President Isaac Herzog, Trump called the corruption case "political, unjustified prosecution".

"As the Great State of Israel and the amazing Jewish

People move past the terribly difficult times of the last three years, I hereby call on you to fully pardon Benjamin Netanyahu, who has been a formidable and decisive War Time Prime Minister, and is now leading Israel into a time of peace," Trump wrote.

Netanyahu rejects the allegations, and in Trump-like language has condemned the case as a witch hunt orchestrated by the media, police and judiciary. Netanyahu has taken the stand multiple times over the past year, but the case has been repeatedly delayed as he has dealt with wars and unrest stemming from Hamas-led militant attacks of October 2023.

Israel's presidency is a largely ceremonial office, but the president does have the authority to grant pardons.

Herzog acknowledged receiving the letter, but said that anyone seeking a

presidential pardon must submit a formal request.

Herzog has declined to say how he would respond to a request by Netanyahu, saying publicly only that he believes the trial has been a distraction and source of division for the country and that he would prefer to see Netanyahu and the prosecution reach a settlement.

When Trump called for a pardon in his speech last month, he received a raucous standing ovation from Netanyahu's allies in parliament.

But it has also raised questions about American influence over Israeli policies, especially relating to security in the Gaza Strip. Those concerns came to a head during a series of visits from senior American leaders, from Vice President JD Vance to Secretary of State Marco Rubio.

## Jaishankar Meets US Secretary of State Rubio in Canada

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday held talks with his American counterpart Marco Rubio with a focus on issues relating to trade and supply chains.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of a conclave of G7 foreign ministers in Canada.

Jaishankar said it was a "good" meeting.

"Appreciate his condolences on the loss of lives in the blast in Delhi," the external affairs minister said on social media.

"Discussed our bilateral ties, focusing on trade and supply chains. Exchanged views on the Ukraine conflict, the Middle East/West Asia situation and Indo-Pacific," he said.

### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

#### J&K On High Alert

organisational activities through covert fronts.

Raids were carried out simultaneously across all 10 districts of the Kashmir Valley — Srinagar, Ganderbal, Budgam, Baramulla, Bandipora, Kupwara, Anantnag, Kulgam, Pulwama and Shopian — targeting the residences and premises of JeI members and their associates.

Officials said the crackdown was part of sustained efforts to dismantle the terror ecosystem and its ideological, financial, and logistical support networks.

In Srinagar, police conducted searches at over 150 locations, targeting overground workers (OGWs) and individuals associated with proscribed groups, in connection with ongoing investigations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

In south Kashmir's Kulgam, one of the largest operations in recent months was launched, with over 200 locations raided in the past four days. More than 400 cordon-and-search operations were carried out in the district at the premises of OGWs and other banned networks. Around 500 individuals were questioned, with several bound down or detained under preventive laws.

In north Kashmir's Baramulla, particularly in Sopore, Zaingeer, and Rafiabab areas, police carried out simultaneous raids at over 30 locations, recovering a significant quantity of incriminating documents and digital gadgets with links to banned groups. Several suspects were detained for questioning.

Similar operations were carried out in Ganderbal, Pulwama, Awantipora, and other districts, where police recovered incriminating material, digital devices, and printed content with direct links to the banned outfit. A number of individuals affiliated with JeI were interrogated and bound down under law.

Officials said these operations form part of J&K Police's preventive and intelligence-driven strategy aimed at disrupting any efforts to re-organize banned organisations or spread radical ideology at the grassroots level.

"The searches were conducted based on credible inputs about revival attempts by JeI-linked individuals through covert channels and front groups. The objective is to pre-empt threats, gather evidence, and maintain peace and public order," a police spokesperson said.

Heightened Security After Delhi Blast

Following the Delhi car blast near the Red Fort, in which nine people were killed and 20 injured, the J&K Police have heightened security measures across all districts and appealed to the public to remain vigilant.

All field units have been directed to increase surveillance and checking in sensitive areas, while senior officers have held multiple meetings with locals, shopkeepers, and traders, urging them to report any suspicious movement or unattended objects immediately.

"We have reached out to business owners and transporters to strengthen community surveillance. Cooperation from citizens is essential to maintain security," a senior officer said.

Authorities have advised traders and residents to install CCTV cameras and assist in strengthening the city's security grid. Security checks have been intensified at bus stands, railway stations, and markets, while Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) and additional personnel have been deployed at key locations.

The security outreach has also been extended to Samba, Kathua, and Reasi, with extra deployment at the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Katra and its base camp.

Patrolling has been stepped up along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and railway tracks, while across Kashmir, security forces continue wide-ranging preventive operations to ensure peace and stability.

#### Police Keenly

material online.

In Bandipora, police advised citizens to exercise restraint and responsibility while using social media and to avoid engaging with content that promotes communal or divisive narratives.

The advisory stated that strict legal action would be taken against individuals spreading hate or misinformation and warned against falling prey to accounts operated from across the border aimed at disturbing peace and public order.

Similarly, Ganderbal Police issued a strong advisory cautioning against posting or sharing

inflammatory or anti-national content, particularly related to the recent Red Fort blast. Police said some users had mocked the tragic incident online, terming such behaviour as "inhumane and provocative".

The advisory urged users to report objectionable posts or accounts directly to law enforcement agencies instead of amplifying them and emphasised that any content threatening public harmony would invite legal consequences.

In Sopore, police appealed to citizens and WhatsApp group administrators to use social media responsibly and warned that any anti-national, communal, or sectarian post, comment, or forward would attract the strictest legal action.

The advisory urged people not to amplify hate or misinformation and to use social media as a tool for connection rather than division.

"It has come to notice that some social media users are posting or reacting insensitively to the recent tragic incident at the Red Fort. Such actions are deeply objectionable and anti-national, aimed at spreading hatred and disturbing public harmony," Kupwara Police said, adding that it urges everyone to avoid posting, sharing, or endorsing any content that is anti-national, communal, or disrespectful in nature.

"The public is advised to report such content or accounts to the concerned platform or law enforcement authorities instead of engaging with or spreading them," the police said, adding that it is closely monitoring online activity.

Police warned that strict legal action will be taken against anyone found involved in creating or promoting such content.

Meanwhile, in Shopian, police registered an FIR after taking cognisance of a viral video circulated through a Facebook page titled "Voice of Humanity". The video reportedly contained a speech promoting separatist sentiments and activities aimed at disturbing public peace.

Officials said a case under FIR No. 109/2025 has been filed at Police Station Zainapora, and investigations are underway to identify those involved in creating and circulating the content.(KNO)

#### HIV Cases Rise

being reported due to a lack of education about safe practices and preventive steps. They said prevention remains the most effective way to combat HIV.

Dr Showkat Ahmad, a senior physician at GMC Srinagar, said, "HIV is preventable if people remain aware and follow basic precautions. Unprotected sexual contact, use of unsterilized syringes, and transfusion of unscreened blood are major routes of transmission. People must be cautious and responsible."

He added that the availability of Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) has improved the quality of life for those living with HIV, but preventing the infection remains crucial. "Early diagnosis through regular testing can help control the spread and enable timely treatment," he said.

Doctors highlighted the importance of using disposable syringes, ensuring blood safety before transfusion, and promoting safe sexual practices. They said there should be no stigma attached to people living with HIV, as social discrimination often prevents individuals from seeking timely medical help.

Dr Mariya Jan, a health educator, said, "Awareness at the grassroots level, particularly among youth, is vital. Schools, colleges, and community organisations should participate in educational campaigns so that people understand how the virus spreads and how to stay safe."

Health authorities have urged people to avail of free HIV testing and counselling facilities available at government hospitals and Integrated Counselling and Testing Centres (ICTCs) across the Union Territory.

Regular testing, safe behaviour, and compassion towards affected individuals are key to ending the HIV epidemic, the doctors said. (KNO)

#### Terrorism Devastated

innovation, and startup incubation.

"Academic programmes have increased from 41 to 90 between 2021 and 2025, offering cutting-edge courses in AI, Robotics, Space Technology, Data Sciences, and skill-based learning. External research funding has jumped from 2 crore annually before 2021 to over 69 crore in four years," Sinha said.

The LG added that IUST, which had no startups in 2021, now hosts 93 incubated ventures

and over 225 incubatees, many of whom are working on renewable energy, healthcare, and IT innovations. "Thirty-two patents have been granted, 77 published, and 33 more filed. This progress reflects the spirit of a new J&K," he said.

Directing the university to focus on research-driven, low-cost housing, sustainable infrastructure, and digital connectivity in remote regions, Sinha said educational institutions must lead problem-solving for real-world challenges.

He also cautioned against attempts by the "terror ecosystem" to derail progress. "Our neighbouring country and its terrorist elements continue to try to disrupt this journey. We must remain vigilant and protect the new identity and destiny that Jammu and Kashmir has created," he said.

Calling for collective responsibility to destroy the terror ecosystem, Sinha said it is the duty of the public to identify such elements and inform the security forces.

The event was attended by senior officials and academics, including Additional Chief Secretary (Higher Education) Shantmanu, IUST Vice Chancellor Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo, University of Kashmir Vice Chancellor Prof. Nilofer Khan, and Director SKIMS Prof. M. Ashraf Ganie, among others.

#### Showcase J&K's

Kashmir has witnessed since August 2019.

Speaking at the inauguration of the International Film Festival of Srinagar (TIFFS), organised by the Vomedh Group, Sinha called upon filmmakers to balance creativity with social responsibility.

"Filmmakers must come up with films that tell the stories of terror victims, expose those who fuel violence, and highlight the change and progress achieved in Jammu and Kashmir after August 2019," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He urged the people to support law enforcement agencies in uprooting the remnants of militancy. "People must expose the enemies of peace by providing information about them to the Police and Security Agencies, so that the entire terror ecosystem hiding behind the cover in the society is neutralised and a befitting reply is given to the evil intentions of the neighbouring country," Sinha added.

The Lieutenant Governor said Jammu and Kashmir had entered a new era of peace and progress after years of tireless efforts and sacrifices by the J&K Police, Army, intelligence agencies, and security forces.

"After the last 5-6 years of dedicated work, we have been able to create a fear-free environment in J&K and establish a safe, supportive and inclusive system for youth to realise their dreams. Society must come together to guard this peace, progress, joy, and renewed hope," he said.

Sinha also highlighted the steps taken by the UT administration to revive Jammu and Kashmir's bond with the film industry and make the region an attractive destination for filmmakers.

"Cinema is one of the most powerful tools for shaping social narratives, fostering cultural unity, and promoting the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat," he said, adding that filmmakers should use their art to strengthen the message of peace and unity.

The fourth edition of the International Film Festival of Srinagar received over 100 film entries from 20 countries. A distinguished jury shortlisted 20 short films, six feature films, and four documentaries for screening.

The three-day festival aims to celebrate cinema that bridges cultures and tells stories of resilience, hope, and transformation. The event was attended by senior officials, festival directors Rohit Bhat and Rakesh Roshan Bhat, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg, DIG CKR Rajiv Pandey, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Akshay Labroo, and several filmmakers, artists, and cinema enthusiasts.

#### Kashmir Students

garden waste, turning theory into action.

#### Red Fort Blast

India's zero tolerance policy towards terrorism.

"The Cabinet directs that the investigation be pursued so that the perpetrators, their collaborators, and their sponsors are brought to justice without delay," Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said while reading

out the resolution.

The 'White Collar Module' With JeM Links Investigators said Dr Umar Nabi and Dr Muzammil Ganai, both from south Kashmir, had met overground workers of Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) during their 2021 trip to Turkey.

Data recovered from Muzammil's phone showed that he had recced the Red Fort area multiple times, particularly in the first week of January, indicating plans for a possible Republic Day attack.

Investigators believe Umar was building a vehicle-based improvised explosive device (VBIED) and had taken instructions from online sources about assembly and detonation.

Panic Before Blast

Officials suspect Umar panicked on November 10 after Faridabad Police announced the busting of a terror module linked to JeM and the recovery of 2,900 kg of explosive material.

Fearing imminent arrest, Umar drove the Hyundai i20 loaded with explosives towards Delhi and parked near the Red Fort, where a premature explosion occurred.

The blast destroyed the car and killed Umar instantly. The VBIED was incomplete as shrapnel had not yet been installed, officials said.

Red SUV Seized in Faridabad

Investigators have also seized a red Ford EcoSport SUV linked to the module from Haryana's Khandawali area.

The vehicle, registered in the name of Dr Umar Un Nabi, was purchased on October 29, just weeks before the blast. CCTV footage showed three people inside the car on the day it was taken for pollution testing.

The Delhi Police had issued a city-wide alert to trace the car, suspected to have been used in planning the attack.

Explosives Recovered From Mewat Preacher's Home

A preacher, Maulvi Ishtiaq, from Haryana's Mewat district, who allegedly helped the module store explosives at his rented home near Al Falah University, was detained and brought to Srinagar on Wednesday.

From his residence in Dhauj village, police recovered over 2,500 kg of ammonium nitrate, potassium chlorate, and sulphur.

Officials said the materials were stored by Dr Muzammil and Dr Umar and were part of a larger interstate "white-collar" JeM module operating under the guise of professionals and academics.

'Foreign Hand and Radicalisation Trail'

Investigations have revealed that Umar and Muzammil were part of a radicalised "doctor module", which also included Dr Shaheen Sayeed from Al Falah University.

Their passports show travel to Turkey in 2021, where they reportedly established contact with JeM handlers operating through Telegram groups, including one run by Umar bin Khattab in Pakistan.

The module had allegedly been instructed to disperse across India and choose target locations after their Turkish visit.

Possible Mumbai-Style Attack Foiled

Investigators believe the group intended to execute a "Mumbai 2008-style coordinated attack" in Delhi.

They had initially planned to strike during Diwali, but postponed it to December. Recovered data suggests plans to target crowded public areas and government landmarks.

A senior police officer confirmed that mobile dump data and CCTV analysis place Umar and Muzammil near Red Fort multiple times as part of their reconnaissance ahead of Republic Day.

University Distances Itself

Following the arrests, Al Falah University in Faridabad issued a statement distancing itself from the accused, stating it had only a "professional association" with them.

"The university is anguished by the developments and stands in solidarity with the nation," it said.

#### Those Behind

interacted with the injured, enquired about their treatment, and wished them a speedy recovery. He was briefed by hospital officials and doctors about the medical condition of each patient and the treatment being provided.

Security was tightened in and around LNJP Hospital during the Prime Minister's visit, with senior Delhi Police officials deployed on site to oversee the arrangements.

The blast, which the government has termed a "terrorist incident perpetrated by anti-national forces", is under investigation by

multiple agencies. A high-level meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) chaired by the Prime Minister on Wednesday directed officials to pursue the probe with "utmost urgency and professionalism."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah had also visited LNJP Hospital earlier this week to meet the injured victims and review the security situation.

#### Valley Shivers

any wet spell for the next one week. "The night temperature will remain almost unchanged till November 17, with a slight improvement expected thereafter for two to three days," he said.

#### Mian Qayoom's

The order has been forwarded to SDPO Shaheed Gunj for implementation, with copies marked to ADG CID, IG Kashmir Zone, SSP Srinagar, and AIG (CT)/INT).

Pertinently, Mian Qayoom was arrested in 2020 in connection with the murder of Advocate Babar Qadri, who was shot dead by gunmen posing as clients at his Srinagar residence.

#### SC Orders HCs

other convicts lodged in different jails of Jharkhand also approached the top court seeking similar directions.

The bench then expanded the scope of the litigation and sought details of such cases from all the high courts, where judgements were not pronounced for months even after reserving the decisions.

On Wednesday, Shakil, appointed amicus curiae in the matter, pointed out that seven high courts have not submitted their details, while the rest have submitted their reports and the data is being compiled.

The bench took serious note of the submissions, and directed the high courts of Allahabad, Punjab and Haryana, Patna, Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh, Kerala, Telangana, and Gauhati to file their reports within two weeks or their registrar general will be physically present on the next date of hearing.

It also asked the high courts to give their suggestions on improving dissemination of information to the general public, so that pan-India guidelines can be formulated.

It also asked them to highlight their concerns or apprehensions or difficulties, if any, on release of such information on judgements delivered to the general public.

Justice Kant observed that the data to be displayed on the websites will not be person or case specific and would only give the total number of cases in which judgements were reserved from January 31 onwards till October 31, 2025, number of cases in which judgements were delivered during the period, and on which date the verdicts were uploaded on the high court's website.

On September 22, the top court lamented some high court judges being unable to "deliver on their tasks" and called for their "performance evaluation".

The top court said though it did not want to act like a "school principal" for the high court judges, but there ought to be a self-management system to ensure "files don't pile up on their desks".

It stressed on "performance evaluation" but underlined the question of parameters and guidelines guiding the process.

Justice Kant had pointed out that some judges have the habit of adjourning cases unnecessarily, and said it could be dangerous for the image of the judges as has been the case with some of them in the past.

On August 8, in another case, the top court suggested the Jharkhand High Court judges to take leave for writing pending verdicts after observing that there were 61 cases in which judgements weren't pronounced.

Earlier, during the hearing in the instant case, on May 13, the top court called for a performance audit of high court judges observing that some of them were taking breaks "unnecessarily".

It said the top court was receiving several complaints against high court judges and it was high time to assess the expenditure on them vis-a-vis their output.

The top court had earlier termed the issue raised by the life and death row convicts in Jharkhand of "paramount importance" that "goes to the root of the criminal justice system"



'World Pneumonia Day'

# Pneumonia Hits People with Weak Immunity Harder, Experts Caution

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Immunocompromised individuals, including those with weakened immune systems due to underlying health conditions, medical treatments, or age, are more vulnerable to pneumonia, doctors said on Wednesday.

"Pneumonia is one of the most common and serious respiratory infections that inflames the air sacs in one or both lungs. It can be caused by bacteria, viruses, or fungi," Dr Naveed Nazir Shah, a noted pulmonologist and Head of the Department at Chest Diseases (CD) Hospital Srinagar told KNO.

He said pneumonia continues to be the leading infectious cause of death in children under five years of age globally and also poses a serious threat to older adults and immunocompromised individuals.

"The good news is that pneu-

monia is largely preventable," Dr Shah added. "Vaccination plays a crucial role — particularly PCV (Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine), Hib, influenza, and COVID-19 vaccines. Maintaining good nutrition, exclusive breastfeeding in infants, practising hand hygiene, and reducing indoor air pollution are equally vital."

Another pulmonologist, Dr Javid Ahmad, said that immunocompromised individuals are at higher risk due to weakened immune systems and greater susceptibility to opportunistic infections. "People with conditions like HIV, cancer, or those using immunosuppressant drugs must be extra cautious," he said. "They are strongly advised to receive all recommended vaccines against pneumonia-causing pathogens."

Dr Javid further said that antibiotics are prescribed only for bacterial infections or in certain high-risk viral cases. "Most viral



**PNEUMONIA CONTINUES TO BE THE LEADING INFECTIOUS CAUSE OF DEATH IN CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE GLOBALLY AND ALSO POSES A SERIOUS THREAT TO OLDER ADULTS AND IMMUNOCOMPROMISED INDIVIDUALS."**

pneumonia cases require only symptomatic treatment or antivirals, not antibiotics," he clarified.

According to doctors, early medical intervention can make a crucial difference. "Persistent cough, high fever, chest pain, and shortness of breath should never be ignored," they advised. "Timely evaluation by healthcare professionals can prevent complications and save lives."

Pneumonia can stem from bacterial, viral, or fungal causes, and identifying the correct cause is essential for appropriate treatment, according to doctors. They said risk factors include extreme age (infants or elderly), chronic diseases (like COPD, diabetes, heart disease), smoking, excessive alcohol use, and recent respiratory infections such as flu or COVID-19.

Doctors recommended several preventive measures, including vaccination against pneumonia-

causing pathogens, good hygiene such as regular hand washing, healthy nutrition and exclusive breastfeeding for infants, avoiding exposure to cold air in early morning and evening hours, wearing adequate clothing, especially covering the mouth and nose, and managing chronic conditions while maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

They also cautioned that COVID-19 and flu can mimic pneumonia symptoms, and tests are necessary to differentiate between viral and bacterial infections.

According to experts, modern medical tools have improved pneumonia management. They said rapid diagnostic tests like biomarkers, molecular diagnostics, and point-of-care testing have helped identify the cause of pneumonia more accurately. This ensures targeted therapy and reduces unnecessary antibiotic use, they said.

## Vice Chancellor Mobin Announces First Convocation at Cluster University

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Cluster University Srinagar (CUS) has taken major steps to strengthen higher education in Kashmir, approving new academic programs and infrastructure projects during two key statutory meetings on November 10.

The 3rd Finance Committee Meeting, chaired by Vice Chancellor Prof. Mohammad Mobin, included senior officials from the Higher Education and Finance Departments. They resolved pending financial matters

ty from Srinagar and Jammu.

The Syndicate approved restructuring faculties, recognizing university schools, awarding degrees in line with NEP 2020, and creating new academic and administrative positions such as Dean Research, Dean Students' Welfare, Director IQAC, and Chief Proctor.

Prof. Mobin highlighted key achievements, including the recruitment of 18 assistant professors across 17 disciplines and new administrative posts. He announced Ph.D. programs in 18 fields, postgraduate



and approved development works aimed at modernizing classrooms, labs, and other campus facilities.

Later, the 2nd Syndicate Meeting, held in hybrid mode, brought together academics from across India, including Prof. Afshar Alam of Jamia Hamdard University, Prof. Bechan Lal, former Vice Chancellor of Cluster University Jammu, and Prof. Geeta Singh of the University of Delhi, alongside senior facul-

ties from Srinagar and Jammu. The Syndicate approved restructuring faculties, recognizing university schools, awarding degrees in line with NEP 2020, and creating new academic and administrative positions such as Design Your Degree and BPED.

The Vice Chancellor thanked the Higher Education and Finance Departments for sanctioning 84 teaching and non-teaching posts, granting Section 12(B) recognition under the UGC Act, and allotting 330 kanals of land at B.K. Pora, Kenihama, for a new campus.

## CS Reviews CiTAG's Initiatives for Fostering Efficiency in Governance



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Wednesday chaired a meeting to review the performance and ongoing initiatives of the Centre for Innovation, Technology and Governance (CiTAG), J&K, aimed at fostering innovation, enhancing public service delivery, and strengthening capacity building across government departments.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary, Planning; Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production and Power Development Departments; Principal Secretary, Culture; Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department; Director, IIM; Managing Director, JPDCL; Director, Industries & Commerce; CEO, ERA; CEO, CiTAG, besides other senior officers.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary reviewed the key projects and knowledge initiatives being steered by

CiTAG to strengthen governance processes through innovative and data-driven interventions. He emphasized that CiTAG should act as a catalyst in transforming administrative systems through capacity enhancement, technology integration, and policy innovation.

The Chief Secretary directed the expediting of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) initiatives identified by CiTAG, including the outsourcing of Hotel Ashok Jammu, Hotel Ashok Gulmarg, and the International Yoga Centre at Mantalai, to unlock their full potential through professional management and sustainable operational models.

He further reviewed various knowledge and policy outputs being developed under CiTAG's guidance, such as the Skill Gap Study, PPP Policy Framework, Policy for Attracting Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs), Road Safety and Urban Mobility Plans, Promotion of Start-ups, and Replication of Best Practices across departments.



**BOLLYWOOD ACTOR IMRAN KHAN** shooting for a web series on Boulevard Road in Srinagar.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

## JMC Seizes 500 Kg of Substandard Meat

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** The Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has launched a major drive against vendors selling substandard and unhygienic meat in the city, following similar action in the Kashmir Valley.

Nearly 500 kilograms of substandard frozen meat were seized and destroyed, and fines amounting to Rs 50,000 were imposed on the offenders.

The campaign was carried out by JMC's veterinary wing under the supervision of Municipal Commissioner Dr. Devesh Yadav and led by Municipal Veterinary Officer Dr. Jaswant Singh. Surprise inspections were conducted across various localities of Jammu city.

During the operation, around 500 kg of unfit meat was seized from several vendors found violating food safety and hygiene

norms. The seized meat was destroyed on the spot as per safety protocols to ensure it did not reach the market.

Several shop owners were served notices for lacking valid licenses, failing to maintain hygiene, and selling unstamped meat. Apart from the collective fine of Rs 50,000, a separate penalty of ₹7,000 was imposed on shops found selling unhygienic or unverified meat in violation of the Municipal Corporation Act, 2000.

Dr. Jaswant Singh told KNO over phone that the corporation's focus remains on ensuring the sale of safe and clean meat to consumers. "Strict action will continue against those engaged in illegal slaughtering and against vendors operating without a No Objection Certificate from the corporation or registration from the Food Safety Department," he said.

## Six Grenades Recovered During Joint Operation in Jabri Forest

**KUPWARA:** A joint search operation by the Indian Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police, and the Border Security Force (BSF) led to the recovery of six hand grenades from a forested area in north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Wednesday.

Officials said the operation was launched following specific intelligence inputs about the presence of a militant hideout in the Jabri Forest area of Tangdhar sector. During the search, security personnel discovered a cache containing six grenades concealed in the dense forest.

According to KNT, the grenades were destroyed on the spot by bomb disposal experts as a precautionary measure to prevent any untoward incident.

Security officials said the continued recovery of war-like stores in Kupwara highlights the persistent attempts to disrupt peace in the region. They added that recent successful operations have been the result of close coordination and heightened vigilance among the Army, Police, and BSF.

The area remains under tight surveillance, and further searches are being conducted to rule out the presence of additional caches or hideouts. (Observer News Service)

## JKPSC 10+2 Lecturer Aspirants Allege 'Paper Leak'

Aspirants of lecturer 10+2 post (English) who recently appeared in Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC) objective type test Wednesday alleged that the paper was 'partially leaked' days before the examination was held.

One of the aspirants said that many questions that they attempted in the exam were already shared in a mock test held by some local academy on November-06.

The aspirants further alleged that they came to know through news reports that the questions of the paper were shared 3 days before the JKPSC exam. They further alleged that the question paper was extremely lengthy and were not able to attempt at least 70 or 80 percent of it. "The paper was 40 pages long and was difficult to attempt in just two hours of time."

Another aspirant said, "As the question paper carries negative marking, we had to attempt limited questions and the majority of time during the exams got wasted in understanding the lengthy paper."

JKPSC Chairman Arun Kumar Choudhary told KNO that "If the aspirants have any issues, they can come to the office of JKPSC and submit their complaints."

About the leaking of the question paper Choudhary said, "If the aspirants have evidence and proof, they can come to us or they can lodge a complaint with police." He also said, "Many a things are being shared on social media but there shall be proper evidence for us to take action against any complaint." (Observer News Service)

## Dy CM Calls for Speedy Redressal of Public Issues

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary on Wednesday reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring prompt service delivery and speedy redressal of public grievances to strengthen governance at the grassroots level.

During an extensive public outreach session held at Civil Secretariat here, Deputy Chief Minister met several public delegations from Jammu as well as Srinagar, who apprised him of various issues concerning their respective areas. The deputations raised matters related to overall upgradation of civic and infrastructural facilities in their respective areas.

Giving a patient hearing to all delegations, the Deputy Chief Minister assured them that their genuine concerns would be addressed in a time-bound and result-oriented manner. He directed the concerned Departments to take immediate and impactful measures to ensure effective resolution of issues affecting public welfare. According to KNS, the Deputy Chief Minister emphasized that responsive governance and prompt service delivery remain top priorities of the present government. He said that consistent engagement with the public and timely follow-up of grievances are essential for maintaining transparency and accountability in the system. (Observer News Service)

## SKUAST-K, Stakeholders to Co-Develop Smart Agri-Market Solutions

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir's Institute of Business, Policy and Research (IBPR) in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Budgam, organised series of Stakeholder Interaction-cum-Focus Group Discussion (FGD) at Budgam under the MEITY, GoI sponsored project on "e-Marketing Ecosystem in J&K" on Wednesday. Head KVK Budgam, Principal Investigators of MEITY sponsored project, Experts of KVKs, key farmers and other stakeholders participated in the interaction.

Prof Bilal Ahmad Lone, Head KVK, Budgam in his opening remarks brought out various challenges the agricultural sector of the territory, and fruit sector of the district in particular, is facing. He showed his concerns about chronic marketing issues and sought IBPR's contribution by way of strengthening Farmers-Market Linkages through AI & electronic provision. He highlighted the growing importance of digital markets linkages in bringing together farmers, traders, FPO members and other market functionaries across the nation for better price realisation.

Prof SH Baba, IBPR, gave a comprehensive presentation on the missing links in the existing marketing routes and emphasized upon the need for the integration of the value chain of horticultural produce. He gave detailed insights on how SKUAST-K in collaboration with CDAC, Kolkata will be developing AI-based Electronic Market Ecosystem for the seamless markets of major crops including Apple, Walnut and Saffron. (Observer News Service)

## Two-Day National Conference Begins at GDCW Sopore

Observer News Service

**SOPORE:** A two-day national conference on Frontiers in Basic Sciences: Advancing Climate Resilience, Drug Discovery and Epigenetic Medicine began on Wednesday at the Government Degree College for Women Sopore.

The event brought together researchers, scientists and students to discuss new directions in climate science, biomedical research and epigenetics.

The inaugural session was graced by MLA Sopore Irshad Rasool Kar as chief guest, while ADC Sopore Shabir Ahmad Raina, SSP Sopore Iftikhar Talib, Principal Amar Singh College Prof. Ajaz Hakak and Prof. Maryam Sarwat from Amity University Noida were among the guests of honour.

In her address, Principal of the college Prof. Subeena Chilloo highlighted the im-

portance of academic collaboration and praised the Organizing Secretary, Dr. Jaffar Bhat, for his efforts.

Prof. Ajaz Hakak stressed on the urgent need to protect water bodies and the environment, calling for the revival of the traditional ethos of An Posh Tel Vel Yan Posh. Similarly, Dr. Jaffar Bhat outlined the themes of the two-day event and linked basic science to applied research. Prof. Maryam Sarwat appreciated the conference's focus on knowledge sharing and collaboration.

Meanwhile, ADC Sopore Shabir Ahmad Raina commended the college for prioritizing climate resilience, calling it a critical issue. The event also saw the inauguration of the college newsletter by Dr. Khalid Bashir and his team, followed by the launch of the RFID-based library facility, which drew praise from visiting dignitaries. (KNO)

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

**MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION SRINAGAR**

(Erstwhile Mechanical Hospital & Central Heating Division Srinagar)

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**GIST of e-tender**

**e-NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2025-26/96/e-tendering, Dated: 11-11-2025**

**(Short Term)**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited in two cover system on percentage basis from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:-

Name of Work	Est. Cost (In rupees)	Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees)	Time of completion (in days)	AA Accorded Vide No:	TS No	Earnest Money	Position of Funds
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual maintenance / repairs of Central Heating System at SDA Office, Bemina for the year 2025-26	1,88,550/-	200	7 days	SDA/EE/636-38, Dt:10.11.2025	M&HDS/TS/76, Dated: 11/2025	2% of the estimated cost	Available with intending Department

The bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule given below:-

1	Publish date	11-11-2025 (17:00 hrs)
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Pant Back In Full Flow As India Step Up In Nets Ahead Of SA Opening Test

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: Set for his much-anticipated Test comeback, India's flamboyant wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant was in full flow at nets on Wednesday, his uninhibited strokeplay lighting up the team's training session at Eden Gardens ahead of the opening Test against South Africa beginning Friday.

Out of action since July after fracturing his toe from a Chris Woakes delivery during the fourth Test in Manchester, Pant eased back into competitive cricket through the unofficial Tests for India A against South Africa A in Bengaluru.

He scored 90 in a winning chase in the opening



'A' Test and a 65 in the second game despite being retired hurt on 17.

He later returned to finish the innings, signalling both form and fitness ahead of the senior team's Test series.

Back with Team In-

dia, Pant picked up from where he left off, batting with freedom and audacity across multiple nets, facing both pace and spin.

He spent close to an hour in the middle, taking on Washington Sundar, Axar Patel and Ravindra

Jadeja with his trademark range of strokes.

From the reverse ramp over slip and scoop over fine leg to the one-handed loft down the ground and pick-up flick against pace, Pant looked his unorthodox best.

He also danced down to the spinners, playing inside-out drives over extra cover and sweeps from outside off to midwicket with precise footwork and wrist control, drawing approving nods from teammates.

Pant began his session with about 15 minutes of wicketkeeping drills, standing close to the stumps, seemingly preparing for the low bounce and carry expected in sub-continental conditions.

The session was a full-fledged one for Team India, with openers Yashasvi Jaiswal and KL Rahul starting off proceedings in alternate nets against pace and spin, while Dhruv Jurel set to play as a specialist batter also had a long hit alongside Pant.=

8 Sri Lankan Players To Return Home From Pak After Bomb Blast

Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: Eight Sri Lankan players, currently touring Pakistan with the national team for a three-match ODI series, are set to return home on Thursday after expressing concern over their safety following a deadly bomb blast in Islamabad that left 12 people dead and several injured, a SLC source said on Wednesday.

The development means the second ODI scheduled

in Rawalpindi on Thursday will not happen. Pakistan had won the first ODI by six runs at the same venue on Tuesday.

The Sri Lankan team is also scheduled to play a triangular series, involving the hosts and Zimbabwe, after the three ODIs.

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) sources said replacements will be sent for those returning home.

Sources in SLC added that because of the proximity of

Rawalpindi, where the ODIs are being played, to Islamabad was the reason the players expressed the desire to return home.

In 2009, the Sri Lankan cricket team bus was attacked by gunmen when it was on its way to the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore for the second Test.

Several members of the Sri Lankan team, including Ajantha Mendis, Chaminda Vaas and captain Mahela Jayawardene, were injured

Heartiest Congratulations



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FROM:

Altaf Ahmad Ringshawl | Mehraj-ud-Din Shah

Abbas Ads

Kulgam & Kupwara To Clash In UT Level Cricket Tourney Final



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The scenic Jablipora Bijbehara Grounds witnessed the semifinal matches of the UT Level Inter-District Cricket Tournament on Wednesday. The tourney is being organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports J&K and hosted by DYSS Anantnag.

In the first semifinal, District Kulgam locked horns with District Srinagar. After winning the toss and batting first, Kulgam posted 160 runs on the board. The innings was powered by Suhaib (46 off 27), Yasir (34), Waris (31), and Hamid (28). For Srinagar, Faizan and Sahil picked up two wickets each.

In response, Srinagar struggled to chase down the target and fell 77

runs short, with Zeerak being the top scorer with 24 runs. Kulgam's bowling attack, led by Waris and Sehran, proved too strong as both bagged three wickets each, sealing Kulgam a place in the final.

The second semifinal featured a gripping contest between District Pulwama and District Kupwara. Batting first, Pulwama set a target of 126 runs, with Kamran (45) and Sameer (27) top scoring. For Kupwara, Adnan took three wickets).

Chasing the target, Kupwara showcased composure and determination, successfully reaching the total with five wickets in hand. Adnan, continuing his all-round brilliance, scored a match-winning 35 runs, while Anas from Pulwama took two wickets.

69th NSG Boys Wushu: Host J&K Shines With Seven Medals

Observer News Service

JAMMU: J&K's young Taekwondo players swept the medals at the ongoing 69th National School Games Under-19 Boys Taekwondo Championship at Indoor Sports Complex, Bhagwati Nagar.

With the addition of medals won by Ayaan Mahajan, Harris Gulzar, Arslan Wazir, and Saksham Sharma, J&K's tally has risen to an impressive and historic seven medals.

The championship is being organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, under the aegis of the School Games Federation of India (SGFI), led by the Director Gen-

eral, Youth Services and Sports, J&K.

Harris Gulzar of J&K won bronze medal in the -48 KG category. In the +78 KG category, Ayaan Mahajan of J&K secured Silver. In the -68 KG category, Saksham Sharma of J&K won bronze.

In the -78 KG division, J&K's Arslan Wazir won bronze.

The medal ceremony for the -68 KG and +78 KG categories was presided over by the Organising Secretary of the Championship, Vinakshi Koul, Joint Director, Youth Services and Sports Jammu. She was accompanied by Sukhdev Raj Sharma, DYSSO Jammu, and Rajesh Sambyal, Incharge of the event.



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