KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Tuesday 23 December 2025 | Srinagar | Vol: 29 | Issue: 305 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

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Republic Day 2026

Security Grid

Intensified In

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Security forces on

Monday carried out exten-

sive search and inspection

operations in areas surround-

ing Bakshi Stadium, the desig-

nated main venue for Republic

Day celebrations in Kashmir,

as part of heightened security measures ahead of the national

Joint teams of the Jammu

anti-sabotage

and Kashmir Police and the Central Reserve Police Force

checks, market sweeps and

coordinated inspections across several parts of the city. The operation focused on densely

populated and commercially significant areas close to the

stadium, including Amirakadal

Officials said sniffer dogs

handheld metal detectors and

other surveillance equipment

were deployed to check residen-

tial units, commercial premises

and storage spaces for any ex-

plosives, arms or ammunition.

Fire exits, basements, godowns

and narrow lanes were also

A separate surprise search

was conducted in Maharaja

Bazaar and adjoining commercial lanes earlier in the day.

Police teams verified identity

cards of shopkeepers and pe-

destrians as part of routine

security procedures. Officials

said such checks are carried

out periodically in crowded

scanned during the exercise.

and Maharaja Bazaar.

event, officials said.

conducted

Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICES
 NAME CHANGE
 SALE/PURCHASE
 BIRTHDAY WISHES
 OBITUARIES

Kashmir Mourns Beloved Broadcaster & Bard Abdul Ahad Farhad

For Decades, Farhad's Voice Brought News, Poetry, And Reassurance To Kashmiris Living Through Turbulence And Uncertainty



Fiza Masoodi

Srinagar: Long before phones buzzed in pockets and televisions flashed headlines, evenings in Kashmir had their own pattern. Families and neighbours gathered around radios, waiting for a familiar voice that could cut through the uncertainty outside. "Ab aap Farhad se khabrein suniye," it said.

People paused and listened. For a few minutes, the weight of the day eased, and the world felt a little more certain.

That voice belonged to Abdul Ahad Farhad, one of Kashmir's most respected broadcasters, poets, and writers, who passed away suddenly in Jammu on December 22, 2025.

Born in Soura, Srinagar, he lived there for most of his

life, deeply connected to the city and its people. His death has left literary, journalistic, and cultural circles in deep mourning.

During the violence of the 1990s, Kashmiris relied on Farhad's broadcasts as a lifeline. "His mesmerizing, beloved voice still echoes across the valley," Nazir Khan, an ardent radio lis-

Farhad studied in Srinagar and completed his Master's degree in English at the University of Kashmir. After university, he was selected for a lecturer's post, a stable and respected career. But at the same time, he was also selected at Radio Kashmir.

Radio changed everything. He often said he was influenced by the work culture and professionalism he saw

there. Broadcasting, he recalled, was once a profession people chose over government jobs.

Farhad joined radio as a scriptwriter, was later promoted as a newsreader, and eventually retired as a Grade One newsreader, a distinction considered equivalent to the rank of a director-general.

He | More on P6

Cloudy Weather To Persist Till Dec 29: MeT

Light Rain, Snow Expected After Dec 30

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Cloudy weather conditions are likely to persist across Jammu and Kashmir over the coming days, the Meteorological Department said on Monday, as the region continues to experience the effects of recent precipitation.

The MeT said the weather is expected to remain partly to generally cloudy across most parts of the Union Territory, with intermittent light rain in plains and light snowfall in higher reaches at some locations.

The department said that for Monday, generally cloudy conditions are expected, with the

possibility of light rain or snow at scattered to fairly widespread places during the afternoon hours. From December 23 to 29, the weather is likely to stay partly to generally cloudy across both Kashmir and Jammu divisions.

Between December 30 and January 1, some areas may witness light rainfall in the plains and light snowfall over higher reaches, while conditions from January 2 to 3 are expected to remain partly to generally cloudy.

Earlier, on Monday, the MeT forecasted another spell of snow or rain over the next 12 hours. Officials said that recent pre-

cipitation has kept day temperatures | More on P6

Kashmir's Rs 6 Crore Waste Plant **Becomes Open Dump, Sparks Outcry**

Climate Activists Demand Probe After Rs 6 Crore Facility Is Misused, Spreading Waste, Pollution, And Stray Dogs In Local Communities

Syed Sammar Mehdi

Srinagar: A waste management plant built at Dangerpora Padgampora in Pulwama, funded with over Rs 6 crore, has reportedly turned into an open garbage dump, sparking outrage from climate activists and local residents. The J&K Climate Action

Group (JKCAG) has called on the J&K Anti-Corruption Bureau and the Principal Accountant General's office to investigate the project. In a recent site visit, the

group found unscientific dumping, burning of waste, and foul odors affecting nearby communities.

The municipal solid waste is scattered everywhere, and



the smell is unbearable, even in this cold weather," said Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat, JKCAG

"An irrigation canal that serves over 1,200 acres of paddy fields runs just 5 to 7 meters from the site. This clearly

violates Municipal Solid Waste Rules 2016, the Water Act, and the Air Pollution Act." Locals said the site has be-

come a haven for stray dogs, which roam the area in packs, attacking children, women, and livestock.

"Women avoid going to the fields, children are afraid to walk to school, and our livestock, especially sheep, are under threat," said Mushtag Ahmad, chairman of the Auqaf Committee in Dangerpora.

He added that plastic waste is spreading into nearby paddy lands, worsened by gusty winds, making life unbearable, especially in summer months. The J&K Pollution Control

Committee (JKPCC) had previ-

ously | More on P6

markets to ensure public safety during peak business hours. Movement through inner

lanes of | More on P6

Fresh Snow, **Rain Disrupt** Air, Road **Traffic**

resh snowfall in higher reaches and rainfall in the plains on Monday disrupted air and road traffic across Kashmir, while movement on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway remained slow due to single-lane operations at multiple stretches, officials said. | More on P6

India Must be Ready for Short, Long Wars: CDS

Press Trust Of India

Mumbai: India should be prepared to fight short-duration, high-intensity conflicts to deter terrorism, something like Operation Sindoor, and long duration conflict because of the territorial disputes with its neighbours, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan said on



Monday.Speaking at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, Gen Chauhan said multi-domain operations

Cabinet Okays 5 Marla Land For Flood Victims, VLW Pay Upgrade

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet on Monday approved a policy for the allotment of five marlas of land to people affected by floods and cloudbursts, besides clearing a proposal to enhance the salary of Village Level Workers, official sources said.

Sources said that the Cabinet meeting, chaired by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and attended by all ministers, cleared a series of proposals submitted by various departments.

According to the sources, the Cabinet gave its nod to



the allotment of five marlas of land to families affected by floods and cloudbursts earlier this year, a move aimed at providing relief and rehabilitation to those who lost land or homes during the natural calamities.

The Cabinet also approved a proposal to designate District Panchayat Officers posted in Assistant Commissioner Panchayat offices as Block Development | More on P6

Terrorists, Drug Mafia In Sight Of Our Guns: DGP

Says 10 Police De-addiction Centres Operating Across J&K

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat on Monday said terrorism, drug trafficking and other criminal activities will remain firmly under police watch, asserting that the force is committed to eliminating all anti-national and anti-social elements from the Union Territory.

Addressing a gathering after inaugurating the 14th Police Shaheed Smriti T20 Cricket



2025-26 Tournament Kathua, the DGP said criminals of every kind, particularly terrorists, would not be spared.

"Whether it is drugs, gangsters, mafia or any other kind of crime, and especially terrorism, everything will remain in the sight of our guns. | More on P6

Between Imports & Outages

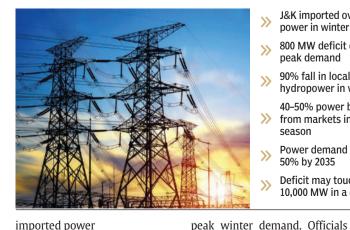
Why J&K's Power Promises Fell Short In 2025

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As 2025 draws to a close, Jammu and Kashmir's power sector stands exposed between ambitious promises and harsh realities. The year saw recurring power shortages, rising dependence on imported electricity, seasonal uncertainty in generation, and ageing infrastructure, all of which combined to deliver an unreliable supply

and growing public frustration. While the government pushed reforms such as smart metering, infrastructure upgrades and revenue improvement, developments through the year showed that the path towards energy self-reliance re-

mains long and complex. dependence Heavy



By the third week of

December, Jammu and Kashmir

was importing over 95 percent

of its electricity, leaving the re-

gion highly vulnerable during

J&K imported over 95%

power in winter 2025

800 MW deficit during peak demand

90% fall in local hydropower in winter

40-50% power bought from markets in lean

Power demand to rise 50% by 2035

said imports ranged between

2,900 and 3,100 MW during

peak hours, and 2,400 to 2,800

actual demand

MW during other periods.

10,000 MW in a decade

Deficit may touch

projected by 2034-35

29% load shedding

Low voltage issues

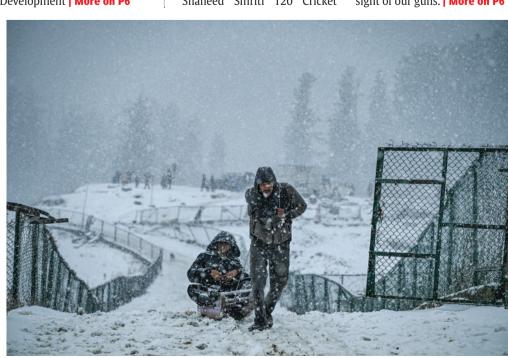
20% peak-hour surcharge proposed December

shortage at 34%

AT&C losses above 41%

Power revenue up 250% in five years

Kashmir hovered around 2.400 to 2,500 MW, while Jammu's demand ranged between 1,400 and 1,500 MW. Against an availability of about 3,100 to 3,200 MW, the region | More on P6



A local pulls a tourist on a sledge through fresh snowfall in Gulmarg on Sunday. KO Photo By Abid Bhat

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm) No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

IIT Bombay Breakthrough Uses Light To Tune Quantum States In Ultra-Thin Materials

Press Trust Of India

Researchers from IIT Bombay have developed a simple light-based technique to create, control, and detect tiny quantum states in atom-thin materials, which could speed up the development of ultra-fast, low-power quantum and next-generation electronic devices.

Researchers at IIT Bombay have found a simple optical method to control quantum states in ultra-thin materials using linearly polarised light, a breakthrough that could eventually enable computers and electronic devices that are far faster and more energy-efficient than today's technology. The materials studied are just one

atom thick - far thinner than a human hair - and are known as two-dimensional (2D) semiconductors. Inside these materials, electrons can sit

in one of two distinct quantum states, called valleys. However, to reliably control which val-

ley electrons occupy - and to switch between them quickly and on demand has been a major challenge. "Previous methods required complicat-

ed experimental setups with carefully tuned circularly polarised lasers and often multiple laser pulses, and they only

worked under specific conditions," said IIT Bombay Prof Gopal Dixit.

The findings reveal a new method that removes the need for complicated laser schemes by using just one linearly polarised pulse.

Researchers found that a subtle asymmetry in the laser's skewed polarisation waveform, introduced as a controlled delay between its polarisation components, is enough to push elec-

trons into either valley. By inverting the temporal skew, the induced valley polarisation can be switched between the two states, making the process fully reversible.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER FLOOD SPILL CHANNEL DIVISION NARBAL

PIN No.193401

Email: javidahmakur.80821@jk.gov.in

Fax/Phone: 01951-260223

Notice inviting e-Tender

e- NIT No. 19 of 2025-26 Dated: 20 /12/2025 For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) on percentile basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors for the following works to be received by the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.

S. No	Name of Work			Cost of T/ Doc. (.)		Class of Contrac- tor	M.H Ac- count
01	Construction of toe protection / slope protection works on inner and outer right side embankment of Flood Spill Channel at Jawahar Nagar (at spots)."	.39.26 Lacs	78600/-	4000/-	45days		4711-UT Capex
02.	Raising and strengthening of right embankment of Flood Spill Channel at Gulabawari.	.19.29 Lacs	38600/-	2000/-	30days		4711-UT Capex

Position of AAA =Accorded, Position of TS = Sanctioned, Position of funds: (100% Budgetary provision 2025-26) The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be

seen/c	seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-						
1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	20-12-2025					
2.	Period of downloading of bidding docu-						
	ments						
	20-12-2025 from 1700 Hrs						
3.	Bid submission Start Date	20-12-2025 from 1700 Hrs					
4.	Bid Submission End Date	27-12-2025 upto 1400 Hrs					
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	29-12-2025 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel					
Division Na		Division Narbal.					
6	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	The bidder has to provide 5% of Adv. Cost as Performance Security & Addl. perfor-					
		mance security as per circular issued by the J&K Finance Department vide No. FD-					
		Code/441/2021-02-158 dt:08/08/2025 within 7 days after opening of Financial Bid.					

Note:-

The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall if any found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Sectt. Finance department vide No.OM No.A/24(2017)-651 dtd. 07-06-2018 which reads

as under:-Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of E-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's

declared 1st Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.

The Cost of tenders should be collected by uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/Receipt. 1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0701—Rev. Misc) and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal failing which the tender will be rejected out rightly. The issuing date of CDR/FDR uploaded must be between issuing date to Bid Submission end date of NIT. CDR/FDR (Earnest money/Bid security) and relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.

Unbalanced Bid: In case the bid is found to be unbalanced, the successful bidder (L1) shall have to deposit an Additional Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG from any scheduled bank, in accordance with the Govt. of J&K-Finance Department Circular No:FD-Code/441/2021-02-158, Dated: 08/08/2025, as tabulated

١.	DEIOW.		
9	S. No	Percentage below the Advt. Amount	Additional Performance Security to be submitted.
b	1	Up to 10% below	NiL
2	2	11% to 20% below	Bid starting 11% below the Adv.Cost, 0.1% of the Adv.Cost for every additional percent of bid price below
			upto the maximum of 1%.
3	3	More than 20% below	One percent incremented by 0.2% of the Adv. Cost for every %age of bid price below 20%.

One percent incremented by 0.2% of the Adv. Cost for every %age of bid price below 20% Note: The Additional Performance Security shall be treated as a part of Performance Security.

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. The normal deposits to be deducted as per GFR 2017 rules from running bills to be released after DLP of the work is over.

The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders or any part of any tender without assigning reason thereof. Defect liability period of the work shall be commencing six months after completion of work

No. FSCDN/CS/6088-6110

Dated: 22/12/2025 DIPK-9213/25

Er. javaid Ahmad Kurpal **Executive Engineer** Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. 3202 4503 1208 Now I want to change my name from SYED SHAFI HYDER (Old Name) to SYED DANISH MOSVI (New Name). In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he or she may approach the concerned authorities within a period of seven days. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Name:SYED MEHMOOD MOSVI F/O: SYED DANISH MOSVI

R/o: MIRGUND, BUDGAM, Jammu & Kashmir - 191111

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Notice	Notice for engagement of Honorary Visiting Specialists Notice for engagement of Honorary Visiting Specialists at Northern Railway Firozpur Division							
S.No.	Name of hospital	HVS	No. of posts					
1	Divisional Hospital, Jammu	Eye	01					
		Physician	01					
		Orthopaedics	01					
		0	0.4					

Detailed terms and conditions governing the engagement is available on Norther Railway website www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in Those interested doctors can submit their Bio-Data along with their professional work

experience, option regarding 2 Hours/6 days/week and contact details to Chief Medical Superintendent, Northern Railway, Divisional Hospital, Firozpur-152001 (Puniab) up to 13.00 Hrs on 22.1.2026.

No. 40-Med/HVS/FZR Dated: 22.12.25

S.NO

3

4

6

8

entertained after the said time.

mia

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

MEHMOODGAMI MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE

MEHMOODABAD DORU

UDISE: 01060800503

Revised Fee Structure for the year 2025 - 2026

Class

5th

4th

3rd

2nd 1st

U.K.G

L.K.G

NURSERY

Any clarification or objection may be informed to under signed with in a period of seven days

PUBLIC NOTICE

In my Driving License bearing DL NO. JK-0520010002116 name is mentioned as MEHMOOD UL HASSAN NAZKI But my actual name is MAHMOODUL HASSAN NAZKI, and my father's Name is mentioned as AB MAJEED, But my actual name is ABDUL MAJEED NAZKI. Now I want to correct it if anybody has any objection, he/she may contact ARTO OFFICE SOPORE within the period of 7 days; after that, no objection will be accepted. Name: MAHMOODUL HASSAN NAZKI

S/O:MABDUL MAJEED NAZKI R/O MUOAMI SHAIHID

SOPORE.

BARAMULLA,JK Pincode: 193201

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Fertilizer And Pesticides . If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the Cheef Agriculture Baramula within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Javid Ahmad Mir S/O Ghulam Ahmad Mir

Monthly Fee

790

770

750

730

700

680

680

650

R/O Palhallan Pattan

The newly Constituted managing body of Aru Excellenc Academy is public for information of general public objections if any be communicated to the office of the Director School Education Kashmir

within seven days.						
Name/Parentage/Address	Qual.	Design				
Sadaf Sajad D/o Sajad Ah Shah R/o Lawaypora	MSe Zoology	Private Teacher (3 years of teaching experience)				
Bashir Ah Parray S/O Ghulam Mohd Parray R/o Jawharpora	MA Political Science/B. Ed	Private Teacher (10 years of Teaching experience				
Arshid Ahmad Parray S/o Sajad Ah Parray R/O Jawahar pora	B.A in political & History	Private Teacher & Also Cracks NDA In 2021				
Syed Irfan Nabi S/o Syed Ghulam Nabi R/o Narbal	MA in urdu + B.Ed	Private teacher (10 years of experience)				
Manzoor Hussain Ganaie S/O Gh Hussain Ganie R/o Wahabpora Budgam	B.A + B.P-ed	Private Teacher				
Lateef Hussain Bhat S/o Mohd Ashraf Bhat R/O Wahabpora Budgam	Bachelors in Compound Arts	Private Teacher				

Sd/ Principal

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. 7688 8792 2274 Now I want to change my name from ABDUL MAJID KHAN (Old Name) to ABDUL MAJEED KHAN (New Name). In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he or she may approach the concerned authorities within a period of seven days. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Name: ABDUL MAJEED KHAN

S/O SANAULLAH KHAN R/o: HARDU WAIL, BUDGAM, Jammu & Kashmir - 191111

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office of The Naib-Tehsildar Pahlallan **Executive Magistrate 1st Class**

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for information of the general public that the Block Development Officer (BDO) Pattan has forwarded the case file for issuance of a Date of Birth (DOB) Certificate in favour of Faisal Mushtag S/O Mushtag Ahmad Parrey R/o Andergam Date of Birth 28-07-2017

Objections, if any, regarding the details furnished by the applicant may be submitted in writing in the office of the Naib Tehsildar, Pahlallan within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the stipulated time, the case shall be processed for issuance of the DOB certificate as per rules in vogue. Naib Tehsildar

Pahlallan

Where, I Farooq Ahmad Rafiquee S/o Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Rafiquee, R/o Bank Colony Bagat Barzalla Srinagara intends to apply in the office of Prescribed Authority of Tourism Kashmir for registration of my proposed Paying Guest Houses/Homestay under the name and style M/s: Marina Guest House Situated at Raiyar, Ach Khansahab Budgam, Kashmir under the Tourist Trade Act1978/81/2011.Whereas, Jwill submit Landownership Certificate from concerned Tehsildar with attested photographs of the unit through Dy. Commissioner Concerned, Rent/Lease Deed/PartnershipDeedlissued concerned Sub-Registrar, Judicial Magistrate (If applicable NOC from the owner to the effect that the property can be used as Home stay. Character Certificate of the applicant from the concerned police station undertaking from the owner as self-declaration, Public Notice inviting objections, if any in print media, list of family members Name, Age and Photograph self attested by owner, Photographs of the unit as mentioned in the application(each of exterior and individual bed rooms and bathrooms), Inspection report by the committee (The recommendation of the inspection Committee shall decide whether to issue a registration to the unit or not keeping in view, the type of accommodation and amenity, Adhaar card. Now, before my case is proceed for registration by the Prescribed Authority. The matter is here by notified for information of general Public/Organizations for objection, if any and the same should reach to the office of Prescribed Authority within a period of 7 Days from the publication shall not be entertained and the case shall be proceed under rules as per merit. walnut ads

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Birth Certificate of my son the name is entered as USMAN GULZAR while his actual name is NORAIZ AHMAD MIR. Now i want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact DISTRICT HOSPITAL BUDGAM with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

GULZAR AHMAD MIR F/o NORAIZ AHMAD MIR

R/o JAWALAPORA BUDGAM

CELL. 9697497949

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No.JK-0420140023179 issued in favour of HILAL AH-MAD DAR Parentage MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH DAR

Whereas an application has been recieved by one HILAL AHMAD DAR Parentage MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH DAR wherein he claimed that the address has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as ZUGOO KHAIRIAN KHANSA-HIB BUDGAM Which needs to be changed as ARIZAL KHANSAHIB

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been inadvertently recorded in his/ her Aadhaar Card as Urshia Jan while her correct name is Arusha Feroz . DOB 11-07-2013. . Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within Seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained...

Khalida Akhter M/o Arusha Feroz R/O Zawoora Baderhama

ab

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been inadvertently recorded in his/ her Aadhaar Card as Aksa Jan while her correct name is Aksa Bilal . Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within Seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained..

Bilal Ahmad Ganie F/o Aksa Bilal

fko R/o Makan Dangerpora Shopian

Aru Excellence Academy Narbal, Near Fish Farm

riame, raientage, riaaress	Quan.	DC31011
Sadaf Sajad D/o Sajad Ah Shah R/o Lawaypora	MSe Zoology	Private Teacher (3 years of teaching experience)
Bashir Ah Parray S/O Ghulam Mohd Parray R/o Jawharpora	MA Political Science/B. Ed	Private Teacher (10 years of Teaching experience
Arshid Ahmad Parray S/o Sajad Ah Parray R/O Jawahar pora	B.A in political & History	Private Teacher & Also Cracks NDA In 2021
Syed Irfan Nabi S/o Syed Ghulam Nabi R/o Narbal	MA in urdu + B.Ed	Private teacher (10 years of experience)
Manzoor Hussain Ganaie S/O Gh Hussain Ganie R/o Wahabpora Budgam	B.A + B.P-ed	Private Teacher
Lateef Hussain Bhat S/o Mohd Ashraf Bhat R/O Wahabpora Budgam	Bachelors in Compound Arts	Private Teacher
		bmg

Subject. Grant of registration of the proposed Travel unit under the name & Style of M/s.ROCKING KASHMIR HOLIDAYS" situated at Magam Gulmarg Road

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Mr. Arif Hussain Khan S/o Mohammad Jaffar khan R/o Khan Pora Beerwah Budgam Intends to apply in the Department of tourism for registration of my proposed travel unit under the name and style" M/s. ROCKING KASHMIR HOLIDAYS" situated at Magam Gulmarg Road Tourist Trade Act1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas,I will submit state subject/Domicile certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan card, Experience certificate (minimum 05 years), Character certificate (Police department). Bank statement (minimum balance 1000),site plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested sub-registrar, printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting), Photograph of the unit (indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photograph to the department of tourism as prescribed checklist prior to registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency/Adventure tour

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12, before my case is processed for registration by the competent Authority the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/financial institutions/Ban/ Organisation, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the deputy director tourism Registration (e-mail ID:-ddtreg123@ gmail. com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspaper of the valley.No objection beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained

fko

OFFICE OF NAIB TEHSILDAR TILGAM

Sub: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed births.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births, BDO Pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Seerat-ul-Saliha D/o Hilal Ahmed Lone R/o Wanigam Bala with verified date of birth 05-05-2007.

delivered at home. In this connection, if any body having objection for issuance of such certificate, he may contact to this office within 04 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

> Sd/-Naib Tehsildar Tilgam

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been inadvertently recorded in my Aadhaar Card as Sakie Jan while my correct name is Sakie Ashraf . Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within Seven days, After that no objection shall be entertained.

Sakie Ashraf D/o Mohammad Ashraf Bhat R/o Aatipora Zehkar Tangmarg

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been inadvertently recorded in his/her Aadhaar Card as Waseya Jan while her correct name is Wasia Manzoor. . Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/ she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/ Srinagar within Seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained..

Manzoor Ahmad Parray F/O Wasia Manzoor R/o Wailu Kralpora

fko

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been inadvertently recorded in his/her Aadhaar Card as Sadig Ahmad Bhat while his correct Name is Mohammad Sadig Bhat . Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar Centre Jammu/Srinagar within Seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained...

Ghulam Mohammad Bhat F/o Mohammad Sadig Bhat R/o Wailu Kralpora Tehsil Kunzer

fko

اطلاععام

ہرخاص وعام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیاجاتا ہے کہ مظہر فاروق احمداً بتگر ولدعبدالعمداً بتگر ساکن شولی پورہ پڑگام کی سل عرائض نویس زیر نیمبر 106 موجو بتجی چینکہ مظہر عدالت بڈگام میں بحیثیت ایک عرائص نویس کا مرکز رہا ہوں تگر بدلستی کی وجہ سے سیل مذکورہ دوراں سفرڈی سی آفس بڈگام سے کورٹ بڈگام تک کہیں گم ہوگئی ۔ سیل کا بتاریخ 2025-12-20 ے تا حال کچھاند پیدنہ جلا۔ کہذا ہر خاص وعام و بذر ایدا شتہار طلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کٹی فض نے اٹھائی ہوتو وہ مہر ہانی کر کے اپس کریں۔ بصورت دیگر اس کی ڈیلکیٹ بنانی ہے اگر کٹی فض کولوئی اعتراض ہوتو سات دن کے اندرا ندر دفتر بذاہیں جیش ریں۔میعاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

> فاروق احمرآ ہنگر عرائض نویس کورٹ کمپلکس بڈگام۔ فون_7006258124

> > يرمك كى گمشدگى

میری گاڑی(Tipper)ٹیرزیرنمبر JK04C 1377 کا پرمٹ(PERMIT)کہیں گم ہو گیا ہے۔ بہت ِھونڈ نے پرنہیں ملا۔اگرکسی نے اٹھائی ہوتو وہ برائے انسانیت نینچدئے ہوئے نمبر پرفون کرے۔بصورت دیگر اسکی ڈیلیکیٹ نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر سی کوکوئی اعتر اض ہوتو وہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندراندر RTO A بڈگام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔بعداز میعا دکوئی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

> محمدامين واني ولدعبدالصمدواني ساكن چھتر وڈانگر پورہ بڈگام۔ فون _9622151620

mcb

fko

از نیابت پلہالن باجلاس نائب شخصیلدار پلہالن درخواست از جانب عنوان: - درخواست منجانب غلام حسن وانی ولدخوا جه سبحان وانی ساکندلولی پورخ تحصیل پیش بمرادا جرائی یوم پیدائش

اشتهار بمراداآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام

معامله مندرجه عنوان میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بمراد حصول اندراج کرنے یوم پیدائش بحق غلام حسن وانی ولدخواجه بیجان وانی اشخاص جن کی یوم پیدائش مندر جه ذیل میں۔ غلام حسن وانی ولدخوا جسبحان وانی یوم پیدایش 1965-05-18 ہے ہذااں بارے میں ہرخاص وعام کومطلع کیاجا تاہےا گرکٹی شخص یا اشخاص کومطلوبہ سرٹد فیکیٹ ا جراء کرنے میں کوئی عذریااعتراض ہوتو و چاردن کےاندرا ندردفتر ہذامیں پیش کریں۔

from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be

WhatsApp Misuse Case

KU Suspends Assistant Professor, Panel Set Up

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir on Monday suspended an Assistant Professor following a police investigation that established his alleged involvement in circulating a defamatory text message about a senior university employee. The action was taken after Vice Chancellor Prof Neelofar Khan received an official communication from the Superintendent of Police Hazratbal confirming the registration of an FIR in the case.

According to KNT, the matter began when a message was widely shared on WhatsApp claiming that a senior Kashmir University employee had been assaulted by his wife over alleged proximity with a female colleague. Concerned by the circulation of the defamatory content and its impact on the reputation of the varsity, the Vice Chancellor approached Police Station Nigeen and sought verification into the origin of the message.

Police subsequently conducted a detailed probe and identified Dr Altaf Ahmad Ganie, also known by the pen name Shafqat Altaf and serving as Assistant Professor in the Department of Kashmiri, as the person responsible for sending the message. Investigators found that he had used the mobile phone of another person, Assistant Professor Farooq Ahmed Malik from Degree College Anantnag, and circulated

the text using a VPN.

Insiders said Dr Ganie admitted during questioning that he had used Malik's phone to spread the message. Malik told investigators that he had no knowledge his device was being used for such activity but was nevertheless booked alongside Dr Ganie. A faculty member familiar with the matter told the news agency Kashmir News Trust that the act appeared to be a deliberate attempt to malign the senior employee who has been serving the varsity in an important administrative role.

Shortly after receiving the police communication, the Vice Chancellor Professor Neelofar Khan directed to issue an order, placing Dr Ganie under suspension. As per the Order No. 1931-JK(GAD) of 2025 dated December 22, the suspension was ordered under University Statute 3.16 (2) read with Regulation 12 (3) (IV). The order states that during the period of suspension Dr Ganie shall remain attached with the office of the Dean Research. The order was issued by the Deputy Registrar Administration and circulated to concerned officers and departments.

Officials said both Assistant Professors have been booked under five sections of the Information Technology Act. A seven-member high-level inquiry committee has been constituted to examine the academic and administrative dimensions of the case and decide further action.

J&K Police Organizes Drug De-Addiction Seminar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: J&K Police in Srinagar have organised a Drug de-addiction awareness (Seminar & Play) under Civic Action Programme (CAP) 2025-2026 at Govt. Higher Secondary School Mujgund, Srinagar.

According to a statement issued to Kashmir Observer, the programme was attended by SP City West Srinagar Imtiaz Ahmed-JKPS, SDPO West Bemina Majid Mehboob-JKPS, SHO Police Station Shalteng/Parimpora and Incharge Police Post Qamarwari. Around 300 students from GHSS Mujgund and other nearby schools participated enthusiastically in the event

The Principal of GHSS Mujgund, Dr. Aijaz Ahmad, Advocate Javaid Iqbal, Molvi Suhail

DIPR Condoles

Ahad Farhad

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Joint Direc-

tor Information Kashmir

Sved Shahnawaz Bukhari

expressed deep sorrow

and profound grief over

the demise of Abdul Ahad

Farhad, a renowned poet,

writer and noted broad-

caster, terming his pass-

ing as an irreparable loss

to the literary and cultural

heritage of Kashmir.

Demise of Abdul

Ahmad, and local residents of the Mujgund area were also present on the occasion. They addressed the gathering and appreciated the efforts of the participants while highlighting the ill effects of drug abuse and the importance of a drug-free society. They have appreciated all the winners/ participants in the said event. Apart from above, the prizes of cash reward of Rs. 9000/-, Certificates/ Momentous were awarded to the best performers and other participants to encourage and motivate the youth.

J&K Police reiterated its commitment to engaging with students and the community to create awareness about social evils and to promote a healthy, drug-free society through proactive initiatives under the Civic Action Programme.

SJ&K Bank

Dated: 20-12-2025

DIPK-NB-2805/25



Over 6,500 Cat Bite Cases Reported at SMHS Amid Rising Pet Ownership

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Kashmir is witnessing a sharp and worrying rise in cat bite cases, with over 6,500 incidents reported at the Anti Rabies Clinic (ARC), SMHS Hospital, Srinagar, this year so far, highlighting serious gaps in pet care, vaccination, and awareness among cat owners.

Official data accessed reveals that over 6500 cat bite cases were reported at ARC SMHS this year, and cat bite cases are more than dog bite cases reported at ARC.

An official at ARC SMHS told KNO that the surge is largely attributed to the increasing trend of keeping cats as pets, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic, without following basic animal healthcare norms.

"Cats do transmit rabies, similar to dogs, but unfortunately, many owners believe cats are harmless and do not require vaccination. We are seeing a consistent rise in cat exposure cases. Now more than half of the animal bite cases reaching our clinic are due to cats," the official said.

He added that many pet owners fail to vaccinate, deworm, or provide timely medical care to their cats, which significantly increases the risk of zoonotic diseases—illnesses that can spread from animals to humans.

The official said that pet ownership in Kashmir has increased steadily over the past few years, with cats becoming popular companion animals. Unlike livestock that provide economic returns, pets are kept for companionship and emotional support, making responsible ownership crucial he added

"Anyone who intends to keep a pet must be mentally and financially prepared to meet its needs—proper feeding, shelter, healthcare, and behav-

mcb

The Jammu and Kashmir Bank

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dated: 22-12-2025

Corporate Headquarters, Srinagar

M. A. Road Srinagar, 190 001 J&K

5

Cats do transmit rabies, similar to dogs, but unfortunately, many owners believe cats are harmless and do not require vaccination. We are seeing a consistent rise in cat exposure cases. Now more than half of the animal bite cases reaching our clinic are due to cats,"

ioural management. There is no point in bringing an animal home if due care is not ensured," the official said.

Health officials said that poor hygiene while handling pets, irregular grooming, and neglect of dental care can lead to skin infections, parasitic infestations, and other diseases that may affect both animals and humans.

Medical experts and veterinarians recommend several essential precautions for responsible cat ownership. These include ensuring cats

are vaccinated against rabies and other infectious diseases according to veterinary schedules. Skipping vaccinations for extended periods can be dangerous. Routine deworming is crucial to eliminate internal parasites that could spread to humans. Hands should be thoroughly washed after handling cats, cleaning litter boxes, or feeding them. Regular grooming and dental care are also important.

Pet owners should avoid provoking cats, especially stray or unfamiliar ones, as bites and scratches are common. In case of a bite or scratch, the wound should be immediately washed with soap and running water for at least 15 minutes, and medical attention should be sought without delay, they said.

Experts cautioned that cat bites and scratches can, in rare cases, transmit toxoplasmosis, a parasitic disease that may pose risks during pregnancy, including miscarriage. However, doctors clarified that such cases are very rare and can largely be prevented through proper hygiene and regular veterinary care.

They said there is no need for panic, but awareness and cleanliness are extremely important, especially for pregnant women.

Notably, rabies is a universally fatal viral disease once symptoms appear. Globally, it causes around 59,000 human deaths every year, with nearly 95 per cent of cases reported from Africa and Asia. Health authorities warn that complacency regarding pet vaccination could have deadly consequences.

Officials at ARC SMHS urged pet owners to act responsibly, saying that preventive care not only protects animals but also safeguards human health, ensuring a safer and more harmonious coexistence between people and their pets in Kashmir.

J&K & L High Court At Srinaga



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HIGHWAY STATUS



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



PRAYERS
FAJR 6: 03
ZUHR 12:28
ASR 3: 49
Magrib 5:30
ISHA 6: 55

This Day In History

- 962 Byzantine-Arab Wars: Under the future Emperor Nicephorus Phocas, Byzantine troops stormed city of Aleppo, recovering the tattered tunic of John the Baptist.
- 1482 The Peace of Atrecht (now Arras) concluded between Louis XI of France and Maximilian of Austria, ending the War of the Burgundian Succession.
- 1620 French huguenots declare war on King Louis XIII.
- 1690 English astronomer John Flamsteed observes Uranus without realizing it's undiscovered.
- 1715 Russian/Prussian troops occupy Stralsund.
 1728 Prussian Emperor Karel VI signs Treaty of Berlin.
- 1793- Thomas Jefferson warns of slave revolts in the West Indies
- 1808- Painter Francisco Goya swears an oath of loyalty to Joseph Bonaparte as king of Spain, during the Napoleonic occupation of Spain [1]
 1832-Dutch troops in Antwerp surrender
- 1834- Joseph Hansom of London receives patent for Hansom cabs
- 1852- 1st Chinese theater in US, the Celestial John, opens in San Francisco
- 1876- Turkey's 1st constitution proclaimed,
- transferring more power to elected representatives
 1888- Vincent van Gogh cuts off his left ear with
 a razor, after argument with fellow painter Paul
 Gauguin, and sends to a female courtesan for safe
- 1899 Tentative Turkish & German treaty on construction of Baghdad railway.
- 1914 World War I: Australian and New Zealand troops arrive in Cairo, Egypt.
- 1915 J Kern/S Greene's musical "Very Good Eddie" premieres in NYC
- 1916 World War I: Battle of Magdhaba Allied forces defeat Turkish forces in Egypt's Sinai peninsula.
- 1917 3 British warships come close to Holland.
- 1919 1st hospital ship built to move wounded naval personnel launched
- 1920 Government of Ireland Act / Home Rule Act
- passed partitioning Ireland.1933 Train crash in Eastern Paris; 230 die.
- 1933 Irain crash in Eastern Paris; 230 die.
 1938 Discovery of the first modern coelacanth in
- South Africa.
 1941 British troops overrup Benghazi Libya
- 1941 British troops overrun Benghazi, Libya.
 1941 Japan begins assault on Rangoon, Burma.
- 1941 Japan begins assault on Rangoon, Bur
 1942 Allies air attack on Den Helder.
- 1942 Attes all attack on ben Heidel.
 1947 Transistor invented by Bardeen, Brattain &
- Shockley in Bell Labs.

 1954 The first human kidney transplant is performed by Dr. Joseph E. Murray at Peter Bent
- Brigham Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.
 1958 Abdallah Ibrahim forms government of Morocco.
- Morocco.
 1961 Fidel Castro announces Cuba will release 1,113 prisoners from failed 1961 Bay of Pigs Invasion
- for \$62M worth of food & medical supplies.
 1964 India & Ceylon hit by cyclone, about 4,850 killed.
 - 1968 1st US case of space motion sickness. 1972 - 6.25 Earthquake destroys central Managua
- Nicaragua, 10,000 die.
 1982 The United States Environmental Protection
- Agency announces it has identified dangerous levels of dioxin in the soil of Times Beach, Missouri.
 1986 Experimental airplane Voyager, piloted by
- Dick Rutan & Jeana Yeager, complete 1st nonstop, round-the-world flight without refueling lands
 1990 Slovenians vote to secede from Yugoslavia.
- 2002 A MQ-1 Predator is shot down by an Iraqi MiG-25, making it the first time in history that an aircraft and an unmanned drone had engaged in combat.
 2003 - PetroChina Chuandongbei natural gas field
- explosion, Guoqiao, Kai, Chongqing, China, killing at least 234.2005 Azerbaijan Airlines Flight 217 from Baku,
- Azerbaijan, to Aktau, Kazakhstan crashes shortly after takeoff killing 23 people.
 2012 200 civilians are killed by Syrian government warplanes in Helfaya, Syria.

OFFICE OF THE ADVOCATE MOHAMMAD HUSSAIN SOFI HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR & LADAKH AT SRINAGAR OFFICE ADDRESS DISTRICT COURT COMPLEX BUDGAM ECASE OF: Ishrat Tabassum S/O Syed Tassadua Hussain R/O Labertal Tehsil & District Budgam. Cayeator

IN THE CASE OF : Ishrat Tabassum S/O Syed Tassaduq Hussain R/o Labertal Tehsil & District Budgam. Caveator Versus

Versus
Public at large
Non-Caveators
IN THE MATTER OF: Publication on behalf of the Caveator.
It is information to the general public that the above named person is intending to submit a caveat in the above mentioned

Hon'ble Court.

Any person/s has /have any objections before the above mentioned Hon,ble Court. The Caveator apprehends that any person's may file any proceedings against the Caveator as such the Caveators are filing are filing the caveat. Hence this publication

on MOHAMMAD HUSSAIN SOFI ADVOCATE

Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

Office Of The Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Tangmarg

CORRIGENDUM

Ref - This office NIT No. 113/R&B of 2025-26 issued under endorsement No: R&B / Divn./ Tang/6142-52 Dated: 19-12-2025.

Kindly read nomenclature of work as: - "Repair/ Renovation of Judicial Quarter of Hon'ble Munsiff Judge at Tangmarg".

Instead of "Renovation of Judicial Quarter of Munsiff /JMIC at Qazipora Tangmarg." All other terms & conditions shall remain same as already advertised.

No: R&B/6236-43 DIPK-9245/25 Dated:- 22-12-2025

3953/25

sd/-Executive Engineer, R&B Division Tangmarg,

E-TENDER NOTICE Tender No: 205, 206-2025-26-SrDEN-III-FZR Sr.DEN-III/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders an available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date- 12.01.2026 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revise bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments hrough Demand draft Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in Bidding System Tender Type Tendering Section Single Packet System Bid Starting Date Date of Uploading Tenders Bid Closing Date/Time 18.12.2025 29.12.2025 12.01.2026/15:00 Hrs Tender Number **Details of Tender** 205-2025-26-SrDEN-III-FZR Periodical cleaning of roof overhead and underground water tanks and PVC storage tanks b UV treatment under ADEN-I & II/ASR. Earnest Money Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion 74,96,339.95/-1,49,900.00/ 60 Days 12 Months Similar nature of work: - "Any civil work other than track work 206-2025-26-SrDEN-III-FZR drinking water for Amritsar station, colonies in the section of ADEN-I & II/ASR. Advertised Value (Rs.) Period of Completion Earnest Money Validity of Offer 1,30,000.00/-60 Days Similar nature of work:- "Operation and plant/sewage/effluent treatment plant."

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Note: 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender

NORTHERN RAILWAY

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of

Kashmir Observer LLP

Printed at: K.T Press Pvt. Ltd 120-Electronic Complex,

Industrial Estate, Rangreth-Budgam Published from: 5-Boulevard Srinagar J&K

Editor-in-Chief: Sajjad Haider Managing Editor: Bilal Handoo News Editor: Farzana Nisar Online Editor: Syed Hamid

Head Layout & Design: Muntazir Yaseen, Digital Media Head: Amir Ali Shah Distribution & Advertising: Firdous Ahmad RNI Registration No: 69503/98

Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16

Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja

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📏 KO VIEW

Kashmir's Lost Words

n Instagram post has landed like a bolt from the blue in Kashmir. In a single moment, it threatens to make the region's proud claim to learning and culture look hollow.

The post carried a simple appeal: these books need a home. Some are brittle, some torn, and a few are more than a hundred years old. Rare manuscripts and fragile texts sit waiting for a place where they can be preserved.

That such an appeal had to be made at all should unsettle us.

Beyond mountains and lakes, Kashmir is a place shaped by words. Poets, scholars and translators worked in Persian, Kashmiri, Sanskrit, Urdu and Arabic for centuries. Books lived in homes, shrines and schools.

Even over the last three decades of turmoil, families placed their faith in education. Learning was seen as honour, and books as a way forward.

But today, a private literary archive filled with out-of-print works is searching for shelter. Perhaps an NGO will step in. Maybe a literary institution will respond. So far, the silence has been loud.

This raises an uncomfortable question. How did a society so proud of its scholarship reach a point where its literary memory must beg for survival online?

The timing makes the moment harder to ignore. We live in an age of artificial intelligence, where knowledge arrives instantly and reading is reduced to summaries.

In such a world, rare paper looks expendable. Old books feel like clutter. Kashmir has not entirely abandoned libraries. The renovated S.P.S. Library on M.A. Road stands as proof. It is busy and full, drawing young people preparing for competitive exams. It serves a purpose, and it serves it well.

But exam halls are not archives. Reading rooms built for tests cannot replace spaces built for memory.

Who, then, is responsible for Kashmir's older knowledge? Who protects manuscripts that will never help someone crack an exam but help a society understand itself? How many readers are left for books that demand time, silence and patience?

What began as a simple Instagram appeal has become an alarm. If even the original caretakers of this archive felt forced to abandon its physical home, the failure runs deeper than funding or logistics.

When knowledge becomes a discarded pile of paper, the loss is slow but lasting. It shows up later, in thinner thinking and borrowed histories.

Kashmir deserves a living home for its words. And it should not take a social media post to remind us of that truth.

CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

Saving for Retirement

Why saving early is now the only retirement plan many of us have.

Irshad Mushtaq

or years, a pension felt like a guarantee. You worked, retired, and a fixed income arrived each month. That promise shaped how people thought about old age. Today, that promise is fading. Most pensions once went to government workers and a small group of corporate employees. A retiree could count on a steady cheque, often enough to cover daily needs without worry. A monthly pension of 50,000 meant an annual income of 6 lakh, paid for life. The system worked because contributions were steady and time did the rest.

Now the ground has shifted. Many jobs offer no pension at all. Retirement still arrives around 60, but the safety net does not. That means millions must create their own version of a pension, using savings and

This sounds daunting, but it is not impossible. The key lies in understanding compounding. If your money grows at about 10 percent a year, a corpus of roughly 60 lakh can generate an income close to 50,000 a month. That number feels large until you break it down.

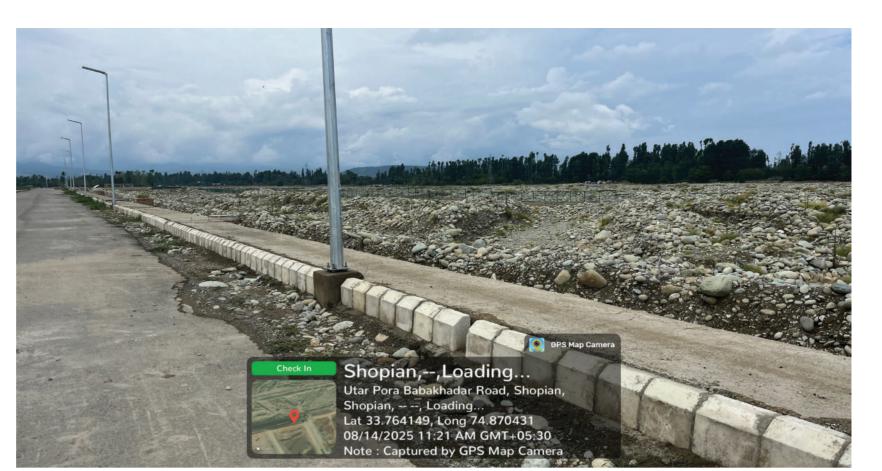
Over a 35-year career, saving a small amount every month can get you there. Even a few hundred rupees, invested regularly and allowed to grow, can turn into something meaningful. Time matters more than size. Starting early gives your money room to work

The real challenge is discipline. Saving feels optional when you are young. Life feels busy, expenses feel urgent, and retirement feels distant. But delay comes at a cost. Every missed year shrinks what compounding Financial security in old age is no longer about luck or employer

benefits. It is about habits. Save early. Invest for the long term. Stay patient when markets wobble. Repeat this for decades. A pension may not be promised anymore. But a secure retirement is

still possible if you plan for it.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial advisor.



Rambiara at Risk

Narrowing the river with concrete and steel could turn predictable floods into catastrophic disasters for Shopian and Pulwama districts.



Dr. Raja Muzaffar Bhat

have walked along the Rambiara River at Trenz in Shopian more times than I can remember.

The river has always been a part of people's lives here, a companion to orchards, fields,

In summer, children play in its shallow waters. When the rains come, it rises and roars, a reminder that it gives life but cannot be controlled.

Two years ago, everything along its right bank began to change

Poplar and willow trees, acacia, apple saplings, and vegetable plots were cleared. Families who had farmed the land for generations lost their connection to the soil.

have been consulted, was bypassed, and the community had no say in a decision that uprooted their livelihoods.

Now, an industrial estate is rising on the very land that once held those orchards and fields.

The J&K State Industrial Development Corporation, SIDCO, is building factories and commercial complexes on 500 kanals, just thirty meters from the river. The estate sits directly on a floodplain, the

natural runway the Rambiara has always used to carry high waters during the rains. Concrete barriers and factories will line the

right bank, protecting buildings but forcing the river toward the unshielded left bank.

There, villages like Dombwani, Nazneenpora, Adoora, and Sheikhpora rely on agriculture, orchards, and small plots to survive.

These families have nothing to buffer them when floods arrive.

I have brought these concerns before the authorities in written representations. I even approached the National Green Tribunal in New Delhi, presenting maps, hydrology reports, and local testimony.

The silence in response has been deafening. Officials act as if the land is vacant and buildable, ignoring its ecological role and historical function.

The Rambiara is a major tributary of the Jhelum, originating in the Pir Panjal mountains, nourishing fields, orchards, and communities along its course. Its seasonal floods are nature's way of maintaining balance.

The consequences of ignoring this balance are clear. Narrowing the river with concrete will choke its flow, pushing water onto the unprotected left bank. Poor families, farmers, and orchard owners will bear the brunt.

Homes may be lost, fields destroyed, and livelihoods wiped out.

When floods come, they will follow the path of least resistance, and the people of these villages will pay for mistakes made far from their homes. Illegal riverbed mining has already weakened

the banks, making the flood threat even greater. This is not unused land. It was fertile, productive,

and protected by trees that prevented soil erosion. The Naid Gund residents who once farmed the riverbanks had no power to resist. Two years ago, their vegetable plots were removed without compensation or consultation, despite their status as

legitimate stakeholders under state land laws. Similar to highway and railway projects, where local panchayats are compensated during land acquisition, the people of Trenz were overlooked.

SIDCO and government authorities must recognize that the Rambiara is a floodway.

They must halt industrial expansion on the right bank, enforce responsible urban planning, and construct protective measures for the left bank communities before it is too late.

Ignoring the needs of the people while prioritizing industry will lead to environmental catastrophe.

The river will follow its natural course. It will reclaim the land forced into concrete, and the unprotected will suffer the consequences.

Walking along the banks today, I see bulldozers and steel frameworks where willows once swaved. The river, patient as ever, continues to flow,

be a force that destroys what they have built with their own hands.

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

carrying the warnings of generations.

floodwaters will tell the story of loss.

Walking along the

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All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name and address, even if a pseudonym is used. Letters are edited as clarity, spaceand accuracy of expression require. Our publishing a letter does not mean we agree with everything or even anything in it. -EDITOR

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O.Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001 email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Why Winter Break in Kashmir Deserves Rethinking

very winter, when the cold settles deep into the valley, schools close for weeks. The government announces winter vacation for a clear reason During chilai kalan, the coldest forty

days, classrooms are hard to heat, roads turn icy, and daily life slows down. Students remain tied to homework and tuition classes through the break.

Teachers step into a rare stretch of time. Too often, this long break is treated as time off. It can be that. But it can also be time well used through rest, learning,

and preparation for the year ahead. The starting point is rest. Teaching drains the mind and body, especially in crowded classrooms with few resources.

Sleep helps repair that fatigue. Medical advice is clear. Seven hours of sleep supports both mental and physi-

cal health. Winter makes slowing down easier. A short daily walk in the cold air or a simple indoor workout improves circulation and mood. Cutting down screen time also matters. Social media consumes hours and adds stress

Replacing some of that time with a newspaper, a magazine, or a book sharpens focus and calms the mind.

Once rested, teachers can return to learning. Winter offers uninterrupted time to

review the subjects they teach. Reading new research, updating facts, and revising lesson plans keeps teaching fresh. Good lesson plans set clear goals that are realistic and time bound

Teachers also benefit from learning beyond their own subjects. Reading history, science, or literature outside one's field often leads to better explanations

and stronger classroom stories Online courses make professional growth easier than ever. Platforms like DIKSHA, NISHTHA, and SWAYAM offer free training designed for Indian teachers. NCERT has also announced long term online diploma courses for middle school science teachers These courses focus on concept clarity,

inquiry based teaching, and better assessment. For teachers in remote areas, such programs bring quality training home. Social media does not have to be the

enemy. Used wisely, it becomes a tool. Teachers can join online groups, share lesson ideas, ask questions, and learn from others facing similar challenges.

These exchanges often lead to new methods worth trying once schools reopen.

Winter is also the right time to build teaching resources. Teachers can prepare slides, collect videos, design quizzes, and create assessment tools that match the curriculum.

Doing this work now saves time dur-

ing the busy school year. Working on personal hobbies matters too. Painting, writing, reading, or learning music helps restore creativity. Students enjoy seeing their teachers as people with interests beyond textbooks.

Some teachers use the break for travel, including religious visits, if budgets and permissions allow. Others give back closer to home by offering free tuition, or ioining environmental clean ups.

These experiences deepen understanding and bring real life examples into

Winter is also for family and colleagues. Sharing meals, ideas, and conversations rebuilds emotional strength.

When schools reopen, teachers greet students with warmth and care Winter in Kashmir closes schools.

It also gives teachers the chance to return stronger, clearer, and ready to teach again.

Sincerely,

Shahnawaz Malik smaliklect@gmail.com AS AN EDUCATOR.

MAHDI INSPIRED

CURIOSITY AND

REFLECTION. He

with empathy,

blended scholarship

mentoring students

insight. A promoter of

dialogue, he fostered

celebrated ideas, and

warmth. His teaching

turned learning into

colleagues enriched

a journey, leaving

students and

and inspired.

guided minds with

with patience and

open discussion,

The Life and Legacy of Syed Shahid Mahdi

A former Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia and United Nations expert, Mahdi inspired generations with his intellect, humour, and love for literature.

Prof. M. Aslam

first met Syed Shahid Mahdi in early 2000s, shortly after he became Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia in New Delhi. I was then serving as Director of the School of Continuing Education at IGNOU, New Delhi.

We sat together over coffee, a few books scattered between us, and soon discovered a remarkable connection rooted in a shared history with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

Between 1983 and 1988, Mahdi had served at FAO headquarters in Rome as Chief of Inter-Agency Affairs in the Director-General's office, while I was Director (Training) at the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

CIRDAP had been established at FAO's initiative, linking our professional paths across countries and

This coincidence became the foundation of a friendship built on shared work, curiosity, and a love for thoughtful conversation.

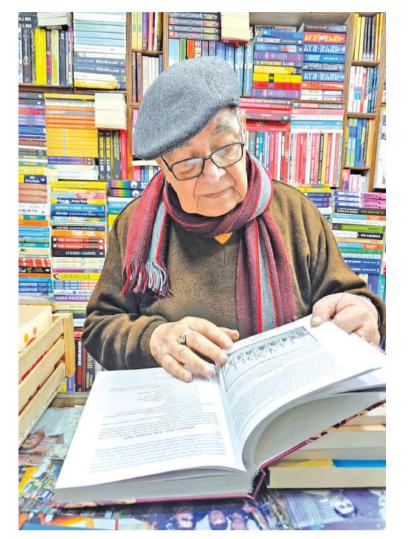
From that first meeting, Mahdi revealed a rare warmth and charm. He loved Urdu literature, Persian poetry, and English classics. The man of letters could turn a simple discussion into an explo-

ration of ideas, history, and hu-

man experience. With him, even ordinary moments turned unforgettable, whether it was a story, a laugh, or a shared reflection on life.

Mahdi's professional journey was extraordinary.

A top-ranking student at Aligarh Muslim University, he earned his Master's in History and Political Science and began teaching at Aligarh



and Kurukshetra Universities in 1959. In 1963, he joined the Indian Administrative Service, securing the second rank in his batch.

He served Bihar in multiple key roles, including Deputy Development Commissioner, Director of

Fisheries, Managing Director of the State Cooperative Bank, and later as Fertilizer Commissioner in New Delhi.

His international work was equally remarkable.

At the FAO of the United Nations,

the campus of Jamia.

Beyond his work, Mahdi's life was

SYED SHAHID MAHDI CHERISHED LITERATURE AND DIALOGUE AS MUCH

AS SCHOLARSHIP. He delighted in Urdu, Persian, and English writings, weaving poetry and stories into everyday conversations. His meetings became shared journeys of ideas, humour, and reflection, turning simple exchanges into moments of insight, curiosity, and lasting connection for all around him.

he coordinated with agencies such as UNESCO, ILO, WHO, and UNIDO, served as Chief of Inter-Agency Affairs, and represented India in FAO conferences, Executive Council sessions, and inter-governmental committees on agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and food standards.

He was FAO Representative in Nepal and Yemen and took on a special assignment in drought-stricken

For over a decade, he held the senior-most professional grade in the UN system, shaping programs and budgets that touched lives across

In his tenure as Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia from 2000 to 2004, Mahdi championed education as the foundation of society.

He urged parents to support their children, encouraged students to embrace opportunities with curiosity, and worked to make learning accessible and meaningful.

Alumni remember him for his energy, guidance, and encouragement, whether at a reception in Doha or on

full of literary curiosity, humour, and kindness.

Friends recall evenings spent over coffee and books, conversations that wandered from poetry to agriculture, diplomacy, and the small won-

ders of life. He had the rare gift of making people feel valued and inspired, turning every interaction into a moment of reflection and joy.

The doyan passed away in New Delhi on December 22, 2025.

His life left an indelible mark on education, public service, and international development.

He will be remembered for his intellect, humanity, warmth and poetry he brought to the lives of all who knew him.

- The author is the former Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU, New Delhi, $and\ a\ long time\ educator\ and$ scholar. He has worked extensively in continuing education and international development, including collaborations with $the \, Food \, and \, Agriculture$ $Organization \, of \, the \, United$

The Honour Trap

In the struggle against drugs, it is not substances alone that destroy lives. Fear of shame has become the deadliest force.



TRUE IZZAT IS CONFRONTING THE CRISIS, AND **SEEKING HELP SIMPLY AFFIRMS HUMANITY.** I see hope when families speak and seek help. **Courage reclaims** life, but many still remain in silence. How many more lives must be lost before honour is redefined as the bravery to face suffering?

Ishfaq Nabi Qureshi

s I handle more and more cases of addiction in Kashmir, I have come to realise something disturb-

Honour, or izzat, once a guiding principle for families, is becoming the biggest casualty of the drug crisis.

In the name of preserving reputation, many households hide addiction, delay help, and allow suffering to grow in silence.

This crisis is majorly about fear, secrecy, and a culture where the preservation of appearances often outweighs the protection of life.

I see it every day in my work at a rehabilitation centre.

Young people rarely arrive when dependence first appears. They come when it has already destroyed education, work, relationships, and self-

Many carry a fatigue born of years spent hiding, lying, and living under the weight of unspoken distress.

Families tell me they de-layed help out of fear of neighbours, relatives, and being permanently marked by

I have sat across from parents who lower their voices when speaking about their children.

Fathers avoid eye contact, burdened by concern and the pressure of honour. Mothers soften their words as though speaking aloud might make the problem permanent.

Pain is whispered because it

Many parents confess, with visible regret, that they knew help was needed years earlier.

They hoped marriage, re-

solve the problem. Sadly, addiction is often seen as a flaw of character





I HAVE NOTICED ANOTHER CRUEL IRONY. In protecting honour from public scrutiny, families

allow addiction to take deeper root in private. We need to understand that addiction does not

follow social codes. That's why Kashmir faces a moral crossroads.

sponsibility, or routine could

rather than a disorder of the mind and brain.

misunderstanding breeds judgment instead of care. Communities respond with whispers rather than support. Professional intervention comes too late, and the cost is enormous.

I meet young men who speak less about craving and more about invisibility, less about intoxication and more about emotional suffocation.

Ignoring addiction destroys social order. Untreated substance use fractures families,

I hear that the substance

I know this from therapy

rooms where they describe

feeling unseen long before

Families, trying to protect

honour, often sacrifice the

very well-being that honour is

Endurance is valued over

expression, and suffering be-

comes normal. Silence mas-

querades as esteem but is, in

truth, neglect. Patience is of-

In therapy, I help families

they ever touched drugs. I see the cruel paradox un-

fold every day.

meant to safeguard.

ten prolonged fear.

was never the first refuge, si-

destabilizes communities, and passes trauma to the next generation. I see younger siblings learning early that some truths

understand that recovery is

about restoring honour as much as it is about abstinence.

When they finally seek help,

relief often follows. Families

are surprised to discover that treatment stops further loss.

I want families to under-

It is a commitment to life.

healing, and accountability.

stand that seeking help is a declaration of responsibility.

must never be spoken aloud. But what is hidden often spreads. I have noticed another cruel

In protecting honour from public scrutiny, families allow addiction to take deeper root in private.

We need to understand that addiction does not follow social codes.

That's why Kashmir faces a moral crossroads.

Therefore, preserving appearances can no longer outweigh preserving lives.

True izzat is confronting the crisis, and seeking help simply affirms humanity.

I see hope when families speak and seek help. Courage reclaims life, but many still remain in silence.

How many more lives must be lost before honour is redefined as the bravery to face suffering?

— The author is a counseling psychologist based in Kashmir, specializing in addiction and mental health. He can be reached at qureshipsy1113@gmail.com.

Campus Happiness Improving In India, Academic Stress Still A Concern: Survey

Observer News Service

New Delhi: The latest Institution of Happiness (IOH) survey conducted by QS I-GAUGE has highlighted significant improvements in campus facilities, academic freedom and emotional support across Indian educational institutions, while also flagging academic stress and the need for greater flexibility as persistent concerns among stakeholders.

The large-scale survey, covering nearly 5.5 lakh respondents across 28 states and eight Union Territories, gathered feedback from students, teachers, parents and alumni from both higher education institutions and schools. The initiative aims to assess happiness, well-being and emotional resilience within India's education ecosystem.

According to the survey, a majority of stakeholders expressed positive sentiment

institutional environments. However, respondents also called for reduced academic pressure, smoother workload distribution and the integration of well-being practices into everyday campus life rather than treating them as occasional initiatives.

third year, the "In its Institution of Happiness survey has expanded its scope to bring greater depth and authenticity to stakeholder voices. Our goal is to embed happiness and well-being as a lived culture across every educational institution," said Ravin Nair, Managing Director of QS I-GAUGE.

Higher education findings In the higher education segment, 67 percent of students rated emotional and mental support on campus as excellent, citing awareness drives, counselling services and approachable staff. At the same time, several students stressed the need

for routine, proactive well-being practices embedded into daily academic life.

While academic stress remained a common theme, 43 percent of students reported no stress or anxiety, reflecting improvement in campus environments. Others linked stress to heavy workloads, limited leisure time, personal challenges and relationship pressures, underscoring the need for flexible academic structures and timemanagement support.

Campus infrastructure also showed gains, with 78 percent of students rating facilities as good and 84 percent reporting that they felt safe on campus. Student participation and feedback mechanisms appeared strong, with 70 percent saying their ideas were consistently heard and 80 percent finding it easy to approach teachers or staff for help.

Among faculty members, 72

percent said they felt comfortable discussing stress with management, while 84 percent felt their academic freedom was respected, indicating a more open and supportive institutional culture.

Alumni responses showed that 83 percent had access to internship opportunities that strengthened their employability, though some flagged uneven implementation across programmes.

School education insights

In schools, faculty and staff reported high levels of safety, with 96 percent feeling comfortable on campus during late hours. However, workload pressures persisted, with 55 percent of faculty reporting occasional stress or burnout, particularly during peak academic periods.

Leadership accessibility emerged as a strength, with 86 percent of faculty describing management as highly

approachable and 77 percent feeling they were treated fairly in institutional decisions.

Among school students, 61 percent said their efforts were always recognised, while 58 percent identified academic pressure as the primary source of mental stress. Peer support was viewed positively, with 56 percent rating mental and emotional support as excellent, though respondents stressed the need for better inclusion of socially isolated students.

Only about half of the students felt fully prepared for future education or careers, pointing to a demand for stronger career guidance, skill-building initiatives and real-world exposure.

stress safety, **Parents** communication

Parents participating in the survey expressed high levels of satisfaction with safety and communication. About 93 with schools was rated positively by 91 perent of parents, while 8 percent felt sup ported engaging

percent were satisfied with

The survey findings suggest that while Indian educational institutions have made measurable progress in creating safer and more supportive

ments, sustained efforts are required to address academic stress, workload bal-

school safety arrangements and 97 percent felt their children were safe commuting to and from school. Communication teachers on coun-selling and developmental issues. environance and long-term well-being through systemic changes rather than short-term interventions.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

Kashmir Mourns

remained devoted to the medium. For the first three years of his career, he did not miss a single day of work.

"I chose radio because it was a culture of brotherhood," he once said. "There was no culture of bribes. That is what kept me there and kept me connected to the people.

Though he admitted that his income as a news editor of Daily Wular earlier was modest and often tight by the end of the month, it was still better than what many state employees earned at the time. What mattered more to him was integrity.

But before the microphone made him a household name, Farhad was already known as a poet. He participated in state-level symposiums and later appeared at a World Conference of poets. He was surprised when his name was announced. He often described that moment as humbling.

The bard-broadcaster translated two books during his career. After retirement, people kept asking him why he had not published his own work. Responding to that insistence, he published four books in September 2023. Most were compilations of his naats, poems in praise of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

Many of these naats were already being recited widely. "It was the reciters themselves who urged him to publish them, so the words could be preserved, corrected where needed, and recited properly," said Maqbool Hussain, his poet friend.

Lines such as "Ba-khuda saerie khudaei asiha pardan andar" became part of Kashmir's cul-

"For many years, people did not know what Farhad looked like," said his former colleague at Radio Kashmir. "He was simply a voice. Shopkeepers in cities, farmers working in fields, and people in distant villages knew the name Farhad because they heard him every

the arrival of television and his fre quent appearances on screen, people finally began to recognize his face. His popularity only

"In those early days," his radio colleague continued, "there were only a few broadcasters like him, including Farooq Nazki. Later, many more would enter the field."

Farhad himself remained honest about

"Our generation had the least competition," he once said. "There were hardly any journalists in town. Today, even one neighbourhood has dozens. They work under constant pressure and scrutiny.'

Farhad often said he had no single mentor. Anyone who taught him something, whether scholars, colleagues, or listeners correcting him, was a mentor. He said these exchanges with the public were his greatest source of

Roshan Khayal Khan, who worked with him for many years, called his passing a personal loss. "As a senior broadcaster, he encouraged me when I joined the newsroom as a young and raw newsreader," he said.

Khan recalled working alongside giants such as Abdul Rashid Banday, Syed Muzaffar Kashani, Moti Lal Khazanchi, and Makhan Lal Bekus. "I often felt like a minnow among them," he said. "Such was their stature and aura."

Farhad, he added, would sometimes recite newly written naats and poetry in his unfor-

Shafiq Ahmad, who spent more than two decades with Farhad at Radio Kashmir, remembered him as graceful and generous.

"He was a professional of the highest standard," he said. "He dedicated his youth and later years to All India Radio, Delhi, and Radio Kashmir, Srinagar. His command over Kashmiri vocabulary was exceptional. Truly, he was a living legenď."

Nisar Gilani, his college friend and debating partner, traced their bond back to S.P. College, Srinagar. Though one studied Arts and the other Science, literature brought them together. Under professors Ghulam Nabi Firaq, Sattar Shahid, and T. N. Bhan, they worked on the college magazine PARTAB.

The two travelled together on RTC buses toward their homes in Soura and Nowhatta, talking endlessly about life and the future.

In debates, Gilani spoke in English, while Farhad was the Urdu voice. In 1967, they travelled to Delhi for an inter-college competition. Decades later, living only a few hundred meters apart in Jammu, they still spent winter afternoons over

tea, talking as if time had barely moved. Farhad never received many major awards.

He never seemed to mind. He believed his greatest achievement was the love of the people.

There were moments when that love be-

came overwhelming. During a condolence visit to Sopore, someone recognized him while he was travelling by car. A crowd gathered so quickly that the army had to intervene to let him pass.

"That," Farhad once said, "was my biggest

The legendary broadcaster is survived by his wife, a former principal, and two daughters, one a banker and the other a professor. His family remained deeply devoted to his work and admired his creative genius.

Friends and neighbours remember community moments too.

Farooq A. Nawchoo, his neighbour in Umerhair, Buchpora, recalled sitting with him in his lawn, discussing life and worldly matters. Author Zahid G. Muhammad remembered

him as a learned friend, and a mystic in later

years, recalling his early writings in Daily Aftab under the pen name Kokab Kashmiri. Farhad believed his survival through the years of violence and later through the COVID

pandemic was a divine blessing. He often spoke

of gratitude, faith, and patience. Today, his voice no longer rises from the radio each evening," said a colleague. "But people still remember how his voice carried the valley through fear, uncertainty, and silence."

Cloudy Weather

below normal at many stations, while night temperatures have remained above normal at several places. Foggy conditions are also expected to continue in the plains of Jammu division, particularly during morning and night

Meanwhile, the rainfall and snowfall had a positive impact on air quality across the Valley. The Meteorological Department said the Air Quality Index (AQI) showed significant improvement following the rain.

"There has been a clear improvement quality due to the rainfall. After this spell, the weather is expected to remain dry and cold from December 23 to December 30," another

An advisory issued by the department warned that higher reaches of Kupwara, Bandipora and Ganderbal districts could receive moderate to heavy snowfall, especially during the night.

South Kashmir's Pulwama district recorded the coldest minimum at -3.2°C, followed by Shopian at -2.9°C and Awantipora at -2.2°C.

Central Kashmir's Srinagar district registered -0.4°C, Qazigund and Pahalgam -1.0°C each, while Gulmarg and Kulgam recorded 2.0°C and 1.2°C respectively.

In Jammu division, Katra recorded the lowest at 10.0°C, Jammu Airport 11.0°C, while Banihal and Bhaderwah registered 3.8°C and 4.4°C,

In Ladakh, Leh recorded a minimum of -4.2°C. Some stations, including Zojila Pass, Kargil, Doda, and Zethan Rafiabad, did not report data. The figures were compiled by Kashmir Weather.

An advisory issued by the department warned that higher reaches of Kupwara, Bandipora and Ganderbal districts could receive moderate to heavy snowfall, especially during the night.

Travellers and commuters have been advised to remain cautious, especially on high-altitude roads where slippery conditions may persist, and in the Jammu plains where reduced visibility due to fog could affect traffic movement. Authorities have urged people to follow traffic advisories and administrative guidelines dur-

ing the ongoing winter spell. Fresh Snow, Rain

The recent precipitation slightly eased cold conditions across Jammu and Kashmir even as the India Meteorological Department forecast an-

other spell of rain or snow over the next 12 hours. The Traffic Police said movement on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway has been regulated from 4 pm on December 22 and will continue till 4 pm on December 23 due to the breakdown of two heavy motor vehicles, leading

to congestion at several single-lane stretches. In view of inclement weather and the forecast of further precipitation, commuters were advised to undertake travel only after confirming highway conditions through official Traffic Control Units. Passenger light motor vehicles were asked to prefer daytime travel on the Jammu-Srinagar axis, while heavy motor vehicles were advised to avoid night travel, particularly between the Nashri and Navyug tunnels.

Officials said that subject to fair weather and improved road conditions, two-way movement of light vehicles and regulated movement of heavy vehicles was planned on NH-44 in coordination with the Traffic Control Unit Ramban.

Several key roads across the region were closed due to snow accumulation. The Kishtwar-Sintthan-Anantnag road, Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri road and the Mughal Road were shut for vehicular traffic, while security force convoys were allowed to move only after clearance from traffic authorities.

The Gurez-Bandipora road was also closed following snowfall. In north Kashmir, several interior roads were cut off due to snow accumulation, prompting the administration to launch snow clearance operations to restore connectivity.

Flights Cancelled at Srinagar Airport Meanwhile, air traffic was also affected as IndiGo and SpiceJet cancelled two flights from Srinagar Airport due to low visibility. In a post on X, the airport authorities advised passengers to check their flight status with the respective airlines for updates and alternate

Travellers were urged to follow lane discipline, avoid overtaking and adhere to official advisories to prevent congestion and ensure safety during the ongoing winter weather spell.

Kashmir's Rs 6 Crore

inspected the site in August. Its report said the facility was constructed illegally without consent and warned that it threatens local habitats, biodiversity, and human health.

taminating groundwater and increased disease from insects, birds, and stray animals. Despite notices from the JKPCC for violating

The report cited risks from leachate con-

environmental and waste management laws, the Municipal Committee of Awantipora continues to use the site as a dumping ground.

Dr. Bhat said around Rs 6 crore have been spent, but the plant produces no usable output.

IKCAG said it will submit a formal report to the government, the ACB, and the PAG's office, urging action to address the violations and protect local communities

Security Grid

the markets was regulated during the operation, though authorities said efforts were made to minimise inconvenience to traders and shoppers. Locals described the security presence as visible but orderly, with business activity largely unaffected.

In central Srinagar, police personnel assisted by CRPF teams also carried out coordinated vehicle checking at multiple intersections. Vehicles were stopped briefly for document verification, and drivers were sensitised about security protocols. Officials said the checks resulted in only minor and temporary delays.

"No suspicious object or material was detected during the searches and inspections carried out today," officials said, adding that the exercise was purely preventive in nature.

Senior officers said the operations are part of a layered security plan activated every year ahead of Republic Day in Srinagar. The plan includes intensified patrolling, market inspections, technology-assisted anti-sabotage checks and increased deployment of security personnel at sensitive locations.

More such inspections and checks are expected in the coming days based on ongoing security assessments, officials added.

Terrorists, Drug

Our constant aim and objective is to stamp out all such anti-national and anti-social activities in Jammu and Kashmir," Prabhat said.

Paying tribute to fallen personnel, he said 1,620 police personnel have laid down their lives in the line of duty. He said sporting events are organised in memory of these martyrs to honour their sacrifices and promote a spirit of

Highlighting the police force's gallantry record, Prabhat said the Jammu and Kashmir Police has received one Ashok Chakra, seven Kirti Chakras, 33 Shaurya Chakras, 1,866 gallantry medals and 2,347 other awards in recognition of bravery.

Reiterating the department's commitment to martyrs' families, the DGP said financial assistance is provided through the police welfare fund to the best of the department's capacity. He said Special Police Officers are also provided ex gratia assistance, an amount of Rs 1 lakh is given for the marriage of martyrs' daughters, and education expenses up to Class 12 for their children are waived.

Emphasising youth engagement, Prabhat

said the Jammu and Kashmir Police regularly organises sports activities under its annual calendar and the Civic Action Programme to channelise youth energy in a positive direction. He said the Martyrs Memorial Football

Tournament was recently held in Srinagar, while the Martyrs Memorial Cricket Tournament is currently underway in Kathua. Similar events, including hockey, cricket and football tournaments, are organised across districts.

The DGP said the police has also organised several mass participation events such as "Jashn-e-Dal" at Dal Lake, "Pedal for Peace" cycle rally, "Run for Peace" marathon in Srinagar and the upcoming "Run for Unity" in Jammu.

On efforts to tackle drug abuse, Prabhat said the Jammu and Kashmir Police runs 10 drug de-addiction centres across the Union Territory, where around 3,000 people have received treatment and counselling this year.

He further said that under the Bharat Darshan programme, more than 1,000 youths have been sent to different parts of the country this year to expose them to India's cultural diversity and strengthen national integration.

Cabinet Okays 5

Officers, a step intended to strengthen administrative functioning at the grassroots level. In another key decision, the Cabinet cleared the enhancement of salaries of Village Level Workers and Multipurpose Workers by upgrading them from Level-2 to Level-4, addressing a long-pending demand of field-level staff.

Besides, the Cabinet approved a capital infusion of Rs 118 crore into the Anantnag Central Cooperative Bank and the Jammu Central Cooperative Bank to improve their financial health and strengthen cooperative banking in the Union Territory.

Sources said that the decisions cleared by the Cabinet will now be forwarded to the Lieutenant Governor for approval, following which formal orders will be issued.(KNO)

India Must be

will no longer be an option but a necessity, where the effects of one domain will be immediately felt on to the other.

"What kind of threats and challenges should India be prepared for? This should be based on two facts. Both our adversaries — one is a nuclear weapon state and one is a nuclear armed state - hence we should not allow that level of deterrence to be breached," he said without naming Pakistan or China.

He said India has territorial disputes with both its neighbours.

"We should be prepared to fight short duration, high intensity conflicts to deter terrorism, something like Operation Sindoor. We should be prepared for a land centric, long duration conflict because we have land disputes. Yet, we

should try and avoid it," the CDS said. The country's top military officer stressed the need to exploit new domains and create asymmetry with a weaker adversary and yet not allow these asymmetries to be exploited by other nations.

Terrorism and grey zone warfare will remain a threat, which requires defensive as well as offensive response, he added. Chauhan spoke about modern warfare being

at a cusp of a third revolution in military affairs which he termed as convergence warfare.

This is happening because a number of technologies are simultaneously affecting the nature and character of warfare, he added.

Earlier a few technologies were influencing

how wars are fought. Now it could be a number of technologies. AI, Quantum, edge computing, hypersonic, advanced material, robotics, he added. He said multi-domain operations will no longer be an option but a necessity where the effects of one domain will be immediately felt

on to the other domain. "This was clearly visible in Operation Sindoor. In a war which lasted only about four days giving India decisive victory, all domains of warfare were used simultaneously with great amount of tempo," he said.

Multi-domain operations will also require multi-domain capabilities and cross domain command and control, he said. He said multidomain operations will no longer be an option but a necessity where the effects of one domain will be immediately felt on to the other domain.

"This was clearly visible in Operation Sindoor. In a war which lasted only about four days giving India decisive victory, all domains of warfare were used simultaneously with great amount of tempo," he said.

Multi-domain operations will also require multi-domain capabilities and cross domain command and control, he said.

This will require extensive coordination and control between the Army, Navy and Air Force, but also cyber forces, space forces and forces operating in the cognitive domain, he asserted.

India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7 to avenge the terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22, leading to the deaths of 26 persons. India inflicted heavy damage on the terror infrastructure located in Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir and Pakistan. Both countries agreed on cessation of hostilities on May 10.

Why J&K's Power

faced an overall deficit of nearly 800 MW.

Hydro collapse, coal and solar dominance In February, officials revealed that Jammu and Kashmir was relying on 85 to 90 percent coal and solar power procured from other states, as local hydropower generation dropped

by nearly 90 percent during winter. With minimal local generation, authorities acknowledged that the region was effectively without its own power base for several months, intensifying dependence on external sources.

Power procurement from markets During the lean season in August, Jammu and Kashmir procured nearly 40 to 50 percent of its electricity from power markets. Official documents showed that winter non availability of internal generation forced reliance on interstate power networks, further increasing costs. Grim deficit projections

Looking ahead, official projections paint a worrying picture. Jammu and Kashmir, along with Ladakh, may face energy deficits ranging from 4,293 MW to nearly 10,000 MW over the

Studies suggest that by 2034–35, contracted capacity will fail to meet demand, particularly during winter months, with unserved energy estimated at around 8,730 million units.

Peak-hour surcharge proposal Amid rising costs, the power department

proposed a 20 percent surcharge during peak morning and evening hours, excluding agriculture consumers. The proposal. managing peak demand during harsh winters, awaits regulatory approval and has sparked concern among domestic consumers. Rising future demand

Official estimates indicate that Jammu and Kashmir will require an additional 4,625 MW beyond planned capacities over the next nine years. Power demand is projected to grow by nearly 50 percent by 2034–35, with an annual increase of around six percent. Authorities have warned that without timely

capacity expansion, forced load shedding could

rise to nearly 29 percent of annual energy by 2034-35. Persistent grid and voltage issues

Throughout 2025, the region struggled with persistent low voltage problems, especially in the Kashmir Valley. Despite repeated discussions at regional power forums, the issue remained unresolved.

The lack of capacitor banks to manage reactive power further worsened voltage quality, leading to higher system losses and penalties. Winter shortages and curtailments In December, Jammu and Kashmir faced

a projected power deficit of over 34 percent, with availability at 2,460 MW against a requirement of 3,737 MW. Earlier in the month, Kashmir alone faced a shortfall of nearly 500 MW, triggering extended outages.

The government admitted to imposing fourhour curtailments in high-loss areas, while attributing unscheduled outages largely to unauthorised power use in flat-rate zones.

High losses, improved revenue

Despite persistent challenges, the power department reported financial gains. Aggregate technical and commercial losses stood above 41 percent, with Kashmir DISCOM continuing to perform worse than Jammu.

At the same time, revenue generation increased by nearly 250 percent over five years, with power tariffs contributing a growing share of non-tax revenue. Officials credited smart meters, billing improvements and enforcement drives for the turnaround.

A long road ahead

While 2025 saw incremental reforms and revenue gains, it also exposed deep structural weaknesses in Jammu and Kashmir's power sector. High import dependence, weak winter generation, grid limitations and rising demand continue to threaten supply reliability.

The promise of unrestricted power remains distant, underscoring that energy security in the region will require sustained investment, realistic planning and difficult policy choices in the years ahead. (KNO)

Snowfall Spurs Surge in Railway Travel Across J&K



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Inclement weather in Jammu and Kashmir has prompted a surge in passengers at railway stations, with many preferring train travel between Jammu and Srinagar over road transport, officials said on Monday.

An official said that the recent snowfall in the valley led to a surge of local passengers and tourists, putting additional pressure on railway services. He said the railways

have made arrangements to manage passengers amid ongoing snowfall and rainfall across the region, which has disrupted road traffic.

Two Vandai Bharat trains are currently running between Srinagar and Katra in both directions, the official said, adding, "If passenger rush increases in the coming days, we will write to higher authorities for additional trains.'

He said the Katra-Srinagar rail service is operating at full capacity to accommodate travellers affected by disrupted road movement.

Tourists also praised the railway service, saying it made their travel more comfortable than road transport. "We were worried about reaching Srinagar, but the Vande Bharat train made the journey smooth and hasslefree despite the snowfall," Pooja Sharma, a traveller, told KNO.

National Conference (NC) president Dr Farooq Abdullah also travelled from Katra to Srinagar aboard the Vande

Snowfall Mesmerizes Tourists in Gulmarg

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The season's first major snowfall has transformed the famous ski resort of Gulmarg into a pristine winter paradise, rekindling the Valley's tourism spirit and winning the hearts of visitors from across the country.

Tourists, delighted by the snowfall and Kashmiri hospitality, have called on people nationwide to visit the region and experience its real charm and warmth.

A group of tourists from Assam, who were among the many to witness the first flakes, told KNO that they were overwhelmed by the experience. "It's like heaven here. The beauty, the peace and the warmth of people - everything is beyond imagination. We want everyone to come and see the real Kashmir, not the one shown on social media," they said, describing the Valley as completely safe and welcoming.

For first-time visitors, the snowfall turned into a memory of a lifetime. "It's great to be here in Gulmarg. The arrangements, hospitality and security are excellent. People are very caring and respectful; it truly feels like home," said a tourist from Varanasi, Uttar

Pradesh, who lauded local hoteliers and guides for their courteous ser-

Others who revisited the Valley after years said they were amazed by the change in atmosphere. "I came back after two decades, and I'm really impressed. We went to Lal Chowk in Srinagar yesterday; everything was peaceful and vibrant. There's no fear; only beauty and development," said another visitor.

Tourism stakeholders, equally relieved by the snowfall, expressed optimism about the season ahead. "We were eagerly waiting for this snow, and Alhamdulillah it's finally here," said Tufail Ahmad, a local guide in Gulmarg. "This snow is a blessing. It will give a huge push to the tourism sector and skiing activities. We're hopeful for more in the coming days."

It is noteworthy that after several weeks of dry weather, nearly 10 inches of snow blanketed Gulmarg's meadows overnight, turning it into a picture-perfect destination. The snowfall ended a prolonged dry spell that had raised concern among tourism stakeholders and adventure operators ahead of the winter season.

Abandoned Horses Left to Brave Kashmir's Harsh Winter

Dabirah Hassan

SRINAGAR- Every winter in Kashmir brings with it a silent tragedy that often goes unnoticed. Horses that serve as a lifeline for hundreds of families during the tourist season are left to fend for themselves once the harsh cold sets in.

Across popular tourist destinations such as Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Doodhpathri and Yusmarg, horses are extensively used to ferry tourists and locals. During the summer months, these animals work relentlessly and generate steady income for their owners. However, with the onset of winter and a sharp decline in tourism, many horses are abandoned on roadsides and open fields, exposed to hunger, freezing temperatures and, in many cases, death.

With no shelter or care, several horses wander along highways, risking fatal accidents. Others stray into agricultural fields in search of food, causing losses to farmers while further aggravating the animals' suffering.

A video that recently surfaced on social media has once again drawn attention to the issue. In the video, Dr Sameer Siddigui. Patron of Khangah-e-Hvdari, expressed anguish over the treatment of these animals.

"These tongueless animals are made to work relentlessly during summers, and when winters arrive, when they need warmth and care the most, they are abandoned on roads to die," he said. "Many collapse after being hit by vehicles, while others suffer silently from hunger and cold."

Dr Siddiqui said a written complaint has been submitted to the Deputy Commissioner's office in Anantnag, urging the administration to take action against those who commercialise horses during the tourist season and abandon them during winter. He added that many owners desert the animals to avoid the cost of feeding and shelter, leaving them vulnerable to neglect and abuse.

Residents from affected areas have also shared distressing accounts. Mohammad Yaseen, a resident of Sallar in Pahalgam, said horses cannot raise their voice against cruelty.

"They help us earn our livelihood, yet we abandon them when they need us the most," he said. "Being human means showing compassion. Those responsible should be identified and strict legal action must be taken against them."

Similarly, Mushtaq Ahmad from Ashmuqam said the situation has worsened in recent weeks.

"I have seen many horses roaming on the roads. Recently, two horses died after eating something poisonous, and another was hit by a car," he said.

Abid Abbasi, a resident of Budgam, also expressed concern over the growing number of stray horses.

"I have seen many stray horses roaming in our area where children often play. Dogs chase them, creating fear and danger," he said. "Instead of harassing these animals, people should inform the concerned department."

Farmers, meanwhile, report heavy losses due to stray horses entering agricultural fields. One farmer said his crops were completely destroyed, resulting in losses of nearly Rs 2 lakh.

As winter deepens, the suffering of these animals continues largely in silence. Locals and animal welfare advocates have appealed to the authorities to enforce strict regulations, fix accountability and remind people that compassion should not end with the tourist season.

CM Omar Releases 'Samnvay', **Showcasing J&K's Digital Transformation**

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah released a coffee-table book titled 'Samnvay', which show-cases the digital transformative journey of Jammu and Kashmir and documents the key projects and technological contributions of the Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) in J&K.

The launch event was attended by Minister for Science & Technology and Information Technology Satish Sharma; Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani; Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo; Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education Department Shantmanu; Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta; Commissioner Secretary GAD/Information M. Raju; Secretary IT Pivush Singla: Special Director BISAG-N: Secretary School Education: CEO JKeGA, and other senior

Jammu Airport Sees 13 Lakh Footfall, 10,900 Flights This Year

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu Airport has recorded steady growth in air traffic during 2025, handling over 13.5 lakh passengers and nearly 10,972 flight movements till mid-December.

As per the data accessed, the airport recorded 5,486 arrivals and 5,486 departures between January 1 and December 15, 2025.

During the same period, total passenger arrivals stood at 6,83,632, while departures were recorded at 6,70,764, reflecting a steady flow of domestic travellers throughout the year.

erations also continued mu Airport handled 810.32 ing its growing logistical

Jammu, Davender Yadav, told KNO that Jammu Airport witnessed steady passenger movement and consistent flight operations during 2025, reflecting the growing demand for air travel in the region.



Speaking on the occasion,

the Chief Minister lauded BISAG-N for crafting practical, innovative solutions to complex governance challenges in Jammu and Kashmir, noting that many of these solutions have relevance beyond J&K. He said J&K's unique geography and climatic conditions necessitate a strong push towards digitisation, as technology enables uniform delivery of public services irrespective of location.

"Digitising governance and services ensures that people of Jammu and Kashmir receive the same quality of service, whether they live or work in remote areas or urban centres," the Chief

Minister observed. Calling Samnvay a com-

prehensive snapshot of this cooperation, the Chief Minister said the publication offers an overview of how technology-driven interventions have supported administrative efficiency and service delivery.
Thanking the Director

General of BISAG-N and his entire team for their sustained efforts, CM Omar Abdullah expressed that Samnvay would be the first of many such publications documenting future projects and milestones, as the Government of Jammu and Kashmir continues to leverage technology for better governance in the months and years ahead.

Vande Bharat Kashmir's New Lifeline: Faroog Abdullah

ational Conference president and former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah on Monday said that the Vande Bharat train has emerged as a lifeline for the people of Kashmir, especially during winter months when road connectivity is disrupted and flights are frequently delayed due to weather conditions.

Speaking to reporters, Abdullah said that snowfall, while challenging, remains a blessing for the Valley. "Snowfall is a blessing for us and we pray that Allah blesses us with more," he said. Reacting to the fresh snowfall, Abdullah said snow has always been a source of sustenance and hope for the region. "Snowfall is a blessing for us. May Allah bless us with more," he said.

Referring to the newly introduced Vande Bharat service, Abdullah said the train has provided much-needed relief to commuters. "The Vande Bharat train has become a lifeline for Kashmir. Even if roads are blocked due to snowfall or flights are delayed, the train will continue to run," he said as per KNS.

Abdullah said that winter in Kashmir often brings severe disruption to daily life, with highways getting closed for days and air travel becoming uncertain. In such situations, Abdullah said, the train offers a dependable alternative for passengers, students, patients and traders. (Observer News Service)

5 Fire Cases Reported In Kashmir Over 24 Hrs

Tve separate fire incidents were reported from different parts of the Kashmir Valley during the past 24 hours, officials of the Fire and Emergency Services said on Monday. No loss of human life was reported in any of the incidents.

According to officials, the fires were reported from Sopore town and multiple locations in Kupwara district, affecting residential houses, cowsheds and a temporary shed.

In Sopore's Sher Colony C, a single-storey residential house was damaged after a fire broke out during the night. Fire tenders from the nearby station rushed to the spot and brought the blaze under control, preventing further damage.

In Kupwara district, a cowshed was damaged in the Helmetpora Check area. Firefighters managed to contain the fire in time, stopping it from spreading to nearby structures.

According to KNT, another incident was reported from Narikoot in the Kalaroos area, where a double-storey residential house caught fire and suffered partial damage before the flames were controlled by response teams.

Two additional fire incidents occurred in Kupwara. At Hempora in Qazibad, a single-storey cowshed was damaged in a fire, while in Sopore's Ibrahim Colony Arampora, a temporary shed sustained damage due to a minor blaze.(Observer News Service)

SBI Donates ₹2 Lakh for **Infrastructure Support to Abhedananda Home**



s part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, State Bank of India, through its Regional Business Office-I Srinagar donated Rs. 2 Lakh to Abhedanada Home, a welfare school for Deaf & Dumb for upgradation of infrastructure of Special School.

The handover took place during a brief function at the school, where the Chief Manager (Ops) formally presented the Air Conditioners and Water Dispensers to the Principal of Abhedanada Home in presence of other bank officials.

At SBI, we believe that meaningful CSR is about creating real impact in the lives of those who need it the most, particularly in sectors for welfare of the specially-abled. (Observer News Service)

Executive Engineer

Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SOPORE. **NOTICE INVITING TENDER** NIT No. 147 of RnB-Sonore of 2025-2026 e-tendering DATED: 20.12.2025.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) are invited on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S.No.	Name of Work	Adv. cost	Cost of Tender Documents In Rupees	E/ Money	Time for completion of work	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contract or	M. H of Account	Position of TS
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
1	Construction of Resource room at Girls Middle School Seelu.	10.15	600/-	20300	60 days	13.01. 2026	BEE/ CEE/ DEE	Samagra Shiksha	121 /TS of 2025-26 dated: 20.12.2025 Rs. 10.18 lacs
2	Construction of ACR at Primary School Daira Ismail Khan Gujjarpati	l	800/-	41666	120 days	13.01. 2026	BEE/ CEE	Samagra Shiksha	122 /TS of 2025-26 dated: 20.12.2025 Rs.20.84 lacs
3	Construction of Head Master room at Middle School Yembran Edipora.	10.15	600/-	20300	60 days	13.01. 2026	DEE/ CEE/ BEE	Samagra Shiksha	123 /TS of 2025-26 dated: 20.12.2025 Rs.10.15 lacs
4	Construction of ACR School Building at Middle School Dharnambal	l	800/-	41350	120 days	13.01. 2026	BEE/ CEE	Samagra Shiksha	124 /TS of 2025-26 dated: 20.12.2025 Rs. 20.673 lacs

Project Authority Project Director Samagra Shiksha J&K Position of funds Position of AA.

Accorded by Project Director Samagra Shiksha vide his order No: 314 of Chirag of 2025 dated: 1.12.2025. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.O), Set of terms and conditions of

,	contract and other detail's can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below					
1	Date of issue of tender Notice	20 .12.2025				
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	20.12.2025	12.01.2026(upto 4.PM)			
3	Bid Submission start date	20.12.2025				
4	Bid submission End date	12.01.2026 (4.00 PM)				
5	Date and time of opening of hides (online)	13 01 2026(12 PM) in the office (of Ev. Engineer R&R Division, Sonore			

Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) with NIT No. Name of work and S.No deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore . Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released after

submission of a performance security of 5% of the quoted cost which will be released after completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

Geotag Photographs Minimum 03 sets (01 set Comprising of Photograph before, during and after execution of work) of size 26 cm x21 cm to be provided.

Unbalanced Bid:- In case bid of the successful bidder is unbalanced, the Successful bidder will have to provide additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sopore (tender receiving authority) vide Principal Secretary to Govern issued under endorsement No: DF-Code/ 441/ 2021-02-158 dated" 8.8.20025.

Where the bid price is below 10% but not below 20% of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee/security percentage shall be Inc.

by 0.1% for every percentage of bid price below 10% of the project cost put to bid starting at 11 % with the additional bid performance guarantee being 0.1% and Where the bid price is 20% or more below of the project cost put to bid, the additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price. percentage of bid price below 20% of the project cost put to bid in addition to 1 % of the bid price and this additional performance guarantee percentage shall be applied on the bid price.

The additional performance guarantee percentage shall be rounded off to the next lower percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of bid

DIPK-9212-25

price is below 0.5% or next higher percentage based on whether the decimal point of the percentage of bid price is 0.5% or more.

The additional performance security shall be treated as part of the performance security. Additional performance security shall be taken only after approval of next higher authority. The additional performance security shall be released only after successful completion of work.

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on web Site www.jketenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail m

their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Tender receiving authority). The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical Bids. For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, No 9349-58 Dated: 20.12.2025.

Year-Ender 2025:

SDRF Conducts 110 Rescue Operations, Trains Over 55,000 People

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) marked 2025 with sustained preparedness and on-ground action, carrying out more than 110 rescue operations and training nearly 56,000 people across the Kashmir Valley. Alongside emergency response, the force laid strong emphasis on community awareness and capacity-building, reflecting a shift towards preparedness-driven disaster management.

Official data show that SDRF personnel responded to a wide range of emergencies during the year, including fires, snow-related incidents, floods and a landslide. The force also played a crucial role during the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, extending assistance to over 15,000 pilgrims dur-

ing the annual pilgrimage, which remained the largest mobilisation of SDRF resources in 2025.

According to KNO, the SDRF responded to 14 fire incidents, one landslide and multiple flood situations during the year, rescuing five lives in different operations. In addition, personnel remained deployed along pilgrim routes and base camps during the Amarnath Yatra, ensuring rapid response and safety support in challenging terrain and weather conditions.

month-wise erational review highlights consistent activity throughout the year. January and February each saw five rescue operations, with over 3,400 and 3,500 people respectively sensitised through awareness programmes. March recorded similar rescue numbers, while April witnessed

an uptick with eight rescue operations and nearly 6,000 participants trained. May emerged as a peak

month for preparedness activity, with nine rescue operations and over 8,800 people trained, largely focusing on fire safety ahead of the summer season. June saw six rescue operations, followed by ten rescues in July as pre-Amarnath Yatra deployments began. August marked one of

the busiest periods of the year, with 22 rescue operations and assistance provided to 15,319 pilgrims during the Yatra. September recorded the highest number of rescue operations-33 in total-including multiple flood-related responses and animal rescue incidents. Activity continued through October and November with regular rescues and awareness programmes across

Cargo and mail opsmoothly. Between January and November 2025, Jamtonnes of incoming and 247.86 tonnes of outgoing cargo and mail, underscor-

importance. The Airport Director 2nd WT20I

Fielding Focus as India Face Sri Lanka Today

Press Trust of India

The Indian women's cricket team will look to raise its fielding standards by a few notches and build on a comprehensive opening win when it squares off against Sri Lanka in the second WT20I on Tuesday. Playing its first international game after a historic World Cup triumph last month, Harmanpreet Kaur's side didn't need to break much sweat in the batting and bowling departments during an eight-wicket win over the island nation. However, the team's fielding, especially catching, left a lot to be desired despite the bowlers managing to restrict the Lankans to a paltry 121 for 6.

"We are working on our fielding. Don't know why we keep dropping catches. It is wet out here, but it is not an excuse. That is something we really need to think about. in the next match, we will come about with better

approach," skipper Harmanpreet Kaur had said after the match.

The Indian team had a well-deserved six-week break following the World Cup high. The players converged for a weeklong camp at the Centre Of Excellence in Bengaluru after that.

Some rustiness in fielding was pretty much expected and the seasoned skipper feels that the team would be getting into the groove very soon.

"We are playing after a month. We don't want to unnecessarily challenge ourselves. We just want to do well for the team.

"We just wanted to bowl first and see how it goes. We wanted to show the better approach," Harmanpreet had said.

On paper, India are overwhelming favourites to win the series against Chamari Athapaththu-led visitors.

In the form of her life, Jemimah Rodrigues commenced her post World Cup journey from



where she left during the title

She looked in rhythm and was especially severe on Shashini Gimhani, a left-arm wrist spinner, whch is a rare breed in women's cricket.

Gimhani bowled a lot of overpitched deliveries and failed to get her length right and Rodrigues alone creamed her for half a dozen boundaries.

The biggest gain for India was 20-year-old left-arm spinner Vaishnavi Sharma, who was recently ignored at the WPL auctions.

cently ignored at the WPL auctions.
Although Vaishnavi went wicket-less, she gave away only 16 runs and didn't concede a single boundary.

For Shafali Verma, the series is an important one and she would like to be more consistent while batting in the format that suits her game.

In the opening game, Sri Lanka's inept performance didn't test India's batting much.

But the likes of Rodrigues, Harmanpreet, Deepti Sharma would like to be challenged during the course of this series before embarking on a tough tour of Australia after the conclusion of the Women's Premier League.

Squads:

India: Harmanpreet Kaur (C), Smriti Mandhana (VC), Deepti Sharma, Sneh Rana, Jemimah Rodrigues, Shafali Verma, Harleen Deol, Amanjot Kaur, Arundhati Reddy, Kranti Gaud, Renuka Singh Thakur, Richa Ghosh (WK), G Kamalini (WK), Sree Charani, Vaishnavi Sharma.

Sri Lanka: Chamari Athapaththu (c), Hasini Perera, Vishmi Gunaratne, Harshitha Samarawickrama, Nilakshika De Silva, Kavisha Dilhari, Imesha Dulani, Kaushini Nuthyangana, Malsha Shehani, Inoka Ranaweera, Shashini Gimhani, Nimesha Madushani, Kawya Kavindi, Rashmika Sewwandi, Malki Madara.

Spain Ranked Top Team In FIFA Men's Soccer Rankings



AP

ZURICH: Spain will end 2025 as the top men's team in the FIFA

There were limited changes in the new rankings published Monday, after the previous standings had been released on Nov. 19.

The top 10 remain unchanged with, in order, Argentina, France, England, Brazil, Portugal, Netherlands, Belgium,

Germany and Croatia following

Spain.
Spain won World Cup Group E qualifying and will meet Uruguay, Saudi Arabia and Cape Verde in Group H at the 2026 tournament co-hosted by the United States, Canada and Mexico.

FIFA said Vietnam, which climbed three places to 107th in the rankings, registered the biggest leap.

The next rankings will be published on Jan. 19.

J&K Cycle Polo Teams Depart For Bihar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Cycle Polo teams have departed for Ara, Bihar, to participate in the 44th Junior Boys and 46th Senior Boys National Cycle Polo Championship 2025–26, scheduled to be held from 26th to 29th December 2025 at Ara.

The teams were selected after a rigorous selection process conducted by the J&K Cycle Polo Association, with the presence of observers from

the J&K Sports Council. The final team screening was also carried out by officials of the J&K Sports Council to ensure merit-based selection.

Junior Team (Boys):
Muhammad Ibrahim Shah
(Captain), Mohammad Abdullah, Mohammad Abrar-UI-Haq
Rabbani, Mohammad Ienemul
Haq, Shahzaib Rafiq, Mohammad Mukarram, Zaid Yousuf, and Mintaha Hussain.

The Junior team will be guided by Vilayat Hussain (Coach) and Sahil Ali (Manager).

SENIOR TEAM (BOYS):
Aqib Maqbool, Hatim
Showkat, Mohammad Taha,
Sheikh Mohsin, Furkan Yaseen,

and Shujah Mohd Ishrat.
The Senior team will be accompanied by Bilal Ahmad (Coach) and Imtiyaz Ahmad (Manager).

S. Manjeet Singh, Aaqib Nissar,

The officials expressed confidence that the J&K teams will deliver a strong performance and bring laurels to the Union Territory in the prestigious national championship.



Pakistan Colts Get Hefty Cash Reward For Asia Cup Title Run



Press Trust of India

KARACHI: Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif on Monday announced a special cash award of 10 million rupees for Pakistan's U19 Asia Cup-winning squad members. The Pakistan colts thumped India by 191 runs on Sunday to claim the title.

Sharif made the announcement at a reception for the team and officials in Islamabad where he lauded the team's performance.

Sarfaraz Ahmed, the mentor and manager of the team, told the media after the reception that the Prime Minister has announced cash award of 10 million (Approx USD 36,000) to each of the players.

Sarfaraz said he was enjoying working with a bunch of talented players who had a great future in the sport.

Head coach Shahid Anwar credited win to a long process of selecting the squad and giving each player enough exposure of 50-overs cricket.

"The process started in June when we picked around 70 players after trials and then reduced the number to 20. Most of these players were then given chances to play 50-over cricket at domestic level," Anwar a former Test batsman said.



Contact: M I Securities - 9906518342 / 9906684475

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