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Seized Explosives Trigger Massive Blast in Nowgam PS

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: An accidental explosion at the Nowgam police station in the outskirts of the city here late on Friday night injured at least eight personnel extracting samples from a massive cache of explosives recently seized in connection with the 'white-collar' terror module case, officials said. They said the blast occurred while personnel were handling the explosive material that had been brought from Haryana's Faridabad. The material, part of the 360 kilograms of explosives recovered from the rented residence of arrested doctor Muzammil Ganaie, was being sampled as part of the ongoing investigation, the officials said. Ambulance and police sirens broke the silence of the night as the injured were rushed to a hospital. Small successive explosions prevented immediate rescue operations by the bomb disposal squad. It was not immediately clear if the entire 360 kg of explosives was stored at the police station, where the primary case for the terror module was registered. The entire conspiracy was unravelled after the posters threatening police and security forces appeared on walls in Bunkpora, Nowgam, in | [More on P6](#)

J&K BY-POLLS

PDP Breaches NC's Budgam Fortress, BJP Sweeps Nagrota

BUDGAM

PDP's Aga Syed Muntazir: **21,576 votes**

NC's Aga Syed Mehmood: **17,098 votes**

Victory Margin: **4,478 votes**

Jibran Dar (Independent) : **7,152 votes**

BJP's Aga Syed Mohsin: **2,619 votes**

Turnout: 50.01%

NAGROTA
BJP's Devyani Rana: **42,350 votes**

JKNPP's Harsh Dev Singh: **17,703 votes**

NC's Shamim Begum: **10,872 votes**

Victory Margin: **24,647 votes**

Turnout: 75%+



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The by-elections to the Budgam and Nagrota

Assembly constituencies delivered sharply contrasting results on Friday, with the Peoples Democratic Party

(PDP) wresting Budgam from the National Conference (NC) for the first time in history, while the | [More on P6](#)

'Political Suicide': CM On Ruhullah's Absence



Observer News Service

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday described Lok Sabha MP Aga

Ruhullah's absence from the Budgam bypoll campaign as "political suicide," asserting that the National Conference (NC) | [More on P6](#)

J&K Gets 4 Women MLAs For First Time

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: In a first, Jammu and Kashmir will now have four elected women legislators, after BJP's Devyani Rana on Friday clinched the Nagrota assembly bypoll, pushing female representation in the House to its highest level in history.

The UT had previously elected only three women MLAs in 2008, 2014, and again in 2024, marking the earlier peak of women's presence in the Assembly. With the total strength now at 90 seats, the inclusion of Devyani raises women's share to 4.44%, up from 3.33% last year.

Devyani, daughter of late BJP leader and former MLA Devender Singh Rana, secured a commanding | [More on P6](#)

NC Loses Deposit

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The ruling National Conference (NC) candidate from the Nagrota assembly segment was among 23 candidates who forfeited their deposits in the bypolls to the two assembly seats of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, for | [More on P6](#)

HC Fines 2 Petitioners Rs 20K For Suppressing Key Facts

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has imposed Rs 20,000 as costs on two petitioners for "not coming with clean hands and suppressing material facts" while challenging the construction of a 33 KV transmission line, which they claimed was being laid through private land and running dangerously close to the rooftops of residential houses in Pattan area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district.



The petitioners had stated in their plea that there was

life threat to all the residents and that as per the prevailing guidelines a minimum clearance of 3.7 meters was required for the high voltage line up to 33 KV from any building to ensure safety of the life and property of the residents.

They said that there was feasibility of rerouting of the line along the national highway, where the existing 11KV Line.

However, the Government Advocate vehemently argued that the petitioners have not come before Court with clean hands and have | [More on P6](#)

BJP-led NDA Secures Three-fourth Majority In Bihar

Press Trust Of India

Bihar: The ruling NDA on Friday secured a three-fourth majority in the Bihar Assembly, winning 183 seats in the 243-member House so far, as per latest results available on the Election Commission website.

The BJP emerged as the largest party, winning 83 seats and leading in six other constituencies.

Its ally, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar-led JD(U), won 75 seats and was ahead in 10, while Union minister Chirag Paswan-led Lok Janshakti Party (Ram



Vilas) bagged 17 and was ahead in two other seats.

Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular), headed | [More on P6](#)

PM Modi Hails 'Spectacular' BJP Victories

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday thanked the voters of Jammu and Kashmir and Odisha for delivering decisive victories to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the Nagrota and Nuapada assembly bypolls.

In a post on X, Modi wrote, "I thank the people of Nagrota in Jammu and Kashmir as well as Nuapada in Odisha for blessing the BJP with spectacular victories in the bypolls." He also congratulated the winning candidates, adding, "Wishing them the very best in serving the people. Compliments



to the BJP karyakartas who worked round the clock to ensure these wins."

In Jammu and Kashmir's Nagrota, BJP's Devyani Rana secured a commanding victory, defeating JKNPP leader Harsh Dev Singh by 24,647 votes. | [More on P6](#)

Collective Action Needed For 'Last Nail In Terror Coffin': LG Says J&K Never Progressed Like This Before 2019

Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday called for unified societal action to eliminate terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, warning that some "hidden elements" are attempting to radicalise the region's youth.

Speaking at the valedictory function of the first phase of the 150th-year celebrations of the national song Vande Mataram at MA Stadium, Jammu, the LG said the Union Territory has taken a decisive turn toward peace and progress since 2019, but "this transformation is causing discomfort to some people."

"There are still some elements hiding within society



who are trying to radicalise our youth. Several such cases have come to our attention in recent months," Sinha said. "We must

root out these elements and isolate the terror ecosystem. Collective action of society will prove to be the last nail in the

coffin of terrorism."

"I am of the firm belief that when terrorists and their sympathizers stop getting oxygen, that will be the last nail in their coffin—and that day is not far." "My fervent appeal to all is to come forward and put in an effort to make J&K completely terror-free," he added.

The event, organised by the Department of Culture, witnessed a massive gathering, with more than 20,000 students and citizens joining in the mass singing of Vande Mataram. Sinha congratulated the people of Jammu and Kashmir for securing the highest national participation in the week-long celebrations.

Highlighting | [More on P6](#)

Red Fort Blast: House Of Accused Demolished; NMC Deregisters 4 Doctors

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Security forces have demolished the house of Dr Umar Nabi, the man identified as the driver of the explosive-laden car used in the Red Fort blast that killed 13 people in New Delhi earlier this week. The demolition was carried out in south Kashmir's Pulwama district during the intervening night of Thursday and Friday, officials said.

The blast, which took place near the Red Fort on Monday night, led to massive casualties and prompted a multi-agency probe. Investigators said Umar was driving the Hyundai i20 packed with explosives. His identity was confirmed after DNA samples from



the blast site matched with those of his mother.

Once known as an academically accomplished young

doctor, Umar is suspected to have undergone rapid radicalisation over the last two years. Officials said | [More on P6](#)

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Study Finds Brain's Learning Processes Linked With Female Reproductive Cycle

Press Trust of India

Brain processes involved in helping one learn may naturally fluctuate in line with the female reproductive cycle and be linked with molecule changes due to dopamine production, according to a new study in mice, findings from which could potentially explain how the neurochemical helps in learning in humans.

"There is a growing realisation in the medical community that changes in the oestrogen levels are related to cognitive function and, specifically, psychiatric disorders," said Christine Constanti-nople, a professor in New York Uni-versity's center for neural science and senior author of the study published in the journal Nature Neuroscience.

"Despite the broad influence of hor-mones throughout the brain, little is known about how these hormones influence cognitive behaviours and re-lated neurological activity," Constanti-nople said.

Researchers performed experiments with mice, which involved providing the animals with audio cues carrying information about water availability. Learning abilities of the mice were seen to be enhanced when oestrogen levels were increased, which the au-thors said could be because the female sex hormone boosts dopamine ac-tivity in the brain's 'reward centre', mak-ing reward signals stronger.

However, when oestrogen activity was



suppressed, the hormone was curbed in its ability to regulate dopamine and therefore, learning was seen to be di-minished in the animals.

The result pointed to a potential link between hormone levels and symp-toms of neuropsychiatric disorders, the researchers said.

"All neuropsychiatric disorders show fluctuations in symptom severity over hormonal states, suggesting that a better understanding of how hor-mones influence neural circuits might reveal what causes these diseases," Constantinople said.

The team added that cognitive activ-

ity was seen to be unaffected by oes-trogen activity, and that effects were specific to learning abilities.

The authors wrote, "(Natural oes-trogen production) predicts dopamine reuptake and RPE (reward prediction errors) signalling, and causally dic-tates the impact of previous rewards on behaviour."

"Our results provide a potential bio-logical explanation that bridges dopa-mine's function with learning in ways that better inform our understanding of both health and disease," lead au-thor Carla Golden, a postdoctoral fel-low at New York University said.

NOTICE

I, Javid Ahmad Rather, F/o Ayaat, do hereby certify that I am applying for correction of father's name in the school records of my daughter, who is studying in Mother Land High School Kaka Mohalla, Khawaja Bazar, Srinagar. Incorrect Father's name: Javid Ahmad Rather Correct Father's name: Javid Ahmad Rather. If anybody having any objection to the said correction, he/she may contact the office of the Principal Motherland High School Kaka Mohalla, Khawaja Bazar, Srinagar within 7 days of this notice. After that no objection will be entertained. Javid Ahmad Rather F/o Ayaat R/o Kaw Mohalla, Khanyar Srinagar Kashmir Media line edit

OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR, PATTAN

Subject: Incorrect Names in Legal Heir Certificate
PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public that a Legal Heir Certificate was issued in respect of Altaf Ahmad S/o Ab. Kabir Rather R/o Shripura Bangil, Tehsil Pattan, District Baramulla, who was working in the Police Department as a Wireless Operator.

It is pertinent to mention that on 31-08-2020, a vehicle (Tempo) bearing Registration No. JK14D7929 met with an accident near Mehar Ramban and the vehicle plunged into the river Chenab. The above-mentioned person, who was travelling in the same vehicle, went missing.

As the said person has not been traced till date, a Legal Heir Certificate was issued by this office vide No. TP/MM/Legal Heirs/2024-25/59 dated 08-07-2024.

The Legal Heirs of the above-mentioned missing person are as under:

S. No	Name of Legal Heirs (as per previous certificate)	Relationship	Remarks
01	Mst Sara Begum	Mother	Died on 08-06-2023
02	Mohd Maqbool Rather	Brother	—
03	Mohd Ramzan Rather	Brother	—
04	Mst Shahzada	Sister	Corrected name is Shahnaza Sofi
05	Ab Hameed Rather	Brother	—
06	Fayaz Ahmad	Brother	—
07	Mymoon	Sister	Correct name is Mehbooba

Anyone having any objection to the correction/re-issuance of the Legal Heir Certificate in favour of the above-mentioned missing person may contact the undersigned within 7 days of this publication.

Dated: 14/11/2025

fko

Tehsildar, Pattan

The Jammu and Kashmir State Board Of School Education New Campus Bemina Srinagar Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-

Roll No: 569257
Class 10th
Year & Session Annual Regular 2011
Registration: N10480380073
Name : Parveez Ul Hassan Ganie
Father's Name: Gulam Hassan Ganie
Mother's Name : Taja Begum
Date of Birth:- 07-10-1996
Residence:- Kultoor Langate



According to the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice.

(Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 11ARKAM - 7016039 be treated as "CANCELLED")

No: F/Cer-is-I-DQC/B/KD/

Dated

Assistant Secretary
Certificates, KD.

fko

NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my vehicle bearing Regd. No. JK01AT8996 while traveling from Jahangir Chowk to Habakadal Srinagar. Now I am applying for new number plate . In this regard if any body is having any objection may convey to RTO Srinagar Kashmir within a period of seven days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Javid Hassan Ahangar
S/o: Gh Hassan Ahangar

R/o: Magraypora Nowgam Srinagar

Government of UT of Jammu & Kashmir

STATE ALLIED AND HEALTHCARE COUNCIL, J&K Constituted vide Govt. Order No. 7/7-JK (HMF) of 2024 Dated: 10.11.2024

Subject:- Extension of the last date for selection against left-over seats in Degree Courses coming under the purview of the State Allied and Healthcare Council, J&K.

NOTICE

In continuation to this office Notification No. SAHC/GEN/25/1/701-711 dated 14-10-2025, SAHC/GEN/25/714 Dated:-14-10-2025, it is hereby notified for the information of all Government and Private Institutions of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir coming under the purview of the State Allied and Healthcare Council, J&K, that the last date for admission of candidates for left-over seats in Degree Courses in the concerned institutions has been extended upto 30-11-2025 (5:00 PM).

Accordingly, all institutions shall submit the hard copy of the selection list to the office of the State Allied and Healthcare Council, J&K by or before 02-12-2025, along with a soft copy through email.

Secretary

State Allied Health Care Council-J&K

No. SAHC-J&K/Leftover/1/741-51

DIPK-NB-2476/25

dated: 14-11-2025

Chairperson

State Allied Health Care Council-J&K

Dated: 08/11/2025

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) MECHANICAL DIVISION CENTRAL KASHMIR

(NOTICE INVITING TENDERS)

e-NIT No:- R&B/MDCK/NIT/18 of 2025-26

Dated: 13-11-2025

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

S.No	Name of work	Cost of Tender Documents (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs)	Advertised cost (Rs.)	Time of Completion (days)	Tender Opening Authority	Position of Funds
1	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 08 Passenger MRL Lift at Administrative Block at Govt. College for Women, M.A Road Srinagar.	800	41,380	20,69,000	03 months	Executive Engineer, R&B Mechanical Division Central Kashmir	Available with intending department

Position of AAA: Administrative Approval accorded by Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department vide order no. 403-HE of 2019. Dt:-29/07/2019.

Position of TS: Accorded by Executive Engineer, R&B Mechanical Division Central Kashmir vide order no. XENMC/Sgr/TS/09 . Dt:- 13.11.2025

The Bidding documents 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 departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per below schedule.

DIPK-8115/25

dated: 14-11-2025

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Mechanical Division
Central Kashmir

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer (Mechanical)Central Kashmir Division Public Works (R&B) Department

Engineering Complex (PMGSY Building), Rajbagh Srinagar Kashmir-190008

CORRIGENDUM

Subject:- Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of lifts at Transit accommodation at Kakan Maran

Reference:- This Office e-NIT No: R&B/MDCK/NIT/16 of 2025-26. Dt:- 29/10/2025

Due to typographical error kindly read the Clause 1.15 of Annexure-C of the above-referred e-NIT as follows:

Read As:

"Car size to be quoted by bidder for easy accommodation of 08 passengers"

Instead of:

"Car size to be quoted by bidder for easy accommodation of 10 passengers"

No:XENMC/Sgr/1956-58

DIPK-8103/25

Dated: 14-11-2025

Sd/
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Mechanical Division
Central Kashmir

Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla

e-mail, id, xenmhd.bla@jk.gov.in

Tender Notice Inviting e-Tender

NIT No: M&HDB/TS/2025-26/55/3137-41

Date: 13-11-2025

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla, invites online e-bids in Two Cover system on percentage wise basis from Authorized service providers of OEMs /Registered / Listed Contractors for the below mentioned works:

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit	Time of Completion
01.	Repair and Maintenance of Cat Holland, Cat Gulmarg and Liugong Loader of Snow Clearance Machines at Tangmarg Unit.	0.45272	200.00	905/-	10 days

Note: -

• AAA: - Administrative Approval accorded by Chief Engineer M&HD Kashmir vide No. M&HED/K/Acctt/ of 2025-26/108

Dated: 30-08-2025

• Technical Sanction: - Technical Sanction Accorded by Assistant Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Sub Division 2nd vide No. M&H/SD 2nd/TS-04 Dated: - 12-11-2025.

• Executing Agency: - Executive Engineer, Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla.

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	13-11-2025
2.	Period of downloading of the bidding document	From 13-11-2025 to 19-11-2025
3.	Bid Submission Start Date	From 19-11-2025 (18:15 HRS)
4.	Bid Submission End Date	19-11-2025 (18:55 HRS)
5.	Date of Opening of Cover 1st	20-11-2025 (13:00 HRS)

The bidders are required to submit their offers in two (02) covers.

Cover-I shall contain: Scanned copies of following documents:

01.	Tender Fee	Rs. 200.00 (Rupees Two hundred only) in shape of e-Challan / e-receipt / online Bank transfer acknowledgement including m-Pay Delight+, to be uploaded with each online bid pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla. Tender ID to be written also on the voucher. Bank: J&K Bank. Branch: T.P Baramulla. IFSC Code: JAKAOTTEHSIL Account No.: 0213010200000051.
02.	EMD Scanned copy of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of CDR/FDR equivalent to 02% of value of the advertised cost pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla. EMD of successful bidder shall be released on receipt of 03% to 10% Performance Guarantee from (LI) and execution of agreement with the Department. EMD of un-successful bidders shall be also released as per rules provided in J&K PWD Engineering Manual 2020.	
03.	Terms & Conditions	Scanned copy of the Annexure- "A" & "B" duly accepted by the bidder.
04.	Tax Clearance Registration Certificate of Sales Tax Department quoting GST Number.	
05.	GST Scanned copies of PAN Card / GST Registration / Latest GST clearance certificate or acknowledgement of latest returns.	
06.	Undertaking / Undertaking as per format at Annexure "C" that the bidder has not been blacklisted or debarred by any Govt./Semi Govt. Department.	
07.	Contractor Registration	Scanned copy of valid Contractor Registration on JKPWDOMS of PWD J&K.
08.	Eligibility / Work Experience Certificate	The Bidder Shall submit documentary proof of having successfully executed similar nature of work amounting to 80% of the estimated cost in single contract or 50% of the estimated cost in two contracts each or 40% of the estimated cost in three contracts each in last 07 years in any Govt. /Semi Govt./Autonomous institutions alongwith satisfactory performance certificate issued by a competent authority not below the rank of Assistant Executive Engineer.

Note: -

The successful bidder has to furnish EMD document physically to the Divisional office alongwith fee receipt within three days from the date of opening price bid, without which his bid shall not be accepted for further processing of contract in his favour.

No EMD exemption shall be given to bidders.

Bidders / Firms shall refrain from uploading irrelevant documents.

Contractor/ Firm shall upload the contact / communication details separately on single page.

Cover-II shall contain:

01. Price bid, as per BOQ uploaded by this department. In no case, financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

02. The bids for the work shall remain valid for 180 days and the contract shall be valid for one complete year, starting from the date of allotment of the said contract.

03. The complete bidding process will be online.

04. The Financial bid of only qualifying bidders shall be opened online in the Office of the Executive Engineer M&HD Baramulla after evaluation of technical bid and decision thereof.

05. Bidder shall be penalized as per tender conditions if they withdraw their bid during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

06. 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 rate below %age inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.

07. The cost of tender documents is non-refundable and the tender shall in no case be accepted if submitted by any firm other than the purchaser.

08. Any tender found to have been submitted by the firm by furnishing false information to the department shall be cancelled and the firm shall be penalized as and when it comes to the notice of the Department even during the currency of the contract. The department reserves the right to debar /blacklist such firm(s).

09. Conditional tenders shall not be entertained.

10. Unbalanced Bid: In case bid of the lowest bidder is found unbalanced, the successful bidder shall have to produce additional performance security in shape of CDR /FDR / Bank Guarantee within 07 days after opening of price bid as per the Circular directives of the J&K U.T Finance Department issued vide No. FD-Code/441/2021-22-158; Dated: - 08.08.2025 and relevant clauses of J&K (PWD) Engineering Manual 2020.

11. The tenders should be addressed to the Executive Engineer M&HD Baramulla.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Mechanical & Hospitals Division
Baramulla

No: - M&HDB/TS/e-tender-55/3137-41

DIPK-8109/25

Dated: - 14-11-2025



CITY

Neglect Turns Khanyar Park into Eyesore

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Once envisioned as a green haven for families and children, the public park near the revered shrine of Hazrat Syed Abdul Qadir Jeelani (RA) in Khanyar has fallen into utter neglect, leaving residents dismayed over its deteriorating condition.

Locals said the park, which was meant to offer much-needed open space in the congested locality, has now turned into a “dumping ground” due to lack of

Another resident said the park’s current state has robbed the area of its aesthetic charm. “The uneven terrain, mud patches, and dumped materials make it look shabby and uninviting. It doesn’t even resemble a park anymore,” he said.

Locals expressed concern that if the park continues to remain in this condition, it might attract anti-social activities, especially after dark. “Neglecting public spaces doesn’t just waste public resources—it damages



maintenance by the concerned authorities. They described the once-lively park as an “ugly patch of land” now littered with waste, scrap, and debris.

A local resident said that the park has no benches, no proper pathways, and no lighting.

“It is disheartening to see such neglect at a place so close to a shrine that draws thousands of devotees.”

the community’s social environment,” said another resident.

Residents have appealed to the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) to take immediate steps to revive the park. They urged authorities to level the land, plant fresh grass, install benches, repair fencing, and ensure regular cleaning to bring back its lost charm.

Road Accident Critically Injures 7-Year-Old at Lawaypora

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A 7-year-old girl from Zalpora in Budgam was critically injured after being hit by an unknown motorcycle at Lawaypora on Friday. The girl, identified as Zara, daughter of Mudasir Hussain Dar, was immediately shifted to JVC Hospital in Bemina, where doctors confirmed that she has suffered severe internal injuries. Her condition remains critical and she is undergoing intensive medical care.

Family members said the child was attempting

to cross the road when a speeding motorcycle approached from the opposite direction and struck her without slowing down. According to them, the impact threw the girl several feet away, leaving her unconscious on the road.

Eyewitnesses told the family that the motorcyclist did not stop after the collision and fled towards the Srinagar outskirts. Locals assembled at the spot and assisted in shifting the injured child to the hospital. The family has appealed for strict action against the rider involved in the incident.

DEMISE

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of **Ghulam Rasool Mir S/o Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/o Naid Doori, Nowshera.** May Almighty Allah grant the departed soul Jannah and give us the strength and courage to bear this irreparable loss. **Congregational Fateh Khawni** will be held on **Saturday at 10:30 AM at ancestral graveyard, Naid Doori, Nowshera.** Ladies are strictly requested not to bring any kind of fruits or eatables with them. **Please remember the deceased and the family in your prayers.**



Subject:- Grant Of Registration of Paying Guest House/ Home Stay under the name & Style "M/S .CLOUD BERRY " situated at Aliya Bagh Tailbal Shalimar srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Ms.Shameema Ahmad W/o Bashir Ahmad Tethroo R/o Aliya Bagh Tailbal Shalimar , intends to apply in the office of the prescribed authority of Directorate of Tourism Kashmir for Registration of my proposed Paying Guest House/ Home Stay under the name and style "M/s. CLOUD BERRY " situated at Aliya Bagh Tailbal Shalimar srinagar under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, I will submit Landownership Certificate from Concerned Tehsilidar with attested photographs of the unit through Dy. Commissioner concerned, Rent/Lease Deed/Partnership Deed/issued by concerned Sub-Registrar, Judicial Magistrate (if applicable) NOC from the owner to the effect that the property can be used as Home stay), Character Certificate of the applicant from the concerned Police Station, undertaking from the owner as self declaration, Public Notice inviting objections , if any in print media, list of family members Name, Age, and Photograph self attested by owner, Photographs of the unit as mentioned in the application (each of exterior and individual bed rooms and bathrooms), Inspection report by the Committee (The recommendation of the inspection Committee shall decide whether to issue a registration to the unit or not keeping in view, the type of accommodation and amenity, adhar card. Now before my case is processed for registration by the Prescribed Authority. The matter is hereby notified for information of general Public/organizations for objections If any and the same should reach to the office of Prescribed Authority within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper of the valley. Objection received beyond the period of 7 days from the date of publication shall not be entertained and the case shall be proceeded under rules as per merit.



Srinagar Walkathon Held to Raise Awareness on Diabetes

Observer News Service

Srinagar: To mark World Diabetes Day, a Walkathon aimed at spreading awareness about diabetes and encouraging healthy lifestyles was jointly flagged off on Friday by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, and Director SKIMS & EOSG, Prof. M. Ashraf Ganie, at the iconic Ghanta Ghar in Lal Chowk.

Senior SKIMS faculty members, including Prof. Nisar Ahmad Bhat, HoD Pediatric Surgery & Associate Dean Student Welfare, and Prof. Abrar Ahad Wani, HoD Emergency Medicine, were also present at the flag-off ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, the Divisional Commissioner hailed SKIMS for organising the initiative, stressing that community participation in such awareness drives is vital to preventing diabetes at an early stage. He highlighted the need for widespread awareness about the factors contributing to diabetes and urged the SKIMS administration to identify high-risk individuals and extend timely medical support to them.

Director SKIMS, Prof. Ganie,

Following the Walkathon, a screening camp was set up where SKIMS experts examined around 300 individuals. Notably, 20 participants in the 40–45 age group were newly diagnosed with diabetes, indicating a worrying upward trend in the disease burden,”

underlined the significance of the day, noting that a considerable portion of the region’s population is living with diabetes. He said sustained public awareness remains essential to tackling the growing burden of the disease.

Emphasising early prevention, Prof. Ganie cautioned that uncontrolled diabetes can lead

to severe complications if not addressed promptly. “People must adopt a healthy lifestyle,” he said, adding that diabetes prevalence is notably higher in urban areas compared to rural communities. He urged the public to embrace active living and healthier dietary choices.

He also appreciated the efforts of the Organising Committee, headed by Prof. Riyaz Misgar and Dr. Aijaz, for conducting a well-coordinated awareness programme.

Following the Walkathon, a screening camp was set up at Joggers Park, Rajbagh, where SKIMS experts examined around 300 individuals. Notably, 20 participants in the 40–45 age group were newly diagnosed with diabetes, indicating a worrying upward trend in the disease burden. They were advised to follow up at the SKIMS Department of Endocrinology for further evaluation and management.

Participants and members of the public were also counselled, and educational pamphlets on diabetes prevention, early detection, and lifestyle modifications were distributed during the event.

Div Com Chairs Meet on Handover of Centaur Hotel

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, chaired a meeting of the 'Committee for Handing Over of Centaur Lake View Hotel' to review the progress of the handover process.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner SMC, Managing Director of JKTDC, Director SKICC, Secretary JKAACL, Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, and representatives from the KPD-

CL, JalShakti, R&B, Horticulture, Tourism, and Forest departments.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on several crucial aspects, including the revised tendering process, the relocation of immovable items, and the division of utilities such as power and water between SKICC and the Centaur Hotel. The committee also discussed cost-sharing arrangements for some logistic issues, building permission, and other critical matters.

The Div Com directed the concerned engineering departments to

conduct a joint site visit to assess the immovable items and prepare a comprehensive report. He also instructed the revenue officer to share the land demarcation report with the JKTDC to clearly identify the hotel's land boundaries.

Also, the Divisional Commissioner emphasized the importance of expediting the completion of all formalities within the set timeline to ensure the smooth handover of the Centaur Lake View Hotel to the concessionaire.

OFFICE OF THE JOINT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

FOR UT OF J&K AND UT OF LADAKH

Regd. Office: Railway road, Ambedkar (Panama) Chowk, Jammu-180016
Email: secretary-jercjkl@gov.in Phone No.: 0191-2959191
Website: http://jercjkl.nic.in/ : 0191-2470160

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Subject: Petition for approval of Annual Performance Review for FY 2024–25, Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2025–26, and Tariff Proposal for FY 2025–26 in respect of Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL).

(Petition No. JERC/06 of 2025)

1. A Public Notice inviting suggestions/objections on the Petition filed by Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL), (Petition No. JERC/06/2025), as per the details given above, was published in various leading newspapers of the Kashmir Division on 11th October, 2025.

2. The Commission shall hold a Public Hearing in respect of the above-mentioned Petition filed by KPDCL as per the following schedule:

Petitioner	Date & Time	Venue
Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL)	20.11.2025 (Thursday) 11:00 AM to 01:00 PM	Banquet Hall, Polo View, Srinagar.

3. All objectors who have submitted their objections to the Petitioner/Commission by the prescribed last date, as well as other persons/organizations interested in presenting their views/suggestions on the above matter, are invited to participate in the public hearing as per the schedule given above.

4. All participants are requested to submit their views/suggestions in writing also during or prior to the hearing.

(Rajinder Singh)

DLO

JERC, J&K and Ladakh

DIPK-NB-2479/25 dated: 14-11-2025

- 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)



PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 38
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3: 50
Magrib	5:31
ISHA	6: 55

This Day In History

- 655 - Battle of the Winwaed: Penda of Mercia is defeated by Oswiu of Bernicia.
- 1315 - Battle of Morgarten: Swiss beat duke Leopold I of Austria
- 1527- Treaty of Schoonhoven: Henry of the Palatinate, Bishop of Utrecht, cedes lands to the Habsburgs in return for security help against resistant citizens
- 1533- Spanish expedition led by Francisco Pizarro captures the Inca capital of Cusco after defeating an Inca army led by general Quisquis
- 1715- Barrier Treaty, Austria cedes area to Netherlands
- 1720- Pirates Anne Bonny, Mary Read and Calico Jack are captured by Capt. Jonathan Barnett and brought to the Spanish Town of Jamaica, for trial
- 1813- Allied troops occupies Groningen
- 1837- Isaac Pitman introduces his shorthand system of writing, Pitman shorthand
- 1854- In Egypt, the Suez Canal, linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea, is given the necessary royal concession.
- 1869 - Free postal delivery formally inaugurated
- 1904- King C. Gillette patents the Gillette razor blade
- 1914- Italian socialist Benito Mussolini founds newspaper Il Popolo d'Italia
- 1920- League of Nations holds first meeting in Geneva
- 1932- Walt Disney Art School created
- 1934- Nobel for chemistry awarded to Harold C Urey (deuterium)
- 1936- Nazi-Germany & Japan sign Anti-Komintern pact
- 1954 - 1st regularly scheduled commercial flights over North Pole begins
- 1955 - Poland & Yugoslavia sign trade agreement
- 1969 - An estimated 2 million people take part in the Vietnam War Moratorium demonstration across the United States
- 1971 - Intel advertises 4004-processor
- 1972 - Small Astronomy Satellite Explorer 48 launched to study gamma rays
- 1973 - Egypt & Israel exchange prisoners of war
- 1974 - International Energy Agency formed in Paris within OECD framework in the wake of the 1973 oil crisis
- 1976 - Syrian army conquers Beirut
- 1979 - ABC-TV announces it would broadcast nightly specials on Iran hostage
- 1979 - Iran cancels all contracts with U.S. oil companies
- 1980 - 30th NASCAR Sprint Cup: Dale Earnhardt wins
- 1982 - Funeral service held in Moscow's Red Square for Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev
- 1983 - Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus proclaimed
- 1988 - Soviet space shuttle makes unmanned maiden flight (2 orbits)
- 1990 - US President George H. W. Bush signs Clear Air Act of 1990
- 1995 - Space shuttle Atlantis docks with orbiting Russian space station Mir
- 2000 - A chartered Antonov AN-24 crashes after takeoff from Luanda, Angola killing more than 40 people
- 2000 - New state of Jharkhand comes into existence in India
- 2002 - Hu Jintao becomes the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China
- 2003 - First day of the Istanbul Bombings takes place, followed by additional bombings on November 20th
- 2005 - Boeing formally launches the stretched Boeing 747-8 variant with orders from Cargolux and Nippon Cargo Airlines
- 2007 - A devastating Cyclone named Sidr hit Bangladesh, killing an estimated 5000 people and destroyed the world's largest mangrove forest, Sundarbans.
- 2012 - At least 95 people are killed in Syrian conflicts
- 2013 - Sony launches the Playstation Four, selling one million units on the first day

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KO VIEW

New Leaders Emerge

Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly is getting younger, as two fresh faces were voted to the house on November 14.

One retained her father's Nagrota seat, carrying forward a legacy while bringing her own perspective. Another defeated a well-known local figure by a clear margin of 4,400 votes. A third young candidate made strong gains in Budgam, earning recognition for persistent engagement with voters.

These victories reflect a growing demand for leaders who understand life on the ground.

Jobs, education, and basic services remain pressing concerns, but voters are also looking for accessibility and action. Leaders who listen, connect with daily realities, and respond to people's needs are gaining trust over names or party labels alone.

Retaining a family seat shows that tradition still matters, but energy and fresh ideas are now equally important. Winning against an established party sends a clear signal: Kashmir's electorate is open to change when it brings relevance and responsiveness.

Young leaders are clearly shaping the conversation. Their campaigns show that the valley is ready for voices attuned to immediate challenges, bridging the gap between citizens and institutions.

People are paying more attention to sincerity, engagement, and results rather than ritual and rhetoric.

For traditionalists, this is a moment to rethink strategies. Loyalty alone cannot guarantee support. The future of Kashmir politics may belong to those who combine roots with energy, heritage with engagement, and experience with responsiveness.

The new faces in the assembly do more than just add numbers. They bring renewed trust, and show that young leaders are ready to face the regional challenges.

Budgam Turns the Tide

A long-loyal constituency turned away from the National Conference, driven by anger, family politics and a sense of being left unheard.



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

I grew up hearing that Budgam never strayed far from the National Conference.

The seat carried the memory of old leaders, family ties and a sense of loyalty that moved from one generation to the next.

People often spoke of the place as if it had a natural pull toward the party. Ten out of eleven elections since 1962 had gone its way. The only exception came in 1972 when a Congress candidate won for a single term.

That history shaped the way many looked at this year's byelection. The expectation felt fixed. A surprise seemed unlikely.

The result forced a pause.

The PDP candidate, Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi, defeated NC's Aga Syed Mehmood by more than five thousand votes.

The margin shocked even those who believed Budgam was restless.

A fall from 36,000 votes polled by Omar Abdullah in the last assembly election to this loss within a year pointed to deeper cracks. The turnout told its own story as well. Half the electorate voted this time, far lower than the previous assembly poll.

Omar Abdullah had created the first shift. He contested both Budgam and Ganderbal last year and won both. His victory in Budgam was larger, but he chose to keep Ganderbal.

People in Budgam felt they had been left behind. Many told me they believed Omar Abdullah had promised to stay in the constituency that gave him more votes. He announced his decision through the Pro-tem Speaker in the assembly, and the news travelled fast.

These conversations grew louder after months passed with no MLA on the ground. The government did not hold a by-election for a full year. Budgam stayed without a voice in the house through a pe-

riod that saw many local concerns grow sharper.

Ganderbal held its own meaning for Omar Abdullah. His grandfather Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah won here after years of detention. His father, Dr Farooq Abdullah, carried the seat through 1983, 1987 and 1996. Omar himself reclaimed it in 2008.

The emotional and symbolic weight of Ganderbal has always been clear. The choice made sense in that narrow political frame. But the sense of abandonment in Budgam carried a different force.

For many residents, the question was direct: if more people trusted him in Budgam, why did he walk away?

That question shaped the months that followed. Roads, schools, land issues, and regular administrative matters needed attention. People expected at least visible engagement from the chief minister's office. Many hoped for frequent visits, public meetings, or instructions to district officers.

These visits did not materialize. The absence formed its own narrative.

There were other complications as well.

The new MP from Srinagar, Aga Ruhullah, represented large parts of Budgam district. Two assembly segments, Budgam and Beerwah, had been taken out of the Srinagar parliamentary seat by the delimitation commission. These two areas now fall under Baramulla, represented by Engineer Rashid, who remains in jail.

Ruhullah could not use any of his MP funds here. People read this as another sign of neglect. Conversations on village streets carried a long list of complaints and very few responses.

The story inside the Shia leadership of Budgam formed another layer.

Aga Muntazir entered the byelection with a strong personal base. His father, Aga Syed Hassan, heads Anjuman Sharie Shiyaa and holds deep respect in Shia communities. He stayed away from electoral politics through the years because of his association with the Hurriyat. His son stepped into the arena last year and lost to Omar Abdullah.

This time the tide turned. Voters viewed him as young, educated

“The defeat of NC in Budgam is not a single-cause story. It comes from many layered grievances: the abandoned seat, an unrepresented district, an unavailable MP, a popular young leader kept at a distance, and a rising sense that the government is speaking from a faraway place. The voters of Budgam turned this mix into a clear electoral verdict.”

and rooted in a long religious legacy.

NC's candidate Aga Syed Mehmood also carried a strong lineage. His family, known as the Mohammadi faction, has influence in Budgam, Pattan and Beerwah. He represented Pattan in 1987 and Beerwah in 1996 and served as a minister. His nephew, Aga Syed Hadi, has a wide following across sects because of his lectures. Many thought no other NC candidate could match this weight. The calculation proved wrong.

Aga Ruhullah's position made the contest more complex.

He won the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat last year on an NC ticket, though he has been at odds with his party leadership for months. He has spoken against the party's silence on Article 370 and other policy matters. The sharp words made him popular among young voters who often look for a direct voice.

During the byelection campaign, Ruhullah stayed away from NC rallies. His supporters campaigned for PDP's Muntazir in open view. They did this even though Ruhullah and Muntazir come from branches of the same family that have shared years of friction.

Their fathers, both sons of Aga Syed Mustaffa Al Mosavi, stood on different sides of political questions for decades.

This time the Mustafayee faction stayed together. The old disputes within the clan did not spill into the poll. Several residents I spoke with described it as a straight contest between two traditions of leadership.

The logic they gave was simple: iron cuts iron. If Budgam wanted to send a message to the ruling party, they needed a candidate who could actually win, and the only person who could do that against NC's strongest Shia figure was another Aga.

There was another young contender in the contest.

Jibran Dar contested as an independent and polled seven thousand votes. He had worked for a full year on the ground, meeting villagers, visiting homes, and handling small civic issues. Some expected him to split the vote in a way that might help NC. This expectation did not take shape.

The electorate had a clear plan. They aimed their vote at the person with the highest chance of defeating the ruling party candidate.

The final result reflects a deeper change in Budgam.

The district has seen a shift in sentiment since the removal of Article 370. Youth unemployment, land use laws, electricity shortages and long delays in basic services have shaped daily life. Trust in large parties has thinned. Local groups, religious organisations and clan dynamics have gained influence again.

The anger at losing representation for a year carried real weight. The sense that decisions were taken far away from the people added to it.

The defeat of NC in Budgam is not a single-cause story. It comes from many layered grievances: the abandoned seat, an unrepresented district, an unavailable MP, a popular young leader kept at a distance, and a rising sense that the government is speaking from a faraway place.

The voters of Budgam turned this mix into a clear electoral verdict.

In the end, they looked at the candidates, their histories and the power of family networks. Their choice reflected an old Kashmiri instinct: when communities feel ignored, they pick someone who can make their anger heard.

The author is an Acumen Fellow and Chairman Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement. He can be reached at bhatrajamuzaffar@gmail.com.

How NC Lost it's Traditional Seat

When prepaid meters, broken promises and shifting loyalties collided, Budgam delivered a verdict few expected.

Raqif Makhdoomi

I woke up at 8:30 in the morning and reached for my phone before my eyes had even adjusted to the light. My thumb opened X out of habit. The early trends were leaning toward the National Conference. I told myself these numbers never stay still in the first hour.

The cold slowed my fingers, so I placed the phone next to my pillow and slipped back under the blanket. The room felt colder than usual and I stayed in bed longer than I planned.

When I checked again, the screen pulled me awake faster than any cup of coffee. The lead had shifted.

The seat that the National Conference had held since 1977 was slipping toward the People's Democratic Party.

Only a year ago Omar Abdullah had won it by more than nine thousand votes. A seat with such history rarely changes hands in such a short time. The red flags that once dominated Budgam were giving way to green, and the wave had force behind it.

The crowds during the PDP campaign had hinted at this change. Rallies were packed with young men who didn't hide their anger at Omar Abdullah or at the party that had promised relief in daily life. Their most common demand was simple. They wanted an end to prepaid and smart meters. Their bills had climbed, and their patience had dipped.

Many told me they had voted for the National Conference in 2024 because they believed the party would stop the meters. When Omar Abdullah kept repeating the need for smart meters, even after his earlier statements, the reaction was sharp.

I spoke to voters on polling day and heard the same line again and again. They were tired of rising bills, tired of the way the state handled basic services and tired

of watching the government distance itself from people who asked for help.

Many remembered Omar's rallies where he said the smart meters would land in the gutters. They believed those words. They carried those words to the ballot box.

The party tried to rely on the same BJP-factor that had helped them last time. The problem was that this time people had videos. Clips of NC leaders walking with senior BJP figures kept circulating on phones in Budgam.

One NC legislator even tried to warn voters about the BJP during his own campaign speech. He happened to be the same

ties. PDP needed to show that the government had failed to meet expectations. NC needed to show that it was delivering something real.

The result spoke for itself. PDP used the land rights bill that NC had rejected to build a sharp message. They framed NC as a party standing close to the BJP on issues that touched land, homes, and security.

The message stuck, people listened, and many voted to loosen the grip NC had held over Budgam for decades.

Ititja Mufti's slogan "Zoyun ho, zoyun ho" echoed through the rallies. It did little for her own contest earlier, though

“Breaking a stronghold is never simple. The people of Budgam showed it is possible when anger and hope sit side by side. A leader can rise with their support and fall with their verdict.”

person seen in a viral clip beside a BJP leader. When his speech hit social media, the comments filled up with a single line: “Wrong number.”

The trouble for the National Conference had started much earlier.

The rift around Aga Ruhullah created visible cracks inside the party. The approach after forming the government added more. The episode where Omar Abdullah dismissed a daily wage worker in Ganderbal stayed alive in conversations. The “aunt” remark from another rally also stayed alive.

Many voters felt the party carried a tone that placed itself above the people who had lifted it to power. Leaders kept saying they needed five full years to deliver. People wanted action in the present tense, not the future.

Budgam became a test for both par-

this time it carried her party's candidate forward. The other slogan in Kashmir, “Ase chu Aga'as wadie kormut, ais banavout badshah,” sounded like a promise between neighbours. Voters kept their word.

Breaking a stronghold is never simple. The people of Budgam showed it is possible when anger and hope sit side by side. A leader can rise with their support and fall with their verdict.

Electoral democracy places that power in the hands of ordinary citizens, and Budgam reminded everyone that the door swings both ways.

The author is a law student and rights activist from Srinagar. He can be reached at raqifmakhdoomi818@gmail.com

Omar Abdullah's Budgam Gamble Backfires

A single decision by Omar Abdullah reshaped half a century of political certainty in central Kashmir.

Dr. Ashraf Zainabi

Budgam has always seemed predictable in politics. For nearly fifty years, it stood as a loyal friend of the National Conference. Generations grew up calling it a “safe seat,” a fortress immune to change. That image shattered in November 2025.

The bypoll turned Budgam into a dramatic stage for the Aga against Aga contest.

Aga Muntazir of the Peoples Democratic Party, Aga Mehmood of the National Conference, and Aga Mohsin of the BJP all stood in the same constituency, representing three different political moods.

On the surface, it could be dismissed as coincidence. Below the surface, it was a loud message: Budgam had split. And this division was not accidental.

It traces back to a political choice Omar Abdullah made last year. He contested Budgam and Ganderbal and then chose to vacate Budgam, despite winning there with more votes. The way the decision was made, the timing, and the silence that followed left voters feeling abandoned.

Budgam's voters are emotional and expect reciprocity. When Omar picked Budgam as one of his seats, they felt chosen. When he left, they felt discarded. In politics, emotion is currency. A single misstep eroded the fifty-year bond between the NC and the constituency.

The three-way Aga contest was only the visible layer of a deeper fracture.

The Agas have long shaped Budgam's politics. They carry social weight, religious authority, and community trust. This election was unprecedented: three Agas on three different platforms. Parties saw a vacuum and rushed to fill it. The NC, which relied on history and loyalty, faced a challenge to its narrative. The PDP, seeking a comeback, promised voters a repre-

sentative who would stay rather than abandon them. The BJP, testing new ground in central Kashmir, offered a bold, symbolic presence.

Aga Mehmood of NC carried the weight of legacy. He tried to repair the emotional damage left by Omar's choice, but repairing trust is harder than maintaining it.

Aga Muntazir of PDP turned the moment into opportunity, appealing to voters who felt humiliated by last year's decision.

Aga Mohsin of BJP represented experimentation, testing whether ideological boundaries had softened in a constituency once seen as impenetrable.

Tea shops, markets, and mohallas buzzed with the same question: “Why did Omar Abdullah leave Budgam after we gave him such a mandate?” No answer has satisfied the voters.

In the absence of clarity, speculation became truth, and sentiment hardened. NC's grip weakened. The bypoll was less about which Aga would win and more about what it revealed about Budgam's identity.

Before results, three outcomes were imagined. An NC win would be clear but weak. A PDP win would mark a revival. A strong BJP showing would signal a larger political shift than vote counts could show.

One thing was certain: Budgam was no longer a safe seat. It had become a battleground of wounded pride, confused loyalty, and political experimentation.

The lesson is simple: voters in Jammu and Kashmir remember when they feel overlooked. Omar's choice may not have been meant to hurt, but perception matters as much as intent.

When people feel used and discarded, the consequences arrive eventually. Budgam has delivered that emotional bill.

The author is a teacher and researcher from Gowhar Pora, Chadoora, Budgam, Jammu & Kashmir.

The Soft War Inside the Kashmiri Home

The emotional map of the Kashmiri home shifts after marriage, and the sister must face the fault lines alone.

Zeerak Jabeen

Kashmiri families work like small constellations. Several generations often live under one roof, sharing food, laughter, and the small disagreements that come and go like weather.

The home becomes a space where emotions move around freely, where loyalty and love are constantly weighed and rearranged.

At the center of this everyday universe stand three figures: the son, his wife, and his sister.

The sister, the Zaam, is the groom's closest companion. Her role grows out of years of care. Her presence shapes rituals, family gatherings, and all the small, unspoken understandings that hold a home together.

She supports her brother, steadies her parents, plans celebrations, and eases tension before it turns into trouble. She becomes the glue that keeps the family balanced.

Marriage changes this balance. The son steps into his new life as a husband. A bride arrives, confident and hopeful, and slowly becomes the new center of the home.

The son shifts his focus toward her. He grows attentive, thoughtful, and eager to match her needs. He opens doors, buys small gifts, and shapes his days around her comfort.

His mother looks at him differently, and his sister's words no longer carry the same weight. Only the bride rises in importance.

The Zaam starts to fade into the background. She speaks, and people hear something else. She smiles, and someone reads it the wrong way. She moves around the house carefully, knowing her presence can be twisted into a problem.

THE ZAAM CARRIES THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE WEIGHT OF EXPECTATIONS SHE DID NOT CHOOSE. Her story is the story of a culture, love reshaped, and devotion misallocated. To honour her is to honour the household itself. To see her is to understand Kashmiri families, their beauty, and their contradictions.



Whispers turn her into someone she isn't: Jealous, selfish, and difficult.

Meanwhile, her work does not change. She still cares for everyone, handles the small details, and helps keep peace, even as her efforts go unnoticed.

She becomes invisible and blamed at the same time, held responsible for tensions she never created.

Before marriage, her laughter and sense of balance held the home together. After marriage, she has to find her place again inside a system that lifts one woman and sidelines another.

She remains central when work needs to be done, and peripheral

when affection is shared.

The brother who once shared secrets now walks a careful line. He tries to honour his wife and still meet the expectations he grew up with.

The sister's old ease in the home unsettles the bride, who reads every gesture as overreach. Her vigilance grows. And the house shifts.

The Kashmiri man learns a kind of selective compassion. He will defend his sister's dignity in front of others, but her daily happiness rarely finds space in his decisions. His love is intense, but confined by the rules of marriage.

Affection becomes limited. It feels as if his care cannot hold more than one woman at a time.

His mother and sister move to the edges of his life. They continue to support, steady, and help him stand. But he frames them as background, while the wife becomes the centre of his story.

Religion does not justify this imbalance. Islam asks for fairness, tenderness, and balance in every family bond. A son must care for his parents, honour his siblings, and love his wife. There is no permis-

sion to ration compassion or divide duty.

The gap comes from tradition, habit, and a warped idea of masculinity. It is shaped by hierarchy.

And the Zaam carries the burden of these distortions.

Her life becomes an ongoing negotiation. If she speaks with confidence, she is accused of upsetting the peace. If she speaks softly, she disappears from the conversation.

She keeps the home steady. She smooths tensions. She protects her brother's name. She works in ways no one counts, and receives the blame for what she never caused.

She moves with care, adjusting her words, steps, and presence to boundaries she never agreed to but must face every day.

The tragedy is that families celebrate loyalty and unity. They talk proudly about devotion. But they forget the women who have held these values up all their lives.

The Zaam lives inside a paradox. She is needed but unseen, praised but exhausted, cherished but suspected.

Her story reveals how affection shrinks when shaped by hierarchy,

and how marriage rearranges love in ways that leave some women standing at the margins.

Education before marriage can shift the ground. Every Kashmiri man can learn that a mother is not a helper, a sister is not a threat, and love is not a limited resource.

He can learn that a home runs on shared labour and shared regard, and that dignity and affection must extend to every woman under the same roof.

The Zaam deserves care, respect, and a sense of justice. She is not a rival. She is a daughter of the house, a sister who gives without measure, and steadies the family.

Acknowledging her changes everything. It brings balance back into the home. It turns loyalty into truth. It makes devotion real instead of ceremonial.

Kashmiri families overflow with affection. They honour tradition, cherish kinship, and carry rituals with grace. They pour tea with tenderness and keep ties alive across generations.

But they risk losing their own warmth when they fail to see the women who hold these



KASHMIRI FAMILIES ARE FULL OF LOVE. THEY HONOUR TRADITION AND KINSHIP. They serve tea with ceremony and maintain bonds that stretch across generations. But they risk losing their humanity when they overlook the women who hold it together.

bonds together.

The Zaam remains at the heart of this world, even when she is ignored. Her endurance reminds us that fairness begins inside the home.

Real devotion to family, faith, and life begins with how we treat the ones within arm's reach, not with public performances of love.

The Zaam carries the past and the present, along with expectations she never agreed to shoulder.

Her life mirrors the culture around her: love rearranged by custom, devotion handed out unevenly, and tenderness shaped by hierarchy.

To honour her is to honour the home itself. To truly see her is to understand the Kashmiri family in all its beauty and its contradictions.

— The author can be reached at zeerakjabeen@gmail.com

The Backbench Shift Begins in Kashmir

The backbenchers were never aimless. They were the first to see the cracks in our education system.

Shahzaib Al-Qudsi

I grew up thinking classrooms had all the answers I would ever need.

At home, my parents talked about education with the same faith people often give to prayer. The smell of chalk felt like progress, and the morning bell always sounded like a door opening to something bigger.

I held on to these beliefs for a long time, until the system began to feel different.

Slowly, I started noticing how the pressure of marks filled every room I sat in. The walls seemed to echo it.

The change didn't happen all at once. It showed itself slowly. I would sit behind my desk and watch my classmates stare at the blackboard with eyes that had lost their spark. Their faces looked tired, even when they didn't say a word.

Teachers assumed we were distracted. The truth is, we were trying to breathe through a kind of pressure we didn't yet have the words for.

For many students in Kashmir, marks decide whether we feel proud or ashamed. I have watched friends break down because they missed a cutoff by a few points. I have seen families fall into stress after a single mid-term result. In every coaching centre I went to, the fear in the room felt heavier than the books we carried.

The race for marks swallowed our natural desire to learn. We memorised

ing as if it were a survival test.

The NEET 2024 scandal made all of this even clearer to me. When the news of the leaks spread, it felt like a mask had finally dropped. People whispered about bribes and backdoor deals. Many of us felt angry, but under that anger was a kind of understanding.

I knew students who cheated because they thought they had no other choice. Their actions came from panic. The system had pushed them into believing that failure was the end of everything.

Through all of this, I found myself drifting toward the back row. Teachers often joked about backbenchers. Some even scolded us for choosing those seats. In their minds, the front rows were meant to shine and the back rows were meant to fade.

But in those last seats, I discovered a different world. The backbenchers were not careless. They were alert in a way most people didn't notice. They were thinking, observing, and trying to survive the system in their own way.

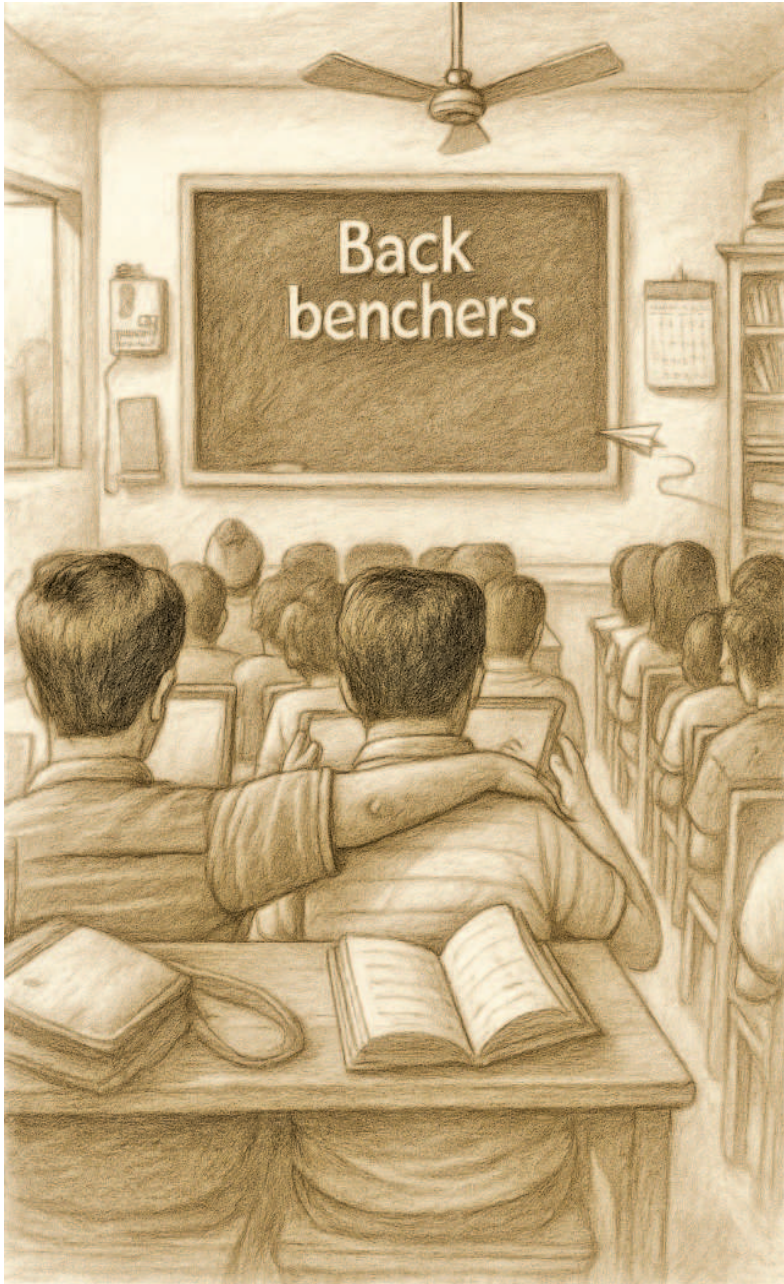
Some wrote poems in their notebooks. Some sketched whole landscapes when the lecture stopped making sense. Others stared out of the window and wondered how the world outside had anything to do with the chapters we memorised. Many of them understood the cracks in the system long before I did.

I BELIEVE CHANGE WILL BEGIN IN SMALL MOMENTS. A student will look up from a textbook and allow himself to think for a while. Another will ask a question that breaks the silence. Someone else will finally gather the courage to say she feels trapped.

answers like our lives depended on it, and in some ways they did.

The system taught us to treat learn-

Their defiance taught me a different way to learn. They asked the types of questions the syllabus never bothered



to answer.

I felt at home among them. We talked about dreams that felt too big

for any classroom to hold. We laughed through the anxiety we didn't know how to share with our families. Even



WHEN I LOOK BACK NOW, I REALISE THE REAL CHANGE HAD ALREADY BEGUN WHEN I SAT IN THE BACK ROW. I still carry that lesson with me. It reminds me that the back row was never a place for giving up. It was the place where many of us learned to see things clearly for the first time.

our silence had its own thoughts.

People saw us as indifferent students, but that wasn't true. We were trying to protect the small spark inside us, the spark the system kept pressing down.

Over time, I began reading about how pressure shapes the mind. Psychologists call it learned helplessness, when people start believing they have no control over their lives. Many Kashmiri students live inside that feeling. One low score can convince you that you are a failure.

I felt it in myself every exam season. My hands trembled before I even opened the answer sheet. My sense of worth seemed tied to those numbers printed in blue ink.

Families across the valley still spend large amounts on coaching centres. They want safety for their children, and I understand that. We all do. But I have also sat with friends who whispered about burnout or cried because

they no longer recognised their own dreams.

The pressure sits between generations. It shapes how we speak, study, and imagine our futures.

The backbenchers taught me something important. They never let go of their dreams. They questioned lessons that felt empty. They showed me that learning can survive outside the tight circle of marks. Many of them later became artists, thinkers, engineers, and storytellers.

Their strength came from the small freedom they carried inside themselves and refused to lose.

When I think about the future of education in Kashmir, my mind goes back to my own classroom. I can still see the chalk dust on the blackboard, hear the teacher's voice fading around the edges, and watch the sunlight falling gently across the last row. I picture the backbenchers leaning toward each other, sharing ideas in silent voices.

Their refusal to let numbers define them felt like a small uprising. It reminded me that learning is alive. It needs room to move and breathe. Students need spaces where questions are welcome. They need teachers who listen. And they need a system that values imagination as much as accuracy.

I believe change will begin in small moments. A student will look up from a textbook and allow himself to think for a while. Another will ask a question that breaks the silence. Someone else will finally gather the courage to say she feels trapped.

These small acts will create a slow shift, the same way all real change begins.

When I look back now, I realise the real change had already begun when I sat in the back row.

It reminds me that the back row was never a place for giving up. It was the place where many of us learned to see things clearly for the first time.

— The author can be reached at shahzaibnazir@gmail.com

HC Orders Transfer, Posting Of 71 Judicial Officers

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Friday ordered transfer of 71 judicial officers in the interest of administration.

Among those transferred include 37 district judges and civil judges (senior division).

According to an order by M K Sharma, Registrar General (Officiating), Yash Paul Bournay, Principal District and Sessions Judge (PDSJ), Jammu has been transferred and posted as Member, J&K Special Tribunal, Jammu on deputation basis against the vacant post.

Ravinder Nath Wattal, PDSJ, Samba has been transferred and posted as PDSJ Jammu, Mohinder Kumar Sharma, Principal Secretary to the Chief Justice has been transferred and posted as Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh. "He shall also hold the additional charge of Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice,"

Ms. Jeema Bashir, Presiding Officer MACT, Srinagar has been repatriated from deputation and posted as PDSJ, Bandipora vice Khalil Ahmed Chowdhary.

Haq Nawaz Zargar, Special Judge Anti Corruption, Jammu has

been transferred and posted as PDSJ Srinagar.

Tasleem Arief has been transferred and posted as Special Judge Anti Corruption, Srinagar against the vacant post.

Ms. Sonia Gupta, Director, J&K Judicial Academy has been transferred and posted as Special Judge, Anti Corruption Jammu.

Naseer Ahmed Dar, Additional District and Sessions Judge (ADSJ), Baramulla, has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his posting as Director, J&K Judicial Academy.

Ms. Kalpana Revo, Presiding Officer, Labour and Industrial Tribunal has been repatriated from deputation and posted as PDSJ Udhampur w.e.f 01.01.2026. "Till 31.12.2025, the officer shall, however, work against the post of District Judge, Leave Reserve, Jammu."

Khalil Ahmed Chowdhary, PDSJ Bandipora has been transferred and posted as PDSJ Reasi against the vacant post.

Ashwani Kumar Sharma, PDSJ Poonch has been transferred and posted as PDSJ Samba.

Ajay Kumar Gupta, Principal Judge, Family Court, Jammu has been transferred and posted as

PDSJ Ramban w.e.f 01.12.2025. "Till 30.11.2025, the officer shall work against the post of Registrar Inspection, High Court Wing Srinagar."

Naushad Ahmad Khan, One Man Forest Authority has been repatriated from deputation and is posted as 2nd ADSJ Srinagar.

Ms. Sandeep Kour, Registrar Judicial, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Principal Judge, Family Court, Jammu.

Anoop Kumar Sharma, Registrar Computers (I.T), High Court of J&K and Ladakh has been transferred and posted as 2nd ADSJ Jammu.

Amit Sharma, 2nd ADSJ Jammu has been transferred and posted as District Judge, Leave Reserve, Jammu.

Yash Pal Sharma, Special Judge, NDPS, Jammu has been transferred and posted as ADSJ Udhampur w.e.f 01.01.2026. "Till 31.12.2025, the officer shall work as Member Secretary, Ladakh Legal Services Authority on deputation basis against the vacant post."

Khem Raj, Registrar Rules, High Court of J&K and Ladakh has been transferred and posted as Presiding Officer MACT, Jammu on deputation basis against the vacant post.

Parvaiz Iqbal, Presiding Officer, Fast Track Court, Kulgam has been transferred and posted as Special Judge, NDPS, Jammu vice Yash Pal Sharma.

Manoj Parihar, PDSJ Leh has been transferred and posted as Presiding Officer, Labour and Industrial Tribunal on deputation basis.

Ms. Spalzes Angmo, PDSJ Kargil has been transferred and posted as PDSJ Leh vice Manoj Parihar.

Ahsan-ullah Parvaiz Malik, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Poonch is transferred and posted as PDSJ Poonch.

Arun Kumar Kotwal, District Judge, Leave Reserve is transferred and posted as One Man Forest Authority on deputation basis.

Sushil Singh, ADSJ Bandipora has been transferred and posted as ADSJ Poonch.

Faizan Ul Haq Iqbal, Additional Sessions Judge, Anti Corruption, Srinagar has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his posting as Registrar Rules, High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

Ms. Swati Gupta, 2nd ADSJ Srinagar has been transferred and her services are placed at the disposal of Hon'ble the Chief Justice for her posting as Registrar

Judicial, High Court Wing Jammu. Ms. Rafia Hassan, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ganderbal has been transferred and posted as Presiding Officer, Fast Track Court, Kulgam.

Mir Wajahat, Civil Judge (Senior Division) has been posted as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bandipora

Ms Fozia Paul, Civil Judge (Senior Division) has been posted as ADSJ, Ganderbal.

Ms. Mehreen Mushtaqhas been posted as Additional Sessions Judge Anti Corruption, Srinagar. Feroz Ahmad Khan, Civil Judge (Senior Division) has been posted as Special Judge UAPA, Baramulla against the vacant post.

Imran Hussain Wani, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge (Entry Level) on adhoc basis has been posted as Special Judge NDPS, Anantnag against the vacant post.

Ms. Preet Simran Kour has been posted as 4th Additional District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar against the vacant post.

Fayaz Ahmed Qureshihas been posted as Presiding Officer MACT, Srinagar on deputation basis.

Services of Umesh Sharma are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his posting as

Registrar Computers (I.T), High Court of J&K and Ladakh Sheikh Gowhar Hussain, has been posted as Principal District and Sessions Judge, Kargil.

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Mumish Kumar Manhas has been transferred and posted as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Jammu.

Tsewang Phuntsog, CJM Leh has been transferred and posted as CJM Kargil.

Ms. Phuntsog Angmo, Special Mobile Magistrate, Leh has been transferred and posted as CJM Leh. Riyaz Ahmad, Special Mobile Magistrate, Rajouri has been transferred and posted as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Shopian.

Ms. Tabassum Qadir Parray, Sub Judge, Bijbehara has been transferred and posted as Secretary DLSA, Srinagar.

Sajad Ur Rehman, Secretary DLSA, Srinagar has been transferred and posted as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Anantnag.

Altaf Hussain Khan, Sub Judge, Pattan vice Shri

and posted as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Kulgam.

Deputy Kumar, Sub Judge, Nowshera vice Shri transferred and posted as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Kishtwar.

Ms. Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary DLSA, Budgam has been transferred and posted as CJM Ganderbal vice Ms. Tabassum.

Sunil Kumar, Sub Judge, Jammu has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his further posting as Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee.

Ms. Smriti Sharma, Secretary DLSA, Jammu has been transferred and posted as CJM Samba vice Shri Umesh Sharma.

Ms. Sumati Sharma, Special Mobile Magistrate, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Secretary DLSA, Udhampur.

Rajeev Kumar Tadyal, Railway Magistrate, Jammu has been transferred and posted as sub Judge, Bijbehara.

Touseef Ahmad Magrey, Special Mobile Magistrate (T), Srinagar has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his further posting as Joint Registrar Inspection, Srinagar against the vacant post.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

PDP Breaches NC's

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) cruised to a commanding victory in Nagrota.

Opposition PDP candidate Aga Syed Muntazir defeated ruling NC nominee Aga Syed Mehmood by 4,478 votes, securing 21,576 votes against Mehmood's 17,098, according to the Election Commission of India (ECI).

The BJP's Aga Syed Mohsin fared poorly in the Shia-dominated segment, finishing sixth with 2,619 votes.

Budgam recorded a voter turnout of 50.01% of its 1.26 lakh electorate — slightly lower than the 52.27% turnout in last year's Assembly election.

The bypoll was necessitated after Chief Minister Omar Abdullah vacated the Budgam seat last year and chose to retain his family bastion of Ganderbal.

Muntazir, a law graduate from Amity University, New Delhi, had contested the 2023-24 assembly polls as well, losing to CM Omar by over 18,000 votes. This time, the political calculus worked in his favour.

Muntazir's election marks a historic shift in central Kashmir politics. It is the first time since 1977 that the NC has lost the Budgam seat while being in the fray. The party had won every election in the segment except in 1972, when it boycotted the polls.

The NC's rout is widely attributed to the absence of senior Shia leader and Srinagar MP Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, who stayed away from campaigning due to his differences with the party leadership over issues including reservation policy and the dilution of NC's stand on Article 370.

Despite Chief Minister Abdullah camping in the constituency for three days with ministers, MLAs and senior leaders, the ruling party could not halt the PDP's surge.

PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti led an energetic campaign assisted by party MLAs Waheed Para, Mohammad Fayaz and Mohammad Rafiq Naik.

Muntazir — son of prominent cleric and former separatist Aga Syed Hassan — joined mainstream politics in August 2024 after completing his post-graduation in law from Amity University. He had earlier contested the 2024 Assembly polls, losing to Abdullah by over 18,000 votes.

His win on Friday raises the PDP's strength in the 90-member Jammu and Kashmir Assembly to four.

BJP Sweeps Nagrota With Massive Margin In Nagrota, the BJP comfortably retained the seat as 30-year-old Devyani Rana secured 42,350 votes, defeating JKNPP president Harsh Dev Singh (17,703 votes) by a staggering 24,647-vote margin.

NC's Shamim Begum finished third with 10,872 votes.

The bypoll witnessed an enthusiastic turnout of over 75%.

The election was held following the death of Devyani's father and sitting MLA Devender Singh Rana, a prominent BJP figure in Jammu. Contesting her first election, Devyani capitalised on her father's legacy and the party's organisational strength in the region.

Celebrating her victory, she said she was "blessed with the same love the people gave Rana Sahab in 2024," and dedicated the win to her father. Devyani, an economics graduate from the University of California who manages her family's media and automobile businesses, said she intends to bring a "fresh, professional approach" to politics.

Nagrota has alternated between the BJP and NC over the last five Assembly elections since 1996. This time, the Congress neither fielded a candidate nor formally supported the NC campaign despite being its alliance partner at the UT level.

'Political Suicide':

would undertake a thorough internal review of its defeats in Budgam and Nagrota.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of an official function, Omar said Ruhullah's decision to stay away from campaigning had lasting consequences.

"There is an English proverb — you cut your nose to spite your face. Whatever message he wanted to send to me is one thing, but politically he has taken a suicidal step," Omar said. "The person who won the seat from there will

never allow him to rise again."

The chief minister said that while he personally could recover from political losses, Ruhullah's prospects in Budgam had become deeply uncertain.

Budgam, long considered an NC stronghold, was lost to PDP's Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi in a rare setback for the party. Omar, who had earlier won both Budgam and Ganderbal in the 2024 elections and later vacated Budgam, said the people had chosen differently despite the party's efforts.

"We contested the election to win, but the people of Budgam wanted something else. We wanted to ensure progress and a close working relationship with the government for the next four years. But the people of Budgam wanted something else," he said.

He noted that a "large section" of voters in the constituency cast their ballots based on personal preference rather than issues.

Omar said NC president Farooq Abdullah would convene a working committee meeting to analyse the party's performance in Budgam and Nagrota, identify shortcomings and initiate corrective measures both within the party and the administration.

Commenting on the Bihar election results, Omar said expectations from the Congress had been "inflated" due to its recent "vote theft yatra," which made seat-sharing discussions more difficult. Praising Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, he said Kumar had turned anti-incumbency into an advantage and delivered strongly for women, urging other states to learn from his governance model.

'This Verdict the result of 50 years of hard work. Budgam's vote will now get true representation," he said. "This is an answer to the NC for neglecting the people of Budgam in 2024."

Muntazir added that the people had voted decisively for accountability.

"The people of Budgam have voted for change. This verdict will force the NC to fulfil the promises it made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

PDP leader Iltija Mufti echoed the sentiment, describing the outcome as the public rejecting "hollow promises."

"This is the win of the people of Budgam," she said. "They understood the NC had been given many chances. Muntazir will work for the people and serve them."

The bypoll was held after Chief Minister Omar vacated the Budgam seat.

Seized Explosives

mid-October. Treating the incident as a serious threat, the Srinagar police registered a case on October 19 and formed a dedicated team. Meticulous, frame-by-frame analysis of CCTV footage led investigators to identify the first three suspects -- arrested Arif Nisar Dar alias Sahil, Yasir-ul-Ashraf and Maqsood Ahmad Dar alias Shahid. These three had cases of stone pelting registered against them, and they were seen pasting the posters.Their interrogation led to the arrest of Maulvi Irfan Ahmad, a former paramedic turned Imam (preacher) from Shopian, who supplied the posters and is believed to have radicalised the doctors using his easy access to the medical community. The trail ultimately led the Srinagar police to Al Falah University in Faridabad, where they arrested Dr Muzammil Ahmad Ganaie and Dr Shaheen Sayeed. It was here that the massive cache of chemicals, including ammonium nitrate, potassium nitrate, and sulphur, was seized. Investigators believe the entire module was run by a core trio of doctors -- Muzammil Ganaie (arrested), Umar Nabi (driver of the car laden with explosives that exploded near the Red Fort on November 10) and Muzaffar Rather (absconding)The role of the eighth arrested person, Dr Adeel Rather -- the brother of the absconding Dr Muzaffar Rather -- from whom an AK-56 rifle was seized, is still under investigation.

J&K Gets 4

win in Nagrota, becoming the fourth woman in the current legislature.

The other women MLAs are NC leader and Cabinet minister Sakina Masood Ittoo from D H Pora, NC's Shamima Firdous, a three-time MLA from Habbakadal, and BJP's Shagun Parihar, the

first-time MLA from Kishtwar.

Earlier, when the Assembly strength was 87, women's representation stood at 3.4% in both 2008 and 2014. Even after delimitation increased the House size to 90 in 2022, female representation remained largely stagnant—until this bypoll.

Devyani's victory marks a significant moment for women's political participation in Jammu and Kashmir, long marked by low female engagement in electoral contests.

NC's Nagrota

which the results were declared on Friday.

In the Nagrota assembly seat in Jammu, eight candidates out of 10 forfeited their deposits. The candidates who lost their deposits included the ruling party's Shamim Begum. A candidate forfeits the deposit if they fail to secure more than 16.67 per cent of the total valid votes polled.

In Nagrota, 73,833 valid votes were polled, while in Budgam, 63,099 were. Begum got 15 per cent of the valid votes polled.

She polled 10,872 votes and stood at number three, 31,478 votes behind the winner, BJP's Devyani Rana.Besides her, the other losing candidates managed to garner only triple-digit votes for the seat.

In the Budgam constituency, where 17 candidates contested the bypoll, 15 forfeited their deposits.

The list includes the BJP candidate Aga Syed Mohsin Mosvi, who managed to poll only 2,619 votes. None Of The Above (NOTA) options secured more votes than eleven candidates in the two seats. While NOTA got 544 votes in Budgam, it polled 349 votes in Nagrota. In Budgam, NOTA secured votes more than seven candidates, while in Nagrota, it was more than four candidates.

PM Modi Hails

The bypoll was necessitated following the death of her father, sitting MLA Devender Singh Rana. National Conference candidate Shamim Begum, who polled 10,872 votes, forfeited her deposit.

In Odisha's Nuapada constituency, BJP candidate Jay Dholakia defeated Congress' Ghasi Ram Majhi by a massive margin of 83,748 votes. Jay is the son of late BJD MLA Rajendra Dholakia, whose passing had led to the bypoll.

Both victories further strengthened the BJP's position in the two states, with the prime minister framing the results as a reflection of public trust in the party's governance and leadership.

BJP-led NDA Secures

by former chief minister Jitan Ram Manjhi, won five seats, while Upendra Kushwaha-led Rashtriya Lok Morcha won three seats and was leading in one.

Deputy Chief Ministers Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha, and state ministers Prem Kumar, Maheshwar Hazari and Sanjay Sarangi and BJP's Maithili Thakur were among prominent winners from the NDA camp.

RJD leader and INDIA bloc's CM face Tejashwi Yadav, the late Mohammad Shahabuddin's son Osama Shahab and CPI(ML) Liberation's Sandeep Saurav were among prominent winners from the opposition camp.

The INDIA bloc managed to win only 32 seats so far. The RJD bagged 23 seats and was leading in two other constituencies, while the Congress won six seats, the CPI(ML) Liberation two seats and the CPI(M) one.

Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi-led AIMIM won five seats.

The BJP and the JD(U) contested 101 seats each, while their ally LJP (RV) put up candidates in 28 constituencies.

In the INDIA bloc, the RJD fought in 141 seats, while the Congress contested 61 constituencies and the CPI(ML) Liberation 20.

Major winners and losers

Following is the list of the major winners and losers of the BJP, JD(U) and the RJD in the Bihar assembly polls.

BJP:

Samrat Choudhary won Tarapur seat by a margin of 45,843 seats, defeating RJD's Arun Kumar. Choudhary polled 1,22,480 votes.

Vijay Sinha won the Lakhisarai seat by a margin of 24,940 votes, defeating Congress' Amaresh Kumar. Sinha polled 1,22,408 votes.

Judicial, High Court Wing Jammu. Ms. Rafia Hassan, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ganderbal has been transferred and posted as Presiding Officer, Fast Track Court, Kulgam.

Mir Wajahat, Civil Judge (Senior Division) has been posted as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bandipora

Ms Fozia Paul, Civil Judge (Senior Division) has been posted as ADSJ, Ganderbal.

Ms. Mehreen Mushtaqhas been posted as Additional Sessions Judge Anti Corruption, Srinagar. Feroz Ahmad Khan, Civil Judge (Senior Division) has been posted as Special Judge UAPA, Baramulla against the vacant post.

Imran Hussain Wani, Civil Judge (Senior Division) upon his appointment as District Judge (Entry Level) on adhoc basis has been posted as Special Judge NDPS, Anantnag against the vacant post.

Ms. Preet Simran Kour has been posted as 4th Additional District and Sessions Judge, Srinagar against the vacant post.

Fayaz Ahmed Qureshihas been posted as Presiding Officer MACT, Srinagar on deputation basis.

Services of Umesh Sharma are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his posting as

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Ms. Tabassum Qadir Parray, Sub Judge, Bijbehara has been transferred and posted as Secretary DLSA, Srinagar.

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Sunil Kumar, Sub Judge, Jammu has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his further posting as Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee.

Ms. Smriti Sharma, Secretary DLSA, Jammu has been transferred and posted as CJM Samba vice Shri Umesh Sharma.

Ms. Sumati Sharma, Special Mobile Magistrate, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Secretary DLSA, Udhampur.

Rajeev Kumar Tadyal, Railway Magistrate, Jammu has been transferred and posted as sub Judge, Bijbehara.

Touseef Ahmad Magrey, Special Mobile Magistrate (T), Srinagar has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his further posting as Joint Registrar Inspection, Srinagar against the vacant post.

"Thus, due to petitioners' failure to come to the Court with clean hands, this Court is not inclined to venture into the merits of the case," a bench of Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal, holding the petition as "misconceived, false, frivolous and liable to be dismissed."

Referring to Apex Court's judgment, the Bench said that when a party suppresses material facts, it renders the proceedings a nullity.

It is the duty of every litigant to disclose all material facts as withholding material facts from the Court not only undermines the process of justice but is also violation of the principle of "coming to the Court with Clean Hands," the court noted.

"Since the petitioners have approached this Court by concealment of the facts, therefore, it is a fit case where costs are required to be imposed upon the petitioners," the court said, burdened them with costs of Rs. 20,000 to be deposited in the Advocate's Welfare Fund within two weeks.

"The costs have been imposed upon the petitioners with a sole object to deter such unscrupulous persons to approach this Court with unclean hands, who try to mislead this Court," the court added.

Red Fort Blast:

he had joined multiple radical messaging groups online, though further details of the investigation are awaited.

Meanwhile, in a separate development linked to the widening security crackdown, the National Medical Commission (NMC) has deregistered four doctors from Jammu and Kashmir after an FIR under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) was filed against them.

According to a public notice issued by the NMC on Friday, the names removed from the Indian Medical Register (IMR) and the National Medical Register (NMR) include:

Dr Muzaffar Ahmad (Reg. No. 14680, issued 2017)

Dr Adeel Ahmad Rather (Reg. No. 15892, issued 2019)

Dr Muzamil Shakeel (Reg. No. 15130, issued 2018)

Dr Shaheen Saeed (Reg. No. 45961, issued 2022)

The cancellation orders were issued by the NMC Ethics Board on November 14, 2025. The notice did not specify the nature of the allegations or the investigating agency. The NMC also did not clarify whether the doctors may appeal or seek restoration of their registrations at a later stage.

Deregistration from the IMR and NMR bars the four doctors from practising medicine anywhere in India. They cannot prescribe medication, offer clinical care, or serve in any government or private healthcare institution until the registration is reinstated.

The notice was issued from NMC headquarters in Dwarka and signed by Rajiv Sharma, Secretary In-Charge, Ethics Board.

Collective Action

the UT's developmental trajectory, the LG said Jammu and Kashmir has recorded unprecedented economic growth since 2019, with accelerated infrastructure expansion and rapid progress in industrialisation.

"The going has never been as good for Jammu Kashmir in the past as it has been since 2019. Our economy has grown at an impressive pace since 2021. Rapid growth in infrastructure since 2019 is unprecedented in J&K history," Sinha said.

"Our bold decisions are taking Jammu Kashmir into a brighter, more prosperous future," he said.

Sinha also paid tribute to Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and urged the younger generation to uphold the ideals that shaped the freedom movement. He called on citizens to shed the vestiges of the colonial past and contribute to building a peaceful and equal society.

Senior officials, Members of Parliament, legislators, students, and prominent citizens attended the valedictory ceremony. The second phase of the Vande Mataram celebrations will commence on January 9, 2026.

If you want it shorter, more political, more developmental, or more event-focused, I can trim or tweak.

Budgam Erupts in Celebration As PDP Defeats NC



Abid Bhat/KO

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Thousands of people poured into the streets of Budgam on Friday to celebrate the Peoples Democratic Party's (PDP) historic victory in the Assembly bye-election, the party's first-ever win in the constituency. The celebrations continued late into the evening as the workers and supporters gathered at multiple locations across the district.

Top PDP leaders including party president Mehbooba Mufti, MLA Kupwara Fayaz Ahmad, MLA Pulwama Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra and Iltija Mufti, joined the celebrations amid massive crowds and sloganeering.

During the celebrations, slo-

DURING THE CELEBRATIONS, SLOGANS IN SUPPORT OF AGA SYED RUHULLAH MEHDI AS WELL AS IMRAN RAZA ANSARI WERE HEARD FROM SECTIONS OF THE GATHERING, REFLECTING THE EMOTIONAL AND POLITICAL UNDERCURRENTS ATTACHED TO THE CONSTITUENCY'S LONG-STANDING ELECTORAL HISTORY."

gans in support of Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi as well as Imran

Raza Ansari were heard from sections of the gathering, reflecting the emotional and political undercurrents attached to the constituency's long-standing electoral history.

According to KNO, locals described the victory as a people-driven mandate rather than just a party triumph. Many participants said the outcome represented "the win of common people," adding that Budgam had delivered a clear message through the ballot.

The celebrations marked a significant moment for the PDP as the party secured the seat with a decisive margin of 4,478 votes, breaking the National Conference's decades-long stronghold over the constituency.

Victory Strong Endorsement of PDP's Vision: Mehbooba

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President, Mehbooba Mufti on Friday expressed gratitude to the voters in Budgam, terming the triumph of the party candidate, Aga Muntazir Mehdi a strong endorsement of the party's vision for Jammu and Kashmir.

While talking with reporters in Budgam, Mehbooba, as per KNO said she had come personally to thank the people and the Congress unit in Budgam for their support.

"The people of Budgam sidelined the government and its 50 MLAs and decided to give a chance to the PDP. Congress extended full support to us and to Aga Muntazir Sahib. I pray to Allah to give us the strength to serve the people of Budgam and fulfil the trust they have placed in Muntazir Mehdi Sahib," she said.

She expressed confidence in the newly elected representative, describing him as educated, accessible and dedicated. "Aga Muntazir Mehdi is an educated man. His doors will always be open for the people of Budgam and he will serve them with full honesty and commitment," she added.

Calling it a day of joy for the

party, Mehbooba, however, said the celebrations were overshadowed by the recent Red Fort car blast in Delhi, in which several people lost their lives.

She said the entire nation was mourning and large-scale raids were being conducted, particularly in Kashmir, creating fear among residents. "We are not against action being taken against those involved in the blast. But targeting their friends, relatives, mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters is unacceptable. Blowing up the residence of the accused, where his elderly parents live, who have no connection with the case, is against the law," she said.

Mehbooba stressed that while strict action is necessary, it must follow due legal process. "Amit Shah had said the law will take its own course. We also want strict action but it must be according to the law. Creating fear and carrying out crackdowns on innocent families is unjust and should not happen," she said.

She added that many families across the Valley were in panic due to the ongoing raids, urging authorities to ensure that investigations do not violate constitutional rights.

Results Reflect Verdict Against "Family-Driven Politics": LoP Sharma

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Leader of Opposition in Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Sunil Sharma on Friday said that the election results in Nagrota and Budgam clearly reflect the public's verdict against "nepotism, corruption and family-driven politics" in Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking to reporters, Sharma, as per KNO said the victory of Devyani Rana in Nagrota was "inevitable" as the people voted to fulfill the dreams of the late Devender Singh Rana.



"Nagrota's result was definite. The people had already decided to elect Devyani Rana to bring peace to the soul of Swargi Devender Singh Rana and carry forward his vision. What is astonishing is the massive margin with which a young leader entering politics for the first time

has been blessed," he said.

Reacting to allegations from rival leaders regarding misuse of money and influence, Sharma said such claims only show their "lack of trust" in the public mandate.

On the Budgam by-poll, Sharma termed it a "historic rejection of the Abdullah family."

"This is the defeat of the Abdullah family and Omar Abdullah. I have not seen such public anger against any former Chief Minister in such a short time. People are fed up with corruption, nepotism, deceit and broken promises," he said.

Sharma said he had predicted the NC's defeat earlier, sensing the discontent among youth, women and the elderly. "I said 15 days ago that they would lose on the 14th. People have rejected family dictatorship," he added.

Responding to questions about the BJP's performance in Budgam, Sharma said the party has made significant inroads. "We did not contest in 2024, but this time we fielded Agha Mohsin. We are ahead of many regional parties," he said.

On whether the BJP would open its account in Kashmir in upcoming elections, Sharma said the

party has emerged as a strong alternative. "The people of Kashmir now see the BJP as an option. Just as they rejected the PDP and are rejecting the Abdullah family today, we believe they will choose the BJP in the future," he said.

Commenting on internal issues within the National Conference and the so-called "Aunty government," Sharma said the public verdict is clear. "The war against nepotism has begun in J&K. The prepaid-meter policy and misgovernance have been rejected in Budgam. This result is the answer," he added.

CM Omar Vows to Position Tawi Golf Course as National Golfing Hub



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday renewed his government's resolve to transform the Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC) at Sidhra into a premier golfing destination of national stature, asserting that Jammu's immense potential in the sport has remained under-recognised for years.

Speaking at a felicitation ceremony for a group of newly trained paragliders at JTGC, Abdullah said that while major golf tournaments have become regular features in Srinagar, Pahalgam and Gulmarg, Jammu too deserves a strong presence on India's golfing calendar. Calling JTGC "a course of exceptional beauty and high standards," he pledged intensified efforts to promote it and attract more national-level championships.

The Chief Minister said that boosting Jammu's economic foundation and elevating its visibility on India's tourism map remain key priorities of his administration. He noted that development efforts were not limited to urban centres but extended to the remotest

parts of the province.

Underscoring Jammu's diverse tourism profile—ranging from heritage and pilgrimage sites to border and adventure tourism—Abdullah said that upgrading infrastructure and enhancing visitor facilities were essential to unlocking the region's full potential.

He also highlighted recent tourism initiatives, including improved tourist bus services, and inaugurated a new bus dedicated to border tourism, terming it an important addition to the region's travel network.

Earlier in the day, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for an Indoor Swimming Pool at JTGC, describing it as a major step in strengthening sports infrastructure. He also flagged off the Jammu Gedi Bus Service to enhance connectivity to key destinations such as Surinsar-Mansar and Suchetgarh.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, Transport Minister Satish Sharma, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, MLA Yudhvir Sethi, and senior officials from the tourism and sports sectors attended the event.

UTLBC Holds Camps in Jmu, Sgr to Settle Unclaimed Financial Assets

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Union Territory Level Bankers' Committee (UTLBC) on Friday organised mega Settlement-cum-Awareness Camps simultaneously in Jammu and Srinagar to facilitate on-the-spot identification, verification and disbursement of unclaimed financial assets lying with banks, insurance companies, pension funds, mutual funds and other financial institutions across Jammu and Kashmir.

lighted the "3A Strategy"—Awareness, Accessibility and Action—as the backbone of the national campaign.

Sharing the extent of unclaimed funds in J&K, he said the UT had 17.20 lakh unclaimed accounts with a total outstanding amount of Rs 465.79 crore. Of these, Jammu district alone accounts for 2.94 lakh accounts with Rs 107.27 crore lying unclaimed.

He urged banks to actively contact and trace depositors or their legal heirs to ensure timely settlement of such accounts. Azad also informed the gathering about

RBI officials also demonstrated the use of the UDGM portal, the centralised online facility for tracing unclaimed financial assets. Several banks had set up dedicated counters for re-KYC, nominations and grievance redressal.

Srinagar Camp

In Srinagar, the camp was held at the Community Hall, Khalifapora, Khanyar, and was presided over by AGM RBI Anoop Kumar Sharma. He said the outreach aims to bring clarity and confidence among citizens, adding



The initiative is part of the ongoing three-month national campaign "Aapki Poonji, Aapka Adhikar" (Your Money, Your Right) launched by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Government of India, to ensure rightful claimants receive their long-pending dues without procedural hurdles.

Thanks to extensive publicity by banks and allied institutions, both camps saw significant public participation. According to officials, Rs 1.62 crore, including Rs 5 lakh in unclaimed insurance amounts, was settled and disbursed on the spot after due verification.

Jammu Camp

The Jammu camp was presided over by Regional Director, RBI (Jammu) Chandra Shekhar Azad, who high-

RBI's incentive scheme titled "Scheme for Facilitating Accelerated Pay-out—Inoperative Accounts and Unclaimed Deposits." Under this scheme—valid from Oct 1, 2025 to Sept 30, 2026—banks will receive an incentive of up to 7.5% of the account balance or Rs 25,000, whichever is lower, for reactivating inoperative accounts and settling unclaimed deposits.

DGM RBI Vibha Gupta stressed that unclaimed funds are not limited to bank deposits alone, urging people to also check for unclaimed proceeds in insurance, mutual funds and dividends. J&K Bank's GM & Divisional Head (Jammu) Ashok Gupta reaffirmed the bank's commitment to helping citizens retrieve their assets quickly, calling the nationwide drive "an opportunity to reconnect customers with their money."

that procedures for claiming assets are simple and accessible.

LDM Srinagar Nelofer Jan urged people to spread awareness so that more families can benefit. J&K Bank's FLCC Counsellor Riyaz Ahmad Bhat briefed participants on the ongoing DFS campaign and demonstrated how the UDGM portal helps track unclaimed funds across institutions.

Representatives from major banks and insurance companies held sessions explaining procedures for claiming unclaimed insurance and other dues. The event concluded with a vote of thanks from LDM Srinagar, who appreciated the coordinated efforts of participating institutions and reaffirmed the district's commitment to strengthening financial literacy and public awareness.

10% of J&K People Suffering From Diabetes, Say Doctors

Doctors on Friday said that around 10 per cent of people in Jammu and Kashmir are suffering from diabetes, and approximately 15 per cent are in the pre-diabetes stage, with the number increasing each day.

Doctors said that almost one in ten persons in J&K has diabetes-like conditions, while more than 15 in 100 people are in the pre-diabetes stage.

Dr Saleem Iqbal said the world is shrinking into a global village and that we have more facilities available at our fingertips. "Eventually, the simplicity of life has been lost in this progress," he remarked. He added, "The progress is important, but we must understand that it shouldn't be in such a way that the deleterious effects outweigh the benefits of that progress."

Regarding dietary habits, Dr Iqbal said, "Once we start consuming ultra-processed foods, high-calorie foods, and sugary drinks, it leads to an increase in diabetes, especially in developing countries like India." All patients must understand that exercise and a balanced diet are essential, the doctor said. "We need to teach youngsters the importance of complete health, and that will only be possible once we ourselves take up the challenge of remaining fit and healthy," he added.

According to KNO, the Kashmir & Ladakh Report (July 2023 - January 2024) of the ICMR INDIAB study, conducted under the leadership of Prof M. Ashraf Ganie, reports on the prevalence of diabetes, prediabetes, obesity, hypertension, and dyslipidemia in a representative sample of adults from both urban and rural areas of the union territory.

The study aims to identify region-wise and state-wise differences in these NCDs using robust sampling and diagnostic methods, thereby helping to assess the current status of the epidemic and its likely future trajectory.

According to the report, 7.8 per cent of the population has diabetes, of whom 5.4 per cent are aware of their condition, while 2.4 per cent are unaware. The study also indicates that 10.5 per cent of people are in the prediabetes stage, 30 per cent are hypertensive, and 57.6 per cent are obese. (Observer News Service)

CS Launches Single Window System for Recruitment Rules

In a significant step toward strengthening administrative efficiency and transparency in government functioning, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo today formally launched the Single Window System for Recruitment Rules (RRS).

The launch, attended by senior Administrative Secretaries and Heads of Departments, marks a major governance reform aimed at streamlining the formulation, amendment, and timely approval of Recruitment Rules across all departments in J&K.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary described the initiative as a unique and transformative measure designed to bring uniformity, efficiency, and enhanced monitoring to the entire process of Recruitment Rules management. He emphasized that the new system will not only simplify departmental workflows but also ensure that each stage is tracked and completed within defined timelines.

The Chief Secretary underscored the need for capacity building and targeted training of Nodal Officers and other departmental staff to enable effective functioning of the new system. He also called for expediting its integration with the e-Office network, enabling seamless digital processing, enhanced visibility, and improved inter-departmental coordination.

The Chief Secretary further stressed the importance of ensuring that all existing Recruitment Rules for every cadre are hosted on the portal to facilitate transparency and ease of access.

Commending the ARI & Trainings Department and BISAG-N for developing the platform in a time-bound manner, he urged them to initiate work on a similar digital system for conducting Departmental Promotion Committees (DPCs), with integrated hosting of employee seniority lists to ensure timely promotions and prevent administrative delays.

Speaking at the launch, Commissioner Secretary, ARI & Trainings Department, Shabnam Kamili, highlighted that the newly launched Single Window System will significantly streamline the entire Recruitment Rules lifecycle by making each stage digitally traceable.

She said the platform brings clarity, accountability, and standardization into recruitment-related decision-making and is expected to substantially reduce delays, minimize litigation, and ensure timely career progression for employees across all cadres. The initiative, she added, is fully aligned with the Government's vision of leveraging technology to advance administrative reforms. (Observer News Service)



Government of UT of Jammu & Kashmir

STATE ALLIED AND HEALTHCARE COUNCIL, J&K

Constituted vide Govt. Order No. 777-JK (HME) of 2024 Dated: 19.11.2024

Subject:- Extension of the last date for admission against left-over seats in Diploma Courses coming under the purview of the State Allied and Healthcare Council, J&K.

NOTICE

In continuation to this office Notification No. SAHC-J&K/Leftover/1/716-727 Dated 16-10-2025, it is hereby notified for the information of all Government and Private Institutions of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir coming under the purview of the State Allied and Healthcare Council, J&K, that the last date for admission of candidates for left-over seats in Diploma Courses in the concerned institutions has been extended upto 30-11-2025 (5:00 PM).

Accordingly, all institutions shall submit the hard copy of the selection list to the office of the State Allied and Healthcare Council, J&K by or before 04-12-2025, along with a soft copy through email.

Issued with the approval of Chairperson, State Allied and Healthcare Council, J&K

No. SAHC-J&K/Leftover/1/753-63
Dated: 14/11/2025 DIPK-NB-2475-25
DT: 14/11/2025

Secretary
State Allied Health Care Council
—J&K

No Discussion At All: SA Not Complaining About 'Bauna' Remark At Temba Bavuma

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: South Africa batting coach Ashwell Prince on Friday played down the stump-mic chatter involving Indian pacer Jasprit Bumrah and wicket-keeper Rishabh Pant, saying the visitors will have "no discussion" around the incident during the opening day's play in the first Test at the Eden Gardens.

The exchange happened on the last ball of the 13th over in South Africa's innings when at 62/2, a leg-before appeal from Bumrah against Proteas captain Temba Bavuma was turned down.

During the conversation about whether to take the DRS, the stump mic picked up Bumrah saying, "bauna bhi hai," a remark many interpreted as a taunt at Bavuma's height.



Prince, however, distanced the team from any such controversy during the interaction after the opening day's proceedings.

"No, there will be no discussion. It's the first time, obviously, it's come to my attention. I don't think there'll be any issues with

what's happened out in the middle," Prince said.

Bavuma, returning to lead the Test side after recovering from a calf strain, had a brief and forgettable outing as he was dismissed for 3 off 11 balls by Kuldeep Yadav via a leg-slip trap.

The injury had earlier forced him to miss the start of South Africa's World Test Championship title defence against Pakistan.

The incident unfolded when Bumrah angled a good-length delivery back into Bavuma, struck him on the thigh pad and the pacer, who returned with five wickets, went with a huge appeal only for the umpire to reject it.

Pant felt it was going over and the replays later confirmed the ball would have missed the stumps.

The Hindi word "bauna" is com-

monly used for those suffering from dwarfism, but its usage for someone who is simply short in height can be viewed as offensive.

South Africa, however, are not lodging any complaint.

Meanwhile, Bumrah turned a rare four-spinner gamble into his personal stage, producing a mesmerising exhibition of seam, swing and control as India skittled out South Africa for 159 on the opening day of the first Test on Friday.

India's pace star returned a superb 14-2-27-5, his 16 five-wicket hauls in 96 innings.

India ended the day at 37 for one in 20 overs, with a resolute KL Rahul (13 batting from 59 balls) and Washington Sundar (six batting; 38 balls) steady at the crease after Yashasvi Jaiswal (12) dragged Marco Jansen onto his stumps while playing close to his body.

CM Omar Vows To Upgrade Jammu Tawi Golf Course

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday reiterated his government's resolve to position Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC), Sidhra, as a premier national destination for golfers. He made these remarks while addressing a felicitation ceremony organised for paragliders upon the completion of their training course at JTGC. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that while tournaments are being held in Srinagar, Pahalgam and Gulmarg, Jammu's golfing potential has not been promoted to the extent it deserves.

He assured the people of Jammu that the government is making concerted efforts to secure the region economically and elevate its standing on the national tourism map. Earlier, the CM laid the foundation stone for a state-of-the-art Indoor Swimming Pool at JTGC, Sidhra. The Chief Minister congratulated the paragliders on completing their course and encouraged them to serve as ambassadors of Jammu's adventure tourism potential. (Observer News Service)



Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) President Mithun Manhas called on J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday in Jammu.

DPS Srinagar Students Shine At J&K Thang Ta C'ship 2025

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: DPS Srinagar martial arts team secured an impressive medal haul at the J&K UT Thang Ta Championship 2025, held from November 9 to 11 at Polo Ground Indoor Stadium here.

Competing in a large field of approximately 550 athletes from various districts of J&K, the DPS Srinagar team dominated their respective categories. Out of the school's 17 participants, 14 secured medals, which included: 7 Gold Medals, 5 Silver Medals and 2 Bronze Medals

Other contributors on the team included Aleena

GOLD MEDALLISTS:
Onizah Qadri (12th H)
Aaminah Irfan (12th S1)
Munaza Aira (9th G)
Farjumanand Riyaz (6th A)
Zynah Sartaj Mantoo (7th H)
Arsh Bhat (7th B)
Tabin Peerzada (4th B)

SILVER MEDALLISTS:
Fatima Irfan (11th S4)
Noorain Wani (7th G)
Khadija Arafat (6th I)
Syeda Zainab (6th F)
Trisha Sethi (6th A)

BRONZE MEDALLISTS:
Arbain Ashraf (9th E)
Seerat Fatima (6th G)

Malik (7th A), Syed Aisha (7th C), and Palkit Kour Mehta (6th B).



Anantnag's Amir Bhat Becomes World No. 1 In Para Shooting



Agencies

ANANTNAG: J&K Para Olympian Amir Ahmad Bhat, a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) in the Indian Army from south Kashmir's Anantnag district, has secured the World No. 1 rank in the P3 – Mixed 25m Pistol SH1 category, according to the latest World Shooting Para Sport Official Rankings 2025 released by the International Paralympic Committee.

Born in 1994, Bhat achieved 721.55 points,

placing him at the top of the global list and ahead of shooters from Korea, China, the USA, and other leading nations.

The 31-year-old shooter has created history, becoming the first Indian to reach World No. 1 in the P3 Mixed 25m Pistol SH1 category. He won two medals at the prestigious World Shooting Para Sport (WSPS) World Cup 2025, held at Al Ain, UAE, from October 25 to November 2.

Displaying remarkable composure, accuracy, and determination, Subedar Amir clinched the Gold Medal in the 25m Sport Pistol Mixed Individual event and the Bronze Medal in the 10m Standard Pistol Mixed Individual category.

In a post on X, the Indian Army Sports and Adventure Wing hailed Amir for achieving the feat.

Amir said he feels proud of the achievement but considers it only a stepping stone. (KNO)

Asmita Pencak Silat League 2025 Concludes At Pulwama School



Observer News Service

PULWAMA: The two-day Asmita Pencak Silat League 2025 concluded at Gunj Bakash Hanfiya Public High School, Arhama Shopian, Pulwama. The event, which witnessed an overwhelming participation of athletes, showcased exceptional talent and spirit among women athletes from across the region.

Professor Abdul Hamid Naikoo, Principal of Gunj Bakash Hanfiya Public High School, attended the closing ceremony as the Chief Guest, and lauded the efforts of organisers and participants for promoting women empowerment through sports.

The event was attended by a large number of dignitaries, guests, teachers, parents, and enthusiastic spectators who witnessed the thrilling performances and competitions.

A total of around 230 athletes from various schools and clubs participated in the league, competing across Sub-Junior, Junior, and Senior categories. The bouts displayed remarkable discipline, skill, and the core values of Pencak Silat – respect, self-control, and perseverance.

The event was organised by the District Shopian-Pulwama Pencak Silat Association, underlining their continued efforts to promote martial arts among women and youth in South Kashmir.

Bank Brothers' Help Group

An affiliate of JK Bank Officers' Welfare Association
Email: bbbhgw@gmail.com & jkbowa@gmail.com

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

The members of Bank Brothers' Help Group are deeply saddened and pained over the sad demise of Mr. Ashiq Hussain Mir, younger brother of Mr. Abdul Hameed Mir, a senior officer of our Bank presently placed as Incharge FID Zonal Office Budgam.

The news of your brother's passing has deeply saddened our hearts. A brother is not just family — he is a companion of childhood, a piece of our soul, and a part of our life's strength. Losing him is a pain that words can never fully express.

May Allah, the Most Merciful, envelop his soul with peace, light, and forgiveness. May He grant him a place among the righteous in Jannat-ul-Firdous and make his grave a garden of tranquility. We pray that Allah gives you and your entire family the patience, courage, and sabr to bear this unimaginable loss. In these moments of grief, may you find comfort in the beautiful memories you shared and in knowing that he has returned to his Creator, who loves him more than anyone in this world ever could. Our heartfelt prayers are with you. May Allah make this difficult time easy for you and surround your family with His mercy.

A condolence meeting was also held at the Head Office of Bank Brothers' Help Group in presence of Chairman and other members of the Help Group and rich tributes were paid to the departed soul. A team led by Chairman also visited the residence of the deceased and offered personal condolences to all bereaved in general and Brother Abdul Hameed in particular.

Sd/= Altaf Ahmad Ringshawl
(Chairman)

Ref:- BBHG/2025-26/09

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