

Ending Art 370 Removed A Political Hurdle: Murmu

Says Decision Removed Barriers To Jobs, Rights & Welfare In J&K

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday said the abrogation of Article 370, which had given special status to Jammu and Kashmir, freed the nation from a political obstacle.

She added that the change opened access to government jobs, property rights and social welfare schemes that were previously restricted, removing barriers that kept many educated and talented individuals from entering administration.

Speaking at the Constitution Day event in the Central Hall of the Old Parliament building, now called Samvidhan Sadan, President Droupadi Murmu said Parliament has taken several significant steps in the last decade to meet the aspirations of the people.

She said the Constitution is the cornerstone of India's identity and a document that guides



the country away from a colonial mindset toward a national vision. "Our Constitution is a document of national pride. It reflects the identity of the nation and guides our path forward," she said.

Murmu said this vision is reflected in the adoption of the new criminal laws Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, which replaced colonial era statutes and came into effect on July 1, 2024. She said the [More on P6](#)

High Voter Turnout In J&K Spoke For India's Democracy: VP

Vice President CP Radhakrishnan on Wednesday said that the high voter turnout in the Assembly election last year in Jammu and Kashmir made the world understand "our faith in democracy". The Vice President made the remarks during his address at the Central Hall of the Old Parliament building in New Delhi on the occasion of Constitution Day celebration. [More on P6](#)

Freedom Comes With Duties & Unity: PM

KO Web Desk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said Constitution Day serves as a reminder that freedom is not only about rights but also about duties and unity. His message was [More on P6](#)

Faith Vs Merit

Row Deepens Over SMVDIME Admissions

Observer News Service

Srinagar:The controversy over admissions at the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence continued on Wednesday, with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah again questioning the use of religion in professional colleges, while the BJP maintained that the institution belongs to the Hindu community.

The issue began after the first MBBS batch allotted 42 of 50 seats to Muslim students purely

on merit. Hindu groups have since demanded minority status for the Shrine Board run college, arguing that most donations come from Hindu pilgrims and should reflect in seat allocation.

Omar Abdullah questioned why religion should be a criterion in admissions. Responding to BJP statements that Hindu students should have primary rights because the institute is funded through donations at the Vaishno Devi shrine, he said education must not be given a religious [More on P6](#)

Army Officer Duping Case

HC Grants Bail To Chennai Man In Rs 1.06 Cr Fraud

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Wednesday granted bail to a Tamil Nadu resident accused of duping an army officer of over one crore rupees by allegedly posing as a prominent businessman, financier and co-producer of the film Baahubali, and claimed to have high-level access to Parliament and the President's House.



"...in the absence of any statutory bar to grant of bail in economic offence of the present nature, declining bail to the petitioner on the said ground would not be legally permissible," a bench of Justice Sanjay Dhar said while allowing bail plea of the 35-year-old resident, Nagraj V who according to officials has been also found to be allegedly involved in financial scams in the state of [More on P6](#)

Dismantling Terror Ecosystem In J&K My Mission: LG

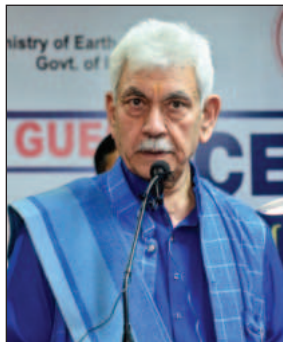
» All Constitutional Provisions Now Fully Apply To J&K

» Says Rewarding Separatists Has Stopped Completely

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that his mission in Jammu and Kashmir from the very beginning has been to improve the lives of people, eradicate discrimination and dismantle the terror ecosystem, while ensuring that government schemes reach the most disadvantaged sections of society.

Addressing the Constitution Day celebrations in Jammu, the LG led the Preamble reading and paid tributes to the founding fathers and architects of



the Constitution. He said the Constitution has been a guiding force for the country for 76 years, upholding equity, liberty and social justice for all citizens.

Calling upon policymakers and officers to remain committed to constitutional values, the LG said the Constitution has paved the way for India's progress and continues to inspire national unity, integrity and self-confidence. He said every effort must be made to strengthen the country and make it self-reliant.

The LG said that after a wait of 67 years, all provisions of the Constitution were made fully applicable to Jammu and Kashmir in 2019, ending what he described as decades of discrimination and injustice. [More on P6](#)

Urges Scientists To Boost Cloudburst Prediction

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday called on citizens and the scientific community to reaffirm their commitment to tackling climate change, stressing that protecting the environment is a shared responsibility. Speaking at the third Aerosol Winter School on "Atmospheric Aerosol, Cloud and Climate Science" at the Central University of Jammu, Sinha said the [More on P6](#)

'40% Project Progress Achieved'

J&K Installs 3.81 Lakh Smart Meters Since 2024

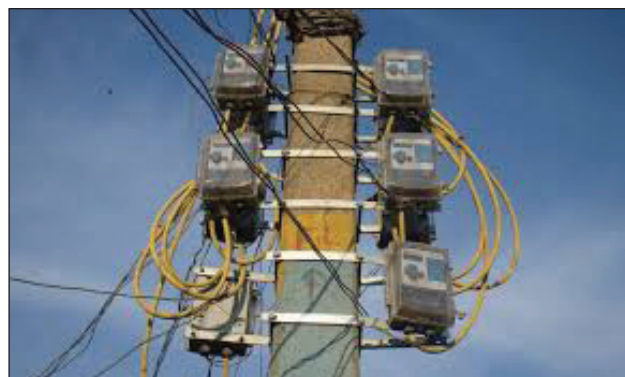
CS Dulloo Pushes Daily Targets; Seeks Tough Measures Against Negligent Staff

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir has achieved 40 percent progress in the rollout of smart electricity meters under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), with over 3.81 lakh meters installed across the Union Territory in more than a year, officials said.

The update was shared during a review meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, who assessed ongoing power sector reforms aimed at improving efficiency, strengthening infrastructure, and cutting losses.

Officials said 3,81,671 smart



meters have been installed against the overall target of 9,50,755 meters to be completed by 2026. The first phase, launched in November 2020 with a small pilot of 20,000 meters in select pockets of Jammu and Srinagar, eventually concluded in 2022 with 1.5 lakh installations.

The second and third phases, underway since 2024, have

a combined target of over 9.5 lakh meters.

A division wise breakup shows JPDCL has installed 1,87,894 meters against its sanctioned target of 7,62,872, while KPDCL has completed 1,93,777 installations out of 7,27,855. Officials said the rollout is gradually pushing the power sector toward a more transparent [More on P6](#)

GPS Mandatory In Vehicles Transporting Minerals

KO Web Desk

Jammu- The Jammu and Kashmir Directorate of Geology and Mining has ordered the compulsory installation of GPS devices in all vehicles engaged in transportation and extraction of minerals across the Union Territory. The directive follows guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for strict, technology-based monitoring of sand and minor mineral movement.

According to the order, all mineral concessionaires must ensure that no material is transported without GPS-enabled vehicles duly registered with the Directorate [More on P6](#)

Unregulated Online Gaming Linked To Terror Financing: Centre

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Centre has told the Supreme Court that unregulated online gaming apps have links with terror financing and money laundering and justified bringing a law to regulate these virtual platforms.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and K V Viswanathan said it will try to take up the matter for hearing on Thursday.

"Unchecked expansion of online money gaming has been linked to financial fraud, money laundering, tax evasion and in some cases, the financing of terrorism, thereby posing threats to national security, public order and integrity of the State," an affidavit filed by the Centre has said.

It has added that online



gaming systems are often aggressively marketed through pervasive advertisement campaigns, celebrity and influencer endorsements, amplifying their reach and impact, especially among youngsters and vulnerable groups.

The government has said that considering the deleterious and negative impact of online money gaming on

NC Calls Key CWC Meeting, Invites Ruhullah

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The National Conference is set to convene a two day meeting of its Central Working Committee in Srinagar from Thursday. The meeting will be chaired by party president Farooq Abdullah at Nawa i Subah and will be attended by Chief Minister and NC vice president Omar Abdullah, cabinet ministers, MPs, MLAs and senior functionaries.

A key point of interest will be whether NC's estranged MP Aga Ruhullah attends. Ruhullah has been in open disagreement with the party leadership on several issues and had skipped campaigning for the party in the Budgam assembly segment, a move many believe weakened NC's prospects. While he did not back any contestant, his supporters are understood to have voted for PDP's Aga Muntazir Mehdi. The meeting is expected



to review the recent by poll losses, particularly in Budgam, long seen as an NC stronghold. PDP's Aga Muntazir Mehdi, backed by Peoples Conference's Imran Reza Ansari and PDF's Hakim Muhammad Yasin, defeated NC's Aga Syed Mehmood by 4,478 votes.

Sources said the CWC will also assess the performance of the NC led government and take stock of the status of electoral commitments. The meeting comes days after Omar Abdullah [More on P6](#)

Red Fort Blast: 2 Accused Produced In Court

Observer News Service

New Delhi:The National Investigation Agency on Wednesday produced two accused in the Red Fort blast case before a Delhi court. Soyab and Amir Rashid Ali were brought before Principal District and Sessions Judge Anju Bajaj Chandna, and the agency is likely to seek their custodial interrogation.

The November 10 car blast near the Red Fort killed 15 people. Investigators say the explosion was carried out by Dr Umar un Nabi, who drove the explosive laden vehicle.

The NIA recently arrested Soyab, a resident of Dhauj in Faridabad, for allegedly sheltering Umar un Nabi and providing logistical support before the attack. He is the seventh accused held in the case, which is linked to a [More on P6](#)

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2

IIT-G Develops Epoxy Coating To Protect Steel In Marine Conditions

Press Trust Of India

Researchers from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati have developed a corrosion-resistant epoxy coating for protecting steel structures exposed to sea-water and high-salinity environments.

The research has been published in the journal Advanced Engineering Materials. According to Chandan Das, Professor at IIT-Guwahati's Department of Chemical Engineering, corrosion is a natural and gradual process that weakens metal surfaces and shortens the lifespan of essential structures, particularly those exposed to saltwater environments, such as offshore platforms, coastal bridges, port infrastructure, and marine pipelines.

"It has also played a role in major industrial incidents such as the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy and the 1992 Guadalajara explosion. Corrosion also causes environmental degradation, and impacts human and aquatic life.

"Although barrier coatings are widely used for corrosion protection, they do not completely protect the surface and develop microscopic defects over time, allowing moisture and salts to penetrate and damage the underlying metal," he said. To address this challenge, researchers worldwide have experimented with strengthening epoxy coatings by adding different types of nanomaterials. Nanomaterials are ultra-small particles, thousands of times smaller than the

width of a human hair, that can enhance the strength, durability, and protective performance of coatings. While many studies have explored individual materials or simple combinations, no previous work has brought together reduced graphene oxide (RGO), zinc oxide (ZnO), and polyaniline (PANI) within a single epoxy coating for marine corrosion protection.

"We combined these three materials into one coating system. The novel nanocomposite has been developed by attaching zinc oxide nanorods to reduced graphene oxide and then wrapping this structure with polyaniline. The composite was then blended into an epoxy coating and evaluated using several characterization methods," Das said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that we, the undersigned, are the joint owners and landlords of the commercial building "Lake City Plaza" situated at Karan Nagar, Srinagar. The Prepaid Electricity Connection bearing Consumer Id: 0202030003939 for Shop Nos. 19 & 20 in the said building is currently in the name of Mr. Rayees Ahmad. We have rented out the aforementioned shops to Mr. Faizan Fayaz S/O Fayaz Ahmad Zargar R/O Irfan Colony, Natipora, Srinagar, as per a Registered Deed. We, the landlords, hereby state that we have NO OBJECTION for the transfer and mutation of the said electricity connection from the name of Mr. Rayees Ahmad to the name of the tenant, Mr. Faizan Fayaz. Henceforth, all liabilities and responsibilities concerning the said electricity connection will be solely borne by Mr. Faizan Fayaz.

JOINTLY BY THE LANDLORDS:

1. Syed Mohammad Ayoub Bukhari
S/O Syed Mohammad Amin Bukhari
R/O 9, Sir Syed Avenue, Peer Bagh, Srinagar.

2. Mohammad Ruban Shah S/O Ab. Salam Shah
R/O 19, Exchange Lane, Sanat Nagar, Srinagar.

3. Mohammad Qasim Chesti
S/O Mohammad Maqbool Chesti
R/O 309-310, Channapora Housing Colony, Srinagar.

4. For Mrs. Rehana
(Through Constituted Attorney)
Naseer Ahmad Hakim
S/O Gulam Mohammad Hakim
R/O Iqbal Colony, Chanapora, Srinagar.
7006636667

inf

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my vehicle bearing regd no: JK05F 2646. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned ARTO within seven days After that no objection shall be entertained.

Sumair ahmad yattoo
R/o: Yadipora PALHALLAN pattan
Vehicle : 407
Mobile number:9797070420

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been incorrectly mentioned as Syed Asif Jeelani instead of Syed Asif Jeelani Baihaki in my driving license bearing No. JK-0120140092785. I am applying for the necessary correction in the Driving License. If any-one has any objection, they may contact the concerned authorities within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Syed Asif Jeelani Baihaki
S/o Gulam Jeelani Baihaki
R/o Kothi Bagh Near G.P.O Srinagar

inf

Office of the Executive Magistrate Bomai Zaingeer

Subject: Issuance of Registration orders in respect of delayed Birth

Public Notice

This office has received a writtn application from Mukhtar Ahmad Reshi S/o Abdul Gaffar Reshi R/o Yemberzalwari Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth /Death certificate in favour of Nazir Mushtaq who was born on 28-01-2004 as per document evidence produced by the applicant.

In this connection, if anybody having any objection to the issuance of said registration may contact this office within seven (07) days, after which no objections shall be entertained.

fko Tehsildar Zainageer

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0420120015505 Issued in favour of ABDUL HAMID LONE Parentage ALI MOHD LONE

Whereas an application has been recieved by one ABDUL HAMID LONE Parentage ALI MOHD LONE wherein he claimed that the fathers Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as ALI MOHAMMAD LONE Which needs to be changed as ALI MOHD LONE.

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

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0920240000578 issued in favour of AADIL AHMAD BHAT Parentage ABDUL SALAM BHAT

Whereas an application has been recieved by one AADIL AHMAD BHAT Parentage ABDUL SALAM BHAT wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as AADIL AHMAD BHAT Which needs to be changed as AADIL AHMAD BHAT .

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

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

شاہکپرس یوین تحصیل لنگیٹ کے پریذیڈنٹ کا انتخاب

شمع نے میدان مار لیا

شاہکپرس یوین تحصیل لنگیٹ کے پریذیڈنٹ شپ کے لیے 23 نومبر 2025 بروز اتوار کے دن انتخاب منعقد ہوا۔ پریذنٹ شپ کے لیے دو امیدواران لطیف احمد گنائی اور طارق احمد میر میدان میں ایک دوسرے کے ایف سافے تھے لطیف احمد گنائی جس کا چناؤ نشان شمع تھا نے 211 ووٹ حاصل کیے ہیں جب کہ دوسرے امیدوار طارق احمد میر جس کا چناؤ نشان قلم تھا نے 120 ووٹ حاصل کیے ہیں۔ اس طرح سے لطیف احمد گنائی صاحب نے 91 ووٹوں سے جیت درجہ کی ہے۔ شاہکپرس یوین کے الیکشن بورڈ نے ووٹنگ کے صبح 9:30 بجے سے دوپہر 3:00 بجے تک کا وقت مقرر کیا ہوا تھا الیکشن پتہ ہی خوش گوار ماحول میں اختتام پزیر ہوا۔ الیکشن پولیس اور سیول انتظامیہ کے زیر نگرانی میں منعقد ہوا ہے۔ جس میں خاص کر ایکٹیو مجسٹریٹ اور ڈی او پولیس شیشین لنگیٹ کے علاوہ سیول سوسائٹی کے ڈی عزت شہری بھی موجود تھے

المشترہ -

الیکشن بورڈ شاہکپرس یوین
(تحصیل لنگیٹ)

fko

اثر نیابت یومی

عنوان:- درخواست منجانب غلام محمد شیخ عبدالعلیم جہان شیخ سائیکہ تیرجہیلی ہمارا اہل جرائی

EWS سرٹیفکیٹ بحق اولاد ادا ن اسرطان واپشام

اشستہار ہرخاص ودام

معاملمندرجہ عنوان الصدرمیں سائلنے ایک درخواست بفرش EWS سرٹیفکیٹ پیش کی ہے جوکہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقے سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیال ہے کہ سائل دھ ہڈا میں رہائش پذیر ہے سائل کا کنڈہ 4 افراد پر مشتمل ہے اور کنڈہ کی سالانہ آمدنی زرعی ع غیر زرعی سے متلغ 633456 روپیہ تک ہے سائل کے پاس 15 ایکڑ سے کم رقبہ ہے سائل کا مکان رہائشی 200 SQ Ground ہے کم ہے رقبہ میں تعمیر شدہ موجود ہے سائل کا رہائش فلیٹ 1000 sq فٹ ہے کم ہے سائل کا مکان رہش ازبیردن میونسپل حدود میں واقع نہیں سائل کے کہہ کی سالانہ آمدنی 8 لاکھ سے کم ہے سائل RBA OBC, ST, زمرے میں نہیں آتا ہے۔

سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کراگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عزریا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سارسات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے عذر یا اعتراض و دالت حد اکو کفری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد رگز سے میجا کو بی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار

FKO

اثر نیابت یومی

عنوان:- درخواست منجانب عبدال مجید شاہ ولد محمد یاس شاہ سائیکہ داؤدہ ہمارا اہل جرائی

EWS سرٹیفکیٹ بحق پسر خان مجید شاہ

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نائب تحصیلدار

FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the SDH Pattan within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Bisma Parvaiz DOB: 28-05-2013
D/o : Parvaiz Ahmad War
R/O: Chek Yuhama Wahama Kupwara

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that I intend to rectify the name in the electricity connection bearing Consumer ID: 0204020005529, presently recorded as Abdul Rashid Bhat S/o Ghulam Hassan Bhat, and have it changed to Mala Begum W/o Abdul Rashid Bhat, resident of Hafiz Bagh. If any person, individual, or authority has any objection to the above-mentioned correction/transfer, he or she may file the same in writing before the Sub-Division Office, Rainawari, within one week from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the said period, no objections shall be entertained, and the request shall be processed accordingly.

MEDIA LINE AD

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Subject: Compassionate appointment of Ms. Ayman Gul D/o Late Ghulam Mohammad Dar, Ex-senior Cultural Assistant Cultural Unit, Srinagar R/o Dana Manzar Safa Kadal, S.R Gunj, Eidgah, under SRO-43 of 1994.

Reference: I. JDI, Kashmir letter No. INF/K-509-10/2023 dated 16.06.2023
II. Administrative Department Letter No. INF PR-Estt/08/2024 (7423339) dated 28.08.2025
III. Character and Antecedent received from the Criminal Investigation Department.
Order No: INF/321 of 2025
DATED: 25-11-2025

Consequent upon the approval conveyed by the higher authorities in light of satisfactory report of character and antecedent received from the Criminal Investigation Department, J&K and interms of rule of SRO 43 of 1994 read with rule 18 of RAS, sanction is hereby accorded to the temporary appointment of Ms. Ayman Gul D/o Late Ghulam Mohammad Dar, Ex-senior Cultural Assistant Cultural Unit, Srinagar R/o Dana Manzar Safa Kadal, S.R Gunj, Eidgah as Multi Tasking Staff (Class-IV) in the Pay level of SL-1 (14800-47100) in Cultural Unit, Srinagar (Divisional Cadre, Kashmir) under SRO-43 of 1994:

The appointee shall report to the office of Joint Director Information, Kashmir along with all documents within a period of twenty one (21) days from the date of issuance of this order failing which she shall forego her right to appointment and the same shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio without any further notice.

The appointee shall be allowed to join only on the production of the following certificates/documents (in original) to be verified subsequently:-

- Academic Qualification Certificate issued by the recognized Institute/University valid for employment.
- Matriculation/Date of Birth Certificate from recognized Education Board.
- Domicile Certificate issued by the competent authority.
- Health Certificate from the concerned District Chief Medical Officer.
- Valid relevant category certificate issued by the competent authority, if any applicable.
- All other relevant documents as are required under SRO-43/1994.

The appointment of the above candidate shall further be subjected to the following conditions:

- The appointment shall furnish an undertaking in the shape of an affidavit to the effect that if on verification, her qualification/date of birth/Reserved Category Certificates from the concerned issuing authorities, are found fake/forged, the claim of the appointee as MTS (Class-IV) shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio and the legal action as warranted under rules shall be initiated against her.
- That she shall give an undertaking in the shape of an Affidavit duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate First Class, to the effect that the applicant is unemployed as on date and none of the family members other than the applicant has taken benefit of compassionate appointment under SRO-43. In case it turns out that the benefit under SRO-43 of 1994 has already been extended to the family of the deceased, then the instant appointment shall be deemed to have been withdrawn ab-initio without any further notice.
- That if the candidate has taken loan for self employment from DIC/Employment Department, to be ascertained from the District Industries Centre (DIC) and District Employment & Counseling centre of the domicile district, she shall relinquish the proprietorship of unit/enterprise and also stakes, if any, in such self-employment unit/enterprise before joining the Government service. She shall be required to repay the entire loan liability in suitable EMIs to be worked out by the DDO concerned from salary. DDO concerned shall obtain an affidavit from the concerned appointee regarding both relinquishment of proprietorship and stakes, if any, in such a self-employment unit/enterprise and recovery to be made and also personally monitor its recovery.
- The salary of the appointee shall not be drawn and disbursed to her unless the satisfactory reports in respect of genuineness of academic qualification/ date of birth/relevant category certificate is received from the concerned issuing authority.
- The appointee shall be on probation for a period of two years. The appointee shall also take care of other family members as and when required under the scheme within her resources to ensure that the benefit so granted may cover the whole family of the deceased official.
- The appointment of the candidate shall be governed by the "New Pension Scheme" as notified vide SRO-400 of 2009 dated 24.2.2009.
- The inter-se-seniority of the appointee in the J&K Information Department (Sub-ordinate) Service shall be determined as per the J&K Civil Service (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1986.
- In case the supporting documents are found non genuine, the appointment shall be cancelled without further notice.

The appointment of the above appointee shall be subject to the outcome of writ petition(s), if any, pending before any Competent Court of law.

Sd/-
Director Information
J&K

Dated: 25.11.2025

DIPK-8433/25
DATED: 26-11-2025
No: INF/K-208/2025/ 4699-4704

Constitution Day Marked with Fervour at Srinagar District Court Complex

Observer news Service

Srinagar: The District Judiciary Srinagar and District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar on Wednesday observed Constitution Day with great enthusiasm at the District Court Complex, reaffirming their commitment to the guiding principles of the Indian Constitution.

The programme was held under the directions of the Hon'ble High

of Hon'ble Chief Justice Arun Palli, Patron-in-Chief of the J&K Legal Services Authority, and Hon'ble Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Chairman of the Authority.

The commemorative ceremony was organised under the supervision of Principal District & Sessions Judge and Chairman DLSA Srinagar, Mr. Haq Nawaz Zargar, alongside Ms. Shazia Tabassum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority.



Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and the aegis of the J&K Legal Services Authority. The event took place under the visionary leadership

The event saw the participation of all Judicial Officers of the District Judiciary Srinagar, whose presence added dignity to the observance.

SMC Commemorates Constitution Day 2025



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) on Wednesday marked Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas) with dignity and enthusiasm at its headquarters, reaffirming its commitment to the principles and values enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

The main celebration, held at the SMC Headquarters, featured a vibrant and solemn ceremony that set the tone for observances across the city. The celebration witnessed active participation from officials and employees of all wings of the Corporation.

Commissioner SMC, Faz Lul Haseeb, graced the occasion, reflecting the Corporation's strong leadership commitment to promoting constitutional values. Alongside the central celebration, Constitution Day was observed across all 35 Administrative Wards of SMC, ensuring wide-spread public awareness and participation at the grassroots level.

The observance commenced with the reading of the Preamble of the Constitution, led by Joint Commissioner Administration, Nuzhat Qureshi. The recital served as a reaffirmation of India's foundational ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity.



Traffic Nightmare Persists in Srinagar's Heart Despite E-Rickshaw Ban

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Nearly a week after the ban on e-rickshaws along Srinagar's two busiest stretches M.A. Road and Residency Road, the traffic congestion continues unabated during peak hours, raising serious questions about the effectiveness of the move and the city's traffic management system.

On Wednesday, around six days after the ban, long queues of vehicles choked both sides of the corridor near Women's College Srinagar during the 3-4 PM rush hour.

According to details available with KNO, frustrated commuters continued to honk amid near-stationary traffic. Even as traffic police personnel remained deployed along both MA Road and Residency Road, vehicular movement struggled to stay regulated.

The traffic lights installed along MA Road and other key intersections remained largely non-functional, sometimes flickering erratically, sometimes with timers malfunctioning and often going completely dark. The much-hyped Integrated Traffic Management System (ITMS) also appeared ineffective, as no challan data has ever been made public since its installation.

“In fact, it seems worse now. Every day, we spend nearly 30–40 minutes just waiting for a Smart City bus and when it finally arrives, it's overcrowded,”

Firdous Nazir, a commuter from Nishat and a student at Women's College Srinagar, said they were told that banning e-rickshaws would ease traffic, but nothing has changed. “In fact, it seems worse now. Every day, we spend nearly 30–40 minutes just waiting for a Smart City bus and when it finally arrives, it's overcrowded. It's complete mismanagement,” he said.

Other commuters and students walking alongside him said that

despite the deployment of traffic police, the malfunctioning of traffic lights and the lack of adequate public transport have rendered the measures ineffective.

“Smart City boards are visible everywhere, but what's smart about spending 30 minutes on a 3-kilometre stretch?” asked a student. He said the traffic lights installed years ago barely function and ITMS cameras “are good for nothing,” as no challan data has ever been made public.

Students already hit by the e-rickshaw ban said the traffic mess has made commuting even more stressful. “If the goal was smooth movement, the results are the opposite,” said Shaista Mehraj, another student.

Residents also complained that the city's lofty promises have remained confined to paperwork. “From Smart City projects to ITMS, everything looks good in press releases, but on the ground, it's still the same old Srinagar,” said a motorist stuck in traffic near Pratap Park.

As peak-hour gridlocks persist, frustrated commuters are now asking: Where is the city really heading?—(KNO)

Sgr ‘Smart City’ Goes Offline As Website ‘Malfunctions’

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The official website of the Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) has gone offline after its domain name expired, leaving users unable to access any information or project updates.

The portal meant to showcase the city's modernization initiatives under the Central Government's Smart Cities Mission now displays a blunt message: “This domain name has expired. If you are the registered holder of this name and wish to renew it, please contact your registration service provider.”

According to KNO, the website earlier served as the digital hub for ongoing projects, tenders, traffic management initiatives and progress reports under the multi-crore Smart City project.

Its expiry has now raised eyebrows at a time when the administration has been pushing for digitization, e-governance and IT-enabled services. The website's expired status can be seen here: srinagarsmartcity.in.

Unidentified Woman Found Dead in Karan Nagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: An unidentified woman was found dead under mysterious circumstances in Srinagar's Karan Nagar area on Wednesday, officials said.

An official told KNO that the body was recovered from the premises of SMHS Hospital in Karan Nagar.

He said the deceased appears to be a non-local woman while her identity is being ascertained.

Police have taken cognisance of the matter, while the body has been shifted to a mortuary for medico-legal formalities.

خاندان قادری کو صدمہ اہلیہ پروفیسر محمد یاسین قادری انتقال کر گئیں

یہ خبر انتہائی دکھ اور افسوس کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ اہلیہ پروفیسر محمد یاسین قادری سابقہ وائس چانسلر کشمیر یونیورسٹی ساکن شاہ مجلہ فرینڈس کالونی ہارون سرینگر 26 نومبر 2025 بدھوار کو انتقال کر گئیں، اللہ تعالیٰ مرحومہ کو جوار رحمت میں جگہ دے اور لواحقین کو یہ صدمہ برداشت کرنے کی توفیق عطا کرے۔ لواحقین کے مطابق مرحومہ کا نماز جنازہ آج یعنی 27 نومبر 2025 بروز جمعرات صبح 11:00 بجے ان کی رہائش گاہ واقع شاہ مجلہ فرینڈس کالونی ہارون سرینگر میں انجام دیا جائے گا، مرحومہ کی اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی 30 نومبر 2025ء اتوار صبح 11:00 بجے ان کے آبائی مقبرہ ریاض ینگ نانیا میں انجام دی جائے گی۔

سوگواران : پروفیسر محمد یاسین قادری، ڈاکٹر الطاف احمد کنٹھ (فرزند بستی)

اشتقاقی یاسین قادری، اطہر یاسین قادری (فرزند ان)

فون نمبرات 919419079193, 919419095058:



SAD DEMISE

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of Abdul Gani cheeta S/O Late Ali Mohammad cheeta R/O Check saderbal near NIT hazratbal on 26.11.25 Tuesday . May Allah grant him jannatul firdous.The congregational Fateh khani will be held on 29 .11.25 at 10.30 Saturday at their ancestral graveyard Dalgate .
Note:womens are requested not to bring any kind of eatables with them.

Bereaved (Sons)
Mukhtar Ahmad
Umar cheeta
Shafiq
Arif
8082415193

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311




RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS

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

<div>  <div> <div>HIJRI</div> <div>CALENDAR</div> </div> </div> <div> 05 Jumada al-Sani 1447 </div>	PRAYERS	
	FAJR	5: 45
	ZUHR	12:16
	ASR	3: 46
	Magrib	5:26
	ISHA	6: 50

This Day In History

- 1868- Battle at Washita River, Oklahoma. General George A. Custer attacks group of Native American Indians, their chief Black Kettle dies in the attack
- 1885- 1st photograph of a meteor taken by Austro-Hungarian photographer Ladislaus Weinek in Prague, Austrian-Hungarian Empire
- 1895- Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel's will establishes the Nobel Prize
- 1901- Prince Ito of Japan comes to St Petersburg hoping to get the Russians to grant Japan concessions in Korea, but later drops this goal and decides to make an alliance with Britain
- 1912 - Spanish protectorate in Morocco forms
- 1914 - 1st British woman elected political agent (Grantham, Lincolnshire)
- 1919 - Peace of Neuilly-sur-Seine: Allies & Bulgaria
- 1941 - British 13th Army Corps reaches Tobruk
- 1942 - Tito appoints Anti-fascist Liberation board in Yugoslavia
- 1951 - Cease-fire & demarcation zone accord signed in Panmunjon, Korea
- 1971 - Soviet Mars 2 becomes 1st spacecraft to crash land on Mars
- 1973 - US Senate votes 92-3 to confirm Gerald Ford as Vice President
- 1973 - US President Richard Nixon signs the Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act, authorizing petroleum price, production, allocation and marketing controls
- 1979 - 1st day-night one-day cricket international, Australia v WI at SCG
- 1980 - Soyuz T-3 carries 3 cosmonauts to Salyut 6 space station, launched
- 1982 - Yasuhiro Nakasone elected Prime Minister of Japan succeeding Zenko Suzuki
- 1982 - Davis Cup, Grenoble, France: US takes unassailable, 3-0 lead over France as John
- 1983 - Colombian jetliner Boeing 747 crashes in Madrid killing 181
- 1985 - Republic of Ireland gains consultative role in Northern Ireland
- 1989 - Colombian jetliner bombed killing 107
- 1991 - Undertaker beats Hulk Hogan to become new WWF champ
- 1993 - India defeat West Indies in Bengal Jubilee Cricket Final, Kumble 6-12
- 1994 - Julio Maria Sanguinetti elected president of Uruguay
- 1999 - New Zealand's Labour Party defeats the National-led government after 9 years in power, Helen Clark becomes the first elected female Prime Minister in New Zealand's history
- 2001 - A hydrogen atmosphere is discovered on the extrasolar planet Osiris by the Hubble Space Telescope, the first atmosphere detected on an extrasolar planet.
- 2004 - New Zealand's All Blacks thump Six Nations Rugby Union Champions France 45-6 in Paris
- 2005 - First partial human face transplant is completed for Isabelle Dinoire in Amiens, France.
- 2005 - President El Hadj Omar Bongo Ondimba of Gabon, in power since 1967 and the longest-serving head of state in the world, is re-elected to his third consecutive seven-year term
- 2006 - The Canadian House of Commons endorses Prime Minister Stephen Harper's motion to declare Québécois a nation within a unified Canada.
- 2011 - Roger Federer claims a record 6th ATP World Tour Finals tennis title with a 6–3, 6–7, 6–3 win over Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the final in London, England
- 2012 - 29 people are killed and 126 are wounded by 8 car bombings across Iraq
- 2013 - Greece becomes the first developed market to be demoted into an emerging market by the MSCI index
- 2014 - Cricketer Phillip Hughes dies two days after being struck on the head by a bouncer
- 2017 - Pope Francis begins a three-day trip to Myanmar, amid the Rohingya refugee crisis
- 2017 - Freight trains kills more than 100 reindeer over three days in Norway
- 2018 - US accuses Nicaragua's Vice-President Rosario Murillo, wife of President Daniel Ortega of human rights abuses and imposes sanctions

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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KO VIEW

Srinagar’s Heavy Air

As the national capital battles bad air, Srinagar feels the strain. Freezing cold, rising pollution, and nonstop indoor heating have cloaked the city in a haze of dust and fumes. A study found that Srinagar’s winter PM2.5 levels can soar to 348 micrograms per cubic metre. The national safety limit is just 60. At this level, the city’s air is as bad as the worst winter smog in Delhi or Kolkata. The reasons lie in everyday life. As temperature falls, families rely on coal heaters, charcoal-filled kangris and firewood hammams. These fuels produce nearly 84 percent of the city’s yearly particulate pollution. Traffic adds its own share and makes the air even dirtier.

Mountains surround the city, and in winter the cold dense air sinks and locks pollutants close to the ground. With slow winds and still air, smog settles over neighbourhoods and often stays for days.

Light rain or snow sometimes brings Srinagar’s air from “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” to “Moderate.” The respite vanishes quickly once families turn their heaters on again.

The cost of warmth is often felt in the lungs. Coughs grow, wheezing turns frequent, and children remain indoors. Windows stay locked against the cold. Hospitals handle more respiratory distress as winter settles in.

This cannot pass as a minor winter problem. It is a clear public-health concern shaped by cold nights and invisible smoke.

Like Delhi’s struggle with smog, Srinagar’s air needs national attention. Officials must see Himalayan towns as lived spaces that require clean energy and practical planning.

These measures make a real difference for children, older residents and the entire community.

CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

Long Game Pays

In a market full of ups and downs, steady choices and calm thinking often create lasting financial success.

Irshad Mushtaq

Kashmir’s property market has always carried a sense of promise. Families put their savings into land because it feels secure and lasting. The rise in prices across Srinagar, Budgam, and parts of Baramulla has strengthened that belief. People see real estate and capital markets as paths to building wealth. The challenge lies in how decisions are made, not where money goes.

Those who take time to understand the market tend to make better choices. They hold on during slow periods and wait for fair value. Their portfolios grow steadily because decisions are rooted in patience. In contrast, chasing quick profits often leads to disappointment.

Local experience shows that acting on rumours, flipping properties too quickly, or relying only on brokers’ advice can be costly. Markets move in cycles. Values can double over a few years and then cool for months. People who trade impulsively often lose out when the market settles, while those who stay patient preserve and grow their capital.

Building wealth also depends on discipline and emotional control. Calm, planned actions beat hasty decisions every time. A solid investment plan, careful research, and trusted guidance help maintain this discipline. Brokers can encourage frequent buying and selling, but without a long-term plan, this advice can do more harm than good.

Kashmir’s financial landscape keeps repeating the same message: slow, thoughtful decisions build lasting success.

Those who resist the urge to chase rumours are more likely to see their investments grow steadily.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial advisor.

Kashmir’s People-Pleasing Problem

Kashmir’s joint family will remain cherished culture, but it should never again be mistaken for religious obligation or marital prison.



Aaqyb Ashraf

“When we finally value the Quran’s promise of tranquility more than the neighbour’s gossip, we will see stronger marriages and warmer bonds. Distance sometimes sharpens love the way winter sharpens the taste of harisa. The strongest Kashmiri families may soon live in two houses with one heart. Honour never lived in the address. It lives in gentle voices, quick hugs, and the courage to let your children breathe.

My cousin Aadil got married in 2022. He moved his wife into the old family house on the banks of the Jhelum: four floors, three brothers, two uncles, one kitchen, and fifteen opinions.

Six months later, his wife stopped smiling at breakfast.

His mother asked why she hadn’t lit the kitchen by seven. His sister complained the new bride used too much hot water. His aunt counted how many rotis disappeared from the plate.

Aadil still loved his parents. He also loved the girl who now cried in the bathroom. Something had to change.

He found a two-bedroom flat in Hyderpora, twelve minutes away by scooter.

But the day he told his mother, she put her hand on her heart and said the words every Kashmiri child learns before they learn to read: “Lukh kya wanan?” What will people say?

His father added the second line we all know: “Lukh karan kathe.” People will talk.

The whole mohalla practised the sentence for weeks.

We treat the joint family like the fifth pillar of Islam. We swear separate living dishonours parents. We never open the Quran to check.

The holy book says Allah created spouses so you “find tranquility in them” (Surah Ar-Rum 30:21).

That tranquility feels impossible when your mother-in-law times your showers and your sister-in-law decides how many cardigans your baby needs.

The Prophet, peace be upon him, never lived the way we demand. After marriage he kept his own home. Each wife had her own room, sometimes her own house. He visited his foster mother, fed

her with his own hands, spread his cloak for her to sit on, but he never moved back in with extended family. He taught that the best man treats his family the best (Tirmidhi 3895).

Giving your wife peace counts as good treatment. Crowding her until she cracks does not.

But Kashmir runs on different rules.

Honour equals headcount under one roof. A 2023 Mercy Foundation survey in Srinagar asked married women under thirty-five how often they felt tense because of in-laws.

Sixty-eight percent said regularly. Fifty-four percent heard “log kya kahenge” at least once a month to keep them silent.

Psychiatrists at Government Medical College now treat as many young patients for joint-family stress as for decades of conflict trauma.

The waiting rooms stay full.

Joint families still give gifts no money can buy. Grandmothers sing babies to sleep with centuries-old lullabies. When someone falls sick, uncles sell gold bangles without a word.

During the 2014 flood and the long snowy blackouts of 2022, big houses stayed warm because bodies and love filled every corner. Those moments feel sacred. Nobody wants to lose them.

They only disappear when love becomes a cage.

Force twelve adults to share two bathrooms and watch small remarks turn into lifelong wounds.

The daughter-in-law learns to speak in whispers. The son becomes a tired referee. Marriages suffocate.

More couples now refuse to suffocate. They build small houses right next door or five streets away. Close enough for the mother

to walk over with warm wazwan. Far enough for the wife to play her music without headphones.

The Mercy Foundation followed couples who moved out but stayed within a fifteen-minute walk. One year later their marital happiness rose thirty-two points. Parents complained at first. Then they noticed their sons visited more often when visits were a choice instead of a sentence. Advice arrived wrapped in respect instead of orders.

Islam never asked for shared kitchens. It asked for kind words, quick help, open wallets, daily phone calls, hospital rides, and medicine money.

A son can send groceries through an app, pick his father up for Friday prayer, and still let his wife choose the colour of their sofa without a family vote.

Kashmir has survived invasions, floods, curfews, and forty-day snowstorms. We can survive a married couple wanting their own front door.

When we finally value the Quran’s promise of tranquility more than the neighbour’s gossip, we will see stronger marriages and warmer bonds.

Distance sometimes sharpens love the way winter sharpens the taste of harisa.

The strongest Kashmiri families may soon live in two houses with one heart. Honour never lived in the address. It lives in gentle voices, quick hugs, and the courage to let your children breathe.

A separate key does not break a family. Broken spirits do.

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

Letter to Editor

Electric Vehicles Could Clear Kashmir’s Winter Air

The valley is heading into another harsh winter, and life on the streets becomes a daily challenge. Cold roads, traffic jams, and thick smoke from petrol and diesel vehicles make commuting difficult.

Electric vehicles promise a cleaner, greener future, but adopting them in Kashmir comes with real challenges.

Winter here is long and bitter. Temperatures often fall below zero, and snow covers the roads for days. Cold weather reduces battery life, so a car that normally travels 200 kilometres may only manage 120.

Steep hills drain batteries faster. Charging stations are few and mostly in the city centre. Villages and smaller towns remain disconnected, making longer trips risky.

These challenges make many residents hesitant, even as interest in electric vehicles grows. Still, more families and young professionals are exploring electric scooters, two-wheelers, and

small cars. The valley has a clear reason to act.

Winter air pollution in Srinagar is high. The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology reports that PM2.5 levels can reach 348 micrograms per cubic metre, nearly six times the national safety limit.

In December and January, the air can feel as unhealthy as Delhi on its worst smog days. Every petrol or diesel vehicle adds to the haze, while electric vehicles could reduce emissions over time.

The government has started offering subsidies for electric two-wheelers and small cars. Solar-powered charging stations are appearing, and local startups are testing battery-swapping models. Electric two-wheelers could also help rural residents deal with rising petrol prices.

For electric vehicles to succeed, roads must be cleared quickly after snow, electricity supply must remain steady, and drivers need guidance on using batteries in cold weather.

Policymakers should combine infrastructure

improvements with public awareness campaigns to build trust. Communities need to see electric vehicles as part of everyday life.

Winters in Kashmir are harsh but beautiful. The valley is rich in culture but struggles with pollution. People are ready for change but face limits in infrastructure and geography.

Electric vehicles could reshape mobility, cut emissions, and protect public health if these challenges are addressed carefully.

Kashmir’s future depends on embracing technology in a way that fits the land, the climate, and the people who live here.

Cleaner roads mean healthier lungs, safer commutes, and a more sustainable life for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Er Hafíez Afzal
erhafiez.afzal111@gmail.com

Kashmiri Girl's 19-Hour Hope Run

While classmates chase office jobs, Nazia Khan clocks 19-hour days to turn a cow, two acres and a vegetable basket into medical hope.

Gowher Bhat

The first call of the day is the rooster that Nazia Khan refuses to silence.

By 4 am, she is already in the barn, fingers testing the udder of her lone cow. Milk hits the steel pail in an even stream.

She measures two litres for customers, keeps half a litre for her parents' tea, and is back in the kitchen before the first kettle whistles.

At 22, Nazia is the oldest worker in her house and the youngest post-graduate student in her village. She is also the only child her parents have left who can still walk without a cane.

Her father, Abdul Rashid Khan, once drove a truck over the Sinthan Pass. Two slipped discs ended that life. Now, he shuffles to the veranda with a walker Nazia built from discarded orchard wood. Her mother, Raja Begum, survives on tablets that cost 1,200 rupees a week.

Both parents sit in the sun and watch their daughter load vegetable baskets onto her head, the same way other parents watch sons leave for green pastures.

The walk to the market takes 27 minutes downhill. Nazia counts every step because the return climb will be done with 40 kilos less produce and 400 rupees more hope.

She sets up beside the bus stand where commuters from Anantnag buy breakfast radish and gossip. A plastic sheet becomes her shop, while a broken brick becomes her chair.

By seven-thirty, the spinach is sold, by eight the milk is gone, and by eight-fifteen she's counting how much homework she can finish before lunch.

Customers do not haggle. They know the girl with soil under her nails is paying school fees for her 15-year-old brother, Aamir, who



Representational Photo

still dreams of becoming a pilot.

"She charges the same rate for three years," says Farooq Hakeem, the government teacher who buys 200 millilitres every day and refuses change. "In Kashmir, that counts as a miracle."

The miracle shows up in numbers. Nazia keeps a small notebook where every rupee has a place. Last month her stall made 11,400 rupees, and the cow brought in another 3,600.

She spent 4,800 on medicines, 1,500 on Aamir's school uniform, and 650 on her bus fare to the University of Kashmir's south campus.

What's left, around 7,000, goes into a tin box marked "Haji ticket."

She hopes to take her parents for umrah because she has heard that Saudi hospitals can treat nerve problems that doctors in Srinagar have stopped trying to solve.

Afternoons belong to the land that once grew only maize.

Nazia planted her first apple sapling at 18 after learning from YouTube videos at a neighbour's house. Today she has 210 trees spread across two terraced acres. She knows each variety the way others remember old classmates: Red Delicious, American Trel, Maharaji.

She can explain high-density spacing and soil pH in the same breath. The extension officer began taking her seriously the day she

arrived with a soil-test receipt she had paid for herself.

Between pruning and weeding, she attends her classes on the phone. Sociology feels familiar when the professor talks about family and home. She writes her assignments on fertiliser sacks turned inside out.

She scored 76 percent in her first semester, higher than anyone who sits in the classroom.

Evening brings cattle feed, dinner prep, and the moment she waits for: parents resting, her brother studying, and the stove cooling.

Around 11 pm, she opens a second-hand book that feels heavier than her day and lighter than her worries.

Under a one-watt LED bulb, she reads about Max Weber and wonders if the sociologist ever milked a cow.

The village has taken notice.

Two girls asked to work at her stall for a daily wage of 50 rupees. She insisted on paying them 70 and

added free breakfast.

A widowed neighbour now sells mushrooms grown on walnut logs because Nazia lent her 6,000 rupees without charging interest.

A shopkeeper across the road says she is building a cooperative without even knowing the word.

But this winter is likely to challenge her.

Apple prices fell sharply last year. A 16-kilo box sold for 450 rupees, down from 800 the previous season. A local chemist says her mother's new medicines will add another 600 rupees to the monthly bill.

Nazia responds by spreading her risks.

She now grows strawberries on 200 square feet under plastic sheets. She has also planted saffron corms between the apple rows, a trick she picked up from a Krishi Vigyan Kendra leaflet.

If the purple flowers survive the cold, one kilo could earn around 250,000 rupees, enough for three tickets to Jeddah.

She allows herself one small luxury.

Every Friday after prayers, she buys a 10-rupee Nescafe at the bus stand without sugar, and drinks it slowly while watching the traffic crawl toward the tunnel that opens to the rest of India.

In those few fleeting minutes, she imagines the road stretching all the way to Mecca, her parents walking without pain, Aamir sitting in a cockpit, and herself in a classroom where the only weight is a question on caste and class.

Ask her about marriage and she laughs, the only time she truly sounds 22.

"My dowry is the orchard," she says. "Any man who wants me must bring a tractor and a promise: my parents stay, and his parents welcome them."

So far, suitors have picked easier brides.

Her hometown, Kokernag has only 4.2 percent female workforce participation, about half the national average.

Nazia has never seen the number, but she is already shifting it.

Her story is known mostly to neighbours, but the impact is larger

than anyone admits.

A 0.2-hectare plot carries the seeds of that change, tended by a girl who sleeps five hours and



HER HOMETOWN, KOKERNAG HAS ONLY 4.2 PERCENT FEMALE WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION, ABOUT HALF THE NATIONAL AVERAGE.

Nazia has never seen the number, but she is already shifting it. Her story is known mostly to neighbours, but the impact is larger than anyone admits.

dreams six.

Back home, the LED bulb goes off at 1 am. The cow shifts in the shed, apples wait for spring, and parents breathe easier with every pill.

Nazia closes her notebook on today's last entry.

Tomorrow the rooster will crow again. She will be up before it, two books in her mind: one about society, the other about selling vegetables.

Both, she has decided, are chapters of the same syllabus, and she intends to top the class.

— The author is a Pulwama-based educator and writer.



NAZIA CLOSES HER NOTEBOOK ON TODAY'S LAST ENTRY. TOMORROW THE ROOSTER WILL CROW AGAIN. She will be up before it, two books in her mind: one about society, the other about selling vegetables. Both, she has decided, are chapters of the same syllabus, and she intends to top the class.

The Green Shikara Memorandum

In 1987 Kashmir, one over-loaded shikara carried twenty-two relatives, a jar of saffron and the last untroubled afternoon a family would ever share.

Syed Majid Gilani

It was the age my elder daughter is now, eleven, or close enough, when my father said, "Tomorrow we take the lake."

The sentence felt like a promise and a command rolled into one.

In 1987, a picnic was still a serious affair in Srinagar. No one owned enough cars, so legs did the planning.

Our little house in Botshah Colony usually had twenty-two people crashing there every night, and that week we'd squeezed in three cousins who'd come down from chilly Kupwara to breathe easier.

We never bothered with invitations. If you opened your eyes under our roof in the morning, you were already family and already welcome.

Mom started the rice before the sun was even up. I'd lie there listening to the water smack against the sides of the big copper pot while she and Daadi bickered over salt, like how much does a picnic by the lake really need?

Daadi always won. She'd lean over, sniff the steam, and say, "Boring," like the rice had personally offended her.

Two fat cups of salt later, we were stuffing everything into bags: the little kerosene stove, six banged-up tin plates that looked like stars from all the dents, the chipped enamel pot just for kehwa, and that one plastic spoon we all fought over. We called it "the truce" because whoever got it stopped the war over who licked the cake bowl.

My job was guarding the saffron. I clutched that tiny jar to

my chest like it was made of gold and might run away.

We left at seven, walking in a braid of hand-holding. The road to Nigeen was still unpaved. Dust rose and settled on our polished shoes, turning them the colour of walnuts.

My cousin Shaban, two years older and already praying with the grown-ups, recited multiplication tables to keep the little ones from asking how far we still had to go. I remember counting willow trees instead, forty-three between our gate and the shore, because numbers felt safer than distance.

The shikara was waiting for us, bright green like an unripe guava. Papa stepped in first, careful in his stiff office boots, then turned to give Naani a hand. She just laughed, waved him off, and hopped in like a total boss. She still bragged about the time she crossed the Jhelum when it was raging.

One by one, we piled in until the boat sat low in the water, full and grinning. Qadir Chacha, our boatman with the white beard and kind eyes, only asked, "Where to?"

Papa smiled and said, "Where the water's so clean it tastes like nothing, and the lotuses haven't opened yet."

Qadir Chacha's eyes twinkled. He got the hint perfectly.

We paddled past the willow curve where Nigeen narrows. Yasmeen dipped her braid and flicked droplets at me. Each cold bead stung like a tiny oath of summer.

Mother set the stove between her feet, striking a match that hissed louder than any sermon. Within minutes, the kehwa sent



up ribbons of saffron steam. Daadi tore kulchas into exact halves, counting to be sure no child felt smaller.

The lake answered back with its own music: oar splash, pigeon wing, and somewhere far off the low hum of a boat selling shawls to foreigners who wore sunglasses even in shade.

I had seen Dal Lake in textbooks, a blue triangle labelled "tourist attraction." That morning, it felt more like a moving city.

Vegetable boats drifted by with towers of nadru stalks. A woman in one of them sang a folk tune about a lover who never returned from the army. Her voice cracked on the high note, and the crack felt more honest than any polished recording.

Papa lifted his hand. And without words, Qadir Chacha steered us into the channel. The banks closed in until we could

touch the lily pads.

I tried, and Papa shook his head. "Let them finish their own breakfast," he said. I obeyed, but stored the urge like a secret sweet.

Silver Island arrived first, a mound of earth wearing a crown of chinars.

We dismounted, spreading a blanket under the widest tree. The cousins ran to the edge where water met land and back again, delivering reports: "I saw a fish with a red tail," "I found a feather shaped like a sword."

Each claim needed verification, so we formed a committee of children crawling on all fours. Daadi watched from the blanket, reciting Ayat-ul-Kursi under her breath. Later I asked why. "Because joy also needs bodyguards," she said.

Back on board, we headed for the floating market. Papa bought one kilo of mutton from a butcher who weighed it on a

scale dangling from his boat roof. The onions came next, their skins purple as twilight. Mother began the curry right there, slicing on an upturned tin lid, firing the stove with one hand steadying her dupatta.

The smell rode the breeze and reached a group of foreign photographers. They lifted their cameras like rifles and shot us with light. I hid behind Papa's leg. He told me, "They are only stealing colour, not soul."

I did not understand, but the sentence stayed.

By noon, the rice was ready, each grain long and separate the way Kashmiri rice is expected to behave. We ate in silence, the kind that follows good hunger.

After three mouthfuls, Shaban asked if fish prayed. Naani answered, "They pray by never closing their eyes."

I tested the idea the rest of the day, staring hard at the water,

convinced I might catch one in mid-supplication.

Nishat came next. We left the boat at the ghat where the stone steps dip like tired eyelids. The garden was built for a Mughal prince who missed Persia. We learned that in school, but I preferred my own history of the place: a long corridor where my parents once walked as newlyweds, mother's heels sinking into the grass.

We raced along the terraces, counting fountains, twelve in the top tier, spitting arcs that caught sun and shattered it into silver coins.

I slipped and skinned my knee. Yasmeen tore a strip from her sleeve, tying it tight enough to stop blood and tears at the same time. The fabric had tiny roses. I kept it for years, a pressed relic in my geometry box.

Evening prayer found us at Hazratbal. The shrine's dome sat on the water like a full moon that had forgotten to rise.

We bought halwa-paratha from a boy no older than me who carried the stack in a tin trunk balanced on his head. His price was whatever you wished to give. People paid in coins and blessings.

We drank noon-chai pink as the inside of a seashell. Papa read the fatiha, voice steady, eyes closed. I watched a pigeon land on his shoulder, stay for the duration of the prayer, then lift off when he said "Ameen."

I took it as proof that places remember who belongs.

The lotus fields glowed on the return, cups of light floating in dark water. I asked once more if I could pick one. Papa said, "A

flower keeps its colour longer if it stays rooted."

I sulked for five whole minutes, then forgave him when he handed me his watch to wear. The metal was warm from his wrist. I felt the tick against my own pulse, two clocks trying to agree.

Back at Lalbazar shore, the moon had copied itself in duplicate on the lake. Qadir Chacha accepted the hundred-rupee note with both hands, touching it to his forehead before pocketing.

He told Papa, "Sir, your children will remember this day longer than any of us will live."

Papa answered only, "Memory is Allah's oldest bank."

I used to think banks were just for money.

Now I know they keep whole days too, days like that one, when the rice carried the taste of lake breeze, when prayers fluttered up like pigeon wings, and when Papa's old watch didn't just tick, it counted love along with the minutes.

We walked home slower than we had come, backs warmed by moon, fronts cooled by the memory of water.

Somewhere near the willow line, I looked back.

The lake had already closed over our route, without scar or footprint.

Still, I carry the map inside me: forty-three willows, twelve fountains, one green shikara, and a jar of saffron that never empties.

— The author is a government officer and a writer. He can be reached at syedmajid6676@gmail.com.

Haryana Man Bids ₹1.17 Cr For Fancy Number Plate

Press Trust Of India

Chandigarh: A businessman has bid a whopping Rs 1.17 crore for a fancy vehicle number in Haryana.

The Badhra sub-division in Charkhi Dadri district fetched the highest bid amount for vehicle registration number 'HR-88-B-8888', official sources said on Wednesday.

They said the bid, which closed on Wednesday, was made during an online bidding process on the designated portal, with Rs 1,000 as the participation fee and Rs 10,000 as the security deposit.

They said that he has five days to deposit the bid money, after which the number will be allotted if the entire process is completed.

Contacted over the phone on Wednesday evening, the businessman, who is in his late 30s and did not wish to be named, said he hails from a village in Bhiwani district and his family now lives in another Haryana district.

He said that the reserve price,

or base price, for the fancy number was Rs 50,000, and he had not expected to go this far and make the highest bid of Rs 1.17 crore.

"I had not kept any specific amount in mind and liked the number and just went ahead," he said, adding he has not yet decided the vehicle for which the number will be used.

Asked if he has purchased the vehicle, he said, "We are figuring that out."

Responding to a question, he said, "I was not expecting that this bid would generate such a hype."

"We are in the transport business. We also have a software company, and we are into developing a transport-related mobile app for commercial transportation, and this business is in its early phase," he said.

Meanwhile, bidding high amounts for fancy numbers has also been witnessed in Chandigarh over the years.

This year, one of the fancy numbers was sold for over Rs 36 lakh.

KU observes Constitution Day 2025, upholds duty towards democratic governance

Observer News Service

Srinagar, Nov 26: The School of Law, University of Kashmir (KU), celebrated Constitution Day 2025 at the Main Campus to promote constitutional literacy and highlight the core values of democracy, justice, equality and liberty enshrined in the Constitution of India. The event marked the adoption of the Indian Constitution on November 26, 1949.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-Chancellor KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, highlighted the relevance of understanding the Constitution both as a legal document and as a moral guide for civic life.

"Every principle laid down in the preamble is crafted with wisdom and vision that continues to steer our nation," she said, urging students to engage meaningfully with constitutional values.

Dean College Development Council KU, Prof. Khurshed Butt, stressed on the role of constitutional awareness in shaping responsible citizenship, adding that "learning



about constitutional provisions and respecting the law strengthens the collective fabric of the nation."

Registrar KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, reflected on the Constitution as a guarantor of dignity and equality for all citizens and emphasised that its guiding principles must be upheld in everyday life to preserve justice and fairness.

Earlier, Dean and Head, School of Law KU, Prof. Shahnaz, spoke about the historical significance of Constitution Day and acknowledged the contributions of the leaders and freedom fighters who shaped the foundational document.

Students from the School of Law also presented brief reflections on the relevance of

the Constitution in contemporary times.

The event was attended by Controller of Examinations KU, Prof. Majid Zaman Baba; Dean Students' Welfare KU, Prof. Pervez Ahmed; Director IT & SS KU, Dr. Maroof Qadri, besides officers from the University administration, faculty members, scholars and students.

The event concluded with a pledge, as participants reaffirmed their commitment to uphold the values of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity as enshrined in the Constitution of India.

The event proceedings were conducted by Dr. Yasir Latief Handoo, while vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Syed Asima Refayi, faculty at the School of Law KU.

Social Media Rumors on Imran Khan Spark Protests

Agencies

Islamabad- Speculation around former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's condition escalated after his three sisters were allegedly "brutally assaulted" by police when they attempted to meet him outside Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail on Wednesday. The incident sparked widespread anger and renewed scrutiny of the government's handling of Khan's incarceration.

Khan's sisters, Noreen Khan, Aleema Khan and Uzma Khan, have written to Punjab police chief Usman Anwar demanding an impartial investigation into what they described as an "orchestrated attack" on them and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supporters. The women say they have not been allowed to meet their brother for over three weeks.

Their allegations emerged as rumours, largely from social-media accounts based in Afghanistan and Pakistan, falsely claiming Imran Khan had been "mysteriously killed" inside Adiala Jail. These posts reignited concerns about the former PM's safety, already heightened

by the family's restricted access to him.

According to PTI, the sisters and supporters were sitting peacefully outside the prison when police allegedly switched off streetlights and "pounced on them" without warning. Noreen said she was dragged by her hair, thrown to the ground and pulled across the road, while other women were slapped and manhandled.

The sisters described the violence as part of "a broader pattern of indiscriminate force" used against peaceful protesters over the past three years.

Imran Khan has been imprisoned since August 2023 in multiple cases and, according to PTI, is being kept in solitary confinement with limited access to lawyers, books and basic items. Even Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi was denied permission to meet him despite making several attempts.

Legal representatives say an undeclared ban on meetings has been in place for more than a month, intensifying concerns as rumours about Khan's wellbeing continue to circulate online.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Ending Art 370

Constitution makers wanted personal and democratic rights to remain protected for all citizens.

The president also cited the ban on triple talaq and the rollout of GST as major reforms that strengthened women's rights and financial stability. She said India is progressing quickly toward becoming the world's third largest economy and noted that 25 crore people have risen out of poverty. Women, youth, farmers, SC and ST communities and the middle class, she added, are strengthening the democratic fabric.

Murmu released the digital version of the Constitution in nine regional languages Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Punjabi, Bodo, Kashmiri, Telugu, Odia and Assamese, calling it a step toward greater public access and awareness. The event also included a collective reading of the Preamble.

Vice President C P Radhakrishnan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Speaker Om Birla, Opposition leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi, Union ministers and MPs attended the programme. A commemorative booklet featuring calligraphy from the original Constitution was also released.

High Voter Turnout

The event was presided over by President Droupadi Murmu, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Union Ministers and Members of Parliament from both the houses present on the occasion.

VP Radhakrishnan said that no democracy can survive without the conscious contribution of the citizen. "In India, every citizen, whether they are rich or poor, always contributes to strengthen the democracy," he said.

He added that during the elections held in Jammu and Kashmir in 2024 after the abrogation of Article 370, the voter turnout in large number made the world to understand "our faith in democracy".

He further said that in the recently held Bihar elections, voter turnout, particularly that of women in large numbers, is a very healthy sign.

"Our Constitution was drafted, debated, and adopted by some of the finest leaders of India in the Constituent Assembly. It embodies the collective wisdom, sacrifice, and dreams of millions of our countrymen who fought for freedom," he said.

The Vice President said that the great scholars of the drafting committee and members of the Constituent Assembly gave insightful thoughts to fulfill the hopes and aspirations of crores & crores of Indians.

The Constitution Day program was organised on the occasion of the 75th Constitution Day. President Murmu, who presided over the event, also released digital editions of the Constitution in Kashmir and eight other languages - Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Punjabi, Bodo, Telugu, Odia and Assamese. (KNO)

Freedom Comes

read out at the flag off of the Unity March in Karamsad, the hometown of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, in Gujarat's Anand district.

The Gujarat government is organising the padyatra from Karamsad to the Statue of Unity in Narmada district to mark the 150th birth anniversary of India's first home minister. District collector Pravin Chaudhary read out the prime minister's message at the event.

Modi said padyatras played a key role during the freedom movement by bringing people together and instilling confidence. "The sound of footsteps united society, boosted people's self confidence and created a sense of unity in millions of hearts. Sardar Patel knew that when people walk together, differences are left behind," the message said.

He said it was a fitting coincidence that the Unity March began on Constitution Day. "This day reminds us that freedom is not only about rights but also about duties and a call for unity," he said.

The prime minister said national unity is visible in public participation movements such as

Digital India, Fit India, Swachh Bharat and the Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam initiative. He said the goal of building a developed India by 2047 would be driven by the strength of youth, collective effort and innovation.

Modi expressed confidence that the Unity March would help strengthen the spirit of national unity and inspire people to align their goals with the country's progress. He also paid tribute to Sardar Patel on the occasion.

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel flagged off the march in the presence of several dignitaries, including Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha. The padyatra will culminate at the Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar on December 5, with nearly 15,000 participants expected to join each day, officials said.

Dismantling Terror

He said the region is now moving ahead on the ideals of equity and social and economic justice laid down by Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar.

Responding to critics who question what has changed in the last five years, the LG said the practice of rewarding separatists and targeting patriots has stopped completely. He said the full implementation of constitutional provisions under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ensured honour, pride and dignity for every citizen of Jammu and Kashmir.

The UT level event marking 75 years of the adoption of the Constitution was organised by the Department of Culture in collaboration with the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. It was attended by the Speaker of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, senior officials, prominent citizens and a large number of youth.

Urges Scientists

Union Territory must work collectively to adopt sustainable practices and build resilience against emerging climate threats.

He said one of the biggest challenges for scientists today is the accurate prediction of cloudbursts with precise and long term forecasts. "All stakeholders must work together in developing new machine learning models and refining real time data integration to provide timely and clear alerts to authorities and the public," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor urged scientists and AI experts to collaborate for a cleaner and healthier future. "Let us dedicate ourselves to tackling climate challenges, advancing clean energy, and strengthening environmental resilience," he said.

He said the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is committed to supporting scientific collaboration, high quality research, and transformative projects in areas such as solar energy, water security, rural connectivity and pollution abatement.

On the occasion, Sinha launched "Atmos Kids the Gen Alpha Change makers," a joint initiative of the Himalayan High Altitude Atmospheric and Climate Research Centre, Central University of Jammu, and the Indian National Young Academy of Science.

Officials said the programme aims to educate and train school students to build an informed and active community of young climate aware citizens. These students will act as future ambassadors linking science with society and spreading awareness about air quality, climate and the role of aerosols in ecosystem health.

Youth Are Rocket

courage and energy of young people act like rocket fuel that drives disruptive change, social transformation and rapid technological development.

The LG urged students to innovate, create new values and work with commitment to build a more developed and progressive society. He said fresh perspectives and bold ideas from youth are essential for building a bright future.

He said the youth, with moral courage and conviction, can turn the tide of history and pave a new path for the coming generations.

The LG also felicitated students who excelled in various categories during the festival. Padma

Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, was awarded the Rolling Trophy for Yvutarang 2025.

The event was attended by Additional Chief Secretary Higher Education Department Shantmanu, Vice Chancellor Cluster University of Jammu Prof K S Chandrasekar, Dean Students Welfare Prof D S Manhas, senior officials, heads of institutions, teachers and students.

MeT Warns

and minimum temperatures by 1-2 degrees Celsius during the next seven days.

According to him, shallow to moderate fog would likely continue at many places of the Kashmir division and isolated places of the Jammu division.

Director MeT further said that generally dry weather is expected till December 1. "On December 2, the weather is expected to remain generally cloudy towards afternoon," he said. Earlier, the MeT Director had predicted the possibility of a brief spell of very light snow over isolated higher reaches towards the afternoon.

The weatherman further added that generally dry weather is expected on December 3 & December 4, while cloudy weather is expected towards the afternoon on December 05.

However, he added that the weather would remain generally dry from December 06 to December 10.

He also confirmed that dust reported in several areas is linked to transcontinental movement.

"Satellite imagery shows dust drifting from parts of Ethiopia toward India. Its impact depends on wind direction, but such long-distance transport is not unusual," he said.

NC Calls Key

reiterated that a cabinet expansion would follow the by polls. The Chief Minister is in a position to induct three more ministers, with the cabinet strength capped at nine.

J&K Installs

and consumer friendly billing system.

Under RDSS, works worth Rs 4,709 crore under loss reduction and Rs 1,053 crore under smart metering have been approved. Four agencies JPDC, KPDC, Powergrid Energy Services Limited (PESL), and NTPC are executing the works across various packages.

Progress in loss reduction and IT and operational technology components stands at 74 percent for JPDC, 73 percent for KPDC, 57 percent and 33 percent for PESL in Kashmir and Jammu, and 72 percent and 31 percent for NTPC.

Officials said Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT and C) losses have fallen from 58 percent in 2022 to around 32 percent at present. The target is to bring them down to 12 percent by 2028. The ACS ARR gap has also narrowed from Rs 3.11 to Rs 1.29 per unit, while billing efficiency has risen from 56 percent to 69 percent and collection efficiency from 75 percent to 94 percent.

Calling for strict adherence to timelines, the chief secretary directed that all loss reduction works be completed within the sunset period set by the Government of India. He asked the department to set daily and weekly targets for key components such as LT cable replacement, augmentation of the distribution network, HT cabling, conductor replacement, feeder segregation and pole installation.

He also stressed improving feeder wise billing and revenue collection and called for strict action against officials found negligent. The divisional commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir have been asked to conduct monthly reviews and identify underperforming field staff.

Row Deepens

colour and warned against sidelining merit. He asked what would remain of the constitution if decisions were made on the basis of faith instead of ability.

The Chief Minister cited Jamia Zia Ul Uloom as an example of an institution upholding merit and constitutional values. He praised its contribution to community harmony, its role during natural disasters, and the strong performance

of its students in competitive exams such as UPSC, KAS, and KPS.

BJP MP Ghulam Ali Khatana said both merit and community composition should be considered in admissions, noting that around seventy percent of the local population belongs to a particular community and tends to opt for the same institutions. He stressed that there was no Hindu Muslim angle to the matter.

BJP chief spokesperson Sunil Sethi said the rights of students already admitted would be protected. Accusing Omar Abdullah of creating religious division, he argued that since the Shrine Board is built on donations from Hindu devotees, the primary rights of Hindu students should be honoured. He further accused the National Conference, PDP, and Congress of trying to divide society, saying the BJP wants to keep communities together while respecting the faith of all.

Meanwhile, the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sangharsh Samiti held a protest in Ramban against the Shrine Board over the allocation of 42 out of 50 seats to students from one community. The group demanded cancellation of the selection list, alleging that the process was unfair and lacked transparency.

HC Grants Bail

Tamil Nadu besides being an accused in grabbing rupees several crores from a film producer, music director and medical students in the name of medical seats and from others for clearing a project in which some of his family members were also involved.

"In the face of ...legal position, it is clear that mere pendency of multiple FIRs against an accused cannot by itself be a ground to deny bail in a case where the maximum punishment for the offence for which the accused is charged extends upto seven or ten years, particularly when the chargesheet stands produced against him and he has spent more than one and a half years in jail as an undertrial," the court said. Thus, the bench said, denying the concession of bail to Nagraj may not be a proper exercise of discretion vested with the Court under Section 483 of BNSS as the same would militate against the principle that "bail is the rule and jail is exception".

Subsequently, the court granted bail to him by imposing several conditions.

According to the army officer, Nagraj came into contact with him in the month of August 2023 and by posing himself as a big businessman, financier, co-producer of Bahubali (Movie), expressed his desire to invest in Kashmir. He also asked the army officer that if he was interested in buying a house in Delhi, he could get him the same at reasonable rates. On 8 September 2023, Nagraj requested him to transfer Rs. 12 lacs in his father's account as he was going to the President's house. The complainant transferred Rs. 11 lacs from his account and Rs. 1 lac from his wife's account. On 12 September, 2023, Nagraj called the complainant to Delhi for discussing the property matter and the complainant went to his house in Defence Colony, New Delhi.

Nagraj showed the property papers of a house to him and claimed that he and his father were its owners, and they wanted to sell it. As the complainant was looking for a property, so he agreed to buy and asked him to prepare a written agreement, the police said.

Nagrai, the army officer said, told the complainant that he would send the same by post as the documents were lying in Chennai, but he never did so. In October 2023, Nagraj, the officer said, called the complainant to Chennai, where he showed some apartment, where renovation work was going on, as his production house. The complainant on asking of Nagraj deposited Rs. 32 lacs in the account of K. Vishnu Sagar, Nagraj's father, Rs. 30 lacs in the account of Ranjeet Surya Ganesan (Nagraj's Chennai friend) and Rs. 44 lacs in his own account. The sum of Rs. 1.06 crores was paid by the complainant (army officer) through his own and wife's account. When the suspicion raised in the mind of the officer, he enquired and came to know that the property did not belong to Nagraj, and he had shown him false papers

pertaining to property. When the complainant asked him to return his money, he kept on delaying the same and finally issued cheques for an amount of Rs. 1 crore and due to insufficient funds, the cheques were bounced.

GPS Mandatory

of Geology and Mining. Each vehicle is required to carry a valid RFID number and a QR-coded challan or watermark generated through the department's online portal.

The government has said the system aims to enforce end-use accountability, curb illegal extraction, and prevent unauthorised transportation of minerals. The order also cites earlier directions from the National Highways Authority of India, requiring tracking devices in vehicles used for mineral transport.

The order further mandates the implementation of QR coding, RFID tagging, ANPR cameras on gantries, and integrated e-check gates for seamless monitoring.

Officials said the technological measures will strengthen the regulation of mining activity and align Jammu and Kashmir with national enforcement standards. They added that the move aims to curb illegal mining and to ensure accountability.

Unregulated Online

of a secure, structured and innovation-friendly digital environment, while addressing the associated risks to public health, consumer health, public morality and financial sovereignty.

"There is enough material and data that indicates that the unregulated online gaming sector has links with terror financing and money laundering," it has said, while offering to give more details in a sealed cover on links of terror financing and money laundering.

"When the society, its national security, financial sovereignty, health and public order are at stake and is directly threatened by on-line money games, the same cannot be permitted to be offered or facilitated, considering the widespread and harmful impact it causes," the government has said.

It has pointed out that the online gaming industry is unregulated and completely unchecked by way of a formal legislation and the industry and its products are not restricted to the physical boundaries of a particular State.

"They are solely dependent on the online digital sphere, without which the end consumer, mainly the youth and vulnerable, cannot be reached," it has said.

Justifying complete prohibition, the government has said roughly, the general public has lost approximately Rs 20,000 crore per year to companies offering online money games and approximately 45 crore individuals have been affected by online money games.

"Between January 2023 and July 2025, the state of Karnataka reported 32 suicides linked to online money games. The state of Telangana reported 20 suicides linked to online money games in last year alone. Even recently, seven deaths in one month were reported in the state of Telangana. The Academic and Medical Committee from the state of Tamil Nadu notes more than 30 suicides related to online money games in recent years," the affidavit has said.

The Centre has said the financial losses arising from online money games cause widespread and rampant suicides across the country.

"If data is gathered from each state separately, then the overall figure of suicides would be glaring and shocking. Thousands of crores of money are lost by the society linked to online money games," it has said.

The top court had in September transferred to itself all matters from the high courts across the country challenging the new enactment.

Red Fort Blast:

white collar terror module earlier busted by the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

The agency said it is following multiple leads and continues searches across several states to identify others involved in the bombing.

Holistic Development of Remote Areas Our Top Priority: CM

Reviews Development Scenario of Poonch District

Observer News Service

POONCH: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah conducted an extensive review of the developmental landscape of Poonch district, taking a detailed assessment of the pace of ongoing works, funds utilisation and overall progress of key infrastructure projects and welfare schemes.

Chairing the high-level meeting, the Chief Minister underscored the need for timely utilisation of allocated funds, strict adherence to set timelines and ensuring visible outcomes on the ground. He directed all departments to accelerate project execution so that benefits reach people without delay.

The meeting was attended by Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Ahmed Rana, Javed Ahmed Dar, and Satish Sharma; Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; the District Development Council Chairperson; and the MLAs of Poonch district. Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta, Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar, Deputy Commissioner Poonch, senior district officers, heads of departments and other concerned officials were also present.

Representatives from Poonch, including the DDC Chairperson



and MLA Poonch-Haveli Ajaz Ahmed Jan and MLA Surankote Choudhary Mohammad Akram raised several issues and demands related to infrastructure gaps, public service delivery and sector-specific priorities of the district.

Responding to the submissions, the Chief Minister assured that all issues, grievances, and demands of the people of Poonch will be addressed on priority. He reiterated the government's commitment to inclusive development and stressed on the need to resolve administrative and procedural hurdles to ensure seamless progress.

He noted that the government's top priority is the holistic development of far-flung and remote areas and district-wise review meetings are being con-

ducted to understand local needs and developmental expectations directly from stakeholders.

The Chief Minister emphasised that the government has intensified its focus on strengthening road connectivity, upgrading public infrastructure, improving educational facilities and boosting the economic growth of the region. These interventions, he said, are vital for ensuring equitable growth and improving the quality of life of the people.

He directed officials to maintain close interdepartmental coordination, regularly monitor progress and ensure accountability at all levels.

At the outset, Deputy Commissioner Poonch Ashok Kumar Sharma delivered a presentation on the status of projects under

Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), UT capex, and various flagship programmes. He highlighted some bottlenecks and issues affecting project completion.

The Deputy Commissioner informed that the district has recorded substantial progress under the District Capex Budget, including achievements in road connectivity, water supply, education, health, rural development, social welfare and power infrastructure. Key ongoing works include the NH-144A tunnel, RTS double-lane road, Parnai Hydro-electric Project, construction of girls' hostels and G&B hostels, Mini Secretariats at Poonch and Mendhar, Eklavya Model Residential School and major bridges at Mandi and Mendhar. The meeting was informed that over

1,100 bunkers have been completed, significantly enhancing border-area safety.

It was further informed that under social sector schemes, Poonch achieved 100% family coverage under Ayushman Bharat- Sehat scheme, full saturation under NSAP, and high progress in PMAY, PM-Poshan, PM SHRI, and PMMVY. Agriculture and allied sectors also reported notable achievements under HADP, including protected cultivation, mushroom units, bee-keeping clusters, mechanisation support, and soil-testing facilities.

The Chief Minister called for time-bound resolution of pending issues, including completion of the Mini Secretariat buildings, BRO-related road matters, and clearance of SDRF liabilities, to further accelerate the district's development momentum.

Later, the Chief Minister, along with his Cabinet colleagues, inaugurated five key development projects worth ₹13.54 crore for Poonch district, including a modern compost making unit at Mendhar and multiple Water Supply Schemes across Haveli and Surankote.

These initiatives will strengthen agriculture, improve safe drinking water access and enhance quality of life for the people.

DIPR Commemorates Constitution Day Celebrations at Jammu



Director of Information, Nitish Rajora on Wednesday led the celebrations of Constitution Day at Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) by reading out the Preamble of the Constitution at Conference Hall of Media Complex here.

Joint Director Information Headquarters, Dr. Zahoor Ahmad; Joint Director Information Jammu, Deepak Dubey; Deputy Director PR/AV, Javid Ahmad Rather; Deputy Director Information Jammu, Ashu Kumari; Administrative Officer, Renu Sharma; Accounts Officer, Information Officers and officials of the department also took part in the celebrations.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director underlined that the Constitution is the soul of our democracy and is the document of our National Pride. He added that by commemorating this day we are acknowledging and paying glowing tributes to Founding Fathers of our Constitution.

The Director called upon the officers and officials of the department to rededicate themselves to uphold the values that express the soul of our Constitution like justice, liberty, equality and dignity. (Observer News Service)

Northern Railway Marks Constitution Day With Pledge Ceremony



Northern Railway on Wednesday observed Constitution Day with a solemn pledge ceremony held at its headquarters in the national capital. The event, organised to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India, saw the participation of senior railway officials led by General Manager Shri Ashok Kumar Verma.

Shri Verma, along with other top officers, read out the Preamble to the Constitution, reaffirming their collective commitment to uphold the values of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity enshrined in the nation's supreme document. The officials also took a formal pledge to protect and preserve constitutional ideals in the discharge of their duties.

Constitution Day, celebrated every year on November 26, marks the historic moment in 1949 when India adopted its Constitution. This year's observance, Northern Railway officials said, carries added significance as it reflects the organisation's renewed dedication to strengthening democratic principles and promoting constitutional awareness among its workforce.

The ceremony concluded with a call to continue fostering transparency, accountability and service to the public—core values that, officials noted, are rooted in the spirit of the Constitution. (Observer News Service)

Police Foil Narcotics Smuggling Attempt

In a significant action against drug menace, Police in Anantnag on Wednesday said to have recovered a large quantity of contraband and foiled an attempt to smuggle narcotic substances in the jurisdiction of Police Station Pahalgam.

A police party from PS Pahalgam, deputed for census duty to village Awoora, was proceeding towards Awoora Nallah in a departmental TATA Sumo when they noticed a suspicious individual pushing an iron-made single-tyre handcart loaded with multiple sacks. On spotting the police vehicle, the unidentified male abandoned the cart and escaped into the adjoining forest area, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to Kashmir Observer.

The police team immediately secured the abandoned cart and inspected the sacks. During the examination, the sacks were found to contain half-dried bhang leaves, weighing a total of 24.50 kilograms.

In this regard, police said that a case under FIR number 76/2025 under relevant sections has been registered at Police Station Pahalgam and investigation was initiated. "During the course of investigation, the accused was identified as Gulam Nabi Khatana son of Abdul Rashid resident of Nallah Awoora, who is currently absconding. Efforts are underway to apprehend the accused," police said.

Meanwhile, J&K Police remains committed to eliminating the drug menace from society and urges the public to cooperate by sharing any information related to narcotic activities. (Observer News Service)



PRODUCERS, DIRECTORS AND industry stakeholders interacted with DIPR officials.



DIRECTOR INFORMATION Nitish Rajora

DIPR Showcases J&K Film Policy at IFFI Goa

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government spotlighted its revamped Film Policy 2024 at the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa, using the global platform to attract filmmakers and promote the Union Territory as a premier shooting destination.

A delegation from the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), led by Commissioner Secretary Information M Raju and Director Information Nitish Rajora, set up an impressive J&K Pavilion at the WAVES Film Bazaar. The pavilion showcased the UT's cinematic potential, rich cultural heritage, local cuisines and iconic tourist landscapes.

Speaking during the event, Director Information Nitish Rajora said the primary objective was to pitch Jammu & Kashmir as a

DIRECTOR INFORMATION NITISH RAJORA SAID THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WAS TO PITCH Jammu & Kashmir as a top-tier destination for Bollywood and international productions,"

top-tier destination for Bollywood and international productions. He highlighted that the New J&K Film Policy 2024 offers a smoother, digital single-window clearance system for film permissions, alongside attractive subsidies.

Under the policy, filmmakers can avail 5-10% incentives for feature films, 10-15% for documentaries and web series, and addi-

tional subsidies for projects promoting J&K or those centred on patriotic themes.

The pavilion drew more than 500 visitors, including producers, directors and industry stakeholders, who interacted with DIPR officials and explored opportunities for shooting in J&K. Many exchanged contacts and expressed keen interest in visiting the region for future projects. During the Knowledge Series session held alongside IFFI 2025, Rajora delivered a detailed presentation on the J&K Film Policy, highlighting improved logistics, scenic diversity and government support aimed at boosting film tourism. Officials noted that J&K's participation at IFFI aligns with the UT's broader goal of building a robust film ecosystem, attracting investments, and creating opportunities in the creative and hospitality sectors.

Govt Ensuring All Pending Projects Are Completed: Dy CM

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary on Wednesday said that the government is fulfilling its promises while ensuring completion of all undertaken and long-pending projects across Jammu and Kashmir.

He made these remarks during an extensive tour of Khanyar and Hazratbal areas of Srinagar, undertaken to assess progress on various ongoing developmental works.

The Deputy Chief Minister was accompanied by MLA Hazratbal, Salman Sagar.

During the on-spot inspections, the Deputy Chief Minister said, "The government will keep all its promises and ensure speedy completion of all ongoing as well as long-pending projects across Jammu and Kashmir."

Throughout the visit to interior areas of Khanyar and Hazratbal, the Deputy Chief Minister reviewed the status of several key road-widening and public infrastructure projects. These included Koolipora-Khanyar Road Widening Project, Government Degree College for Women Zakura (Hazratbal), Malabagh Road Widening Project, Ellahi Bagh Chowk near Gargroo Store



and Omar Haer-Dagapora Road Widening Project in Hazratbal area.

The concerned departments were directed to expedite all ongoing works, ensure timely completion while maintaining the highest standards of quality.

Emphasizing the importance of these initiatives, he said that enhanced road connectivity will improve mobility, reduce bottlenecks and strengthen public infrastructure in Hazratbal and adjoining areas.

At Koolipora Khanyar, the Deputy Chief Minister reviewed the upgradation and widening of internal link roads, which are critical for decongesting traffic and improving access to residential and commercial areas. He instructed the executing agencies to

prioritize completion of blacktopping and drainage works to prevent waterlogging during rains.

The Deputy Chief Minister stated that the widening works will significantly improve the vehicular movement, enhance inter-district connectivity and eliminate traffic bottlenecks, ensuring hassle-free travel along the Umer-Haer-Gadoora Road.

He Instructed the authorities to expedite land acquisition and ensure the project is completed at the earliest.

Senior officers from R&B, SMC, PHE, PMGSY, Employment, Labour, DIC, and other line departments accompanied the Deputy Chief Minister during the inspections and briefed him on the current status of each project.

J&K UTLBC to Organise Facilitation Camps in Kupwara, Kathua, Kulgam & Doda

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As part of the nationwide initiative 'Aap ki Poonji, Aap Ka Adhikar : Your Money, Your Right', mega facilitation camps are being organised on 28th November (Friday) in the districts of Kupwara, Kathua, Kulgam and Doda to help citizens trace and reclaim their long-pending financial assets. The camps are a part of three-month awareness-cum-disbursement campaign launched by the Union Government's Department of Financial Services (DFS) in coordination with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and financial-sector regulators.

The purpose of these camps is to facilitate the settlement of unclaimed bank deposits, dormant insurance amounts, inactive mutual funds and dividend proceeds, unclaimed shares, and other unclaimed or inactive financial assets held across various financial institutions. The nationwide campaign aims to ensure that every rupee saved by citizens can be rightfully claimed by them or by their legal heirs and nominees.

The Kupwara camp will be held at MC Town Hall, Kupwara at 11:15 am, where MLA Kupwara, District Development Council

THE PURPOSE OF THESE CAMPS IS TO FACILITATE THE SETTLEMENT OF UNCLAIMED BANK DEPOSITS, dormant insurance amounts, inactive mutual funds and dividend proceeds, unclaimed shares, and other unclaimed or inactive financial assets held across various financial institutions.

Chairperson and officials from major banks, insurance companies, PFRDA and government departments are expected to participate and guide the public. In Kathua, the facilitation camp will take place at Tangri Palace at 12 Noon, with representatives from RBI, LIC, district administration, banks and SLBC assisting participants and facilitating on-the-spot verification and disbursement wherever applicable.

In Kulgam, the camp will be organised at the

Mini Secretariat on 28th November at 11 am, with public representatives including MPs, MLAs, and officials from RBI, district administration, banks, and insurance companies, SEBI, PFRDA and IEPFA expected to attend and support the initiative. Similarly, the camp in Doda will be held at the DC Office, Doda at 3 pm, where public representatives, RBI officers, senior district officers and representatives from key financial institutions will help citizens identify, verify and process claims related to unclaimed assets.

People have been encouraged through BLBC meetings, FLC outreach programmes and awareness drives conducted by banks and district authorities to attend these camps with valid identity proof and relevant supporting documents to check the status of their unclaimed financial assets and settle them thereof.

The Lead District Managers of Kupwara, Kathua, Kulgam and Doda have appealed to the general public to participate in these facilitation camps and make full use of this opportunity to identify, verify and recover unclaimed financial assets belonging to them or their family members.

Gambhir: BCCI Will Decide My Future, But Remember My Successes

Press Trust Of India

GUWAHATI: Under-fire India head coach Gautam Gambhir on Wednesday said it was up to the BCCI to decide his future after the Test series whitewash against South Africa but also reminded everyone of the success the team has achieved in his tenure.

Gambhir was speaking after the humiliating 408-run drubbing at the hands of South Africa in the second Test here Wednesday, which gave the visitors a 2-0 series sweep.

"It is up to the BCCI to decide my future. But I am the same guy



who got you results in England and was coach for the Champi-

ons Trophy," Gambhir said at the post-match press conference, referring to India's title-winning run in the Champions Trophy and a gruelling 2-2 draw against the English in their own backyard earlier this year.

"The blame lies with everyone and starts with me," he conceded in his first reactions after the 0-2 drubbing.

"We need to play better. From 95/1 to 122/7 is not acceptable. You don't blame any individual or any particular shot. Blame lies with everyone. I never blamed individuals and won't do it going forward," he added.

Under Gambhir, India have

lost 10 of the 18 tests, including twin whitewashes against New Zealand last year and South Africa now, both at home.

India's defeat against South Africa at Guwahati is their largest in terms of runs in Test cricket.

Gambhir has of late attracted criticism for frequent changes in the team and his inclination to focus more on all-rounders than specialists in the traditional format.

"You don't need the most flamboyant and talented cricketers to play Test cricket. What we need are tough characters with limited skills. They make good Test cricketers," he said.

India Slip to 5th in WTC Rankings After SA Drubbing



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- India's chances of reaching the World Test Championship finals (WTC) took a major hit as they slipped to the fifth spot in standings following their embarrassing 0-2 series whitewash to South Africa at home.

The 408-run loss in the second Test in Guwahati on Wednesday marked India's heaviest defeat in terms of runs in the traditional five-day format.

The loss means the team,

which had drawn the series against England earlier this year, slipped below Pakistan and are now at the fifth place with their PCT (percentage) dropping to 48.15.

India have played nine Test matches in the current WTC cycle, winning four, losing four, and drawing one game. They will travel to Sri Lanka for a two-match series August next year followed by a rubber against New Zealand in October-November.

On the other hand, South Africa's first Test series vic-

tory in India in 25 years has strengthened the Proteas' position in the standings.

The defending WTC champions currently occupy the second position, right behind leaders Australia, with 36 points from their four Tests. Their PCT improved from 66.67 to 75.

Inaugural edition champions New Zealand are yet to played a single series in the ongoing cycle while Sri Lanka and Pakistan have played one each.

The top two teams qualify for the final in 2027.

Praying for Sun

Winter Olympics Flame-lighting: What to Know

DEREK GATOPOULOS

Ancient Olympia (Greece), Nov 26 (AP) — At a temple in Ancient Olympia, a flame is drawn from the sun to begin its journey to the Winter Games. The choreographed ceremony inspired by ancient Greece is designed to link the original games to today's global competition.

On Wednesday, the flame will be kindled once more for the Milan Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics. From Olympia — birthplace of the ancient games — to Milan's San Siro Stadium on Feb. 6, the torch will cross Italy's cities and cultural landmarks, carried by thousands of relay runners.

Here's a look at how the ceremony unfolds, the challenges it faces, and where both the Olympic and Paralympic flames will travel in the months ahead.

It's all about the weather

The first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens

in 1896 but the flame was introduced later and only standardized in the 1930s using a method that hasn't changed since. A concave mirror concentrates sunlight onto the tip of a torch, producing a flame that represents purity and continuity with the Games' ancient roots.

The main challenge is the weather: No direct sunlight, no flame. Cloudy skies have forced organizers in the past to rely on a backup, a pre-lit flame produced during rehearsals. Copies of the flame are kept handy in a lantern throughout its journey so torches that occasionally go out mid-relay can be discreetly relit.

Protests staged by activists have disrupted past relays, notably ahead of the Beijing Olympics, prompting tighter security. Torch relays after the 2008 Games were limited to Greece and the host country.

A high priestesses and help from Apollo

Central to the lighting

ceremony is a meticulously choreographed performance led by the actors and dancers playing the role of a high priestess and her ensemble of priestesses and male kouroi.

The selection of the performers, their costumes and choreography are all inspired by the ancient aesthetic. Practicing for weeks, performers learn to coordinate precise gestures, sculptural poses, and synchronized movements across Ancient Olympia's uneven ground.

At the culmination of the ceremony, the high priestess calls for a moment of "sacred silence" before the torch is lit. In Greek, she recites an invocation to the ancient gods: "Apollo, god of sun and the idea of light, send your rays and light the sacred torch for the hospitable cities of Milan and Cortina. And you Zeus give peace to all peoples on earth and wreath the winners of the sacred race."

Pathway of Disaster

How India Lost 8 Tests & 3 Series Under Gambhir

India crashed to their third Test series defeat under head coach Gautam Gambhir when South Africa handed them a sound 0-2 beating with a win at Guwahati on Wednesday, completing 16 months of a turbulent ride.

In this period, India lost to New Zealand at home 0-3, away to Australia 1-3, and now finally to the Proteas.

Right now, Gambhir's Test record as a coach stands at a well under-par 7 wins, 10 defeats and 2 draws in 19 matches for a win percentage of 36.82. He is only behind Duncan Fletcher, whose win percentage is 33.33 after 17 losses, 13 wins, and 9 draws from 39 Tests. Here's a quick recap of those eventful matches.

1. NZ beat India by 8 wickets — Bengaluru

The eight-wicket drubbing was India's first home Test defeat to the Kiwis in 36 years. It was all the more painful because New Zealand pacers bundled out India for 46 in conditions akin to Christchurch or Wellington. The depth of humiliation was deeper than the Mariana Trench, as it was the first time India bowled out for a total below 50 at home.

2. NZ beat India by 113 runs — Pune

It was the turn of New Zealand spinners to torment Indian batters. Left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner, ably supported by Ajaz Patel and Glenn Phillips, took 13 wickets in the second Test of the three-match series to sink India.

3. NZ beat India by 25 runs — Mumbai

The old combine of R Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja took eight wickets among them to skittle NZ for 174 runs in their second innings, leaving the home batters to make 147 runs to avoid a rare whitewash at home. But despite Rishabh Pant's 57-ball 64, India were bundled out for 121 by Patel (6/57) and Phillips (3/42).

4. Australia beat India by 10 wickets — Adelaide

The happiness of a 295-run win in the first Test at Perth was dissipated in the Day-Night second Test at Adelaide. Mitchell Starc (6/48) and Travis Head (140) gave the Aussies the initial upper hand. Skipper Pat Cummins (5/57) crushed India in the second innings to leave the home batters with a meagre target of 19, that they went past without any damage.

5. Australia beat India by 184 runs — Melbourne

India entered the fourth Test at Melbourne after inclement weather saved them from a possible defeat at Brisbane. They had also lost Ashwin, who announced his retirement from top-level cricket after the drawn third Test. Steve Smith made a 140 to power the Aussies to a near 500 total.

Though debutant Nitish Kumar Reddy made a gritty hundred, the Aussies had a lead in excess of 100 runs in their hand. They presented India with a target of 340 runs. Yashasvi Jaiswal offered a token fight with an 84 off 208 balls, but the tourists were skittled for 155.

6. Australia beat India by 6 wickets — Sydney

Trailing 1-2, India still had a chance to level the series. But they did not have the will to fight against pacer Scott Boland (4/31, 6/45). The Aussies needed to chase down 162, and they did after an initial fumble of being at 58 for three.

7. SA beat India by 30 runs — Kolkata

For the second time in a year, the Indian batters succumbed to visiting spinners, this time to Simon Harmer who had a wily Marco Jansen on his side.

Off-spinner Harmer walked away with an eight-wicket match haul as the once masters of spin failed to scale down 124 on a Kolkata pitch that resembled a mud-laden wrestling arena. India were all out for 93. (PTI)

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