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J&K Has Achieved New Heights After 2019: LG

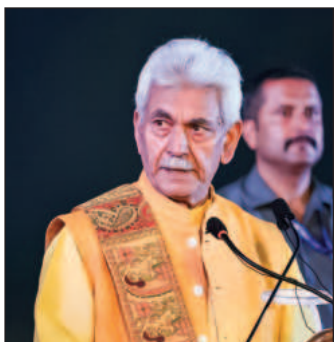
- Says Entire Terror Ecosystem Is Being Dismantled
- '360° Security Grid Strengthened To Foil Adversaries'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said Jammu and Kashmir has been "achieving greater and new heights" on both the development and security fronts since August 2019, attributing the changes to the Centre's policies and the administration's "zero tolerance" approach towards terrorism.

Speaking at the 32nd Northern Zonal Council meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Faridabad, Sinha said J&K has witnessed a historic transformation following the abrogation of Article 370.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and with the continuous guidance of Home Minister Amit Shah, Jammu and Kashmir has been achieving greater and new heights on the development



and security front since August 2019," the LG said.

Sinha said the policy of Zero Tolerance to Terrorism has drastically curbed violence, stone pelting, strikes, and local recruitment into terror outfits. "Not just terrorists, but the entire ecosystem of terrorism is being dismantled," he asserted.

He highlighted the Jammu and Kashmir Police's recent investigations that helped unearth and dismantle a Pan-India terror network, calling it evidence of improved coordination between security agencies.

On the developmental front, the LG said the Union Territory had achieved first place in the country during the first phase of the 150th-year commemoration of Vande Mataram. | [More on P6](#)

RED FORT BLAST

Will Hunt Blast Culprits Even From Patal: Shah

- Says Eliminating Terror From Its Roots Our Collective Commitment
- LG Sinha, CM Omar Attend Northern Zonal Council Meeting

Press Trust Of India

Haryana: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday vowed to track down those responsible for the Delhi blast and asserted that the culprits would be found even from the depths of 'Patal' (netherworld) and face the strictest possible punishment.

Addressing the 32nd meeting of the Northern Zonal Council (NZC) here, Shah said under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eliminating terrorism from its roots is the collective commitment of the government.

He said in line with the track record of the Modi government so far, the culprits of the Delhi bomb blast will be traced even from 'Patal', brought before the country's judicial system, and given the strictest possible punishment.

At the start of the meeting, tributes were paid and a two-minute silence was observed in memory of those killed in the car bomb blast near



6 UNDER THE NEW CRIMINAL LAWS, the conviction rate has increased by approximately 25 to 40% and culprits are receiving timely punishment"

Red Fort and the explosion at Nowgam Police Station in Jammu and Kashmir.

The home minister, according to Modi's vision, strong states create a strong nation, and zonal councils play a very important role in translating this into reality on the ground.

"Zonal Councils are extremely important for

dialogue, cooperation, coordination, and 'policy synergy'. Many types of problems have been resolved through these councils," he said.

Shah said even now there are several issues, such as delays in ensuring speedy justice in crimes against women and children, malnutrition, and stunting, that | [More on P6](#)

Toll Rises To 15; NIA Arrests 2nd Alleged Aide

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday arrested another alleged close aide of "suicide bomber" Dr Umar Nabi in connection with the November 10 Red Fort car blast, as the death toll in the attack rose to 15. The agency identified the arrested man as Jasir Bilal Wani, a resident of Qazigund in Anantnag, calling him an "active co-conspirator" who allegedly provided technical support by modifying drones and attempting to develop makeshift rockets for terror operations. This is the second major arrest in the case after the NIA on Sunday detained Amir Rashid Ali. | [More on P6](#)

J&K Security Forces Ramp Up Searches

Agencies

Srinagar: Following the November 10 Red Fort blast in New Delhi that killed more than 10 people, security forces across Jammu and Kashmir have intensified vigil and launched wide-ranging search operations to prevent any potential threat, officials said on Monday.

An official said that security forces across both regions have been placed on high alert. "Frisking has been intensified in markets, railway stations, and other public places, and CASOs are being launched to ensure public safety," he said.

The official described the ongoing measures as the "largest-ever non-kinetic crack-down" in recent years. At the Jammu Railway Station, hundreds of additional personnel from multiple security wings have been deployed, he said.

A witness at the station said that every traveller is undergoing thorough checks before entering the premises.

"Security teams with advanced scanners and canine units are frisking passengers, inspecting luggage, and verifying identities | [More on P6](#)

Op Sindoor Was 'Only A Trailer': Army Chief

Says Terrorists & Their Supporters Will Be Treated Alike

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi on Monday said that Operation Sindoor was "only a trailer" and asserted that India is fully prepared to deliver a "befitting lesson" to Pakistan if provoked.

In an | [More on P6](#)



Probe Shadow Looms

Kulgam Man Self-Immolates, Dies Hours Later

Observer News Service

Anantnag: A 55-year-old dry fruit seller from south Kashmir's Kulgam district died on Monday after setting himself on fire a day earlier, shortly after being questioned by police in connection with an ongoing probe into an alleged terror module linked to the November 10 Red Fort car bomb blast.

Bilal Ahmad Wani, a resident of Wanpora in Qazigund, had attempted self-immolation on Sunday morning. He was initially taken to a local hospital in Anantnag and later referred to SMHS Hospital in Srinagar, where he succumbed to critical burn injuries shortly after midnight, officials said. | [More on P6](#)

Govt Officials' Links To Coaching Business

Court Flags Serious Concern, Orders CB Inquiry

M Ahmad

Srinagar: A court here on Monday expressed serious concern over alleged indulging in private profit-earning business by some officials despite being on the government payroll and directed SSP Crime Branch Srinagar to investigate a related matter purportedly involving spouses of a private tuition centre.

"The allegations propagated by the petitioner

about the involvement of some of the spouses of the respondents in the partnership business, despite being on the payrolls of the Government, is a serious concern," said Additional District Judge Srinagar Farooq Ahmad Bhat while hearing a case filed by one Mufti Hamid Maqbool, seeking among others directions to restrain the respondents—Tahira Gul, Nusrat Rivaz, Saifu Nissa | [More on P6](#)



Saudi Bus Crash Kills 45 Indians; 18 From One Family

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: At least 45 people, most of them from Hyderabad, were killed in a bus accident in Saudi Arabia, the city police chief said on Monday, citing preliminary information.

Addressing reporters here, Hyderabad police commissioner VC Sajjanar said a total of 54 people travelled to Jeddah from here on November 9. They were scheduled to return on November 23.

Of the 54, four people travelled separately by

car to Madina on Sunday, while another four stayed back in Mecca, he said.

Taking to X, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he was "deeply saddened" by the accident in Madinah involving Indian nationals.

The PM also said Indian officials are in close contact with Saudi Arabian authorities.

According to the police commissioner, 46 people were travelling in the bus, which collided with an oil tanker about 25 km from Madina. Only one person survived the | [More on P6](#)

SKUAST-K's BIG Leap: Innovation On Fast Track!

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) is witnessing one of its most accelerated phases of growth, with sweeping gains in research, rankings, innovation, and outreach that have positioned it among India's top State Agricultural Universities (SAUs).

In an informal interaction followed by an extensive campus tour with media persons on Monday,



Vice Chancellor Dr. Nazir A. Ganaie described how SKUAST-K has transformed into an innovation-led,

technology-driven, and outcome-focused institution despite the region's long-standing challenges.

'Transformation Despite Adversity'

Dr. Ganaie said the university's achievements were particularly noteworthy given the constraints of Kashmir's limited land-holdings, climatic limitations, and difficult socio-political environment.

"Our journey has not been easy, yet SKUAST-K has displayed remarkable resilience and innovation," he said, adding that the university today stands as a key engine | [More on P6](#)

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ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE SDI-01/2025 OF GWPS

Subject: Engagement of Guest Faculty/Instructors (Theory) in Shawl Weaving Trades

Applications on plain paper are invited from eligible candidates for engagement as Guest Faculty/Instructors in the trade mentioned below for training the trainees of this Institute for the academic session 2025-26. The engagement shall be purely temporary with a monthly remuneration of Rs. 15,000/- for Instructor (Theory) and Rs. 12,000/- for Instructor (Practical).

The applicant must be a domicile of Jammu & Kashmir and should possess the required qualifications as prescribed below:

Name of Trade	Qualification Required
Shawl Weaving Artisan Trade	B. Voc/ Degree in Textile Designing/Handloom/Textile Technology from UGC recognized university with One year experience in relevant field.
	OR
	Three-Year Diploma in Textile Designing from a recognized board of education with two-year experience in the relevant field.
	OR
	NTC/ NAC in "Shawl Weaving Artisan" with three-year experience in the relevant field
	OR
	Registered artisan of handicraft department of Central/State govt. with 05 years' experience.
	Essential Qualification: Relevant Regular/ RPL variants of National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) under DGT.
	Note: - Out of two Instructors required for the unit of 2 (1-1), one must have Degree/Diploma and other must have NTC/NAC qualifications. However, both of them must possess NCIC in any of Its variants.

How to Apply

Interested candidates may visit the Government Polytechnic for Women, Srinagar, along with their academic and technical qualification certificates.

Application forms in the prescribed format (given below) must be submitted along with a complete bio-data, mobile number, and necessary qualification/experience certificates on or before 20th November 2025, up to 4:00 PM.

Selection Criteria

The selection shall be made strictly on the basis of merit, relevant higher qualification, and experience, as per the guidelines issued by the Directorate of Skill Development Department.

Notes

- Non-performing candidates/engages shall be disengaged at any time.
- The engagement shall be purely for one academic session and shall cease automatically upon its completion.
- Other terms and conditions shall remain as laid down in the Directorate's Guidelines regarding the engagement of Guest Faculty.

No.: GWPS/ESTT/SDI/2025/ _____

Dated: ____/____/2025

(Er. Imtiaz Ahmad Shaw)

Principal

Govt. Polytechnic for Women, Srinagar

Application Form for Engagement of Guest Faculty / Instructor

(Hand Embroidery / Shawl Weaving Trades)

Session: 2025-26

1. Post Applied For (Tick the appropriate option):

☐ Guest Faculty / Instructor (Theory) – Shawl Weaving

2. Personal Details

i. Name of Applicant: _____

ii. Father's / Husband's Name: _____

iii. Date of Birth: _____

iv. Gender: _____

v. Residential Address: _____

vi. District: _____

vii. Contact No.: _____

viii. Email ID: _____

ix. Are you a resident of Jammu & Kashmir? (Yes / No): _____

3. Educational Qualifications (Attach Certificates)

Examination Passed	Board/University	Year of Passing	Marks Obtained / %	Remarks
10th / Matric				
12th / 10+2				
Diploma / ITI				
Graduation				
Post-Graduation				
Any Other Qualification				

4. Technical / Trade-Specific Qualification (Hand Embroidery / Shawl Weaving)

5. Teaching / Training Experience (Attach Certificates)

Organization / Institute	Designation	Nature of Work	Duration (From-To)	Experience

6. Documents Attached (Tick all that apply)

- ☐ Domicile Certificate ☐ Date of Birth Certificate ☐ Qualification Certificates
☐ Technical Qualification Certificates ☐ Experience Certificates ☐ Aadhaar Card
☐ Recent Passport Size Photograph (Two)

7. Declaration

I hereby declare that the information provided above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation or concealment of facts may lead to cancellation of my candidature.

Date: _____

Place: _____

Signature of Applicant

DIPK-8185/25

dated: 17-11-2025

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

Tele No: 0194-2492429 fax 0191-2492429

EXTENSION-II

E-NIT No: TLMD-VI/08 of 2028-26 Dated: 13/10/2025

Name of the work: Replacement of damaged conductor and its allied accessories of D/C 132 kV Upper Sindh (Kangnn) Alusteng Transmission line (USATL) between tower No 82-83 & 76-77 at Prang Kangan.

Corrigendum title: Extension of bid submission dates for NIT in view of request of prospective bidders to participate in the said tender.

Bids not accompanied with CDR/DD shall not be entertained for techno-commercial evaluation.

CRITICAL DATES AFTER CORRIGENDUM:-

1.	e-Bid submission (end) date & time (Submission supporting documents in PDF formats).	01-12-2025 (1200hrs)
2.	Online Techno-Commercial e-Bid opening date and time.	02-12-2025 (1200hrs)
3.	Venue of opening of Techno-Commercial-Bids.	Office of the Executive Engineer, TLMD-VI, Bemina, Srinagar
4.	Cost of e-Bid document (to be submitted in the form of DD /Online Payment Pledged to Executive Engineer, TLMD-VI, JKPTCL Bemina Srinagar.	Rs 1000/-
5.	Cost of EMD (in the form of CDR/DD)	Rs 43000-pledged to Executive Engineer, TLMD-VI, Bemina, Srinagar.

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per attached SBD, BOQ and other documents uploaded on site.

No: TLMD-VI/2363

DIPK-NB-2496/25

Dated:-17-11-2025

Executive Engineer

TLMD -VI Bemina Srinagar

Economic Expansion Can No Longer Be Pursued In Isolation From Environmental Responsibility: Study

Press Trust Of India

Economic expansion can no longer be pursued in isolation from environmental responsibility. While carbon emission is usually associated with growth in the short-term, it is a detrimental growth factor in the long-term, a new research has found.

Conducted by the Goa Institute of Management, in collaboration with Xavier Institute of Management (XIM) University, Bhubaneswar and BITS Pilani, Goa, the research has examined the short-term and long-term linkages between the economic drivers and the environment with the aim of illustrating the two-way relationship of growth and climate action.

Published in the prestigious Bulletin of Monetary Economics and Banking journal, the study addresses how inflation, trade, energy use and carbon emissions jointly shape regional output.

By applying Advanced Econometric Modelling (ARDL), the researchers have showcased



that economic expansion can no longer be pursued in isolation from environmental responsibility.

"The approach to growth in the Asia-Pacific can no longer be at variance with the environment; it must be aligned. There is no doubt about it-- sustainability is not an obstacle to growth and development, it is an enabler. The region, with the combination of clean en-

ergy, strategic policy, and ethically responsible investment, will be able to deliver growth, not only this decade but for many decades to come," said Chinmaya Behera, Associate Professor, GIM.

The research found that trade openness and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) are still the major long-term determinants of economic output.

"Economic expansion can no

longer be pursued in isolation from environmental responsibility, and while carbon emission is usually associated with growth in the short-term," he said.

"Context-specific policy design becomes clear when appreciating how Renewable Energy (RE) will affect different economies. Policymakers recognise there is no trade-off between economic growth and protection of the environment," he added.

Behera explained that the findings of this research will enable the design of fiscal policy instruments that encourage environmentally sustainable economic activities within an enabling framework to be inclusive of the planned economic growth.

"With Asia contributing to nearly half of global GDP growth and accounting for a major share of carbon emissions, it stands at a crossroads between economic ambition and environmental urgency. Against this backdrop, the research bridges economic, policy and sustainability and contributes to evidence-based policymaking that drive inclusive growth," he said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Towseef Manzoor while my correct name is Tousif Manzoor and my dob has been wrongly written as 01/08/2003 instead of 04-07-2003. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/ Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained

Tousif Manzoor
S/O Manzoor Ahamd Sheikh
R/O Kunzer Distt Baramulla

fko

From Office of the Advocate M.A Sofi And Associates

In the case of
Imtiyaza Begum Wife of Mehraj Ud Din Zargar Resident of Pattan District Baramulla

(Caveator)

V/s

Public at large

In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

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

fko

Sd/advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No: 0204050003501 from Ab Raheem Khanday S/ Ab Khaliq Khanday to Reyaz Ahmad Khanday S/O Ab Raheem Khanday. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the PDD Sub Division Zakura within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Rayeez Ahmad Khanday
S/O Ab Raheem Khanday
R/o D.D Nowbug

mdl

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in her adhaar card as Zikra Farooq D/o Farooq Ahmad Khan While her correct name is Zikra Nabi D/O Gh Nabi Dhobi . Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/ Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained

Tabasum Saba
W/o Gh Nabi Dhobi
R/o Utikoo Tehsil Kawarhama

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in her adhaar card as Tawqeer S/o Bashir Ahmad Malik while his correct name is Tawqeer Ahmad Malik and DOB has been wrongly written as 21-07-2014 instead of 25-09-2014 . Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/ Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained

Sameena Begum
W/O Bashir Ahmad Malik
R/O Sadhunara Hasti Khan

FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

In my Driving License bearing DL No. JK05 20200002202 name is mentioned as GURDEEP SINGH. But my actual name is GURDEEP SINGH , and my father's Name is mentioned as S.KRIPAL SINGH , But my actual name is KIRPAL SINGH. Now I want to correct it if anybody has any objection, he/she may contact ARTO OFFICE SOPORE within the period of 7 days; after that, no objection will be accepted.

Name: GURDEEP SINGH.
S/O: KIRPAL SINGH
R/O PANZALLA
BARAMULLA
RAFIABAD, BARAMULA 193303

ab

نمبر پبلٹ کی گمشدگی

میری موٹر سائیکل (M / CYCLE) زیر نمبر JK04E - 0658 کے نمبر پبلٹ کیس گم ہو گئی ہے۔ بہت ڈھونڈنے پر نہیں ملی۔ اگر کسی نے اٹھائی ہو تو وہ برائے انسانیت پیچھے دے ہوئے نمبر پبلٹ فون کرے۔ بصورت دیگر اسکی ڈبلکیٹ نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ ایک ہفتے کے اندر اندر آرٹو کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ بعد از میعاد کوئی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

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ساکن گرید خورد بڈگام فون۔ 9541588511

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(WAHEED) R/O ZOORIGUND
BUDGAM CELL. 7006261426



CITY

Sanat Nagar Flyover Misses Another Deadline

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The much-delayed Sanat Nagar flyover project in Srinagar has missed yet another completion deadline, with officials indicating that the timeline is likely to be extended by about a week to allow finishing works to be completed.

Officials said that the government officers heading the project and overseeing the inauguration are currently in Delhi, while another cause of delay was the Nowgam blast.

"A brief extension of around a week has been sought to wrap up the pending work. Officials have also conveyed that this should be the final one," an official said.

The latest delay has, however, prompted discussions within the administration about possible action in case of further lapses. "A detailed review might be held once the officials return, and all aspects, including accountability,

will be looked into," the official added.

Earlier, in August, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary had cautioned that the contractor would face strict action, including possible blacklisting, if the project was not completed by November 15. He had also ordered a "probe into Rs 23 crore" in payments reportedly cleared despite incomplete work on the ground.

Sanctioned at Rs 29 crore under the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) decongestion plan, the Sanat Nagar flyover was originally scheduled for completion in June 2024.

According to KNO, officials said most of the structural work has been completed, with only finishing and safety checks pending.

Locals, meanwhile, hope this will finally be the last extension. "We just want to see it open for the public now," said Javid Ahmad, a commuter from Hyderpora.

Sgr Admin Mourns Loss in Nowgam Blast

Observer News Service

Srinagar: District Administration Srinagar on Monday convened a solemn condolence meeting here at DC Office to mourn the demise of nine lives including Naib Tehsildar, Muzaffar Ahmad Khan and Suhail Ahmad Rather of Revenue Department who lost their lives in Nowgam accidental blast on Friday evening while discharging their official duties.

A two minute silence was observed to mourn the loss of 09 precious lives that included revenue officials, police personnel, official of FSL & a civilian

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo, other senior officers and all employees of DC Office Srinagar participated in the condolence meeting to pay tribute to the departed souls.

On the occasion, the DC Srinagar and other participants expressed profound grief over the loss of the lives. The DC acknowledged the integrity, professionalism and committed service of the departed officials. He extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls and for strength & solace to the families enduring this heartbreaking grief.



Leadership for Women Managers Takes Centre Stage at KU's National Workshop

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Minister for Education, Social Welfare, Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, on Monday underscored the expanding role of women in leadership positions, asserting that women are now stepping into spaces that were once out of reach. She was speaking at the inaugural session of a three-day National Workshop on "Leadership Programme for Women Managers in Higher Education: Challenges, Opportunities and Strategies" at the University of Kashmir.

Organised jointly by the Centre for Women's Studies and Research (CWSR) and the Institute of Home Science, the workshop has drawn participants from universities and colleges across the country.

Addressing the gathering as Chief Guest, Minister Sakeena called for collective institutional efforts to create safe, respectful and empowering environments for women professionals. "Women's progress depends on spaces where they feel safe, heard and valued," she said, stressing that women must be recognised for their abilities, encouraged to lead and supported through responsive structures.

She highlighted the crucial contribution of women to the future of higher education, noting that increasing women's participation in academic governance is essential not only for equity but also for strengthening national academ-

ic and administrative capacities.

Praising the University of Kashmir for hosting the programme, she said such platforms help identify structural barriers faced by women in academia and generate practical solutions through mentorship, policy innovation and capacity-building. She urged participants to make the most of the workshop by sharing experiences and developing collaborative leadership strategies.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to gender-responsive educational reforms, she said leadership training, professional devel-

opment, and stronger institutional support systems for women faculty remain key priorities.

Women's progress depends on spaces where they feel safe, heard and valued,"

oment, and stronger institutional support systems for women faculty remain key priorities.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Nilofer Khan said the University is steadily advancing gender-sensitive practices and leadership pathways to ensure women academics and administrators can participate fully in decision-making. Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Shariefuddin Pirzada, also emphasised the need for institutional mechanisms that acknowledge and promote women's leadership potential.

Prof. Pam Rajput of Punjab University underlined the need for both structural reforms and day-to-

tutional challenges.

On the occasion, Minister Sakeena also released Kashmir University's first-ever Coffee Table Book 2025 and the latest Statistical Digest, highlighting the institution's growth and milestones.

The event was attended by Director Colleges Dr. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir; Dean School of Medicine & Allied Medical Sciences and Principal GMC Srinagar Dr. Iffat Hassan; college principals; senior faculty; administrative officers; scholars; and around 50 participants from universities across the north-western region.

PRESS RELEASE

Last & Final Intimation

The Sheikh ul Alam Charitable Trust, Barbarshah, Srinagar (Regd. off.: Nowgam) has officially ceased all operations effective 15 December 2024 and remains defunct with no plans for revival. No public donations have been accepted through field social workers since September 30, 2023, and all available funds were fully utilized for designated social causes. Remaining assets have been donated to a registered NGO dedicated to the welfare of elderly citizens.

Any unreturned receipt books held by former field workers are null and void from September 30, 2023, while official counter receipts and other documents were properly disposed of after due opportunity for return. The Trust confirms it has no branches, offices, affiliations, or recognitions of any kind. A temporary contact point was maintained solely for queries and will remain active for the next 30 days.

For any questions, please contact the provided number by December 15, 2025, after which no further representation will exist. The Trustees thank all supporters and wish continued success to the social welfare sector.

Contact: 6005448817 and 0194-2473225
Sd: Admin Incharge
SHIEKH-UL-ALAM CHARITABLE TRUST

MDL

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Assistant Director Sheep Breeding Farm Shopian

Email id:sbfzawoora-shdk@ik.gov.in Tech - section

AUCTION NOTICE

This office is going to conduct auction of some animals at Sheep Breeding Farm Zawoora (Shadab Karewa) on 22-11-2025 at 11:30 am. The auction shall be carried out by the designated Auction committee.

Accordingly, the interested persons or parties are informed through the medium of this notice to participate in the said process on the scheduled date & venue. The successful bidder will have to deposit the whole bid amount in lump sum on spot in cash with the Committee against proper Govt. receipt. The other terms and conditions of the auction shall be provided at the time of auction.

Assistant Director
Sheep Breeding Farm
Zawoora

No:- ADZ/Tech/2024-25/859-64
DIPK-8188/25
Dated: 17-11-2024.

- 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

SHIEKH UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS



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



HIJRI

CALENDAR

26 Jumada al-Awwal

1447

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 39
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3: 50
Magrib	5:31
ISHA	6: 55

This Day In History

- 1421 - Southern sea floods 72 villages, killing estimated 10,000 in Netherlands.
- 1497 - Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama reaches the Cape of Good Hope.
- 1667 - Treaty of Bongaja: King Hassan-Udin of Makasar & VOC.
- 1738 - France & Austria sign peace treaty.
- 1742 - Prussia & Britain sign anti-French military covenant.
- 1803 - Battle of Vertieres, in which Haitians defeat French
- 1833 - Netherlands & Belgium sign Treaty of Zonhoven.
- 1901 - The USA and Great Britain sign the Second Hay-Pauncfote Treaty, or Interocceanic Ship Canal Treaty.
- 1918 - Latvia declares independence from Russia.
- 1918 - Belgian troops re-enter Brussels, lost to the German invaders on 20 August 1914.
- 1936 - Germany & Italy recognize Spanish government of Francisco Franco.
- 1941 - Mussolini's forces leave Abyssinia/Ethiopia.
- 1950 - South Korea President Syngman Rhee forced to end mass executions.
- 1955 - Bell X-2 rocket plane taken up for 1st powered flight.
- 1956 - Morocco gains independence.
- 1957 - Tunisia refuses Russian weapons.
- 1961 - JFK sends 18,000 military advisors to South Vietnam.
- 1963 - King Hassan II opens 1st parliament in Morocco.
- 1964 - J. Edgar Hoover describes Martin Luther King as "most notorious liar".
- 1968 - Soviets recover the Zond 6 spacecraft after a flight around the moon.
- 1970 - Linus Pauling declares large doses of Vitamin C could ward off colds.
- 1970 - Netherlands & Albania form diplomatic relations.
- 1970 - Russia lands self propelled rover on Moon.
- 1971 - China performs nuclear test at Lop Nor, PRC.
- 1973 - Arab oil ministers cancel the scheduled 5 percent cut in production for EEC.
- Spain's parliament establishes democracy after 37 yrs of dictatorship.

From KO Archives

J&K Has First Internet Kiosk

Observer News Service

Jammu- Based on the recommendations of the National Task Force on Information Technology and Software Development, the Department of Telecommunication has decided to provide accessibility of the Internet Services to the general public through Central Telegraph Offices (CTOs), Department Telegraph Offices and Telecom Centres.

As part of the endeavour, Jammu Telecom has launched its first Internet Kiosk at Departmental Telegraph Office, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

The Internet Kiosk would be open to general public from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Users can download any information from internet if he/she desires on a floppy. Usage would be allowed as per the rates fixed viz. Rs. 25/- upto 15 minutes, Rs. 45/-upto 30 minutes and Rs. 80/-upto 60 minutes. Maximum period of usage allowed would be two hours.

The Jammu and Kashmir Circle of Telecommunication has planned to start more such Internet Kiosks after gauging the response to the present one. According to DoT, the usage of one's own floppy would not be allowed. For using the services, information would be available with Junior Telecom Officer, Incharge, Departmental Telegraph Offices, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. ,

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 18 NOVEMBER, 1998)



قاروق احمد بٹ انتقال کئے

پیر اجتائی وکھ کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ قاروق احمد بٹ دلم مرحوم

غلام احمد بٹ سانس گہکا رشتا ساری گہکا حال اب برین نشاٹ

میں 17 نومبر 2025ء بروز سوموار کو کھٹے طالت کے بعد اس دار فانی

سے رحلت کئے۔ راتاً لیلہ و انا اللہ زبجیوں مرحوم خوش اخلاق،

شریف انش، یک سیرت، با اخلاق فریب پر در اور صوم وصلو کے پاندھے اللہ سبحان و تعالیٰ

مرحوم کو جنت الفردوس میں اعلیٰ مقام عطا کرے۔ آمین

اس سلسلے میں مرحوم کی اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی 20 نومبر 2025ء بروز جمعرات صبح 7.45

بجے ان کے آبائی مقبرہ و گہکا رشتا ساری گہکا میں انجام دی جائے گی۔

سوگواران

خیم قاروق، بہت فحلی

SAD DEMISE

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved mother, Late Rafiq Bano, wife of Late Mohammad Yousuf Bhat, R/O Maisuma Gow Kadal, who left for her heavenly abode on 15 November 2025 after a brief illness.

The congregational Fateh Khawani will be offered at our ancestral graveyard Maltang, Dalgate, at 11:00 AM on 18 November 2025, followed by a prayer gathering at the Marriage Hall on Bund near Gowkadal Gate. Transport facility to and fro Dalgate graveyard / Gowkadal Marriage Hall will be available near the Bund Gowakadal from 10:00 AM onwards.

All visitors are humbly requested not to bring any eatables.

Bereaved Family
9906443153 | 6005238390
8899525402

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KO VIEW

Kashmir’s Echo Chamber

Many retired officials, professors and public figures have taken up a new role on social media. They appear at every event, speak on every issue and try to guide public opinion with ideas from their past. Their followers still treat them as authority figures, so their voice carries weight.

The trouble is that their views stay rooted in a time that has already changed.

These elders often speak with great confidence. They share long stories about how they handled problems in their own careers and how society worked better in their days. Their tone leans toward nostalgia. They rarely acknowledge how much life has shifted for young people.

Today’s youth face one of the worst job crises in the valley. Many struggle to find stable work, and many more look for skills that match a fast-changing world. Old advice does not help them move forward.

On social media, these senior voices easily shape opinions. Trouble starts when they use this influence to stop young people from exploring technology, creative fields or new industries. They call digital work risky and say modern tools have no real value. They keep repeating old ideas without trying to understand new opportunities. This mindset narrows the way young people see their future.

Kashmir cannot afford this tunnel vision. The world is opening new paths in tech, research, entrepreneurship and digital jobs, even in places with weak economies.

Young people need mentors who understand these changes. They need encouragement to try new skills, instead of warnings or mockery that push them back into old patterns.

When respected elders reject modern tools, families hesitate to let their children pursue fresh careers. This slows down a generation already under pressure.

These reputed senior citizens with long experience can add real value, but only when they pay attention to the present before talking about the past. Their influence should open doors for young people and make space for new ideas rather than shutting them down.

Kashmiri youth carry energy and ambition. They want guidance that matches their time and challenges.

The future needs voices that understand today and help them move forward instead of pulling them back to yesterday.

CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

Small Savings Rise

A simple plan, steady discipline, and smart choices can reshape financial futures in the valley.

Irshad Mushtaq

Kashmir trains people to dream with caution. Work comes and goes, markets swing quickly, and many homes run on one income. Even then, financial freedom starts with a small decision. Saving 5,000 a month in your early 20s builds discipline. Twenty years of that simple habit turns into 12 lakh and a solid base for a secure life.

The real change begins when this habit meets long-term growth. Quality investments that deliver an average return of around 18.5 percent over two decades can turn those monthly savings into 1 crore. Compounding rewards patience. It rewards people who stay consistent through slow seasons and strong ones. Many young Kashmiris already invest this way through SIPs and diversified plans, and their stories show how numbers can shift destiny.

A crore is not the finish line. It is the starting point of stability. Diversifying across gold, silver, equity, mutual funds, and REITs protects savings from sudden economic shocks. A balanced portfolio that grows at even 10 percent each year can create a dependable 10 lakh of passive income. For many families, that income changes how they plan, spend, and support each other. It can free someone from chasing uncertain jobs or allow another to build a local business.

Success grows when discipline meets wisdom. Quality assets matter. Research matters. Sound advice matters. Skills like integrity, problem-solving, and continuous learning keep opportunities alive in a fast-changing economy. Avoiding high-risk shortcuts and unnecessary debt protects the path you build.

Financial freedom in Kashmir grows from clear choices and steady habits. A small beginning can turn into generational wealth when someone plans early, stays patient, and invests with purpose.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial advisor.



Twenty Years Behind

Start-up noise grows every year in the valley, but ground-level transformation remains slow, scattered, uncertain, and poorly coordinated.

Fiza Masoodi

At a recent entrepreneurship event in Srinagar, a senior government official made a comment that silenced the room for a few seconds.

He said Kashmir is still twenty years behind in building a real start-up culture.

It sounded casual, almost like a passing remark, but it hit the audience hard.

Many young founders, mentors, and incubators sat there wondering what this gap truly means and why it still exists despite the noise around innovation.

The remark pushed everyone to think beyond the buzzwords.

Over the last few years, Kashmir has seen hackathons, pitch days, workshops, and a growing list of incubation centres. They speak about disruption, hustle, innovation, and the future. They push young people to dream bigger, work faster, and think globally.

This is important. These efforts matter. They create energy and hope.

But the event in Srinagar showed that hope alone cannot build an ecosystem. Something deeper is missing.

The panel of experts and officials pointed to a simple truth: Jammu and Kashmir still does not have a brand of its own that can stand on a national stage.

There is no single product or start-up that represents the region the way Punjab owns agro-processing, or Bengaluru owns tech.

Everyone is waiting for that one breakout story that can act as the face of this place.

Until that happens, the ecosys-

tem remains scattered, enthusiastic in pockets but unsure of its long-term direction.

The discussion on apples made this gap painfully clear.

Kashmir produces more than 70 percent of India’s apples. Every child here grows up hearing that this land is the home of the best fruit in the country. But there is no large, modern juice factory in the valley.

Farmers sell raw apples to outside companies. Those companies crush the fruit, pack it into shiny boxes, and send it right back to Kashmir as branded apple juice. People buy it because there is no local option with the

So the pipeline exists. The excitement exists. And the market exists too.

What does not exist is intellectual property, long-term thinking, and strong brand-building.

Most start-ups here work on ideas that look good in competitions but do not survive in real markets. Many products stay in pilot stages and never reach a shelf.

Some young founders rely too heavily on grants and not enough on building something people truly need. Others focus on temporary buzz instead of durable value.

As a result, the ecosystem keeps producing activity but

“The twenty-year remark should not discourage anyone. It should push the ecosystem to grow up, step by step. Kashmir needs fewer events and more real work. It needs more factories, not more shows. It needs products that can survive on their own without constant government support. It also needs leaders who can think beyond quick wins and focus on long-term growth.”

same scale or quality.

This single example summed up what the official meant when he said we are twenty years behind.

The problem is not talent. Young people in Kashmir are skilled, ambitious, and eager to build something of their own. The problem is not funding either.

In the last few years, many grants, credit schemes, and angel networks have come into the region. The government now talks about start-up policies. Incubators promise guidance and market links. Many young founders receive seed money.

not outcomes.

This is why the Srinagar event felt like a necessary diagnosis.

People finally said what many already sensed: the ecosystem looks busy, but the ground reality is still thin.

Too many players are active, but not many are effective.

Some organisations host events, create noise, and chase visibility without addressing deep problems.

Beyond seminars and social media posts, a real ecosystem needs factories, patents, working models, and businesses that can scale be-

yond districts and divisions.

The conversation also made it clear that intellectual property is the backbone of a real start-up culture. Without patents, trademarks, and original products, no region can build a strong identity.

Kashmir’s start-ups have to move beyond local labels and develop assets that cannot be copied overnight. Only then will investors take long-term interest.

At the same time, the event reminded everyone that possibility still exists.

The room had young founders who are working on robotics, AI, agri-tech, climate solutions, and modern retail.

Some are trying to build Kashmir’s first big brand in food processing. Others are developing technology that can leave the valley and compete in national markets.

These ideas show that the gap can be bridged if the direction is clear.

The twenty-year remark should not discourage anyone. It should push the ecosystem to grow up, step by step.

Kashmir needs fewer events and more real work. It needs more factories, not more shows. It needs products that can survive on their own without constant government support.

It also needs leaders who can think beyond quick wins and focus on long-term growth.

This moment is a reset. If the ecosystem listens carefully, it can turn this honest criticism into real progress.

The author is a Srinagar-based scribe and startup founder. She can be reached at fiza-masoodi2001@gmail.com

Letter to Editor

Kashmir’s Coaching Industry Is Taking Over Childhood

For many Kashmiri students, the dream of becoming a doctor or engineer starts with excitement and ends in pressure. NEET and JEE were once clear paths toward stable careers. They now feel like hurdles placed inside a system where money shapes opportunity.

A journey that should inspire confidence has turned into a market built on the worries of teenagers and the hopes of their families.

Coaching centers have spread across the valley at a fast pace. In Srinagar, Anantnag, Sopore, and other towns, signboards promise top ranks and guaranteed success. These messages tell families that coaching is the only route forward and that a high fee buys a better chance.

The cost often runs from several thousand rupees to several lakhs. There is little oversight, and most parents have no way to judge what they are paying for. Many families sell land, take loans, or cut down on daily expenses to enroll their children because they feel they have no other option.

Inside the classrooms, the picture often changes. Students sit in crowded halls and receive limited attention. Some institutes rely more on their public image than on strong teaching. Parents continue to trust them because they want to believe in a promise. Coaching has become a race that rewards those who can pay more, not those who can learn better.

This system creates a divide that hurts students from modest back-

grounds. A wealthy student can buy longer courses and extra test material. A talented student with fewer resources must work with less support and more stress. Many bright young people step aside during preparation. They lose confidence because they feel the gap between their ability and their access.

There is also a growing emotional cost. The constant pressure to match someone else’s rank affects how students see themselves. Many struggle with stress and exhaustion long before the exam date. Learning becomes a task instead of a joy. Curiosity fades when every lesson feels like a fight to stay ahead.

Kashmir needs a healthier approach. Authorities must set clear rules for fees and teaching standards.

Coaching centers should follow these rules to earn trust. Schools can take a stronger role in preparing students so they do not depend on expensive institutes. Free online lessons, mentoring groups, and scholarships can help level the field.

Education should guide young people with care. It should open doors, build confidence, and reward talent.

When entrance exams return to a focus on merit and learning, students across Kashmir will feel hope instead of pressure.

Sincerely,

Aisha Mir
mir74254@gmail.com

Daily Discomfort for Women in Kashmir Hospitals

Male-dominated wards turn even simple procedures into emotionally stressful experiences for women.

Aaqyb Ashraf

I saw the real face of Kashmir's healthcare on a morning that began like any other.

My mother needed an ECG before a scheduled procedure, so we went to the Bone and Joint Hospital in Srinagar. We moved through the long corridor with its familiar pale walls, and for a moment, everything felt standard.

Then we stepped into the ECG unit, and the entire scene shifted.

Only a male technician was inside. My mother paused at the doorway. She held the edge of her shawl a little tighter and looked at the machine, then at him. Nothing unusual happened in that moment, but something shifted.

Her hesitation was almost unnoticeable to anyone else. But for her, it was enough to change the feeling of the whole room.

She grew up in a place where privacy during medical tests is tied to dignity. That upbringing shaped the way she stood, the silence she kept, and the discomfort that slowly settled on her face.

I suggested going to another centre, though we had little time. Her procedure was scheduled for the next morning. A delay could disturb everything, and a private diagnostic lab might not have a female technician either. She nodded and said we should continue.

She lay on the bed, turned her face to one side, and stayed still while the technician prepared the leads. I stood beside her, unable to ignore how something as basic as an ECG had turned into a test of emotional strength.

That moment opened a window into a problem many families in Kashmir experience without naming it. The lack of female medical staff forces women to choose between their comfort and timely



care. This choice is unnecessary.

It comes from a system that hasn't matched staffing with the cultural needs of half its patients.

A few weeks later we went to the Super Speciality Hospital in Srinagar for her echocardiogram. This building often appears in news stories about healthcare improvements. It is praised for advanced equipment and specialised units.

I hoped for a different experience this time.

Inside the ECHO room, I saw only male technicians again. My mother adjusted her scarf the way she always does when she feels exposed. She stepped forward anyway.

I saw the same discomfort rise in her again. She tried to stay calm, tried to match her feelings with what the moment required.

The room had all the latest machines, but it felt old in how it understood dignity.

In the days that followed, I thought about how many women walk through these spaces. Women who are elderly, anxious, and carry cultural expectations about modesty. They

enter wards with trust and step into testing rooms with reluctance. The system expects them to adapt. People around them say, "manage for a moment," or "it will be quick."

These words might sound supportive, though they place responsibility on the patient instead of the institution.

Hospitals in Kashmir rarely acknowledge how deeply privacy influences a woman's sense of safety.

A room staffed only with men can turn a routine medical test into something uneasy. The discomfort is silent and steady. It never shows up in medical charts, and never appears in official reports.

It lives in the way women lower

their gaze or tighten their dupattas before entering a room where their bodies will be exposed.

This issue becomes more pressing when we consider that Kashmir's current Health Minister is a woman.

She knows what it feels like to walk into an examination room. She understands the value of privacy in a medical setting. Her leadership gives the system a chance to address this concern with empathy and purpose.

Thousands of women across the region would feel the impact of even small changes.

Those changes are easy to implement. Hospitals can hire more fe-



KASHMIRI HOSPITALS WILL KEEP EXPANDING, WITH NEW BUILDINGS AND MACHINES ARRIVING. But true progress will come when women can enter a testing room without shrinking or holding back.

male technicians and nurses. They can create women-only diagnostic rooms for ECGs, ECHOs, ultrasounds, and other tests that involve physical exposure.

Medical colleges can guide more women into technical roles. Administrators can monitor staffing patterns and fix gaps that affect women the most.

I'm not pointing fingers at doctors or nurses. They work hard under constant pressure. The issue is the system itself. Dignity, privacy, and emotional comfort matter. All of these are part of true healing.

Kashmiri hospitals will keep expanding, with new buildings and machines arriving. But true progress will come when women can enter a testing room without shrinking or holding back.

When my mother, or any woman in Kashmir, walks into a hospital feeling safe, respected, and cared for, that is when the system will have truly advanced.

— The author is a Srinagar-based lawyer. He can be reached at aaqibashraf27@gmail.com.



WHEN MY MOTHER, OR ANY WOMAN IN KASHMIR, walks into a hospital feeling safe, respected, and cared for, that is when the system will have truly advanced.

Nobel Prize Lessons for Kashmir Universities

Kashmir produces bright graduates but lacks institutions that nurture creativity and technological thinking. The Nobel Prize highlights this gap.

Muzamil Farooq

The 2025 Nobel Prize in Economics hits close to home for anyone who cares about higher education in Kashmir.

While the world celebrated economists showing how societies grow through innovation, our universities remain stuck in old routines.

Kashmiri students are still taught to memorize facts instead of thinking creatively or using what they learn.

The Nobel winners remind us that economic progress is the result of institutions that encourage new ideas, experimentation, and technological change.

Innovation drives growth everywhere, but it struggles to survive in Kashmir.

Classrooms favour correct answers over original thought, and exams focus on memory over reasoning. New ideas struggle to take hold.

Young Kashmiris are talented and globally aware, but our universities rarely give them the tools to explore ideas deeply.

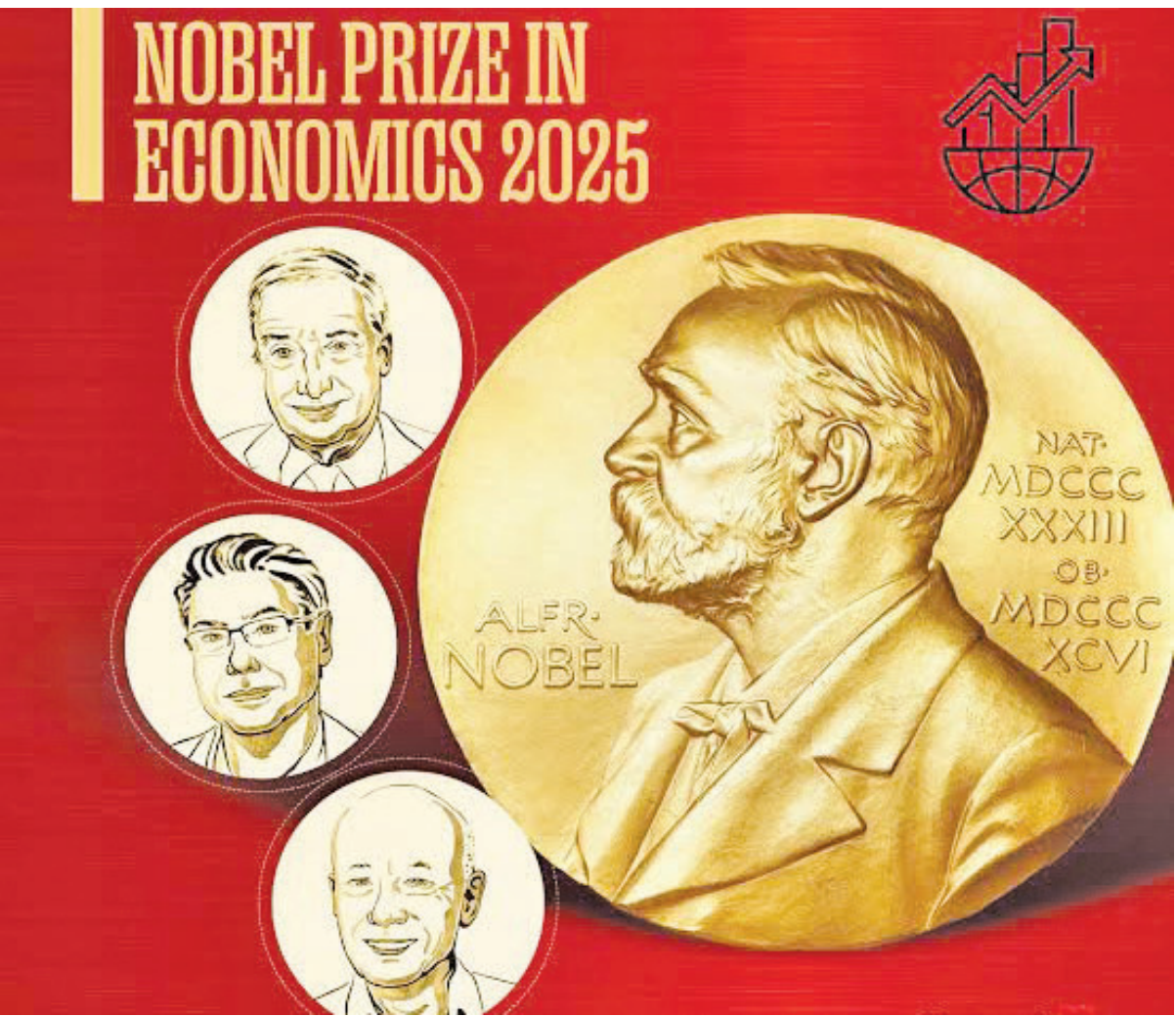
Programs that examine technology, policy, and innovation are rare. Entrepreneurship, technology management, and interdisciplinary research remain optional instead of central to learning.

A clear example is the MSc in Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship at NIT Srinagar, which I joined in 2022.

The program could have set a path for innovation studies in India. Instead, it was shut down after two batches in 2024. The failure was not just the program itself. It was a system that could not support new ideas.

Programs need trained faculty, administrators who plan long-term, and links to industry, government, and society. Without this support, even the most promising efforts fail.

Kashmir must start by building this ability to absorb knowledge. Universities need to recognize new ideas,



THE NOBEL PRIZE OFFERS A CLEAR LESSON: SOCIETIES GROW WHEN THEY MAKE SPACE FOR NEW IDEAS, ALLOW EXPERIMENTATION, AND REPLACE OUTDATED SYSTEMS. Kashmir universities must take this to heart. High exam scores will not drive progress. Enrollment numbers mean little if learning does not encourage thinking. Economic growth cannot follow from outdated academic practices.

adapt them locally, and turn them into action.

This requires investing in faculty development, research training, collaboration, and partnerships beyond campus walls. It means encouraging curiosity instead of enforcing conformity.

After building this foundation, the next step is expertise. Understanding how technology affects development is vital for Kashmir. Technology can improve agriculture, tourism, crafts, energy, governance, and public services.

Without scholars and students trained to think critically, the region risks consuming ideas created elsewhere instead of shaping them.

The Nobel Prize offers a clear lesson: societies grow when they make space for new ideas, allow experimentation, and replace outdated systems.

Kashmir universities must take this to heart. High exam scores will not drive progress. Enrollment numbers mean little if learning does not encourage thinking. Economic growth cannot follow from outdated academic practices.

As someone studying universities' role in development, I see a turning point.

Kashmir institutions can continue producing graduates who know many answers but ask few questions. Or they can become engines of discovery, nurturing thinkers, creators, and leaders.

The closure of a single program should spark a deeper conversation about what universities need and what young people deserve.

The Nobel Prize has shown the world what drives progress. Kashmir universities must choose to learn.

— The author is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie PhD Research Fellow in Innovation and Regional Studies at the Centre for Innovation Research, UiS School of Business and Law, University of Stavanger.

KASHMIR INSTITUTIONS CAN CONTINUE PRODUCING GRADUATES WHO KNOW MANY ANSWERS BUT ASK FEW QUESTIONS. Or they can become engines of discovery, nurturing thinkers, creators, and leaders. The closure of a single program should spark a deeper conversation about what universities need and what young people deserve. The Nobel Prize has shown the world what drives progress. Kashmir universities must choose to learn.

Bangladesh Tribunal Sentences Ousted PM Sheikh Hasina to Death

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Bangladesh's ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina was on Monday sentenced to death in absentia by the country's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) for "crimes against humanity" linked to last year's student-led protests. The verdict has triggered a diplomatic storm, with Dhaka formally pressing India for her immediate extradition, even as New Delhi responded cautiously, stressing peace and stability in Bangladesh.

ICT Terms Hasina "Mastermind" of Crackdown

The special tribunal ruled that 78-year-old Hasina, along with former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, orchestrated a violent state crackdown on student protesters during the July–August 2024



uprising, which killed hundreds. Reading out the verdict in a heavily guarded courtroom, the tribunal described Hasina as the "mastermind and principal architect" of the deadly crackdown and sentenced her and Kamal to death under provisions for crimes against humanity. Hasina has been living in India since she fled Bangladesh on

August 5, 2024.

Dhaka Demands Extradition from India

Soon after the verdict, the Bangladesh foreign ministry issued a sharply worded statement urging India to hand over both Hasina and Kamal, calling it New Delhi's "compulsory

responsibility" under the existing extradition treaty.

The ministry said offering shelter to individuals "convicted of crimes against humanity" would be viewed as an "unfriendly act".

Bangladesh's Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain said Dhaka will formally communicate its request to India, adding:

"The judicial process has been completed... they are now convicted."

India 'Notes' Verdict, Avoids Commitment on Extradition

Responding to the fast-developing situation, India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said it had "noted the verdict" but avoided any direct comment on extradition.

"India remains committed to the best interests of the people of Bangladesh, including peace, democracy and stability," the

MEA said, adding it would continue to "engage constructively with all stakeholders."

India has so far not responded to Dhaka's earlier formal request seeking Hasina's return.

Hasina Rejects Tribunal as 'Rigged'

In a strongly worded statement from exile, Hasina dismissed the verdict as the outcome of a "rigged tribunal" presided over by an unelected and politically motivated interim government.

"They reveal the murderous intent of extremist figures to remove Bangladesh's last elected prime minister and nullify the Awami League as a political force," she said.

Hasina said she was ready to face charges in a proper international tribunal and challenged the interim government to take the case to the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague.

Northern Railway GM Inspects Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Section

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: General Manager of Northern Railway, Ashok Kumar Verma, on Monday conducted an extensive inspection of the Srinagar-Baramulla section of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, an official said here.

Divisional Railway Manager, Jammu, Vivek Kumar, and other senior officials accompanied Verma during the inspection which was aimed at assessing the progress of ongoing works and passenger amenities, said Uchit Singhal, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Jammu Division.

During the inspection, the general manager reviewed various aspects related to passenger safety, train operations, and infrastructure development, Singhal said.

Verma particularly emphasized maintaining safety protocols and quality of work on this important national project.

The team carried out inspection of almost all railway stations within approximately 60-kilometre stretch from Srinagar to Baramulla, Singhal said, adding the general manager also analyzed all passenger amenities available at the stations.

He also inspected the goods shed at Anantnag Railway Station in the valley. The Anantnag Goods Terminal is a key point in the rail freight network in Kashmir. Verma directed project officials to closely monitor all work and meet set targets within the stipulated time frame, Singhal said.

He said the inspection is an important step in guiding ongoing rail projects, which will enhance connectivity and economic development in the region.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K Has Achieved

with nine of the top ten participating districts coming from Jammu and Kashmir.

Sinha noted that post-2019, J&K has seen major strides in economic growth, investment, infrastructure expansion, connectivity improvements, grassroots democracy, and opportunities for youth and women.

He said the UT's 360-degree security mechanism has been strengthened, with seamless coordination among intelligence and security agencies to foil adversarial designs.

"Security has significantly improved, and our mechanisms are continuously being enhanced," he added.

The meeting was attended by Chief Ministers of Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, and Jammu and Kashmir, along with top administrators and Lieutenant Governors of Delhi and Ladakh.

Will Hunt Blast

the country needs to be freed from.

Stressing the need for speedy investigation in cases of sexual offences and rape under the POCSO Act, the home minister said that no civilised society can tolerate heinous crimes against women and children.

He said the safety of women and children is the government's top priority, and for this, the number of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSC) should be increased.

Shah also said that all states should work in mutual coordination to resolve water resource management and water-related problems.

"Our goal is clear - regional strength along with national progress and India's global leadership in every field, which will lead us towards the creation of a great India," he said.

Chief Ministers Nayab Singh Saini (Haryana), Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu (Himachal Pradesh), Bhagwant Mann (Punjab), Bhajan Lal Sharma (Rajasthan), Rekha Gupta (Delhi), Omar Abdullah (J&K), Punjab Governor and Administrator of Chandigarh Gulab Chand Kataria, Lieutenant Governors Manoj Sinha (J&K), V K Saxena (Delhi) and Kavinder Gupta (Ladakh) attended the meeting, officials said.

The home minister said poverty is being eradicated and employment is increasing through cooperation, agriculture, and fisheries.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra of 'Sahkar Se Samridhi' (Prosperity through Cooperation), he said the cooperative sector holds immense potential for employment.

He said that only through growth in employment – especially self-employment – along with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) can the country realise the dream of a developed India.

Shah said the GDP alone is not an indicator of a country's prosperity; true prosperity is achieved only when every individual rises above the poverty line.

He said the Ministry of Cooperation has initiated 57 measures across the country to strengthen the sector. These include computerisation of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), establishment of three new national-level cooperative societies, and the setting up of Tribhuvan Sahkari University, he said.

The home minister said the original spirit and the role of zonal councils is advisory, but in the last decade, they have been accepted as action-oriented platforms and have delivered results.

"With follow-up, we have not only accepted issues between states, between regions and states, and between the Centre and state governments, but also created concrete pathways for their resolution," he said.

Shah said compared to 2004–2014, the number of zonal council meetings from 2014 to 2025 has increased by about two-and-a-half times, and the government has made these meetings meaningful.

He said between 2004 and 2014, there were a total of 25 meetings of zonal councils and standing committees, whereas from 2014 to 2025 till now, 64 meetings have been held.

He said more than doubling the number of meetings reflects PM Modi's concept of TEAM Bharat. In these meetings, 1600 issues were discussed and 1303 issues (81.43 per cent) were resolved.

This has been possible due to the cooperation of all state governments, Union territories, and central ministries and departments, with the Inter-State Council Secretariat playing an active role, he said.

The home minister said this year marks the 150th anniversary of 'Vande Mataram'. At one time, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's great composition 'Vande Mataram' became the clarion call for our country's freedom, he said, adding now the Government of India and all states are

working together to once again make it the clarion call for building a 'great India'.

Referring to the implementation of the three new criminal laws, Shah said their enforcement has yielded very positive results. Under the new laws, the conviction rate has increased by approximately 25 to 40 per cent and culprits are receiving timely punishment, he said.

Toll Rises To 15

also from Kashmir, from Delhi. The explosive-laden Hyundai i20 used in the blast was registered in his name.

According to the agency, Ali had allegedly arranged a safe house and provided logistical support to the bomber, Umar Nabi, who drove the car that exploded near the Red Fort, killing 13 people on the spot and injuring several others.

Investigations by the probe agency had revealed that the accused, a resident of Samboora in Jammu and Kashmir's Pampore, had conspired with the "suicide bomber", Nabi, to unleash the terror attack.

"Ali had come to Delhi to allegedly facilitate the purchase of the car, which was eventually used as a "vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Device (IED)" to trigger the blast," the NIA said.

Meanwhile, two more injured victims of the blast succumbed at LNJP Hospital on Monday, taking the toll to 15.

The NIA, which is probing the terror conspiracy, sought custodial interrogation of Ali. A Delhi court allowed the agency's request and remanded him to 10 days' custody.

As the investigation expands across multiple states, Home Minister Amit Shah said those behind the blast would be traced and brought to justice, asserting that the government would ensure the "strictest possible punishment" for the conspirators.

J&K Security

in real time," the witness added.

Officials said similar measures are in place across the Jammu region, including border districts and sensitive stretches along key highways. From Kathua to Udhampur, police teams are conducting two-way vehicle checks and intensifying frisking as part of the region-wide security drill.

In the Kashmir Valley, officials said police and CRPF personnel are carrying out vehicle checks, CASOs, and identity verifications at multiple locations as the general alert level remains high.

"From North to South Kashmir, security teams are thoroughly checking vehicles and verifying registration documents," an official said.

Meanwhile, along the International Border (IB) and the Line of Control (LoC), the Army and Border Security Force (BSF) remain on heightened alert, maintaining strict surveillance to prevent any infiltration or movement linked to the blast incident.

Officials said the enhanced security grid will stay in place until agencies complete initial assessments and rule out any possible spill-over threats in J&K in connection with the blast probe. (KNO)

Op Sindoor Was

interactive session held ahead of the Chanakya Defence Dialogue, the Army Chief said India will treat terrorists and their supporters alike, adding that the country's deterrence has become significantly stronger.

Referring to the May 7 strikes on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK), followed by the 88-hour conflict that ended on May 10, Gen Dwivedi said, "The movie hadn't even begun – only a trailer was shown. If Pakistan gives us any chance, we would like to teach them how a responsible nation behaves with its neighbours."

He said theaterisation will play a crucial role in future conflicts where decisions must be taken instantly.

"If a fight lasts 88 hours, we will have to deploy all our strengths together – Army, Air Force, Navy. At that time, there will be no scope for discussions," he said, adding that theatre commanders would be empowered to initiate swift action.

The Army Chief said India's new posture on terrorism is a "big warning" to Pakistan.

"Talks and terror cannot go together. Water and blood cannot flow together. Those who promote terrorism will be treated the same as terrorists," he said.

He added that India is no longer vulnerable to "blackmail", an indirect reference to Pakistan's nuclear rhetoric.

"India is so prosperous today that we are not threatened by any blackmail," he remarked.

Gen Dwivedi said warfare has become multi-domain and prolonged conflicts cannot be ruled out. "We fought for 88 hours; tomorrow it could be four months or four years. We must prepare for all scenarios."

On the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, he said terrorism has declined sharply after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 due to increased political clarity.

He also hinted that President Droupadi Murmu may consider a visit to Manipur as the situation improves.

Gen Dwivedi said India's relations with China have improved over the past year, aided by high-level diplomatic engagements.

Kulgam Man

Wani and his son, Jasir Bilal, had been picked up by police recently for questioning. While Wani was released the same day, his son – a college student – remains in custody, according to the family. The officials said Wani was not formally detained and had been allowed to return home after providing basic details.

On Sunday morning, he walked outside, poured petrol over himself, and set himself on fire, relatives said. They claimed the stress and humiliation of being linked by proximity to an accused individual triggered the act.

Wani was a neighbour of Dr Muzaffar Rather, who has emerged as a key accused in the so-called "white-collar terror module" believed to be connected to the Red Fort blast. Muzaffar is reportedly in Afghanistan, while his brother, Dr Adeel Rather, was arrested earlier this month from Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

Court Flags Serious

and Arsheeda Begum—their agents, relatives, and representatives from operating or promoting any institution under the "deceptively" similar names "S-KIE," "Saddam KIE Private Ltd," "Saddam KIE," "SKIE NEXT GENERATION CLASSES – (Sadam KIE Private Limited)," or any other variant similar to "SKIE," as well as from using the goodwill, logo, or assets of M/s SKIE Classes, and from interfering with his lawful management and proprietary share.

Subsequently, the court directed the SSP, Crime Branch Srinagar, to conduct an enquiry as to whether the spouses of the respondents have indulged in any private profit-earning activities in the institute from 20-07-2022, despite being on the Government pay-roll.

In doing so, the court said that SSP shall be free to summon any record or video footage from any quarter concerned with the operation of the institute and take appropriate action as per the provisions of law governing the subject.

The enquiry report, the court said, shall be submitted to it within two months.

The court also restrained respondents from rebranding the logo "SKIE" classes as "S-KIE" (Sadam-KIE Pvt Ltd) forthwith, "failing which appropriate proceedings shall follow."

"That the respondents are restrained from preventing the petitioner from acting as the Managing Partner of the firm which came into existence by virtue of the partnership deed executed on 20-07-2022, failing which appropriate proceedings shall follow," the court added.

Saudi Bus Crash

accident and is currently undergoing treatment at a hospital.

"We are getting information that 45 people died. They were supposed to return to Hyderabad on 23rd (of November)," he added.

As many as 18 members of a family across three generations were in a bus involved in a deadly accident with an oil tanker in Saudi Arabia, relatives said here on Monday.

Shaik Nazeeruddin, a retired railway employee, was travelling in the ill-fated bus along with his wife, son, three daughters and grandchildren on his way to Madina, his nephew Mohammed Aslam said.

"Whether it was an accident or what happened we do not know, but total 18 members-Shaik Nazeeruddin, his son, daughters and grandchildren were in the bus," Salam told PTI. Nazeeruddin's another son is currently in the US.

Aslam demanded a full-fledged inquiry into the incident, as well as into the travel agency through which these people travelled to Saudi Arabia.

Citing information received by him, Telangana Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammad Azharuddin said the toll is said to be about 47-48 people.

The bodies are understood to be charred beyond recognition. The pilgrims used the services of four different travel agents, he said.

He said the state government has pledged to help the family members of the victims travel to Saudi Arabia, including facilitating passports and visas.

One person from each family would be sent, the minister said.

Speaking to PTI Videos, Mufti Asif, a resident of Hyderabad, said seven members of his family travelled to Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah. He confirmed receiving photos of the accident and urged the Telangana government to facilitate his travel to Saudi Arabia to take care of his family members.

Mohammad Salman, another city resident, whose six family members were in the bus, said his last contact with them indicated that they two hours away from Madinah before all communication ceased.

According to Mohammad Burhan, another city resident, the sole survivor, Shoaib managed to escape by jumping out of the bus after breaking the window, sustaining burns to his hands in the process.

Burhan said he called AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi and informed him about the incident.

Tafseer Iqbal, Joint Commissioner of Police, quoting preliminary information, said out of the 46 who were in the bus, 43 are from Hyderabad limits, 2 from Cyberabad and one has the address of Hubli in Karnataka.

The police official further said there were 18 men and an equal number of women and 10 children in the ill-fated bus.

AIMIM MLA Majid Hussain said, "We have received information that over 40 people died in the accident, and we are coordinating with the families."

The Consulate General of India in Jeddah, in a statement, said it and the Embassy in Riyadh are extending full support.

"Officials of the Embassy and the consulate are also in touch with the concerned officials of the state of Telangana to coordinate with the concerned families," it said.

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy directed officials to gather details about the bus accident in Saudi Arabia involving some residents from the city.

The accident occurred when the bus was proceeding from Makkah to Madinah in the Gulf nation, according to a CMO release.

The government provided phone numbers of the Control Room set up in the Secretariat here to provide information to the families of those involved in the accident.

AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi expressed anguish over the deaths of several Hyderabad residents in the mishap.

He urged External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to help bring back the bodies of those who died and provide treatment to those injured, the AIMIM said in a post on X.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and other leaders conveyed condolences to the families of the deceased.

"Deeply saddened by the accident in Madinah involving Indian nationals. My thoughts are with the families who have lost their loved ones. I pray for the swift recovery of all those injured," Modi said on 'X'.

"Our Embassy in Riyadh and Consulate in Jeddah are providing all possible assistance. Our officials are also in close contact with Saudi Arabian authorities," he said.

Jaishankar, currently on a visit to Russia, expressed deep shock over the accident. "Our Embassy in Riyadh and Consulate in Jeddah are giving the fullest support to Indian nationals and families affected by this accident," he said.

"Sincere condolences to the bereaved families. Pray for the speedy recovery of those injured," he said.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives in a bus accident in Medina.

"Chief Minister has expressed deep sorrow over the tragic accident involving a bus carrying Indian pilgrims in Medina, Saudi Arabia early this morning. He has extended his heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved families and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured," Abdullah's office said in a post on its official X handle.

Mirwaiz Umar Farooq also condoled the deaths of Indian pilgrims.

"The news of 42 Umrah pilgrims from Hyderabad losing their lives in a road accident in Saudi Arabia has brought immense sorrow. Those who set out for the House of Allah with pure intention returned to Him in a state of 'ibadah' yet the pain for their families is beyond words," Mirwaiz said in a statement.

SKUAST-K's BIG

of Kashmir's bioeconomy and knowledge ecosystem.

The VC urged society to stop "turning scarce agricultural lands into concrete jungles" and instead utilise available spaces for household food production. "Healthy homes begin with healthy food, and healthy food begins with soil," he emphasised, assuring SKUAST-K's full technical support for kitchen gardening and micro-farming.

A Campus Buzzing with Innovation
Journalists visiting the campus were taken through laboratories, Centres of Excellence, demonstration farms, innovation hubs and research stations. The highlight of the visit was the sprawling Chrysanthemum farm, now a major attraction and a model for floriculture-based livelihoods.

Officials showcased cutting-edge work across animal sciences, plant biotechnology, farm mechanisation, seed development, start-up incubation, climate adaptation and digital agriculture.

Rankings & Research: National Recognition
SKUAST-K has seen a sharp rise in national rankings, reflecting its expanding footprint in agricultural science:

3rd among State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) in NIRF Ranking 2025

7th nationally in Agriculture & Allied Sectors 100 patents filed — a landmark innovation milestone

89+ startups nurtured through SKIE (Startup, Innovation & Incubation Centre)

India's first gene-edited sheep, multiple recombinant vaccines, and new crop varieties

The VC said the university follows a "Patents to Products" model, ensuring that science developed in labs reaches farmers, industries and markets.

Start-Up Culture Growing in the Valley

SKUAST-K is the first SAU in India with a dedicated Startup & Innovation Policy. Student- and faculty-led startups, affectionately called "SKUAST-K BabyCorns", are now working across biotech, food processing, agri-tech, nutraceuticals and precision farming.

This has brought a culture of entrepreneurship to J&K's rural youth, many of whom are creating high-value agribusinesses.

Breakthroughs in Rice

The university's rice research has drawn national attention:

Release of Shalimar Rice-4, a high-yielding variety

Revival of heritage types like Mushkbudji and Zag

Development of the first Kashmiri basmati line

The VC said exporters showed keen interest in Mushkbudji's unique aroma and quality at the Bharat International Rice Conference in New Delhi. "The response was extremely encouraging, and we expect major export opportunities," he said.

Apple Revolution & Tulip Future

SKUAST-K has led the push for high-density apple orchards, which have significantly boosted productivity across Kashmir. It also initiated the revival of the Ambri apple, Kashmir's oldest commercial variety, which had nearly disappeared.

Dr. Ganaie also announced that since Kashmir imports nearly 1.5 million tulip bulbs annually, SKUAST-K is establishing bulb production farms to meet this demand locally. "We will save money and create a new horticulture industry," he said.

Massive Student Interest

The university received a record 18,477 applications for UET-2025, the highest ever. The applicant pool was nearly gender-balanced — 49% female and 51% male — reflecting growing interest among young women in agricultural sciences.

Infrastructure, Outreach & National Presence
With 7 campuses, 14 Krishi Vigyan Kendras, and 11 research stations, SKUAST-K has one of the widest extension networks in the Himalayan region.

The university is currently:

Leading key projects under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP)

Supporting FPO formation and farmer entrepreneurship

Hosting national and international conferences

Integrating AI, IoT, drones, CRISPR and precision agriculture across departments

As the interaction concluded, the message was clear: SKUAST-K is not merely growing; it is reshaping the agricultural and innovation landscape of J&K.

"We are committed to building a knowledge-driven, farmer-centric and globally competitive agricultural ecosystem," Dr Ganaie said.

CM Omar Underscores J&K's Progress Path at NZC Session



Observer News Service

FARIDABAD: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday attended the 32nd meeting of the Northern Zonal Council (NZC) held in Faridabad, Haryana. The meeting was chaired by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah.

The Northern Zonal Council comprises the States and Union Territories of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, and Chandigarh.

Speaking at the meeting, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah highlighted the launch of Mis-

sion YUVA, the government's focused push on strengthening the education sector, expanding sports infrastructure, and fostering a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir.

The Chief Minister expressed gratitude to the Centre for its continued financial support, including the extension of the SASCI Scheme to J&K.

He said the NZC serves as an important platform to enhance cooperation among States and UTs, reaffirming that J&K remains fully committed to national growth with firm faith in democratic

institutions.

Referring to the recent terror attacks, the Chief Minister stressed the need to fight terrorism with determination while ensuring that innocent people are not subjected to undue suspicion. "Every resident of J&K should not be seen with doubt. The people of J&K are peace-loving and aspire for Viksit Bharat and Viksit Jammu & Kashmir. They want to be part of India's growth story, and the recent enthusiastic participation of voters in the Nagrota and Budgam by-elections is a testament to our unwavering faith in democracy," he said.

CM Sanctions ₹30.14 Crore for Welfare of Construction Workers

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also serves as the Chairman of the J&K Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (JKBOCWBB), today sanctioned and released ₹30.14 crore for direct online transfer to eligible beneficiaries under key welfare schemes of the Board.

The amount has been disbursed to all Assistant Labour Commissioners for immediate transfer into the bank accounts of registered workers.

The sanctioned assistance covers a range of flagship schemes aimed at supporting construction workers and their families. These include education support, disability assistance, aid for chronic illness, support for next of kin of deceased labourers, marriage assistance and meritorious awards for children of registered workers.



Recalling the directions issued during the 22nd meeting of the JKBOCWBB held in July this year, the Chief Minister reiterated the need for a broader and more inclusive definition of 'construction worker' to ensure that all vulnerable and unorganised sector labourers are brought under the ambit of welfare measures.

He had also emphasized the importance of exploring innovative policy mechanisms to expand coverage, strengthen financial security for workers, and align the Board's functioning with national best practices in labour welfare.

Kashmir Virtual Traffic Court Disposes Over 2 Lakh Challans

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a significant stride toward modernizing traffic enforcement and judicial delivery in Jammu and Kashmir, the Kashmir Virtual Traffic Court has disposed of more than 2.1 lakh challans and recovered over ₹7 crore in fines within a span of just 14 months.

Officials say the disposal rate marks one of the highest recorded in Srinagar's traffic adjudication history.

According to figures shared by the court of the Special Mobile Magistrate (Traffic), Srinagar — presided over by Touseef Ahmad Magray — 2,10,117 challans were processed from September 2024 to November 17, 2025. During the same period, the court recovered Rs 7,07,06,850 in fines, signalling an "unprecedented level" of compliance by traffic violators and effective adjudication through digital platforms.

The virtual court, established to expedite the disposal of traffic cases and reduce footfall in physical courtrooms, has emerged as a key institution in promoting road safety and accountability in Kashmir. Officials note that the high disposal rate reflects improved coordination between the judiciary and traffic authorities, the rising use of online payment systems, and increased public awareness regarding traffic regulations.

In a statement on Monday, Special Mobile Mag-

istrate (Traffic) Touseef Ahmad Magray said the milestone was a result of sustained teamwork and the public's willingness to shift to digital modes of payment.

"The dedication of our judicial staff and the support of the traffic police have been central to this achievement. The convenience of virtual hearings and online fine payments has encouraged violators to settle cases promptly," Magray said. He added that the rapid disposal of challans has contributed to better road discipline across the Valley.

The court has also been working closely with enforcement agencies to ensure consistency in traffic regulation and quicker follow-up on violations detected through CCTV networks, e-challans, and on-ground policing. Officials said the virtual model has significantly reduced delays that previously burdened the system, ensuring that violators are held accountable without procedural bottlenecks.

Expressing gratitude to the public, Magray urged citizens to continue observing traffic norms to ensure safer roads for commuters. "Public cooperation is essential. We encourage everyone to follow rules not just to avoid fines but to ensure safer travel for all," he said.

The statement was issued by the Office of the Special Mobile Magistrate (Traffic), Srinagar.

IUST, CBC J&K Announce Strategic Partnership to Strengthen Mission LiFE



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a major boost to public outreach on sustainability, science, and welfare programmes, the Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST), Awantipora, and the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh announced a strategic collaboration aimed at amplifying awareness on Mission LiFE, scientific innovation, and government welfare schemes.

The partnership was formalized during a meeting between IUST Vice Chancellor, Prof. Shakeel Ahmad Ramshoo, and CBC Director, Shri Ghulam Abbas, at the university campus. Both sides agreed that effective public communication, grounded in scientific knowledge, is essential for empowering communities and promoting sustainable behavioural change.

Director Abbas said Mission LiFE—Lifestyle for Environment—demands "active, informed public involvement" and stressed that communication institutions and universities must work together to simplify and popularise sustainability practices. He proposed the organisa-

tion of a major Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme (ICOP) at IUST, which will engage students, faculty, and local communities on Mission LiFE, emerging technologies, and flagship welfare schemes of the Government of India.

Prof. Ramshoo welcomed the initiative, noting that collaborations between academia and communication agencies can transform scientific insights into actionable public knowledge. He said IUST is committed to supporting CBC's outreach efforts and will contribute academic expertise to promote sustainability, innovation, and welfare awareness across the region.

The CBC Director also explored ways to enhance public visibility for innovations emerging from IUST's research ecosystem. Citing the university's patent policy and multiple technologies developed by its faculty and scholars, he said CBC would help publicize these innovations under the "Lab to Household" initiative—an effort designed to take university-led solutions to the public and ensure greater societal impact.

Both institutions expressed confidence that the partnership will set a benchmark for evidence-based public communication and contribute significantly to creating informed, empowered, and environmentally responsible communities.

Paras Health Boosts Kashmir's Trauma Response Readiness



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a significant step toward upgrading the region's emergency and trauma care preparedness, Paras Health Srinagar conducted an intensive emergency and trauma care workshop that brought together more than 50 emergency doctors from various hospitals across Kashmir.

The programme underscored Paras Health Srinagar's commitment to strengthening the Valley's healthcare ecosystem through continuous medical education and enhanced professional competency.

The workshop was led by a distinguished panel of medical experts, including Dr. Altaf Umer Ramzan, Vice-Chairman Neurosurgery; Dr. Muhammad Haseeb Gani, Senior Consultant Orthopedics; Dr. Toufeeq Ahmad Mir, Consultant Neurology; and Dr. Shafat Ahmed Kenu, Medical Superintendent, along with specialists from Paras Health's emergency department.

Over multiple sessions, participating doctors received advanced training in trauma care protocols,

emergency response coordination, injury prevention, and critical case management. Simulation-based exercises and practical demonstrations provided hands-on exposure to life-saving techniques, with a focus on patient stabilization, rapid assessment, and timely intervention during high-pressure emergencies.

Reflecting on the initiative, Dr. Murtuza Habib, Facility Director, Paras Health Srinagar, said:

"Emergency care is the frontline of any health system, and preparedness is key to saving lives. At Paras Health, we are investing in building local medical capacity so that no critical patient is lost to a lack of timely intervention. This workshop is part of our long-term effort to ensure doctors across Kashmir are equipped with updated trauma management protocols and can respond with precision during emergencies."

The workshop also acted as a collaborative platform, enabling healthcare professionals to exchange knowledge, share regional best practices, and strengthen inter-hospital coordination in trauma care.

J&K Police Stand With Families of Nowgam Blast Victims: DGP Prabhat

Asserting that J&K Police shares grief and stands firmly with families of Nowgam blast victims, Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Monday said that force is committed to provide all possible help to the NOKs of the deceased and assistance to the injured.

DGP Prabhat, along with Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir V K Birdi and other top officials visited Hariparigam village in Tral, Gazaliabad HMT in Srinagar, and Chansar in Kulgam to offer condolences to the families of Crime Branch photographer Javid Mansoor Rather, senior grade constable Ajaz Ahmad Mir, and policeman Arshid Ahmad Shah.

During the visits, the DGP and IGP assured the families of full support from the J&K Police and said the sacrifices of the personnel would always be remembered.

Talking to the reporters DGP Prabhat said, "We will never forget them. All necessary assistance will be extended to all the affected families."

He expressed solidarity with the bereaved families and assured them that the J&K Police would remain connected with them.

According to KNO, the DGP said that support measures for the families of all nine persons killed in the explosion are being coordinated.

He issued directions for completing all formalities and ensuring timely support and welfare measures for the families of the martyrs. (Observer News Service)

Police Apprehend 2 Long-Evading Offenders

Continuing its sustained efforts to bring absconders and proclaimed offenders to justice, Police in Pulwama on Monday said to have arrested two individuals who had been evading the law for prolonged periods.

"Acting on specific inputs, Police Station Kakapora arrested Nazir Ahmad Dar @ Rustum son of Abdul Salam Dar resident of Katibugh Kakapora. He had been declared a proclaimed offender by the Hon'ble Court of JMJC Pulwama in a case under the Negotiable Instruments Act. After remaining at large for an extended period, he was apprehended and produced before the Hon'ble Court," a police spokesman said in a statement issued to Kashmir Observer.

In another action, Police Station Rajpora apprehended Shabir Ahmad Gorsie son of Balya Gorsie resident of Zampathri Keller, Shopian. He was wanted in FIR No. 31/1996 under Sections 7/25 Arms Act and had been absconding for nearly 25 years. After his arrest, he too was produced before the Hon'ble Court as per legal procedure, police said. (Observer News Service)

GMC Hosts National-Level CME

The Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar on Mondays organised a major Continuous Medical Education (CME) programme, aimed at strengthening equitable access to palliative care across Jammu & Kashmir.

The event, themed "Palliative Care Update: From Planning to Access — Ensuring Equity for Our Community," brought together some of India's leading voices in palliative medicine, marking a significant step toward enhancing end-of-life and supportive care services in the region.

Hosted by the Department of Anaesthesiology, Critical Care, Pain and Palliative Medicine, the CME sought to build stronger interdisciplinary cooperation within the healthcare sector while simultaneously raising public awareness about the critical services delivered by GMC Srinagar's palliative care unit.

The event was conducted under the patronage of Principal GMC Srinagar, Dr. Iffat Hassan Shah and saw Dr. Sachidananda Mohantay, Director AIIMS Awantipora, attend as the Chief Guest. The programme was spearheaded by Dr. Hina Bashir Shah (Organising Chairperson) and Dr. Nusrat Jehan (Organising Secretary), with support from Dr. Arshi Taj and Dr. Mubasher Ahmad.

A distinguished panel of national faculty enriched the sessions with their expertise, including globally acclaimed palliative care specialist Dr. Sushma Bhatnagar, along with Dr. Vidya Vishwanathan, Dr. Santosh Chaturvedi, Dr. Savita Batola, Dr. Nahida Yousaf and Miss Tabinda Wani.

One of the key highlights of the programme was a dedicated communication skills workshop, an essential component of quality palliative care delivery. The workshop focused on building empathy, clarity, and sensitivity while interacting with patients and their families, especially those coping with life-limiting illnesses. (Observer News Service)

Sharma Assures Full Support to Victims of Nowgam Blast

Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma on Monday visited Ujala Cygnus Hospital in Srinagar to take stock of the condition of those injured in the accidental explosion at Nowgam Police Station. Several people were wounded in the incident, prompting the LoP to personally meet them and extend solidarity.

During his visit, Sharma interacted with the injured and their attendants, seeking a detailed status report from doctors about the nature of injuries and the course of treatment being administered. He lauded the dedication of the medical staff, noting that doctors, nurses, and support teams were working around the clock to ensure the best possible care.

The LoP conveyed heartfelt prayers for the swift recovery of all those hurt in the blast and stressed that the administration and elected representatives must remain fully committed to supporting affected families. He said it was essential to stand with them during this challenging time and ensure seamless access to all required assistance. (Observer News Service)

Kashmir Doctor Awarded Prestigious Fellowship at NAPCON

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Dr. Rafi Ahmed Jan has become the first doctor from Jammu and Kashmir to be awarded the Fellowship of the Indian Society of Chest Physicians. The honour was conferred during the National Conference on Pulmonary Diseases (NAPCON) held in Jaipur.



The recognition brings national attention to both Dr. Jan and the Department of Respiratory Medicine at Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag, where he currently serves as Professor. Dr. Jan has worked in pulmonary medicine for over two decades and previously headed the Department of Internal and Pulmonary Medicine at SKIMS, Saura.

Last year, he became the first doctor from Kashmir to receive a fellowship from the Indian Association for Bronchology. His work spans interventional pulmonology, including procedures such as bronchoscopy, airway stenting and pleural interventions. He has also been involved in research, training programmes and professional medical societies in the region.

Speaking after receiving the fellowship, Dr. Jan said the recognition reflected the wider efforts of GMC Anantnag and the local healthcare community in advancing pulmonary medicine.

Labour Dept Holds Conference on 'Sewa through Equality'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Labour Department organised a one-day Conference-cum-Workshop on "Sewa through Equality: Promoting Women's Rights and Safety through Labour Reforms" at the Institute of Hotel Management, Rajbagh, marking a significant push toward gender equality and safer work environments across Jammu and Kashmir.

Labour Commissioner S. Charandeep Singh presided over the event as the Chief Guest, alongside Deputy Labour Commissioner (Central) Masarat Hashim and Deputy Labour Commissioner (Kashmir) Najwan Nazki.

The programme brought together a diverse mix of participants, including associate professors from reputed universities, factory owners, employers, trade union leaders, corporate representatives, media professionals and officials from the Labour Department.

Designed as a collaborative platform, the conference focused on discussion, awareness and capacity building



around key labour reforms aimed at strengthening women's rights and workplace safety. Technical sessions and deliberations highlighted important legislative frameworks, including the Maternity Benefit Act, Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act, revised provisions of the Factories Act, the Equal Remuneration Act, and the newly introduced J&K Shops and Establishment (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2025.

Addressing the gathering,

Labour Commissioner Singh underscored that women's participation in the workforce forms the backbone of equitable and inclusive development. He reiterated the department's commitment to ensuring dignity, safety and equality for every woman worker through the effective enforcement of progressive labour reforms.

Renowned academic experts — Dr. Shazia Manzoor, Professor and Head, Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir; Anamika

Gautam, Assistant Professor, School of Law, University of Kashmir; Dr. Junaid, Assistant Professor at the Department of Law; and Dr. Shabir Ahmad Najar, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Social Work — stressed the need for regular sensitisation and institutional training. They emphasised that strengthening women-centric labour legislation requires continuous capacity building at all levels.

Senior advocate and labour law expert Zahoor Jan briefed participants on the recently passed J&K Shops and Establishment Bill, which introduces progressive measures governing working hours, safety provisions and welfare norms for women, particularly those employed in the unorganised and service sectors.

The day-long conference concluded with a renewed commitment from government institutions, the judiciary, academia, industry stakeholders, trade unions and civil society to advance women's rights and workplace safety across the Union Territory through sustained reforms and awareness initiatives.

They Have Completely Destroyed Test Cricket: Harbhajan

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Calling it "the destruction of Test cricket", former India spinner Harbhajan Singh says under-prepared and excessively bowler-friendly surfaces like the one used at Eden Gardens, prevent the genuine development of players.

India slipped to a 30-run defeat while chasing 124 in the first Test against South Africa as the game ended inside three days.

"They have completely destroyed Test cricket. Rest in peace Test cricket," Singh, said on his YouTube channel.

"The kind of work they have done, the kind of pitches that have been made for so many years now, I have been seeing it. No one talks about it be-



cause it is fine, the team is winning, someone is taking wickets, someone is becoming great by taking those wickets.

"So everyone feels everything is going well. But I feel that this practice has not started today. It has

been going on for many years, and I feel it is the wrong way of playing," added Singh who had taken 13 wickets at same venue in India's famous 2001 win over Australia.

Singh said it was time to reflect on the issue as

such pitches do not contribute to the development of players.

"You are not moving forward in any way, you are just going around in circles like an ox tied to a mill. You are winning, but there is no real benefit.

As a cricketer, you are not growing," he said.

"So I feel it is high time to see and reflect on this, that playing matches on such pitches where your batsmen are not even sure how to score runs, and you are making them look like they do not know how to bat.

"Then what difference remains between a capable bowler and a capable batsman if the conditions become so favourable that people are getting out because of the pitch and not because of skill? It is sad to see how Test cricket is being played. I don't know why we are doing this," said Singh, who has taken 417 wickets in 103 Tests.

India will play South Africa in the second and final Test in Guwahati starting November 22.

Islamia College Wins 4th Inter-College Volleyball Tournament 2025



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Islamia College of Science and Commerce registered an impressive victory over Government Sri Pratap College Srinagar to emerge champions of the 4th Edition Inter-College Volleyball Tournament (Men) 2025.

The tournament was organised by the Department of Physical Education, Government College of Education (IASE) M.A. Road, Srinagar.

The competition witnessed spirited and intense matches among various participating colleges. Islamia College displayed exceptional skill, teamwork, and consistency throughout the event, ultimately securing the coveted title in

a well-fought final match.

The closing ceremony was graced by the Nodal Principal, Kashmir Division Colleges, Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naz, who attended as the chief guest.

In her address, she congratulated the winning team for their outstanding performance and appreciated all participating institutions for promoting sportsmanship and healthy competition.

Faculty members, sports officials, and students were present on the occasion, making the event a vibrant celebration of youth talent and competitive spirit.

Later, Prof. Seema Naz presented trophies to the winners and participants, marking a memorable conclusion to the tournament.

Arbeena Altaf Wins J&K's First NSG Gold In Taekwondo

Arbeena Altaf created history on Monday by winning J&K's first-ever Gold medal in Taekwondo (Girls) at the 69th National School Games in Jammu.

Arbeena Altaf took on Uttar Pradesh's Vaishnavi in the final bout of the Under-59 weight category.

"Despite an injury, her determination was unstoppable. A massive round of applause for her and coach Atul Pangotra!" the J&K Sports Council said. (Observer News Service)

DYSS Launches Its New 'Khel Khel Mein' Weekly Podcast

The Department of Youth Services and Sports J&K has launched a new initiative, "Khel Khel Mein," an official podcast.

Launched on September 5, 2025 by the Director General DYSS J&K Anuradha Gupta, amid the excitement of the 69th National School Games, the podcast represents a strategic leap into digital storytelling.

J&K Cycle Polo Team Embarks On Journey To Federation Cup 2025



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Women's Cycle Polo Team departed for Jodhpur, Rajasthan, to participate in the 15th (Women) Cycle Polo Federation Cup 2025, scheduled from November 16 to 18. The championship is being organised by the Cycle Polo Federation of India.

The team was finalized following selection trials conducted by the association and the official team screening held under the guidelines of the J&K

Sports Council.

The selected players include Sumran, Irtiza, Mohsina, Qurat-ul-Ain, Toyiba, Mehvish, Rabia Rashid, and Suhana Yousuf. Bilal Ahmad will accompany the team as Coach, while Nusrat Jan will serve as the Team Manager.

Air Marshal Pradeep P. Bapat President CPFI, and Dinesh Sarwe General Secretary CPFI, along with the Secretary of the J&K Cycle Polo Association, extended their best wishes to the J&K Women's Team for their participation in the national event.

SnowShoe Delegation Meets J&K Sports Minister Satish Sharma

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A delegation of the J&K SnowShoe Association, led by its President Tariq Ghani, called on J&K Sports Minister Satish Sharma at Civil Secretariat here on Monday to discuss the growth and future road-map of SnowShoe running as a winter sport in J&K.

The delegation comprised Vice President Arif Ahmad, General Secretary Dr. Altaf-ur-Rehman, and International SnowShoe athletes Gulzar Khan and Muzamil Hussain, who have represented India on global platforms.

During the interaction, President Tariq Ghani briefed the Minister on the rising popularity and accessibility of SnowShoe running in J&K and the consistent dominance of J&K athletes at



both National and International SnowShoe events.

Ghani also requested the Minister to re-include SnowShoe in the Khelo India Winter Games, noting that it was an official sport in the first three editions and featured as a demo sport in the 5th edition.

The delegation informed the Minister that Gulmarg is set to host the 10th National

SnowShoe Championship this winter. The Association is planning to organise a Guinness World Record SnowShoe Run in Gulmarg, aiming to draw national and international attention.

"I will ensure that SnowShoe finds its rightful place again in the Khelo India Winter Games and receives full support across all regions of J&K," Sharma said.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Chemists and Druggists Association, Baramulla, warmly congratulates the new team of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Officers' Association – Kashmir, and especially Mr. Muneer Ahmad Ganai on his election in office bearer fraternity. Our best wishes are with him, and we are confident that he will shine in trade union work and make a positive impact during his tenure.



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