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Srinagar Records Coldest Night Of Season



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Several parts of Kashmir, including Srinagar, experienced the coldest night of the season as severe cold conditions tightened their grip across the Valley, with a sharp fall in minimum temperatures recorded in most areas, officials said on Thursday.

The intense cold led to the freezing of fringes of several water bodies, including the famed Dal Lake in Srinagar, as temperatures dipped well below the freezing point overnight.

Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.1 degrees Celsius on Wednesday

night, a steep drop of 3.5 degrees from the previous night's minus 1.6 degrees Celsius. Officials said it was the coldest night of the season so far in the city, with the temperature settling 3.2 degrees below the seasonal average.

Sonamarg emerged as the coldest place in the Union Territory, recording a low of minus 9.8 degrees Celsius.

In Gulmarg, the mercury settled at minus 9.2 degrees Celsius, down from minus 7.6 degrees Celsius a night earlier. Officials said it was the lowest temperature recorded at the resort so far this winter.

Pahalgam | [More on P6](#)

Search Op Resumes In Kathua After Gunfight

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Security forces resumed a search operation on Thursday morning to track down terrorists hiding in a forest in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district.

A security personnel suffered a minor bullet injury on Wednesday after a gunfight broke out between the forces and the terrorists, officials said.

The forces have busted a well-constructed terrorist hideout during the joint operation, they added.

The action by the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Jammu and Kashmir Police and other security forces was launched at Kahog village in Billawar on

Wednesday evening, leading to an encounter, the officials said.

"The search operation to track down the hiding terrorists has been resumed after a nightlong cordon," a senior security official said.

The searches are being conducted in the Dhanu Parole-Kamadh nallah area. Additional forces have been called in, along with aerial surveillance, to pin down the terrorists hiding in the dense forest, the officials said.

"Despite darkness, thick vegetation and treacherous terrain, the SOG is relentlessly engaging the terrorists. Teams of the CRPF are also participating in the joint operation," Bhim Sen Tuti, Inspector | [More on P6](#)

Forged PRCs, Fake Appointments & Loan Frauds Crime Branch Files 11 FIRs; Officials Under Scanner

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Police have registered 11 FIRs in multiple cases of fraud, forgery and cheating, including forging documents to secure government jobs, circulating fake government communications, visa frauds and illegally obtaining compassionate appointments, officials said on Thursday.

The cases have been registered by the Economic Offences Wing of the Crime Branch Jammu and Kashmir following written complaints which, on preliminary verification, were found to disclose serious cognisable offences.

Officials said the complaints



pertain to a wide range of irregularities, including the illegal issuance of permanent resident certificates in Doda district, bank loan frauds through forged KYC documents, cheating by promising government employment, issuance of fake appointment letters and illegal

diversion of funds sanctioned under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme.

"Some cases also involve the use of forged educational certificates to secure government jobs, circulation of fake government | [More on P6](#)

Security Gains After Art 370 Must Be Sustained: HM

Says Mission Mode Needed To Achieve Terror-Free J&K

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Amit Shah on Thursday said counter-terror operations targeting terrorist infrastructure and terror financing must continue in a mission mode, asserting that all resources will be made available to achieve the goal of a terror-free Jammu and Kashmir at the earliest.

Chairing a high-level security review meeting in the Union Territory, the Union Home Minister directed all security agencies to remain alert and continue working in close coordination to ensure that the gains achieved after the abrogation of Article 370 are sustained.

He assured the agencies that the Centre would extend full support and provide all



necessary resources for the ongoing counter-terrorism efforts.

The meeting was attended by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj

Sinha, Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Director of

the Intelligence Bureau Tapan Kumar Deka, besides the Chief Secretary and Director General of Police of the Union Territory.

Heads of Central Armed Police Forces and other senior officers were also present

during the review meeting.

Appreciating the efforts of security agencies, Amit Shah said that sustained and coordinated action has significantly strengthened the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasised that operations against terror infrastructure and funding networks must continue with the same intensity.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Shah said, the government remains committed to ensuring lasting peace in the region and to completely eliminating terrorism.

Reiterating the government's policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism, the Home Minister said that continuous and coordinated efforts | [More on P6](#)

SMVD's Medical College Derecognition: Students, Faculty In Limbo

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The National Medical Commission's 'abrupt' decision to withdraw its letter of permission to the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence in Jammu and Kashmir's Katra, just months after the inaugural session of the college commenced, has left the students and faculty staring at an uncertain future.

While the Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB) of the National Medical Commission (NMC) cited a failure to meet "minimum standards" following a surprise inspection on January 2, faculty and students allege that the decision was fuelled by local political pressure rather than academic deficiencies.

The withdrawal follows



weeks of protests by the Sangharsh Samiti, a conglomerate of right-wing organisations backed by the BJP, demanding the cancellation of the current batch's admissions to 42 Muslim students from Kashmir, seven Hindus and one Sikh candidate.

All of them qualified through the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test

(NEET).

The conglomerate was lobbying for the college to scrap the current merit-based list and reserve all seats exclusively for Hindu students.

Despite the NMC's claims of non-compliance, faculty members, speaking on the condition of anonymity, defended the institution as one of the | [More on P6](#)

Supernumerary Seats For Affected Students: J&K Govt

Observer News Service

Omar Abdullah on Thursday said the Jammu and Kashmir government will accommodate students affected by the closure of a medical

college by adjusting them in other institutions through supernumerary seats, asserting that their education will not be allowed to suffer. Addressing reporters, the Chief Minister | [More on P6](#)

Clear Pending Traffic Challans In 7 Days: RTO Kashmir

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Office of the Regional Transport Officer Kashmir has issued a public notice directing vehicle owners and operators across the Kashmir division to clear all pending traffic challans within seven days, warning that strict legal action will follow in case of non-compliance.

According to the notice, transport authorities have observed that a large number of two-wheeler vehicles registered in districts across the Kashmir division are being plied on public roads in violation of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, and the rules framed under it. The violations include riding without protective headgear and other

traffic-related offences.

The notice said such violations not only amount to a breach of statutory provisions but also pose a serious threat to road safety and public order, putting human life and property at risk. Authorities said challans have already been issued against defaulting vehicle owners and operators and are currently pending disposal.

"All vehicle owners and operators within the jurisdiction of the Kashmir division are hereby directed to clear the pending challans within seven days from the date of publication of this notice," the RTO said.

The Regional Transport Officer warned that failure to comply within the stipulated timeframe will invite strict action | [More on P6](#)

Tech To Aid Learning, Not Replace Teachers: CM

Launches JK e-Pathshala Tele Education Channel

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said that technology should act as a support system in education and must never replace teachers, as he launched JK e-Pathshala, Direct to Home Channel 53, a dedicated educational television channel for students across Jammu and Kashmir, particularly those living in remote and far-flung areas.

The chief minister also



inaugurated also inaugurated two newly established digital studios, announced 14 districts of Jammu and Kashmir as fully literate, and dedicated 1,010 works completed under the Samagra Shiksha programme during the year 2025-26 | [More on P6](#)

Talks On Ladakh To Resume As MHA Calls Committee Meet

Agencies

Srinagar: In a significant development, the Union Home Ministry is set to convene a meeting of the high-powered committee it constituted to deliberate on issues of Ladakh.

In a letter, the MHA has informed Ladakh's Chief Secretary that the next meeting of the high-powered committee-comprising representatives of the Union Home Ministry, the Ladakh administration, and leaders of Ladakh-will be convened

in the last part of January.

The Chief Secretary of Ladakh has been asked to consult the members of the high-powered committee regarding their convenient dates and inform the MHA accordingly.

The MHA has decided to hold the meeting at a time when leaders of the Leh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA)-the two conglomerates spearheading the agitation for statehood and constitutional safeguards for the region- | [More on P6](#)

Operation Sindoor Strengthened National Service Spirit: IAF Chief

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Chief of the Indian Air Force, Air Chief Marshal A P Singh, on Thursday praised NCC cadets for their contribution during Operation Sindoor, and said the military action reinforced the message that life is not just about earning money or personal pursuits, but also doing something for the country.



chief urged them to continue giving their best for the country, irrespective of whether they join the armed forces later or pursue other professions.

He also exhorted them not to be deterred by failures but to emerge | [More on P6](#)



To place an advertisement
CALL +91-194 2502327
 Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)
 No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name, of my ward has been wrongly written in her adhaar card as Masrat Altaf instead of her correct name as Mehwish Altaf . 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..

Altaf Hussain Mir
 F/o Mehwish Altaf
 R/o Kripalpora Payeen Tehsil Singhpora Baramulla

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old name) Mohd Ashraf Bhat S/o Abdul Ghani Bhat R/o Hubby Colony 90- feet Road Soura to (new name) Mohammad Ashraf Bhat S/o Abdul Gani Bhat R/o Sofi Mohalla Vicharnagh , Srinagar. In future I will be known as Mohammad Ashraf Bhat .

If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact Passport Office Srinagar, within & 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name, Parentage and Residence of my ward has been wrongly written in her adhaar card as Gousia Jan D/O Ghulam Mohi ud Din Dar R/O Kunjoo while my correct name , parentage , Residence is Gowhara Mohi ud Din D/o Gh Mohi ud Din Dar R/o Kunju . 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..

Gowhara Mohi ud Din D/o Gh Mohi ud din Dar
 R/o Kunjoo Tehsil Rajpora & Distt Pulwama

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Name And Dob of my ward Has Been Wrongly Written As Madyah Fayaz , Dob 03-04-2010 Instead Of Correct Name As Madina Fayaz , Dob 21-10-2013 . 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..

Fayaz Ahmad Padroo S/O Gh Mohammad Padroo
 R/O Poterwal Shopian Tehsil Keegam

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in his/he adhaar card as Ayan Ahmad Bhat Instead of Ayan Shabir 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..

Shabir Ahmad Bhat F/o Ayan Shabir Bhat
 R/O Vishroo Distt Shopian Tehsil Keller

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in his/he adhaar card as Aamir Ah Gonchi Instead of Aamir Qadir Gunchi . 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..

Aamir Qadir Gunchi S/o Gh Qadir Gunchi
 R/O Trenz Shopian

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in his/he adhaar card as Umaiza Shakeel Instead of correct name Omaisah Shakeel . 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..

Shakeel Ahmad Shah
 F/o Omaisah Shakeel R/o Pinjoora

PUBLIC NOTICE

The electricity connection with consumer ID:-0203010019937 Installation No:- 31030_R registered in the name of Farooq Ahmad lone is to be transferred in favour of Naza W/O Javaid Ahmad Mir R/O Alfarooq Ibrahim colony Bemina. objections if any must reach concerned AEE sub division Watal Kadal within a week at the most. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ANANTNAG
 Notification for Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs)

Subject: Compliance with On-Site Wet Waste Processing Regulations.
 Ref: Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

In accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, and to ensure proper waste management within the jurisdiction of Municipal Council Anantnag, all Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs), including commercial establishments, institutions, residential complexes, and other entities producing more than 100 kg of waste per day, are hereby directed to comply with the following guidelines for on-site wet waste processing:

- On-Site Waste Processing:** BWGs must establish and operate composting, biogas, or any other environmentally sustainable wet waste processing systems within their premises.
- Segregation of Waste:** BWGs shall ensure proper segregation of wet and dry waste at the source before processing.
- Prohibition of Dumping:** Dumping of unprocessed wet waste in public places, drains, or unauthorized locations is strictly prohibited.
- Regular Compliance Reports:** BWGs must submit compliance reports detailing their waste management practices to the Municipal Council Anantnag.
- Inspections & Penalties:** The Municipal Council Anantnag will conduct regular inspections, and non-compliance may attract penalties as per the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

All BWGs are directed to implement these measures immediately and ensure full compliance. For any assistance or clarification, please contact the Municipal Council Anantnag.

No.: MC/ANG/SWM/184-86
 DIPK-NB-2968/25
 Dated: 08/01/2026

Chief Executive Officer
 Municipal Council Anantnag

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (Old Name) Anisa Moon to (New Name) Anisa Parvez. In future I will be known as (New Name) Anisa Parvez.

If anybody is having any objection, he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The electricity connection with consumer ID:0203010025381 Installation No:-7740347295, registered in the name of Ghulam Mohammad Khan is to be transferred in favour of Masrat D/O Nazir Ahmad Sofi R/O Gousia colony Bemina objections if any must reach concerned AEE sub division Watal Kadal within a week at the most. After that no objection shall be entertained.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No. JK-0420100011463 issued in favour of TAHIR RASHID Parentage AB RASHID DAR Whereas an application has been received by one TAHIR RASHID Parentage AB RASHID DAR wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as TAHIR AHMAD DAR Which needs to be changed as TAHIR RASHID. Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any in this regard shall reach in written in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper. After expiry of stipulated time no objection will be entertained.

Assistant Regional Transport officer
 Budgam Kashmir

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Birth Certificate of my son the name is entered as IMAAD UL ISLAM while his actual name is IMAAD AIJAZ KUMAR. Now I want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact DISTRICT HOSPITAL BUDGAM within a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

AIJAZ AHMAD KUMAR
 F/o IMAAD UL ISLAM
 R/o MACHIBAGH KARGAM PALACHITHI
 BUDGAM CELL. 9906886911

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Adhar card bearing No 943565851101 the name is entered as ANAYATA while my actual name is INAYATA. Now I want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Concern department with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

INAYATA
 W/O MIR TANVEER MAQBOOL
 R/o CHINAR COLONY JAWAHARPORA
 BUDGAM. CELL. 6005810070

ازنیابت گوم احمد پورہ

عنوان:- درخواست منجانب عبدالحمید پورہ ولد علی محمد پورہ تحصیل چن براء عطاگی OBC تحت 176 SRO بحق پسران نورمحمد علی و فرید حسین و دختر نسیم مجید

اشتہار ہرخاص دعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمہ نیاہر چن کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پوراری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن واقعی نیاہر چن کے حلقہ میں رہتا ہے اور ساکن گوم احمد پورہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکن کنڈیڈ ہیں اور اپوزیشن ہے

عبدالحمید پورہ	48 سال	مزدوری
راجہ بیگم زوجہ عبدالحمید	45 سال	گھر بیگم کام
مرحلی احمد	26 سال	مزدوری
فرید حسین	23 سال	زیر تعلیم
نورمان علی	18 سال	--
نسیم مجید دختر	16 سال	--

سائل مذکورہ OBC سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے اور کنڈیڈ ہے اور آئندہ 11000 روپے تک سے سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عجز یا اعتراض ہو تو بعد از شہادت ان کے اندر اندر اپنے عذر یا اعتراض عدالت حد کو دفتر یا اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد از اس سے عیاں ہوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 نائب تحصیلدار FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my vehicle bearing regd no: JK05E 6304 from Palhallan to Taper waripora. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned ARTO Office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Muzaffar Ahmad Bhat
 S/o Ghulam Mohammad Bhat
 R/o Lalpora Kharkhal Kunzer Tangmarg

اشتہار ہرخاص دعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض RBA سرٹیفکیٹ پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پوراری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن واقعی نیاہر چن کے حلقہ میں رہتا ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکن کنڈیڈ ہیں اور اپوزیشن ہے

محمد رمضان ریٹی وولڈ عبدالصدر	54 سال	مزدوری
راجہ بیگم زوجہ محمد رمضان	50 سال	گھر بیگم کام
زیر تعلیم	27 سال	--
ہشوار رمضان	23 سال	--
دانش رمضان	22 سال	--

سائل مذکورہ RBA سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے اور کنڈیڈ ہے اور آئندہ 6000 روپے تک سے سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عجز یا اعتراض ہو تو بعد از شہادت ان کے اندر اندر اپنے عذر یا اعتراض عدالت حد کو دفتر یا اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد از اس سے عیاں ہوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 نائب تحصیلدار FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my JK Bank account details as MUMTAZA NESAR while my correct name is MUMTAZA AKHTER . Now I have applied for correction of the same if anybody has any objection may submit the same in the office of the JK BANK BRANCH LAL BAZAR within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

MUMTAZA AKHTER
 ACCOUNT NO SB: 1501040100022629

ازنیابت بومی

عنوان:- درخواست منجانب فیاض ولد غلام رسول بٹ ساکن گوری پورہ ڈیپٹی براء اجرائی EWS سرٹیفکیٹ بحق حانیہ فیاض

اشتہار ہرخاص دعام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض EWS سرٹیفکیٹ پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پوراری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن 5 دہ ہائیں رہائش پذیر ہے ساکن کنڈیڈ ہیں اور اپوزیشن ہے اور کنڈیڈی سالانہ آمدنی زرعی غیر زرعی سے ملنے 96,000 روپے تک ہے ساکن کے پاس 15 ایکڑ سے کم رقبہ ہے ساکن کا مکان رہائشی 200 SQ Ground ہے کم سے کم رقبہ میں تعمیر شدہ موجود ہے ساکن کا رہائشی ٹائٹ 1000 sq فٹ ہے کم سے کم ساکن کا مکان رہائشی از بیرون میونسپل حدود میں واقع نہیں ہے ساکن کے کمبر کی سالانہ آمدنی 8 لاکھ سے کم ہے ساکن، RBA، OBC، ST،

سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عجز یا اعتراض ہو تو بعد از شہادت ان کے اندر اندر اپنے عذر یا اعتراض عدالت حد کو دفتر یا اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد از اس سے عیاں ہوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 نائب تحصیلدار FKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Ward's Name in Aadhar Card has been wrongly entered as MIR MOHD RUHAAN while my Ward's correct Name as per Birth Certificate is MUHAMMAD RUHAAN MIR. Now I want the same to be corrected if anybody has any objection in this regard He/ She may file his/ her objection in the Office of the General Manager Ranbir Government Press Jammu, within a period of seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Zahoor Ahmad Mir F/O Mohammad Ruhaan Mir
 R/O Imoh Achabal Anantnag JNA7780878931

I have applied for the registration of my business unit under name and style "M/S TALIB MARKETING FERTILIZERS" if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the DIRECTOR AGRICULTURE (al Mandi/ CHIEF Agriculture OFFICER BUDGAM within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 NESAR ALI BHAT fko

I have applied for the registration of my business unit under name and style "M/S TALIB SEEDS RETAILORS" if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the office of the CHIEF AGRICULTURE OFFICER BUDGAM within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 NESAR ALI BHAT fko

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS ZAINGER BOMAI

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death Public Notice
 This office has received a written application from Ab Ahad Ahanger S/o Mohd Shaban Ahanger R/o zaloora , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of self was Born on 01-01-1955 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant.
 In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days.
 After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.
 Fko Tehsildar Executive Magistrate Bomial

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW(R&B)D MECHANICAL DIVISION SOUTH KASHMIR
 (NOTICE INVITING TENDERS)

e-NIT No: -36 of R&B/MDSK/2025-26 Dated: 08 / 01 /2026

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited in two-cover system (Technical and Financial) on Item rate basis from Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) / Experienced firms / Authorized dealers of OEM's for the below mentioned work :-

S. No	Name of work	Cost of Tender Documents (Rs)	Estimated cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs)	Time of Completion (months)	Tender Opening Authority	Position of Funds
1.	Design, Manufacturing, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 28 No., (G+5), 08 passengers, MRL lifts at Transit Accommodation at Lethpora-4 Pulwama.	8500/-	6,31,47,490/-	12,62,950/-	05 Months	Superintending Engineer, R&B Circle, Pulwama/Shopian	Available with intending department

Position of AAA: Authorization conveyed vide no. 57 JK DMRRR of 2021, Dated: 02/08/2021 by the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh Affairs.

Position of TS: Accorded by Chief Engineer, Mechanical & Hospitals Engineering Department, Kashmir vide order no. MHED/K/TS/138, Dt: 15/11/2025.

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per below schedule.

S.No	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	08 /01 /2026
2	Period of Downloading of bidder Documents	From 08 /01/2026 (15:00 hrs)
		To 19 /01/2026 (12:00 hrs)
3	Bid Submission Start Date	From 08/01/2026 (15:00 hrs)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 19/01/2026 (12:00 hrs)
5	Date and time of opening of technical bid (online)	20/01/2026 at/after 12:00 hrs in the office of Superintending Engineer PWD(R&B) Circle Pulwama/Shopian.
6	Date and time of opening of financial bid (online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.
7	Tender document Fee Submission (Between the start and end date of bid submission)	By uploading a scanned copy of Treasury Challan Receipt in favour of the Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Mechanical Division South Kashmir Anantnag to be deposited in Major Head 0059 OR e-Challan / e -receipt / online Bank transfer acknowledgment including mPay or any other mobile banking App., to be uploaded with online bid. Tender Id to be written on the voucher and then uploaded. OR Bank Account No: 001401020000198 favoring Executive Engineer (R&B) Mechanical Division South Kashmir Name of the Bank: Jammu & Kashmir Bank Branch Name: TP Anantnag Branch Code: EMPIRE IFSC Code: JAKA0EMPIRE MICR Code: 19205100
8	Earnest Money Deposit	Earnest money deposit @2% amounting to Rs 12,62,950/- of the estimated cost, in shape of CDR/FDR from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank pledged to Superintending Engineer PWD(R&B) Circle Pulwama/Shopian. The bidders must upload documentary proof (scanned copies) of the FDR/CDR. In case of unsuccessful bidder(s), the EMD shall be released immediately after placement of the work order in favour of the lowest bidder and in case of the successful bidder the same shall be released after submission of Performance Security @5% of Allotted cost in shape of FDR/CDR within 07 days after intimation by tender inviting authority. The EMD Shall NOT be deposited in the official Account of the Division/Circle Office provided above for deposition of the Tender Fee.

Note:-
 1. The bidder must get registered on JKPWDOMS, as no payments shall be made unless the bill is processed on JKPWDOMS in view of circular issued by Finance Department of J.K. UT. No payment shall be released until and unless bill is processed through JKPWDOMS application and routed through JKPaysys. However, for those bidders who are not yet registered on JKPWDOMS shall submit and undertake that JKPWDOMS registration will be done well on time before release of payment.
 2. In case of any technical clarifications, suggestions, comments set forth in the tender documents, the tenders shall address the Superintending Engineer, R&B Circle Pulwama / Shopian or Executive Engineer Mechanical South Kashmir in writing at least six days before the last date fixed for submission of tenders. The queries/clarifications can be mailed to sen.rnbmsd@jk.gov.in
 NO.R&B/MDSK/ 2463-71. Sd/-
 DIPK-9849/25 Date: 08-01-2026. Executive Engineer
 R&B Mechanical Division South Kashmir

Elderly Couple Assaulted at Rajbagh, Accused Arrested

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Police have taken cognizance of a serious assault incident involving an elderly Kashmiri Pandit couple in the Rajbagh area of Srinagar, leading to the arrest of the accused and initiation of legal proceedings.

According to police, on receipt of information, it was found that Vivek Batra, a dismissed former Indian Revenue Service officer, along with six associates, allegedly entered the residential premises of Ashok Toshkhanai and his wife Kusum and assaulted members of the family. The accused reportedly arrived at the spot in two vehicles.

Officials said the group also attempted to set the house on fire, creating panic in the area. During the incident, several women sustained injuries and were immediately shifted to a hospital, where their condition has been stated

to be stable.

Police said they responded promptly to the incident, arrested the accused persons involved, and registered a case under relevant sections of law. Further investigation has been taken up to ascertain all aspects of the incident and establish individual roles.

Police also noted that the main accused, Vivek Batra, is a dismissed former IRS officer who has previously been involved in multiple controversies. He is stated to have faced cases related to cheating, corruption and possession of disproportionate assets, registered at various places outside the Union Territory. His dismissal from service, police said, was linked to serious misconduct and corruption related charges.

According to KNT, authorities said strict legal action will follow based on the outcome of the investigation.



City Sees Four Fire Incidents in 24 Hours

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Srinagar city witnessed a series of fire incidents on Thursday, with at least four separate blazes reported from different localities, keeping Fire and Emergency Services personnel on high alert throughout the day.

The first incident was reported in the afternoon from the Parimpora area, where a fire broke out in a three storied residential house. Officials said the second floor of the house suffered extensive damage before firefighters brought the blaze under control. Fire tenders from Fire Station Safakadal reached the spot within minutes and prevented the fire from spreading further.

Around the same time, another fire incident was reported from the HMT Zainakote area, where a Chinar tree caught fire under unknown circumstances. Firefighters from Fire Station JVC rushed to the spot and successfully extinguished the flames, averting any risk to nearby structures.

Later in the evening, a more serious fire incident was reported from the Pandan area of Nowhatta in Srinagar's old city. Officials said three adjoining residential houses were engulfed in flames. Fire tenders from multiple stations including Babbem, Maharaj Gunj and Syed Hameed Pora were pressed into service. After sustained efforts, firefighters managed to control the blaze and prevent it from spreading in

the densely populated locality.

The fourth incident was reported at Lalbazar near Molvi Stop, where a wooden electric pole caught fire. Firefighters from Fire Station Hazratbal responded swiftly and doused the flames within minutes, preventing any disruption or damage.

According to KNT, officials said all the firefighting operations were carried out under close supervision of senior officers of the Fire and Emergency Services. No loss of life was reported in any of the incidents.

The cause of the fires is yet to be ascertained and investigations have been initiated to determine the reasons behind the multiple incidents.

Prog on New Criminal Laws Held at 11 Police Stations

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As part of the public outreach programme of the Jammu and Kashmir Government, Srinagar Police on Thursday observed the Lok Darbar cum Awareness Programme of New Criminal Laws, popularly known as Thana Diwas, across various police stations and police posts in the city.

In the first phase for January 2026, the programme was organized at eleven police stations of the district, including Maisuma, Nowgam, Safakadal, Batamalo, Soura, Kothibagh, Parimpora, MR Gunj, Shergarhi, Zaidbal and Kralkhud.

The meetings were chaired by supervisory and jurisdictional police officers and witnessed partici-

pation from a wide cross section of civil society. Participants included members of Auqaf Committees, traders' and transporters' federations, Panchayati Raj representatives, religious preachers, locality elders and other community representatives.

During the Lok Darbar sessions, participants highlighted several issues of public importance and raised grievances falling within the domain of district police such as illegal narcotics trafficking, sand mafia activities, traffic-related problems and issues linked to floating population. Concerns pertaining to civil administration including road maintenance, sanitation, public health and electricity supply were also recorded for appropriate follow-up.

SMC Commissioner Inspects Municipal Assets to Strengthen Financial Sustainability

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a bid to reinforce financial sustainability and enhance the delivery of civic services, the Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Faz Lul Haseeb, on Thursday conducted an on-ground inspection of municipal assets, with a focus on strengthening the Corpora-

tion's revenue framework.

The Commissioner was accompanied by the Joint Commissioner, Chief Revenue Officer, and other senior officials of SMC.

The inspection included municipal assets such as the Chinar Complex at Batamalo and the Habba Khatoon Complex at Parimpora.

During the visit, the Commis-

sioner assessed the structural condition, functional status, and existing utilisation of the assets as part of the ongoing municipal asset documentation and revenue optimisation exercise. He also reviewed the scope for their systematic, transparent, and regulation-compliant utilisation through well-defined monetisation strategies.

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

PRAYERS

HIJRI CALENDAR
19 Rajab
1447

FAJR	6: 08
ZUHR	12:36
ASR	4: 00
Magrib	5:44
ISHA	7: 07

This Day in History

- 475 - Byzantine Emperor Zeno is forced to flee his capital at Constantinople.
- 1296 - Earl Floris V signs accord with French King
- 1317 - Phillips V, the Tall, crowned king of France
- 1431 - Judges' investigations for the trial of Joan of Arc begin in Rouen, France, the seat of the English occupation government
- 1493 - 1st sight of manatees by Christopher Columbus
- 1558 - Geneva becomes independent from Berne canton, Switzerland
- 1718 - France declares war on Spain
- 1760 - Afghans defeat Marathas in battle of Barari Ghat
- 1792 - Russia & Turkey sign Peace of Jassy
- 1812 - Swedish Pomerania (Germany) seized by Napoleon
- 1862 - The first petroleum shipment (1,329 barrels) from the U.S. to Europe arrives at Victoria Docks, London, England aboard the Elizabeth Watts
- 1878 - Umberto I becomes King of Italy.
- 1879 - Kirland Warbler discovered on Andros Island in Bahamas
- 1880 The Great Gale of 1880 devastates parts of Oregon and Washington with high wind and heavy snow
- 1894- New England Telephone and Telegraph installs the first battery-operated telephone switchboard in Lexington, Massachusetts.
- 1912 - US Marines send troops to Honduras
- 1916 - The Ottoman Empire prevails in the Battle of Çanakkale, as the last British troops evacuated
- 1917 - World War I: the Battle of Rafa occurs near the Egyptian border with Palestine.
- 1930 - Albert Kahn Associates architectural firm become consulting architects for all industrial construction in the Soviet Union
- 1936 - Semi-automatic rifles adopted by US army
- 1942 - US Joint Chiefs of Staff created
- 1943 - Japanese government in Java limits sale & use of motorcars
- 1952 Karel Sys wins European heavyweight boxing title
- 1957 Karachayevo-Cherkess Autonomous Region reestablished in RSFSR
- 1960 - Building of Aswan dam in Egypt, begins
- 1968 - Surveyor 7 space probe soft lands on Moon
- 1969 - First trial flight of Concorde supersonic jetliner, Bristol, England
- 1969 - Prime Minister of Northern Ireland Terence O'Neill travels to London to meet Home Secretary James Callaghan and brief him on the growing violence in Northern Ireland
- 1973 - Luna 21 launched, to Moon
- 1975 - Australia beat England by 171 runs in 4th Test to regain Ashes
- 1986 - After losing a patent battle with Polaroid, Kodak must give up its instant camera business.
- 1987 - Chinese Vietnamese border fights, 1,500 killed
- 1990 - 64th US manned space mission STS 32 (Columbia 10) launches into orbit
- 1998 Anatoly Solovoyov & Pavel Vinogradov spacewalk record 3 hrs 8 mins
- 2001 - Shenzhou 2, an unmanned Chinese spacecraft, is launched.
- 2001 - Apple announced iTunes at the Macworld Expo in San Francisco, for organizing and playing digital music and videos
- 2005 - The signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, commonly known as the Naivasha Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement rebel group in Naivasha, Kenya.
- 2005 - Elections are held to replace Yasser Arafat as head of the Palestine Liberation Organization. He is succeeded by Rawhi Fattouh.
- 2005- The signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, commonly known as the Naivasha Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement rebel group in Naivasha, Kenya.
- 2007- Apple Inc CEO Steve Jobs announces the iPhone
- 2018- US President Trump cancels program allowing 200,000 Salvadorans 17-year temporary protected status to live in the US

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-AUCTION NOTICE
The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/FS, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for the following works over Firozpur Division:

Catalogue No.	Auction Start	Name of work
EAFZR-SLR 26-05	24.01.2026 at 11:00 hrs.	Allotment of contract for leasing of parcel space in Train No./SLR compartment: 11906/F1, 22480/F1, 15212/R1, 14508/F1 & 14508/R1.

For other details and registration, please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in 90/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice
Tender Notice No:- 770-W/01/MA/JAT/2025, 74-2025-26-DRM-JAT, 75-2025-26-DRM-JAT (to be opened on 29.01.2026) acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date **29.01.2026 up to 15:00 Hrs.** Bidders will be able to submit their original/revise bids up to the closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these 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 payment modes available on the IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card, etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheques, Deposit receipts, FDR, etc. are not allowed.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Packet System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
05.01.2026	15.01.2026	29.01.2026

S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender
1.	74-2025-26-DRM-JAT	Manufacturing and supplying of 60,000 Cum 65mm gauge stone Ballast (Machine Ballast) Duly stacked and loading into Railway wagons in quarry siding in subdepot-I and subdepot-II Kathua on PTK-JAT section under ADEN/TRACK
		Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion
		84305400 60 Days 12 Months

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Packet System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
07.01.2026	15.01.2026	29.01.2026

S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender
2.	75-2025-26-DRM-JAT	Balance work for Provision of Protective and Mitigation Measures for Bridge No.137 (UP & DN) in PTK-JAT Section under the jurisdiction of ADEN/JAT
		Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion
		150065395.08 90 Days 06 Months

Note : Contractors are advised to check the IREPS website for any corrigendum issued against this tender before submitting the bids. 81/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE
My Name in my Aadhar Card has been wrongly entered as ROQUYA JAAN while my correct Name as per School record is RUQAYA BANOO. Now I want the same to be corrected if anybody has any objection in this regard He/ She may file his /her objection in the Office of the General Manager Ranbir Government Press Jammu, within a period of seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Ruqaya Banoo D/O Mohd Jamal Wani R/O Basmina Warwan Kishtwar
JNA7780878931

PUBLIC NOTICE
In my Driving License bearing DL NO. JK05 20220002727 name is mentioned as MOHD ASHRAF BHAT But my actual name is MOHAMMAD ASHRAF BHAT, and my father's Name is mentioned as MOHAMMAD RAMZAN BHAT, But my actual name is Mohammad Ramzan Bhat. 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: MOHAMMAD ASHRAF BHAT
S/O: Mohammad Ramzan Bhat
R/O Kralpora, Kunzer, Baramula, Jammu and Kashmir - 193404 ab

PUBLIC NOTICE
In my Driving License bearing DL NO. JK-1520120006904 name is mentioned as ROOF AHMAD MIR But my actual name is ROUF AHMAD MIR, and my father's Name is mentioned as ALI MOHAMMAD MIR, But my actual name is ALI MOHAMMAD MIR. 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: ROUF AHMAD MIR S/O: ALI MOHAMMAD MIR
R/O CHOKER PATTAN BARAMULLA, Pattan (MC).
Pattan, Baramula, JK, 193121 ab

ازنیابت گوم احمد پورہ
درخواست از جانب عنوان:- درخواست منجانب بشیر احمد پورہ پان دلہ لہام محمد پان ساکنہ موضع داگر پورہ تحصیل پٹن براد اجرائی یوم پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ بحق صاحبہ بشیرہ دیرت بشیر
اشتہار براد آ گاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست براد وصول اندراج کرنے یوم پیدائش بحق صاحبہ بشیرہ دیرت بشیرہ پٹن کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ نیز مطابق بیانات لمبردارو چوکیدار دھساں سلسل طور موضع داگر پورہ تحصیل پٹن میں رائٹس پڈیرے نیز مطابق اسکول ریکارڈ ساکن مذکورہ کے متعلق تاریخ پیدائش پڈیل ہے
صاحبہ بشیرہ 2012-12-12 دیرت بشیرہ 07-11-2011
- اب ساکن اپنے ہر کہ حق میں تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے۔
لہذا اس بارے میں ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو مطلوبہ سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو چاروں کے اندر اندر دفتر پڈیل میں پیش کریں۔
نائب تحصیلدار پٹن fko

ازنیابت گوم احمد پورہ
درخواست از جانب عنوان:- درخواست منجانب جاوید احمد بٹ دلہ لہام محمد پان ساکنہ موضع اگری کلاں تحصیل پٹن براد اجرائی یوم پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ بحق خود عامر جاوید
اشتہار براد آ گاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست براد وصول اندراج کرنے یوم پیدائش بحق عامر جاوید پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ نیز مطابق بیانات لمبردارو چوکیدار دھساں سلسل طور موضع اگری کلاں تحصیل پٹن میں رائٹس پڈیرے نیز مطابق اسکول ریکارڈ ساکن مذکورہ کا پسر عامر جاوید مولدہ 2011-11-05 کو پیدا ہوا ہے۔ اب ساکن اپنے ہر کہ حق میں تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواہاں ہے۔
لہذا اس بارے میں ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو مطلوبہ سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو چاروں کے اندر اندر دفتر پڈیل میں پیش کریں۔
نائب تحصیلدار پٹن fko

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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KO VIEW

Kashmir's Fellowship Failure

Kashmir has spent decades telling its young people that education is the way forward. Schools and universities have expanded, degrees have multiplied, and exam results are often treated as proof of progress. The system, however, falls apart at the point that matters most.

After graduation, opportunities dry up. There are very few fellowships, research roles, or clear faculty paths that allow talented students to build serious careers at home.

The message may not be stated openly, but it is widely understood: growth lies elsewhere.

This has shaped a hard truth. Kashmir's brightest minds continue to leave because the ecosystem offers them little reason to stay. Many want to teach, research, or build new ideas in the valley. What they encounter instead are short-term contracts, vague hiring processes, and institutions that struggle to offer guidance or support.

Over time, belief gives way to frustration. Young scholars pack their bags for Delhi, Bengaluru, Europe, or the United States. Kashmir loses people it trained with public money and trust.

This problem is not unique, and it is far from unsolvable. Other regions facing similar challenges have shown how structured fellowship models can change outcomes. These programs come with fixed terms, clear goals, reliable funding, and strong mentorship.

Fellows work on local problems while gaining wider exposure. Universities act as partners rather than barriers. Young professionals feel valued and taken seriously. Most important, they can picture a future that does not require cutting ties with home.

Kashmir can follow the same path without much difficulty. The talent already exists. Universities already operate. What is missing is coordination, trust, and intent.

A well-designed fellowship system could place young researchers in colleges, policy units, labs, and cultural institutions.

Open selection processes and fair stipends would draw committed applicants. Mentors from within and outside the valley could help fellows grow and connect their work to larger networks. Projects could focus on education, climate, public health, technology, and local governance, areas where Kashmir needs new thinking.

Fellowships are infrastructure that can keep talent home and shape leadership from within.

CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

Invest in Old Wisdom

What our elders give us that money and progress never can.

Irshad Mushtaq

Family in Kashmir is a shared way of life, shaped and held together by elders. Parents and grandparents have long been the center of this structure. They pass on values, memory, faith, and care. They keep families rooted. But something is changing.

Too often, elders are now measured by what they own or earn, not by what they have given. This shift should worry us.

Elders are not dependents waiting on charity. They are the reason many of us stand where we do today. They worked long years, set aside personal dreams, and stretched limited means so their children could study, work, and move ahead. No paycheck covered those efforts. They gave because that is what love looked like to them.

At home, elders still hold families together. They guide children, counsel adults, and offer perspective shaped by lived experience.

When families dismiss them or treat them as a burden, the damage weakens the idea of family itself. It also teaches younger generations that care is conditional and gratitude optional.

These elders also protect culture. They tell stories of the past, explain customs, and keep languages and traditions alive through daily practice. Their wisdom comes from having seen hardship, change, and recovery up close. Listening to them is about learning how to live with sense and responsibility.

Respecting elders begins with attention, patience, and acknowledgment. It means including them in decisions and valuing their presence. When we honour them, we strengthen family bonds and shape a more caring society.

How we treat our elders today will define how we are treated tomorrow.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial advisor.



The Greenland Gambit

Trump's Greenland moves test NATO and European security, challenging the postwar world order and alliances.



Wajahat Qazi

“Broadly speaking, be it Venezuela, the tenuous ceasefire in Gaza, the end of hostilities between Iran and Israel, peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan, deglobalization set in motion by Trump tariffs and trade flows, and now the Greenland issue, Trump is earning the reputation of disrupter or insurgent in chief. Owing to this, international relations and world politics are in great fluidity. At issue is world order.

Post the “invasion” of Venezuela and the whisking away of its President, Nicolas Maduro, US President Donald Trump and his team have upped the ante on Denmark.

The issue in contention is Greenland, either its sale or takeover by the United States.

It needs to be said here that Greenland was colonized by Denmark about 300 years ago. It now enjoys a semi-autonomous status within “the happiest country in the world”.

After US officials raised the stakes, Danish PM Mette Frederiksen, who has gained a reputation for sobriety, has said, “If the US invades Greenland, that would be the end of NATO.”

Obiter dictum, this remark appears to be an angry, reflexive cri de cœur of helplessness, more than anything else.

Let's consider it at face value and tease out its implications.

NATO, a Western alliance dating back to the post-World War and Cold War era of alliances and norms created thereof, is the bedrock of European security. The United States has been and remains the lynchpin of this alliance.

It may not be inaccurate to state that it was because of NATO and the US being part of it that post-war Europe coalesced into the European Union.

Moreover, NATO has gained in salience following the war between Russia and Ukraine. Its Article 5 means and entails that an attack on one member is an attack on NATO itself and merits a counterattack, roughly speaking.

Among other things, after the war over Ukraine, barring some limited probes, Article 5 may have precluded Vladimir Putin from pushing the proverbial envelope too far.

If NATO goes, then European security goes through the roof. This would have implications for the European Union and its very nature.

The “ever widening and deepening EU” was able to broaden and strengthen itself precisely because of American security guarantees and NATO.

In other words, Europe's soft

power rested on American hard power. This is probably one major grouse that US President Donald Trump has against the Europeans.

Now, stretching the hypothesis further, if NATO goes, what will replace it?

The European army? No such thing really exists.

The superstate called the EU has too many issues of its own to develop and consolidate into a pooled armed grouping. This would, among other things, mean the crystallization and development of separate national armies of constituent EU states.

In turn, it would mean significantly enhanced defense spending

national security grounds for taking over the region. This may include rare earth deposits, over which there is some dependence on China, and which was a negotiating point in the talks between President Xi Jinping and President Donald Trump.

Whether President Trump makes use of the 1951 treaty that allows wide latitude over US troop configuration, spread, and deployment in Greenland, or whether he invades the region, remains moot at this point in time.

To repeat, Orange Man holds all the aces, and Europe has very few choices.

Broadly speaking, be it Venezuela, the tenuous ceasefire in Gaza, the



Team Trump has so far offered national security grounds for taking over the region. This may include rare earth deposits, over which there is some dependence on China, and which was a negotiating point in the talks between President Xi Jinping and President Donald Trump.

by European states, impacting the heart of the European construct: the welfare state.

While, in shape and form, the European Union would remain a union, its kernel and substance would not be so. The problems would compound.

The wild card here would be Russian revanchism. Who and what could defend Europe against that?

All this adds up to an equation and a configuration where Europe hardly has any choices, if any at all. In prosaic terms, Europe is caught between the proverbial rock and a hard place.

Enter President Donald Trump. Not only does he hold all the aces, but he will axiomatically have the last laugh and get what he wants: a new world order crafted from the ashes and detritus of the postwar order, both normatively and in terms of power politics.

But this does not answer the question of whether he will take over, invade, or buy Greenland.

Team Trump has so far offered

end of hostilities between Iran and Israel, peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan, deglobalization set in motion by Trump tariffs and trade flows, and now the Greenland issue, Trump is earning the reputation of disrupter or insurgent in chief.

Owing to this, international relations and world politics are in great fluidity.

At issue is world order. By omissions and commissions, the 47th president of the United States is not only crafting a new world order but also leaving his stake and imprimatur on it.

The hope is that this leads to peace, stability, and order in the 21st century.

Wajahat Qazi holds a Distinction in International Relations from the University of Aberdeen and combines scholarship with real-world engagement. He has worked in academia and media, including as Associate Editor at Kashmir Observer.

Letter to Editor

Long Service Little Relief for Trainers in Kashmir

Kashmir's vocational trainers live the cost of bureaucracy. Years of service, long travel, and personal sacrifice carry no weight when transfers demand they start from scratch. Experience disappears behind rigid rules.

Vocational education began in J&K in 2016 under Samagra Shiksha. Trainers came through Vocational Training Partners, a structure whose role still lacks clarity even after ten years. Accountability often shifts between offices, but one fact stays clear.

Trainers carry the programme every day. They teach classes, guide students, build industry links, and keep the system running.

I have served at BHSS Safapora in Ganderbal since 2016. Nearly ten years have passed at the same station. During this time, vocational education changed course many times. Policies shifted, support stayed thin, and certainty remained rare.

Trainers built the programme as it grew, adjusted to constant change, and accepted long travel, distance from home, and personal strain. Many held on to one belief. Years of steady service would earn recognition.

That belief now feels uncertain. Vocational education has expanded. New schools have been allotted to District Srinagar, which is also my home district. Common sense suggests that trainers who have served for years should receive

priority to move closer to home. Instead, the system asks them to apply again, as if ten years of continuous service left no record and value.

This raises a basic question: What place does experience hold in today's administrative thinking?

Forcing a trainer to start over after a decade at a distant post treats unequal service conditions as equal and turns uniform rules into lived injustice.

Transfer policies exist to balance institutional needs with human realities, rather than erase long service through rigid procedure.

The solution lies in a clear, transparent framework that rewards years of service, considers the hardships faced,

and brings new institutions into the fold. What this moment calls for is recognition than reform.

If vocational education aims to strengthen skills and jobs in Jammu and Kashmir, the trainers who deliver it must fall within the circle of fairness.

Ten years of service should not end in invisibility. Policy must respect continuity, and expansion must include those who carried the system this far.

A solution exists. The harder question is why it still waits.

Sincerely,

Amir Basharat Qureshi
qureshiaamir012@gmail.com

Carl Jung Explains Why Kashmir Still Hurts

A Jungian look at how early emotional life in Kashmir follows people into adulthood.

Irfan Ahmad

I grew up thinking childhood ends and adulthood begins on a clean page.

I told myself that scoldings, disappointed looks, and missing words of comfort belonged to another time. They felt ordinary, small, and forgettable. I assumed they would fade.

Life proved me wrong. Carl Jung gave me words for feelings I could never explain.

He wrote about the personal unconscious, a part of the mind where emotional experiences settle even when the memories themselves fade.

According to Jung, the mind doesn't discard emotional meaning just because time passes. It stores it, carries it forward, and releases it later through feelings, behaviour, and bodily reactions.

Reading Jung felt like someone finally turning on a light.

I began to see how early moments stayed alive inside me, shaping my days in ways I once blamed on temperament, ambition, or pressure.

As a child, praise came only after perfect marks or flawless behaviour. Mistakes brought sharp reactions and long silences.

Over time, I absorbed a simple rule: my worth depended on performance. Jung described this clearly.

When a child links love, safety, or approval to achievement, the psyche forms an unconscious rule. The event fades, but the rule remains. I forgot the scenes that formed it, but the meaning stayed alive inside me.

Years later, that rule surfaced during exams, interviews, and evaluations. I prepared well, but my body reacted as if danger stood close.



JUNG ARGUED THAT SUFFERING OFTEN GROWS FROM OUTDATED EMOTIONAL PROGRAMMING, than weakness or lack of effort. Change begins when these rules enter awareness and can be revised.

Sleep grew restless, and thoughts turned harsh.

Jung explained this as the unconscious repeating unfinished emotional situations. The psyche meets present challenges using old emotional logic.

My adult stress carried the shape of an early lesson, even when circumstances had changed. Ambition grew into compulsion. Work filled every empty space. Rest felt

undeserved, pleasure needed permission, and relationships thinned as energy flowed toward proving value. Achievements brought brief relief, then pushed for more. When progress slowed, exhaustion arrived heavy and confusing.

Jung called this a domination of consciousness by an unconscious complex.

The mind believes it is choosing effort, while an older emotional

command silently sets the pace.

I blamed deadlines and fate, though another force drove the engine.

Awareness opened the first door to change. Jung believed healing begins when unconscious material becomes conscious. I learned to separate present demands from old rules.

As that inner command loosened, the pressure eased. The drive remained, but it no longer ruled every breath.

Another shadow followed me from a different corner of childhood. My home carried tension.

Raised voices and strict control shaped daily life. I learned that safety required constant alertness. That lesson settled in my body and stayed there.

Jung wrote that the unconscious does not measure time. It reacts to

the present using patterns formed long ago. In adult life, this showed up as tension I once called temperament.

Loud voices sparked fear. Sudden criticism tightened my chest. Social spaces felt risky even in calm moments. My body responded to echoes of an earlier home.

This alertness left marks. Headaches arrived often, stomach trouble followed stress, and fatigue crippled my movements.

Relationships demanded effort because trust felt difficult. I either clung or held distance, both shaped by the same early lesson.

Awareness shifted the ground again. Jung believed the psyche changes when it feels safe in the present. Therapy, grounding practices, and emotional safety taught a new story. The past loosened its hold as the present gained clarity. Gradually, my nervous system learned a different way to exist.

Looking back, I see a larger truth in Jung's work.

Adulthood carries an unseen inheritance. Emotional patterns from early years shape fear, ambition, love, and health. Words spoken to children, silences held, comfort given or withheld all become material for the personal unconscious.

These patterns once helped children adapt. In adult life, they act as invisible authorities.

Jung argued that suffering often grows from outdated emotional programming, than weakness or lack of effort. Change begins when these rules enter awareness and can be revised.

As I continue this work, life feels fuller. Energy flows toward connection rather than defense. Achievement stands alongside ease.

The shadows still appear at



LOOKING BACK, I SEE A LARGER TRUTH IN JUNG'S WORK. Adulthood carries an unseen inheritance.

Emotional patterns from early years shape fear, ambition, love, and health. Words spoken to children, silences held, comfort given or withheld all become material for the personal unconscious.

times, but they no longer lead. I carry my past with understanding instead of fear.

Adulthood, for the first time, feels less like survival and more like living.

—The author is a research scholar in the Department of Sociology at the University of Kashmir. He can be reached at irfan.soscholar@kashmiruniversity.net.

Ghulamma's Tonga Trick

A nostalgic 'urban legend' where a tonga, a driver, and a policeman create a perfect harmony of wit, law, and humanity.



Syed Nissar H Gilani

In the 1950s and 60s, Srinagar moved at the pace of hooves striking tarmac. Its streets unfolded with a rare calm. Engines had not yet filled the air with rumble and smoke, and the city breathed in a crispness that seemed to belong to another age.

Streets remained free of traffic signals, zebra crossings, and the constant jangle of horns.

Even with few vehicles to steer, people observed the rules with a natural respect, an understanding that the law was part of the city's gentle pulse rather than a burden to bear.

Through these tranquil avenues rode Ghulamma, a driver whose wit had become the stuff of legend in Jammallata.

He was as much a part of my family's life as the tonga itself, regularly ferrying my father from his clinic to the medical center.

The journeys were slow, filled with the flickering glow of lamps and the cadence of hoofbeats, and they became a stage where stories unfolded, laughter lingered, and a warm companionship stitched itself between doctor and driver.

One evening, near the old Food and Supplies department, a policeman signaled Ghulamma to stop. Municipal law demanded that every tonga playing after dusk be illuminated by two oil or candle lamps, but Ghulamma's carriage carried only a single, solitary light.

IN TODAY'S WORLD, FILLED WITH BLARING VEHICLES, FLASHING LIGHTS, AND CONSTANT MOTION, Ghulamma's story continues to shine, showing that even in a city of engines and signals, the simplest gestures of honesty, humour, and recognition can create a light strong enough to guide one home.

The violation gleamed like a jewel under the dim street glow, demanding attention.

As the officer reached for his fine book, Ghulamma leaned forward, a gleam in his eye, and addressed him with a seriousness that carried both humour and humility.

"Sir," he said, "look at the destiny of this ride. I am blind in one eye, my horse is blind in one eye, and even the tonga light is 'one-eyed.' The entire set moves in perfect, uneven harmony. Would it not be a sin to break the symmetry of such a team?"

The policeman paused, caught

between disbelief and the clarity of truth. What seemed like jest revealed itself as literal honesty.

As he examined the tonga and then Ghulamma's face, the tension melted into recognition, and a wave of amusement took hold.

He laughed, deep and unexpected, adjusted his cap, and leaned in to deliver the quietest yet most striking affirmation.

"Ghulamma... Me Too."

With that, the one-eyed set rolled forward into the darkening streets of Srinagar, leaving behind a scene that stayed in the memory like a line of music, both amusing and tender, an interplay of law and humanity that carried its own truth.

The story lived in our household long after that evening.

My father often invoked Ghulamma's "One-Eyed Set" when the machinery of the system faltered or when order felt strained, a reminder of an era when wit and human understanding walked hand in hand with rules.

In today's world, filled with blaring vehicles, flashing lights, and constant motion, Ghulamma's story continues to shine, showing that even in a city of engines and signals, the simplest gestures of honesty, humour, and recognition can create a light strong enough to guide one home.

—The writer is a former civil servant. He can be reached at nissargilani57743@gmail.com.

The Flame That Never Fades

Through elegies and reflections from across cultures, this book captures a moment of sacrifice that echoes through history and conscience.

Sheikh Manzoor Ahmed

Imam Hussain's sacrifice is remembered as a crucial moment in the history of Islam for his fight against forces that sought to suppress the true values and principles of this great religion.

Islam teaches us to stand up against injustice and oppression. His struggle symbolised the eternal conflict between good and evil, inspiring believers to stand firm for righteousness against tyranny.

Because of this, he is universally revered as a symbol of resistance and courage, even at the cost of his own life.

The martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) at Karbala has inspired countless scholars, poets, and leaders across the world. His noble cause has been widely acknowledged, elevating him as a universal symbol of resistance against oppression.

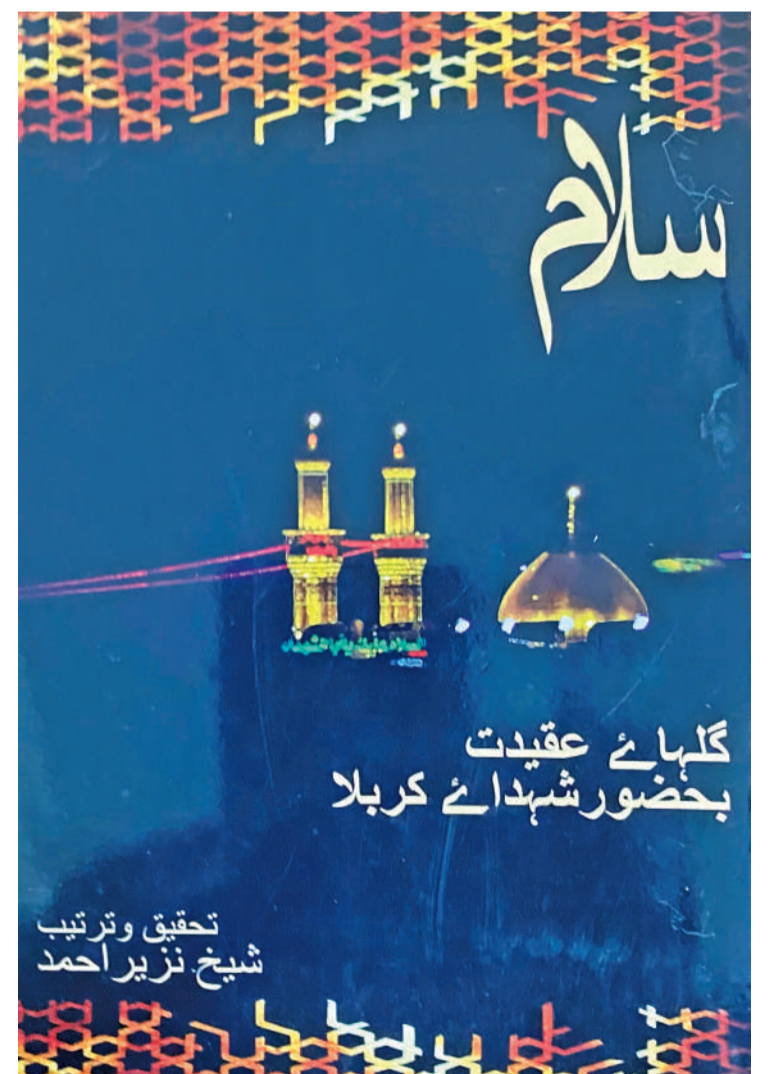
Such is the greatness of Imam Hussain (RA) that he is deeply revered, honoured, and remembered with grief and sorrow even by non-Muslims, who are profoundly moved by his unwavering commitment to justice and a sacrifice unparalleled in the annals of history.

He chose martyrdom over submission to the unjust rule of Yazid. Writers and world leaders, including Charles Dickens, Edward Gibbon, Thomas Carlyle, and Mahatma Gandhi, have paid tribute to the valour of Imam Hussain, recognising his sacrifice as a universal symbol of truth and justice.

Former bureaucrat and writer Sheikh Nazir Ahmed has rendered a commendable service by compiling tributes from 214 poets, both Muslim and non-Muslim, in his book, "Salaam—Homage to Martyrs of Karbala".

The work is a rich collection of elegies and poignant poems that mourn the tragedy of Karbala. Notably, the book includes more than 75 poems and elegies by non-Muslim poets who not only express profound sorrow over Imam Hussain's martyrdom but also praise his sacrifice, viewing his stand against tyranny as a universal symbol of truth, courage, and moral resistance.

The collection illustrates how writers, thinkers, and leaders across cultures have acknowledged



Imam Hussain's sacrifice as one made for humanity and justice, transcending religious boundaries.

Munshi Prem Chand, Kunwar Mohinder Singh Bedi Sahar, Gulzar Dehlvi, and Ram Lal. Joginder Pal and scores of other renowned poets wrote poetry on the martyrdom of Imam Hussain, seeing it as a timeless lesson in resisting tyranny and upholding truth, a theme echoed in their verses that connect Hussain's sacrifice to universal principles of justice and humanity, inspiring devotion and acknowledging the profound impact of Karbala across faiths.

Renowned Islamic scholar Hujjatul Islam Maulana Syed Mohammed Askari has written its foreword, and the book has been published

by Meezan Publishers. The compilation by Sheikh Nazir Ahmed is an acknowledgement by poets, writers, and leaders from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds that highlights Karbala as a defining moment in moral history. Imam Hussain's stand against injustice serves as an enduring ethical framework for humanity, reinforcing the principles of justice and unwavering commitment to truth.

The verse collected by Sheikh Nazir Ahmed affirms that Karbala remains a timeless symbol of moral resistance and human conscience.

—Sheikh Manzoor Ahmed is a senior journalist based in New Delhi. He formerly served as Executive Editor at UNI.

Bill Threatening 500% Tariff On India For Russia Oil Trade Gets Trump's Nod

Press Trust Of India

New York: US President Donald Trump has "greenlit" a sanctions bill that could impose 500 per cent tariffs on countries buying Russian oil, giving him "tremendous leverage" against countries like China and India to stop them from purchasing cheap oil from Moscow.

Senator Lindsey Graham said he had a "very productive meeting" with Trump at the White House on Wednesday, during which the President "greenlit" the bipartisan Russia sanctions bill that has been in the works for months.

"This will be well-timed, as Ukraine is making concessions for peace, and Putin is all talk, continuing to kill the innocent. This bill will allow President Trump to punish those countries who buy cheap Russian oil, fuelling Putin's war machine,"



Graham said in a post on X on Wednesday.

"This bill would give President Trump tremendous leverage against countries like China, India and Brazil to incentivise them to stop buying the cheap Russian oil that provides the financing for Putin's bloodbath against Ukraine," he said.

Graham said he looks

forward to a "strong" bipartisan vote on the bill, "hopefully as early as next week."

Trump has imposed 50 per cent tariffs on India, among the highest in the world, including 25 per cent levies for its purchases of Russian energy.

Graham and Blumenthal have introduced the Sanctioning Russia Act of 2025, which would

impose secondary tariffs and sanctions on "countries that continue to fund Putin's barbaric war in Ukraine."

The legislation has proposed a 500 per cent tariff on secondary purchase and reselling of Russian oil and one that almost every single member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has co-sponsored.

"President Trump and his team have made a powerful move, implementing a new approach to end this bloodbath between Russia and Ukraine... However, the ultimate hammer to bring about the end of this war will be tariffs against countries, like China, India and Brazil, that prop up Putin's war machine by purchasing cheap Russian oil and gas," a joint statement by Graham and Blumenthal had said last year.

Earlier this week, Graham said that Indian Ambassador to

the US Vinay Kwatra informed him about New Delhi reducing its purchases of Russian oil and asked him to convey to President Trump to "relieve the tariff" imposed on India.

Graham, accompanying Trump on Air Force One on Sunday, was talking about his tariff bill.

He said that to end the Russia-Ukraine conflict, pressure must be put on Russian President Vladimir Putin's customers. Trump said that the sanctions are hurting Russia very badly and then mentioned India.

Graham then said that the US put a 25 per cent tariff on India for buying Russian oil.

"This stuff works...but if you are buying cheap Russian oil, keeping Putin's war machine going, we are trying to give the President the ability to make that a hard choice by tariffs. I really do believe that what he (Trump) did with India is the

chief reason India is now buying substantially less Russian oil," Graham said.

Kwatra last month hosted US Senators, including Graham, Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Peter Welch, Dan Sullivan and Markwayne Mullin at India House, the official residence of the Ambassador of India in Washington, DC.

"Had fruitful conversations on the India-US partnership from energy and defence cooperation to trade and important global developments. Grateful for their support for a stronger India-US relationship," Kwatra had said in a post on X.

India buys about 88 per cent of its crude oil, which is converted into fuels like petrol and diesel, from overseas.

Russian oil made up hardly 0.2 per cent of all crude oil that India imported till 2021. India, the world's third-largest oil

importer, became the largest buyer of discounted Russian crude after Western countries shunned Moscow following its February 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

Traditionally reliant on Middle Eastern oil, India sharply ramped up Russian imports as sanctions and reduced European demand made barrels available at steep discounts, pushing its share from under 1 per cent to nearly 40 per cent of total crude imports.

In December, Russia remained India's top supplier, but its share fell to less than a quarter of all oil imports from about a third in November.

According to real-time data analytics company Kpler, Russian crude imports into India are expected to fall to around 1.2 million barrels per day (bpd) in December, down from 1.84 million bpd in November, marking the lowest level since December 2022.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Srinagar Records

also witnessed the coldest night of the season, with the minimum temperature dropping to minus 8.6 degrees Celsius from minus 7.2 degrees Celsius on the previous night.

Qazigund recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.4 degrees Celsius, a fall of over five degrees and the coldest so far this season. Kokernag registered a low of minus 3 degrees Celsius, while Kupwara recorded minus 5.1 degrees Celsius, officials said.

Kashmir is currently in the grip of 'Chilla-i-Kalan', a 40-day period of harsh winter conditions during which temperatures frequently plunge several degrees below freezing and the likelihood of snowfall remains high. The cold spell began on December 21 and will continue till January 30.

Despite the prolonged cold phase, the plains of the Valley have not witnessed any snowfall so far this winter.

The India Meteorological Department said the weather is likely to remain dry but cloudy till January 20. It also forecast a further significant fall in night temperatures across the Valley till January 10.

Meanwhile, the Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road and Mughal Road remain closed due to snow accumulation. On the Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri road, vehicles from Kargil towards Srinagar will be allowed between 1100 and 1500 hours after clearance, with motorists advised to carry anti-skid chains. Commuters were urged to follow lane discipline and confirm road status from traffic control units before travel.

Security Gains

by security agencies have crippled the terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, according to an official statement.

He called upon all agencies to maintain synergy and vigilance to prevent any attempt at revival of terror activities in the Union Territory.

Police Step

measures. The operation was led by the Station House Officer of Qazigund police station, Syed Nazir Indrabi, under the supervision of the Additional Superintendent of Police (Highway) and the Sub-Divisional Police Officer Qazigund, on the directions of SSP Kulgam Anayat Ali Choudhary.

"Close vigil is being maintained on the overall security situation in the district. Senior police officers are personally monitoring the arrangements to ensure a safe and secure environment for Republic Day celebrations," the official said.

Police said such checking and frisking drives will continue in the coming days as part of enhanced security measures across the district

LG To Preside

also take the salute. All officers and officials of the Government and Public Sector Undertakings stationed at Jammu have been directed to attend the function as part of their official duty.

The Government has also directed all Heads of Departments and Chief Executives of Public Sector Undertakings to ensure their own presence along with that of employees working under them to mark the national event with due solemnity and participation.

In addition, the Beating Retreat Ceremony of the Republic Day celebrations will be held on January 29, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. at Maulana Azad Stadium, Jammu.

All officers and officials of Government Departments stationed in Jammu have been directed to attend the ceremony, while Heads of Departments and Chief Executives of Public Sector Undertakings are required to ensure their participation along with that of their subordinate employees.

Tech To Aid

to the people. Addressing the gathering, Omar Abdullah described JK e-Pathshala as a major technological intervention and a new beginning in strengthening school education through digital means. Reflecting on the evolution of teaching tools, he recalled his own school days and said that even an overhead projector was once considered a major technological breakthrough.

Emphasising the role of teachers, the Chief Minister said that while digital platforms can enhance learning, they cannot substitute the classroom experience or the bond between a teacher and a student. "A teacher and a classroom can never be replaced. Technology is meant to fill gaps and support learning," he said.

Sharing a personal anecdote, Omar Abdullah recalled how a strict and dedicated teacher helped him overcome his fear of science, underlining that good teachers have the ability to help even the weakest students realise their potential. He stressed the need for continuous skill upgradation of teachers and encouraged them to effectively integrate technology into their teaching methods.

The Chief Minister underlined the importance of maintaining high-quality and regularly updated content on JK e-Pathshala and called for regular feedback from students and teachers to keep the channel relevant and effective.

Highlighting the geographical and climatic challenges of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in isolated regions, he said the channel would enable students to continue learning from home even after school hours.

He also advised students to use digital devices responsibly, encouraging educational use while discouraging excessive gaming and non-productive screen time. Stressing the importance of reading habits, the Chief Minister urged parents and teachers to inculcate the habit of reading books, newspapers and magazines among children.

Expressing hope that JK e-Pathshala would evolve into a broader digital education ecosystem, Omar Abdullah said that in the future, dedicated channels for each class could be introduced to ensure adequate learning time for every grade.

Earlier, Education Minister Sakina Itoo, Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani and Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo termed the launch of JK e-Pathshala a historic and transformative step towards strengthening the education sector in Jammu and Kashmir.

Talks On Ladakh

have expressed resentment over the inordinate delay in convening the panel's meeting.

Talks between Ladakh's leadership and the Government of India were last held on October 22, 2025, in New Delhi.

The Leh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) had submitted a 29-page draft proposal to the Ministry of Home Affairs, seeking statehood, Sixth Schedule status for Ladakh, and amnesty for people arrested after the September 24 protests.

Apart from four deaths, nearly 100 others including police and paramilitary personnel were injured on September 24 when protesters went on a rampage, vandalising buildings and setting a BJP office and a police vehicle on fire. The clashes erupted over demands for statehood and constitutional safeguards on the 15th day of a hunger strike led by activist Sonam Wangchuk, who has been booked under the NSA and lodged in Jodhpur jail.(KNO)

SMVD's Medical

best in the Union territory. "We got the permission after a lot of hard work and investment. We have the best infrastructure and faculty, and whatever is required to run a medical college was in place," a senior faculty member said, questioning the decision of the MARB.

The order issued by the MARB on Tuesday evening said that all students admitted to the college during the counselling for the 2025-26 academic year shall be accommodated in other medical institutions in Jammu and Kashmir as supernumerary seats by the competent authority of the UT administration.

There has been no official communication from the medical college so far.

The faculty members said the NMC findings can be contested point-by-point and "everybody knows what led to the inspection and the subsequent decision, especially in view of the unrest created in the Jammu region".

Highlighting the human cost of the decision, another faculty member said that around 150 people left their jobs in government and private sectors and joined the institution, who are now left concerned for their future.

The faculty members also questioned the "unusual haste" of the NMC's decision, arguing that standard administrative protocols were bypassed as the institute should have been served a show-cause notice first, allowing for a formal response and a window for rectification.

"The established procedure involves a reply to a show-cause notice," a faculty member said, adding, "If the response is deemed unsatisfactory, the matter is typically escalated to the Union health ministry for a final hearing before such a drastic measure as derecognition is taken."

The faculty member said that being one of the best institutes, which was in a developmental phase, the NMC's move came as a setback for the medical college.

"We know that the NMC order does not mean that the institute will be closed forever. We are hopeful that the shrine board will work out the next course of action and safeguard the staff and the future of the institution," he said.

Referring to the option of reapplying for the letter of permission, the faculty member said it may not resolve the issue.

"We can apply afresh in response to the notification at any time, but it may not be helpful because the situation could be the same. What is needed is to avert this situation altogether and ensure long-term measures so that the institute runs smoothly," the faculty member said.

Outlining the possible alternatives, he said, "We have two options. One, the chief minister issues a no-objection certificate so that admissions are done through Central counselling, allowing students from across the country to join purely on merit, like in the Sharda University in Uttar Pradesh."

The second option, he said, is to seek deemed university status.

"We are already running three of the five required faculties - medicine, nursing and social sciences (Gurukul). We need two more, such as allied health sciences and public health specialisation. This can be done under the leadership of the shrine board chairman and may take about a year," he said.

"The college has the potential to be one of the best medical colleges in the country, given its infrastructure and facilities. I have visited many medical colleges in India and abroad, but this one had better infrastructure and faculty compared to the other colleges in J-K," another faculty member said.

Students also expressed distress over the withdrawal of permission, describing the decision as "heartbreaking".

"We secured admission through a competitive exam, and the NMC's decision has come as a shock because we did not expect such a development at the beginning of our course," Bilquis, a student from Budgam, said.

She added that they faced no problems or discrimination based on religion on the campus.

Mahit Srivastava, a student from Udhampur, termed the decision "very unfortunate" and said "it (the protests) served as an example of 'axing one's own feet'".

"I was confident that the college would earn a strong reputation in the coming years. Suspending the course is a big mistake and a major loss for us as well as our region. We have no idea where we will be shifted. We are confused and do not know anything," he said.

Another student said they got admission solely based on merit.

"The facilities were outstanding, which nobody can question. We did not face any trouble inside the campus despite the protests outside by right-wing groups. We were living in harmony. This decision has left us heartbroken," the student said.

Supernumerary Seats

said the affected students had secured admission through the National Eligibility-Cum-Entrance Test on merit and in a lawful manner. "It is our legal responsibility to accommodate them. We will adjust them by creating supernumerary seats in colleges close to their homes so that their education does not suffer," he said, adding that the process would not be difficult and would be completed.

Supernumerary seats are additional seats created over and above the intake approved by the competent authority.

The remarks came in the wake of the withdrawal of permission for Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Medical College by the National Medical Commission, a move that has triggered uncertainty among students and faculty.

While assuring relief to students in the short term, Omar Abdullah stressed that accountability must be fixed if standards were not maintained at the medical college. "If norms were not fulfilled, then responsibility has to be established. Someone must answer for the damage done to the future of these students," he said.

He also questioned the broader implications of shutting down a fully built medical college. "Today, out of 50 seats, 40 went to Muslim students and objections were raised. But had the college continued and expanded to 400 or 500 seats, many students from Jammu would have benefited in the coming years. Where will those students go now?" he asked.

Taking a swipe at the BJP and others who protested against the admissions, the Chief Minister said aspirants across the country struggle to secure medical seats. "We are perhaps the only place where we received a fully built medical college and yet got it shut down

due to protests," he said.

On inspections conducted by the National Medical Commission, Omar Abdullah said questions must be asked about how the college was cleared initially and why it later failed to meet standards. "You should question the university and its office-bearers from top to bottom. Who heads this university and who is its Chancellor? They should also be questioned," he said.

He reiterated that while the government would ensure that the current batch of students is accommodated elsewhere, fixing responsibility for lapses was equally important. "We will adjust these 50 students, but accountability has to be fixed," he said.

Responding to queries on whether the government would seek to recover financial aid extended to the institution, the Chief Minister said the assistance was given to the university and would not be withdrawn.

On criticism that he speaks too often on contentious issues, Omar Abdullah said he has never shied away from addressing public concerns. "Tell me which issue I have remained silent on. If anyone wants further answers, the Assembly session is coming up and questions can be raised there," he said.

Search Op Resumes

General of Police (IGP), Jammu Zone, said in a post on X.

The gunfight broke out at Kahog on Wednesday evening after the forces launched a search operation based on information about the presence of two to three terrorists in the area.

During the exchange of fire, a security personnel suffered a minor injury after a bullet hit his leg. He has been hospitalised, the officials said.

"The SOG has engaged the terrorists in the forest area of Kamadh nallah, Kathua," the IGP said in another post on X.

According to the officials, the firing between the two sides lasted for more than an hour. It was not immediately known if any terrorist was hit in the gunfight.

There are reports of the movement of three groups of infiltrating terrorists in the region.

The officials said during the search operation, a well-constructed terrorist hideout was busted near the Kamadh nallah on Thursday.

Utensils, food items and clothes were found from the hideout.

The Army, the Border Security Force (BSF), police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) are continuously carrying out search operations in the area, identifying border dwellers and intensifying patrols along the International Border in Samba and Kathua districts and the adjoining areas of Punjab for the last one month, the officials said.

A multi-tier security grid comprising the BSF, border police and Village Defence Guards (VDGs) has been put on alert ahead of the Republic Day on January 26.

Kathua has witnessed several encounters between security forces and terrorists over the last two years, resulting in the killings of 16 people -- 11 security personnel and five terrorists.

While seven security personnel and two terrorists were killed in 2024, when ultras revived their activities in the district after more than a decade, seven persons -- four security personnel and three terrorists -- were killed in 2023.

In addition, four civilians died under mysterious circumstances, with locals suspecting that terrorists killed them.

Crime Branch Files

communications, visa frauds and manipulation of revenue and service records to obtain compassionate appointments," an official said.

The allegations further include misuse of official position by public servants, tampering with public records, illegal financial gains, threats to complainants and wrongful loss to the government exchequer and financial institutions, officials added.

Police said the FIRs were registered after detailed verification of complaints received by the Crime Branch, and investigations have been initiated to establish the roles of all accused persons.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Crime Branch Jammu, Mohd Fiesel Qureshi said the agency remains committed to protecting public trust and ensuring accountability.

"We advise citizens to remain vigilant and promptly report economic offences to the Crime Branch so that strict legal action can be taken against those involved in such crimes," he said.

Clear Pending

under the relevant provisions of the Motor

Vehicles Act. The measures may include imposition of penalties, suspension of driving licences and registration certificates, and seizure of vehicles without any further notice.

The notice added that the directive has been issued in the interest of public safety and to ensure strict enforcement of traffic laws. A list of defaulting vehicles has also been enclosed as annexures to the notice for reference.

Op Sindoor Strengthened

stronger from any setback, citing his own journey to the top post.

Singh said he too faced failures in his life and career, but he rose to become an IAF chief, which he described as something "that was destined".

"So, whether you are a soldier or a military leader in uniform, or a regular citizen, give your best and contribute to nation-building," he said.

The IAF chief told the NCC cadets that the role played by them in civil defence activities during Operation Sindoor motivated many people.

"Operation Sindoor has brought a lot of awareness. It is not just about earning money or doing things only for oneself in life, it is equally important to do something for the country," he asserted.

Operation Sindoor was carried out by the Indian armed forces in the early hours of May 7, 2025, targeting terror hideouts in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in response to the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 civilian lives last April.

A large number of NCC cadets assisted in emergency drills, blood donation camps and other civil defence activities during the operation, officials said.

A total of 2,406 NCC cadets, including 898 girls, from across the country are participating in the nearly month-long camp, which was inaugurated on Monday by Vice President C P Radhakrishnan. It will culminate with the NCC PM Rally on January 28.

The IAF chief, in his address, described NCC cadets as the "best among the youth" who are contributing to nation-building driven by values of unity, discipline and integrity.

He lauded the role played by the NCC in shaping disciplined, patriotic and value-driven citizens.

The air chief marshal highlighted the tremendous presence of NCC across the country, making it the largest uniformed organisation in the world, with girl cadets comprising around 40 per cent of its total current strength.

He urged the cadets to uphold nationalism beyond uniform and strive for continuous improvement with a never-say-die attitude in life.

Before his address, the IAF chief attended several cultural performances.

In one of the dance acts, a group of cadets depicted Operation Sindoor, portraying air strikes and air defence measures. The performance included a poster carrying the logo of Operation Sindoor, while also honouring the vision of a Viksit Bharat.

In the evening, Air Chief Marshal Singh hosted a reception for a group of cadets from the NCC's three wings -- Army, Navy, and Air Force -- at the Air House in Delhi, the official residence of the IAF chief.

At the reception, the IAF chief interacted with many cadets and encouraged them to follow their passion.

Deputy Chief of the Air Staff Air Marshal A K Bharti, who served as Director General Air Operations (DGAO) during Operation Sindoor; Director General, NCC, Lt Gen Virendra Vats and various other senior officers of the Corps were also present on the occasion.

Cadet Sgt. Diksha Tiwari, 18, was among those who attended the reception.

"I am competing in the 'best cadet' competition in the Air Force wing category, at the ongoing NCC Republic Day Camp. I wish to join the armed forces later. I will be the first in my family to join the armed forces if my dream comes true," she told PTI.

The cadet in the air force wing of the NCC, who belongs to the Bihar and Jharkhand Directorate of the Corps, said she is a native of Bihar and is studying English literature at a college in Ranchi.

A huge banner bearing the caption -- 'Indian Air Force Operation Sindoor -- Infalible, Impervious and Precise' -- was also displayed in the lawns of the Air House, while the Air Force band played patriotic tunes.

The banner also depicted the names of terror camps struck by the Indian forces during Operation Sindoor.

Air Chief Marshal Singh, Lt Gen Vats, and several NCC cadets also posed for pictures against the backdrop of the 'Op Sindoor' poster.



Subject: - Advertisement for Recruitment of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) in Anganwadi Centre's of POSHAN Project Kulgam

Reference:

1. Government order No 222-JK (SWD) of 2022 Dated: 30.11.2022
2. Government Order No.103-JK (SWD) of 2023 dated: 28.04.2023
3. No: 29-CDPO of 2024 Dated: 29.02.2024 (Already Advertised)
4. No: 24-CDPO of 2023 Dated: 28.12.2023 (Already Advertised)
5. No: 01-CDPO of 2023 Dated: 16.05.2023 (Already Advertised)

Approval has been accorded, vide Government Order No: 103-JK (SWD) of 2023 Dated: 28.04.2023 for filling up of various vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker's) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper's) and approval of Mission Director Poshan J&K vide endorsement No: MP/Poshan/47205-12 Dated: 24.12.2025 for recruitment of Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker's) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper's) in Anganwadi Centre's of POSHAN Project Kulgam, as per the details given below in Annexure 'B'.

S.No	Name of the Project	Name of the Post	No. of Post
01.	Kulgam	Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker's)	04
02.	Kulgam	Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper's)	17
Total Posts			21

Applications are invited in the Prescribed Performa in Annexure "A" from the eligible candidates for engagement as Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) on Honorarium basis for aforementioned posts of Anganwadi Centre's. The important dates/details with regard to the posts are as under:

- a) Date of commencement for submission of application: 06.01.2026
- b) Last date for submission of applications is 21.01.2026
- c) Annexure "B"- Name of the Post, Location/Ward, Qualification and Criteria for selection
- d) Annexure "C"- Affidavit.

Annexure "A"

Serial Number of Application Form: _____

Application Form for Engagement of Sangini (Anganwadi Worker) & Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper)

POSHAN PROJECT KULGAM

1. Name Anganwadi Centre _____
2. Post applied for _____
3. Name of the Candidate _____
4. Father's Name _____
5. Husband's Name _____
6. Residence _____
7. Panchayat/Municipality Ward. No. _____
8. Address for correspondence _____
9. Contact No. _____
10. Date of Birth _____
11. Age as on 01.01.2026 _____
12. Academic Qualification: _____

Passport Size Photo
Attested
By Gazetted Officer

S.No.	Examination passed	Board/University	Year of Passing	Marks Obtained	Total Marks	Percentage
1.						
2.						
3.						

13. Do the candidate belong to Retiring AWW/AWH (YES/NO)

14. Document Attached: _____

Date: _____

Signature of the candidate

ANNEXURE 'B'

Detail of Vacant Posts Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) & Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) along with Name and Location of Anganwadi Centre.

SANGINI (ANGANWADI WORKERS)				
S.No	Name of Anganwadi Centre	Ward No	Name of Post	No. of Posts
1	Sangus-A	02-Sangus	Sangini (AWW)	01
2	Khadipora-A	04-Khandipora	Sangini (AWW)	01
3	Nursigpora-A	04-Nursigpora	Sangini (AWW)	01
4	Larkipora	06-Larkipora (MC) Kulgam	Sangini (AWW)	01
SAHAYIKAS (ANGANWADI HELPERS)				
S.No	Name of Anganwadi Centre	Ward No	Name of Post	No. of Posts
1	Turigam-A	03-Turigam	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
2	Mohdpora-A	08-Mohdpora	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
3	Nilow-A	03-Nilow	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
4	Nilow-B	02-Nilow	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
5	Shouch-A	07-Shouch	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
6	Chancer-A	05-Chancer	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
7	Mirhama-A	01-Mirhama	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
8	Lirrow-A	07-Lirrow	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
9	Yeshapora-A	07-Yeshapora	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
10	Behibagh-H	03-Behibagh	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
11	Arreh-B	01-Arreh	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
12	Sempora	04-Sempora	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
13	Malpora-B	03-(MC) Malpora Kulgam	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
14	Astan Mohalla Kulgam	05-Noor Bagh (MC) Kulgam	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
15	Bungam Kulgam-A	07-Bungam (MC) Kulgam	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
16	Bungam Kulgam-B	07-Bungam (MC) Kulgam	Sahayikas (AWH)	01
17	Labripora Kulgam	06-Larkipora (MC) Kulgam	Sahayikas (AWH)	01

Eligibility:

For Anganwadi Workers

1. The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.
2. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible.
3. The candidate should be a resident of the Electoral Ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being un-married issued by the concerned Tehsilidar. Where ever, there is any dispute with respect to residence for any reason, and then a residence proof certifying the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.
4. Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Worker shall be 10+2 and maximum Graduation.
5. If at any time it would be found that candidate's qualification is more than graduation her candidature shall be rejected without any notice or information.
6. In case suitable candidate is not available in the concerned ward, candidate from the nearest/ adjoining ward within the panchayat can be considered subject to the approval of the MD, Mission Poshan J&K.
7. Weightage shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in 10+2 and selection shall be done purely on merit basis and no other criteria to be considered.
8. In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate with higher age will be preferred.
9. Candidate with qualification higher than graduation shall not be considered.

Anganwadi Helpers

1. The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.
2. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible.
3. The candidate should be a resident of the Electoral Ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being un-married issued by the concerned Tehsilidar. Where ever, there is any dispute with respect to residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying of the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.
4. Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Helper shall be matriculation.
5. In case no matriculate candidate available in the ward, candidates with qualification not less than 8th standard shall be considered from the concerned ward were AWC is advertised.
6. The committee shall select the meritorious married woman of the ward as helper from those who fulfill the qualification criteria and if no married candidate is available then only unmarried candidate shall be considered.

Document Verification.

1. The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document Verification along with the original documents as well as self-attested Photostate copy of each document as per the Advertisement Notification. The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic qualification and other document like Domicile Certificate, on or before the last date of submission of application form.
 - a) Marks sheet(s)/ Diploma / Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as per Advertisement Notification.
 - b) Date of Birth/ Matriculate Certificate.
 - c) Domicile Certificate.
 - d) Unmarried Certificate (where required).
2. Candidates must bring two passport size recent colour photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be:
 - i) Aadhaar Card
 - ii) Voter ID card.
3. The candidate, who is supposed to furnish various certificates issued by or before the prescribed cut-off date, shall be required to produce them at the time of Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee; in case of failure, the committee shall take necessary decision which shall be final.

ANNEXURE 'C'

All applicants to submit affidavit stating following facts:

1. All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the candidature of deponent may be cancelled and liable to action under law.
2. Maximum qualification is Graduation for vacancy of Anganwadi worker and Class X for Anganwadi Helper and this is as per facts and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent.
3. The deponent has read the HR Policy No. 222-JK(SWD) of 2022 dated: 30.11.2022 and is well versed with all salient features of the policy and shall be applicable to the deponent in case of selection as Anganwadi worker/ Anganwadi Helper.

No: -CDPO/Poshan/Kul/Adv/2025-26/308-20

DIPK-9799-25

Child Dev Project Officer

Dated: - 06.01.2026

DT: 08/01/2026

CDPO Poshan Project Kulgam

Diet Plays 'Decisive Role' in Fertility, Say Doctors

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Amid growing concerns over infertility among couples, medical experts in Kashmir say that diet and nutrition play a decisive role in determining fertility outcomes for both men and women, influencing hormonal balance, reproductive health, and the quality of sperm and eggs.

Doctors say that changing food habits, increased consumption of processed foods, sedentary lifestyles, and nutritional deficiencies are increasingly contributing to fertility-related problems, often going unnoticed until couples seek medical help.

Speaking to KNO, Dr Shaheena Khan, a gynaecologist at the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir (DHSK), said nutrition is one of the most important yet neglected pillars of reproductive health.

"Diet has a direct impact on fertility as it affects hormonal balance, ovulation, sperm production, and the overall health of reproduc-

tive organs in both men and women," she said.

She highlighted the strong link between body weight and fertility, noting that both obesity and being underweight can disrupt normal reproductive functions. "Excess body fat can lead to hormonal imbalance and irregular ovulation, while being underweight may suppress ovulation altogether. Maintaining a healthy weight through a balanced diet is essential for conception," she explained.

Dr Shaheena further said that diets rich in fruits and vegetables provide essential antioxidants such as vitamins C and E, zinc, and selenium, which help reduce oxidative stress—a major factor that damages sperm and egg cells.

"Iron is particularly important for women as it supports ovulation and reduces the risk of ovulatory infertility, while vitamin D plays a key role in reproductive hormone production. Deficiency of vitamin D has increasingly been linked with infertility in

IRON IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR WOMEN AS IT SUPPORTS OVULATION AND REDUCES THE RISK OF OVULATORY INFERTILITY, while vitamin D plays a key role in reproductive hormone production. Deficiency of vitamin D has increasingly been linked with infertility in both genders,"

both genders," she added.

Another gynaecologist, Dr Javid Reshie, said fertility is not just influenced by medical conditions but also by everyday lifestyle and dietary choices. "Excessive intake of alcohol and caffeine can adversely affect fertility, while trans fats commonly found in processed and fast foods impair insulin sensitivity and ovulation," he said.

He pointed out that declining sperm quality among men is becoming a growing concern. "A diet rich in antioxidants, zinc, omega-3 fatty acids, and healthy fats can significantly improve sperm count, motility, and morphology. Men should avoid processed meats, sugary foods, and excessive soy products, as these can negatively affect testosterone levels," he said.

For women, Dr Reshie said, dietary choices are especially important for those suffering from conditions like polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS). "A low-glycemic-index diet helps regulate insulin levels and improves ovulation in women with PCOS, thereby increasing their chances of conception," he added.

Both doctors stressed that fertility should be approached as a shared responsibility between partners and that preconception nutrition is crucial even before couples plan pregnancy.

"Increasing infertility cases are not always due to major diseases. In many instances, simple dietary corrections and healthy lifestyle

changes can restore reproductive balance," they said.

They advised people to adopt a nutrient-rich diet comprising fresh fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, dairy, nuts, seeds, and healthy fats, while limiting processed foods, sugary drinks, and trans fats.

"For long-term reproductive well-being and to prevent infertility, people must prioritise healthy eating habits, regular physical activity, and timely medical consultation. Fertility begins with nutrition," the doctors said.

According to doctors, nutrition plays a vital role in reproductive health for both sexes. Fertility isn't only a woman's issue — up to 50% of infertility cases involve male factors too, and diet influences sperm health just as much as it affects ovulation and hormonal balance in women, they said.

The doctors added that a balanced eating pattern helps protect reproductive cells, maintain hormonal balance, and improve overall fertility potential.

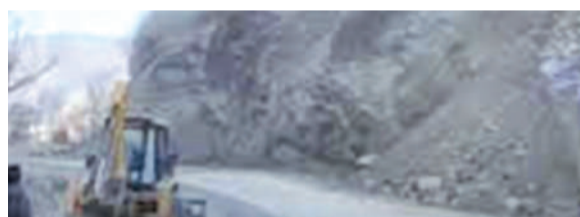
Bla-Uri Highway Hit by Third Landslide in 20 Days

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Baramulla-Uri National Highway remained closed on Thursday after another landslide struck the stretch - the third such incident reported in the last 20 days, causing severe inconvenience to commuters.

Officials told that a fresh landslide hit the highway in the morning, forcing authorities to immediately halt traffic movement on the route as a precautionary measure. Only emergency vehicles were allowed to pass, while all routine traffic was stopped to avoid any untoward incident, they said.

An official stated that road clearance operations were launched soon after the incident, with personnel and machinery mobilised



to remove debris and stabilise the affected area. "The highway is expected to be made motorable again from the evening hours, subject to completion of the clearance work and assessment of slope safety," he said.

The closure of the main Baramulla-Uri National Highway compelled authorities to divert vehicles through the dilapidated Khadnyar-Gantamulla road, causing immense hardship to commuters.

Locals and passengers, however, complained that the

alternate route is in poor condition, with potholes and narrow stretches, making travel risky and time-consuming, especially for passenger vehicles and load carriers.

The fresh landslide marks the third such incident in just 20 days on the Baramulla-Uri National Highway, following two earlier slides that also triggered full traffic halts and diversions through alternate routes, with officials attributing both to ongoing construction activity and hill-cutting. (KNO)

Northern Railway Extends Katra Special Train Operations

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Northern Railway, Jammu Division, on Thursday announced the extension of services of Special Reserved Train No. 04081/04082 between New Delhi and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra, citing heavy passenger demand and convenience of travellers.

An official told KNO that train No. 04081 from New Delhi to Katra will operate on January 9 and 10, while Train No. 04082 from Katra to New Delhi will run on January 10 and 11.

Earlier, the services were scheduled to run between December 27 and January 4 for train 04081, and De-

cember 28 to January 5 for train 04082.

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Uchit Singhal, said the extension follows the success of the earlier operations, with nearly 100 percent occupancy recorded during previous trips.

He added that the timing of the train is convenient for passengers and requested travellers to check the schedule on Dial 139 or the NTEs portal before starting their journey.

The Northern Railway said the move aims to manage the passenger rush during the peak season and provide a cost-effective and convenient travel option.

Police Arrest 2 Drug Peddlers in Ganderbal

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a continued drive against drug abuse, Jammu and Kashmir Police in Ganderbal arrested two drug peddlers and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

According to a statement issued, a police team of PS Kheerbawani at a checkpoint established at Central University Crossing, intercepted and apprehended 02 suspicious persons. During search, approximately 3 Kilograms of contraband powdered bhang-like substance was recovered from their possession. The recov-

ered contraband was seized on the spot in accordance with legal procedures.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 01/2026 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Kheerbawani, and further investigation has been taken up to ascertain the source and intended destination of the seized narcotic substance.

J&K Police reiterate its firm commitment to eradicate the menace of drugs from society and urge the public to cooperate by sharing any information related to drug trafficking, the statement reads.

Jammu-Kashmir Divide Not BJP Ideology, Says Ashok Koul

Observer News Service

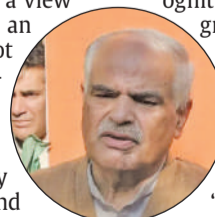
Bharatiya Janata Party General Secretary (Organisation) Ashok Koul on Thursday said that separating Jammu from Kashmir is not the ideology of the BJP, as-

serting that such a view may belong to an individual and not to the party. Talking to reporters in Srinagar, Koul said the BJP stands for unity and integration and does not subscribe to any ideology that promotes division between regions.

"It is not the ideology of the BJP. If someone speaks in that manner, it may be an individual's view, not the party's," he said. Commenting on the derecognition of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Medical College, Koul said the institution lacked adequate infrastructure

and was not fit for medical students in its present form. He said the National Medical Commission had inspected the college and found several irregularities.

According to KNT, Koul claimed that when recognition was initially granted to the medical college, the inspecting body might have been misled by claims of high-standard infrastructure. "The NMC inspection revealed that the infrastructure was not up to the required standards. A medical college must meet strict norms, and unfortunately this one did not," he said. He said regulatory bodies are duty-bound to ensure quality medical education and patient safety, and any compromise on standards cannot be allowed.



CS Calls for Stronger Credit Linkages & Women-Led Rural Enterprises

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chaired the 9th Executive Council Meeting of the Jammu & Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM) to undertake a comprehensive review of its performance under the UMEED (National Rural Livelihood Mission - NRLM) framework and to chart out a roadmap for strengthening rural livelihoods and women-led development across the UT.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD); Managing Director, JKRLM; Director General (Resources); Director General (Budget); Chief Operating Officer, HIMAYAT; Convenor, UTLCB, and other senior of-



ficers of the department.

During the deliberations, the Chief Secretary underscored the critical importance of enhancing credit linkages and strengthening the capacity of Self Help Groups (SHGs) so that they are able to transform into sustainable rural enterprises, reiterating that enterprise development remains the core objective behind the formation of SHGs.

He stressed the need for making Community

Managed Training Centres (CMTCs) functional in every district, ensuring delivery of high-quality training to SHG members through resource persons from OMPLIS. He emphasised that these centres should emerge as vibrant learning spaces where women feel encouraged to spend time acquiring new skills and upgrading existing ones.

Highlighting the role of financial inclusion at the grassroots level, the Chief Secretary directed that the income of Banking Correspondents (BCs) be enhanced substantially. He called for onboarding Common Service Centres (CSCs) and J&K Bank to increase transaction volumes, thereby improving the earnings and sustainability of BCs.

Ban Imposed on Waste Discharge into Nallah Sukhnag

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: The Office of the Block Development Officer Narbal has issued a strict public notice prohibiting the discharge of solid and liquid waste into Nallah Sukhnag, citing serious environmental and public health concerns.

According to the notice, it has been observed that some inhabitants residing along the banks of Nallah Sukhnag, particularly in Mazhama, Kanihama and Batapora areas of Narbal, are illegally using pipes and other arrange-

ments to discharge solid and liquid waste, including household sewage, directly into the stream.

The notice states that such practices are causing severe environmental pollution, contaminating water bodies, and posing health hazards to the public, besides violating established environmental norms and sanitation guidelines.

In view of the situation, all inhabitants living along the banks of Nallah Sukhnag have been strictly directed to immediately stop the discharge of any kind of solid or

liquid waste into the nallah. They have also been asked to remove any pipes, outlets or other arrangements used for draining waste into the water body and ensure proper disposal of waste only through approved sanitation systems.

According to KNT, the Block Development Officer has warned that any person found violating these directions after the issuance of the notice will face strict action under the law. The notice has been issued in public interest and for ensuring strict compliance.

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