

First Message Of Iran's New Leader

A Vow, Threat, & Resolve



Agencies

Tehran: Iran's newly appointed supreme leader, Seyed Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei, on Thursday outlined a sweeping policy framework in his first public message since assuming office. He warned that American military bases in the region would continue to be targeted unless they are shut down and signalled that the strategic Strait of Hormuz would remain closed as leverage against Iran's adversaries.

"All US bases should immediately be closed in the region, or they will remain under attack," the supreme leader said in his

first written message, delivered four days after he was selected to lead the country following the assassination of his father and predecessor, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei.

The statement also included a vow to avenge those killed in the ongoing war, including victims of a US strike on a girls' elementary school in southern Iran that reportedly killed more than 165 students.

"Of course, a limited amount of this revenge has materialised so far, but until its full extent is achieved, this file will remain on top of all other files, and we will have special sensitivity regarding the

Bid On Dr Farooq's Life: LG Assures Probe, Orders Security Review

Accused Sent To 5-day Police Custody; Security Lapse Questioned

Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday spoke with National Conference president and former chief minister Farooq Abdullah following an assassination attempt on the veteran leader during a wedding function in Jammu, and assured that a thorough investigation would be carried out into the incident.

According to official sources,



the Lieutenant Governor directed Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat to leave

no stone unturned in getting to the bottom of the matter and ensure that appropriate action follows swiftly. Sources said senior officials of the security establishment have also been instructed to guarantee airtight security arrangements for all protectees.

The incident took place late Wednesday night when Abdullah narrowly escaped after a gunman opened fire at a marriage function in the posh Greater | **More on P6**

Shah Dials Farooq; Matter Of 'Great Concern', Says Centre

Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke to National Conference president Farooq Abdullah following the firing incident and assured him that a thorough investigation would be conducted.

Abdullah said Shah enquired about his well being and informed him that the accused had been arrested. "He asked about my health. | **More on P6**



FAROOQ ABDULLAH IS A Z-PLUS CATEGORY protectee, the 2nd - highest level of VIP security cover in India, which includes multiple layers of armed personnel and specialised commandos.

JKCA CASE

Court Issues NBW Against Dr Farooq, Later Recalls It

Counsel Cites Health Issues & Alleged Attack In Jammu



M Ahmad

Srinagar: A court here on Thursday issued a non-bailable warrant (NBW) against former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah in connection with the alleged fund misappropriation case involving the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA). However, the warrant was later recalled by the court after an application was moved on Abdullah's behalf citing, among others, "traumatic and life-threatening murderous attack" on the three-time Chief Minister in Jammu last night.

The court—Chief Judicial Magistrate Srinagar Ms Tabassum — initially issued the warrant after rejecting an application seeking exemption from personal appearance filed on behalf of the National Conference President.

"Keeping in view the contents of the application, counsel for the accused was given an option to ensure the presence of the accused through virtual mode. However, the counsel did not consent and stated that the accused could neither appear physically nor through virtual mode before the court," the CJM observed while rejecting the plea for exemption.

Following the rejection, the court directed its office to issue a non-bailable warrant against Abdullah and posted the matter for recording of statements of | **More on P6**

Peace Due to Security Forces' Sacrifices: LG Sinha

Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said the peace being witnessed in Jammu and Kashmir today has come at a heavy cost, secured through the sacrifices of personnel from the police, the Army and the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs).

Addressing the closing ceremony of the 2nd All India Police Kabaddi Cluster 2025-26 (Men and Women) at MA Stadium in Jammu, the Lieutenant Governor said thousands of security personnel had laid



down their lives to protect the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The peace we enjoy today, the peace that allows | **More on P6**

Juma'atul Vida To Be Observed Today

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Juma'atul Vida, the last Friday of the month of Ramadan before Eid ul-Fitr, will be observed in Jammu and Kashmir on March 13, officials said.

Consequently, Jammu and Kashmir government announced a public holiday on Friday. An order to this effect was issued by the general administration department on Thursday.

Grand Mufti of Jammu and Kashmir Nasir Ul Islam announced that Juma'atul Vida will be observed this Friday. He said Eid ul-Fitr is likely to fall on March 20 (Friday) or March 21 (Saturday), depending on the appearance of crescent.

"After consulting other scholars, it was decided to observe Juma'atul Vida on March 13," he said.

LG, CM Greet People

Observer News Service

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha extended his greetings to the people on the occasion of Juma'at-ul-Vida, which will be celebrated on March 13. In a message, the Lieutenant Governor said, "On the auspicious occasion of Juma'at-ul-Vida, I extend my hearty greetings and good wishes to all. I pray for the health, happiness, and prosperity of every citizen."

"As we observe the final Friday of the | **More on P6**

ALL US BASES SHOULD immediately be closed in the region, or they will remain under attack"

India In Touch With Iran For Safe Passage Through Hormuz

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: India is in touch with Iran to secure safe passage to around 28 Indian-flagged merchant vessels through the strategic shipping route of Strait of Hormuz that has been partially blocked by Tehran following its escalating conflict with the US and Israel, people familiar with the matter said on Thursday.

The issues relating to safety of shipping and India's energy security had figured during External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's conversation with his Iranian counterpart on Tuesday, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

It is learnt that Iran has not permitted any Indian-flagged commercial tanker to pass



through the Strait of Hormuz in the last four-five days.

A total of 24 Indian-flagged vessels with 677 Indian seafarers are currently located to the west of the Strait of Hormuz, while four vessels with 101 Indian seafarers are stationed to the east of the strategic waterway, according to a senior official in the Shipping Ministry.

"The external affairs minister and | **More on P6**

17 Booked In J&K Health Recruitment Scam

Officials, Beneficiaries Accused Of Forging Orders To Fill Non-existent Posts

Agencies

Srinagar: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Crime Branch Jammu and Kashmir has filed a chargesheet against 17 accused, including senior health officials and beneficiaries, in connection with a massive recruitment scam that caused a loss of crores of rupees to the state exchequer.

Official sources said that the chargesheet was presented before the court of Special Anti-Corruption Judge in Baramulla in connection with FIR No. 07/2013. The case pertains to the alleged manipulation of a government order to fraudulently create and fill non-existent posts in the Health Department.

The probe was initiated following a complaint from the Deputy Director Health Services (HQR) Kashmir regarding suspected tampering with Government Order No. 235-HME of 2010 dated April 19, 2010.

According to the investigation, a criminal conspiracy was hatched by departmental officials to forge transfer and appointment orders. Using these fabricated documents, several individuals were illegally adjusted against non-existent positions in health facilities across Bandipora, | **More on P6**

Parental Income Alone Can't Decide OBC 'Creamy Layer': SC

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has ruled that 'creamy layer' status for reservation of OBCs cannot be decided solely based on parental income and treating similarly placed employees of private entities and PSUs differently from government employees, for deciding reservation, would amount to hostile discrimination.

A bench of justices P S Narasimha and R Mahadevan dismissed the appeals filed by the Union of India while upholding the decisions of the high courts of Delhi, Madras and Kerala which dealt with the eligibility of candidates claiming OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) benefit for Civil Services Examinations.

"Having regard to the peculiar facts of the present cases, the reasoning adopted by the High Court that treating similarly placed employees of private entities and PSUs differently from government employees and their wards, while deciding their entitlement to reservation,



would amount to hostile discrimination, is certainly one that inspires the confidence of this court," the bench said.

The top court said mere determination of the status of a candidate as to whether he/she falls within the creamy layer or the non-creamy layer of the OBCs cannot be decided solely on the basis of the income.

The apex court said that while caste may be an indicator of historical disadvantage, it cannot be treated as the sole determinant of backwardness.

"The exclusion of the creamy layer among the backward classes is not a matter of mere policy preference but | **More on P6**

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The father's / Mother's name of my Son namely Ifham-ul-Haq Parry has wrongly been entered in school records as Mohmmad Farooq Parry/ Neelofar instead of Mohd Farooq Parry/ Nilofar. Now I have applied for its correction. If anybody has any objection, He/she may file them in the office of the Principal Dubai Grand International School HMT Sgr within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Mohd Farooq Parry
 Father of Ifham-ul-Haq Parry
 Class 6th bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in his/her Aadhaar card as Gulam Mohammad Najar while my correct name is Gulia Najar. 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.
 Gulia Najar S/o Abdul Aziz Najar fko
 R/o Qazipora Ferozpora Tangmarg

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that the name and date of birth of my minor daughter were wrongly mentioned in her Aadhaar Card as Mahreen Bashir, DOB: 19/01/2012. The correct and actual name is Mehreena Bashir and the correct date of birth is 19/01/2013.
 Henceforth, she shall be known as Mehreena Bashir (DOB: 19/01/2013) for all purposes. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Bashir Ahmad Mir Father of Mehreena Bashir
 Resident of Panzina, Srinagar x

PUBLIC NOTICE

My son's name has been wrongly mentioned as MOHAMMAD HASAN MIR & his mother's name SHAISTA BEGUM W/O MUMTAZ AHMAD MIR in his date of Birth certificate issued by SHO Kreeer bearing Registration No 157/15 A/psk While his correct name is MOHAMMAD HASAN MIR & his correct mothers is SHAYISTA BANO as per Hospital date of Birth record issued by District Hospital Baramulla which needs to be corrected if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained
 Name: MUMTAZ AHMAD MIR F/O ...MOHAMMAD HASAN MIR
 Mother's name: SHAYISTA BANO fko
 R/O ...Kreeer

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No. JK-0420150028910 issued in favour of UMAR FAROOQ BHAT Parentage FAROOQ AHMAD BHAT Whereas an application has been received by one UMAR FAROOQ BHAT Parentage FAROOQ AHMAD BHAT wherein he claimed that the father's Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as MOHD FAROOQ BHAT Which needs to be changed as FAROOQ AHMAD BHAT.
 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 mcb

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

Sub Office Pulwama

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No. 7246077 Session: Dec Year 1992 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the Govt HSS Dardsara Tral against my father's name as M. Ismail Bhat Instead Of Mohd Ismail Bhat
 Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education Sub Office Pulwama. If any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Sub Office Pulwama within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.
 Name: Farooq Ahmad Bhat
 Father's name: Mohd Ismail Bhat
 Mother's Name: Rehti Begum
 DOB: 25-11-1975
 Residence: Kamla Buchoo
 Mobile no: 962269216 fko

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death
 Public Notice
 This office has received a written application from FATIMA BEGUM W/o Abdul Rehman Ganaie R/o Zalooraa, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Abdul Rehman Ganaie born on 30/01/2015 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.
 Tehsildar
 Executive Magistrate
 Bomial fko

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death
 Public Notice
 This office has received a written application from FAYAZ AHMAD DAR S/o Gh Rasool Dar R/o Lattishat, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Soda Fayaz born on 10/10/2008 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.
 Tehsildar
 Executive Magistrate
 Bomial fko

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA NOTICE

The candidate whose photograph is published in this notice claiming to have lost his original marks certificate of class 10TH session Bi-Annual 2016 issued by the Board of school Education with the following particular:
 Name: MOHAMMAD ARIF MIRZA
 Parentage: MOHAMMAD MIRZA QURESHI
 Roll No.: 2626489
 Year/ Session: 2016 - Bi-Annual
 Now the candidates have applied for the duplicate marks card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same undersigned within (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides the original marks card is treated as cancelled.
 Sd/-
 Assistant Secretary
 Board of School Education
 Sub-Office Bandipora fko_r

Government of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)
OFFICE OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER, SHANGUS

Email: zeoshangus810@gmail.com

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Final Selection List of the candidates for the post of Seasonal Educational Volunteer for the year 2025-26 advertised vide this office notification no: ZEO/S/Sms/760-63/2024, dated: 16/10/2024.

Whereas, Zonal Education Officer Shangus advertised 33 posts of Seasonal Educational Volunteers in the approved Seasonal Centres for the Year 2025 vide this office notification no: ZEO/S/Sms/760-63/2024 dated: 16/10/2024 and only 135 application forms were received by this office till cut-off date (31.10.2024) against 33 approved Posts.

Whereas, In light of the directions and guidelines received by this office vide No: CEO/A/Sms/SEVs/17552-53/25, dated: 05.03.2025, the Tentative list has been nullified by this office vide No: ZEO/S/Sms/868/2025 dated: 12/03/2025 and duly published in two local dailies for consecutively 02 days.

Whereas, the Zonal Level Selection Committee alongwith the Physical verification committee framed vide this office Order No: ZEO/S/Sms/781-84/2024 dated: 11/11/2024 and ZEO/S/Sms/863/2025 dated: 08/03/2025, thoroughly Re-scrutinized/ Re-verified the entire process strictly as per the guidelines and prepared the Revised/Modified Tentative selection list.

Whereas, the Notification bearing no. ZEO/S/Sms/1008-10/2025, dated: 19/08/2025 for withdrawal/Cancellation of 04 Seasonal Centres from Tentative list & Advertisement ab-initio was published in two dailies for wide publicity. As of now, no objections were received in this regard.

Whereas, the Revised-Tentative Selection has been prepared in accordance with the Orders of Chief Education Officer Anantnag vide No: CEO/A/Sms/17552-53/25, dated: 05.03.2025 and norms/guidelines of Directorate of SAMAGRA SHIKSHA, J&K vide Order No: 1684 of 2021, dated: 07.12.2021 including the selection criteria of 2006, dated: 23.05.2006 and is hereby notified as per "Annexure to this notification" and accordingly published for the information of general public and all concerned. Whereas this office has published the Revised Tentative list as per norms vide Annexure to the Notification No: ZEO/S/Sms/1024/2025, dated: 10/09/2025. The objections/claims (ALL) received after publishing Revised-Tentative Selection List has been settled in all respects as on date.

Now, The Final Selection is prepared in accordance with the guidelines/norms of Directorate of SAMAGRA SHIKSHA, J&K. No claim(s) hereof shall be entertained/considered from the date of publication of this notification. The selection is subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions that:

- The Final Selection List shall be subject to the production of all documents in original by the selected candidates at the time of joining the post for verification.
- There is nothing adverse against the selectees from VOK/Crime/Police or any other agency.
- The Enrolment will be verified as per PEN No/ U-Dise and other intact guidelines for establishment of the Seasonal centre, which could lead to non-establishment/closure of the Centre.
- Engagement Orders will not be issued till on spot Physical verification of Location of the approved Seasonal centre.
- The monthly Attendance as per devised format issued by concerned/ Nearest HOLS will be entertained only after duly countersigned by Head of the Physical Verification Committee. Dated: 12-03-2026.
- Overlapping of anyone of the Approved Seasonal Centro shall be liable to on-spot Closure.
- The details of migratory children shall be recorded by HOLS concerned. Accordingly, On spot Physical verification of concerned Schools will be made where from Children migrate to Seasonal Centres. Strict action will be taken against the delinquent HOLS.

No: ZEO/S/SMS/Seasonal/4889/2026

Zonal Education Officer Shangus

Annexure to the Notification No: ZEO/S/Sms/ 4889 /2026, dated: 12/03/2026.

S NO	NAME OF THE APPROVED SEASONAL CENTRE	NAME OF THE APPLICANT	FATHER'S/ HUSBAND'S NAME	PERMANENT ADDRESS
1	AUNDURSAR	RAYEES AHMAD WANI	GHULAM RASOOL WANI	THIMRAN
2	BALMANDU	WASIM AHMMAD GANIE	ABDUL SALAM GANIE	THIMRAN
3	BRADIMANDU BAJIPATHER	AABIROO JAN	SATTAR ALI KHAN	SHANPORA
4	BRADNARD THIMRAN	SABREENA MOHI UD DIN	GHULAM MOHI UD DIN LONE	THIMRAN
5	DANNARI	MOHAMMAD KHALIL KHAN GOJAR	MOHAMMAD SHAFI KHAN GOJAR	DARDPORA
6	DOBA THARA	RAFEEQ AHMAD KHAN	GULAM HASSAN KHAN	CHAKLIPORA
7	GOGAR PATHER	RUQAYA RASHID	ABDUL RASHID GANIE	THIMRAN
8	GOGARNARD	SHAHNAWAZ AHMAD KHAN	SUBA KHAN	NARSAR
9	GUDTRAG FARHANGA PANI	BILAL AHMAD KHAN	SHOWKAT AHMAD KHAN	SUNGLAN
10	HASTIANGAN THIMRAN	RAHYANA AKHTER	MOHMAD AMIN LONE	THIMRAN
11	HUKHSAR THIMRAN	AAQIB ASHRAF KOKA	MOHAMMAD ASHRAF KOKA	THIMRAN
12	KAMLAPAL	BILQEES JAN	MOHMAD SAFDAR SHEIKH	HALKHA CHITTERGUL
13	KARMA	RAFIYA JAN	NAZIR AHMAD KOKA	HERDARDPORA
14	KINMUNDU CHONTIHALL	IQRA JAN	ABDUL RASHID BHAT	CHONTIHALL
15	KRAS NAKH	MUDASIR AHMAD KOKA	ABDUL RASHID KOKA	DARDPORA
16	PALAN TRUNG	JAMEELA AKHTER	ALI MOHAMAD KHAN GOJAR	CHONTIHALL
17	ROSHAN MORI	RUBEENA AKHTER	MAHWELI KHAN	THALLAR CHAKLIPORA
18	SONARD NAKA	ARBEENA AKHTER	SHABIR AHMAD KHAN	CHAKLIPORA
19	SUADKEY BEHAK THIMRAN	SAIMA JAN	MUSHTAQ AHMAD KOKA	THIMRAN
20	THANDINARD	SYED IMRAN HUSSAIN	SYED HUSSAIN SHAH	HALKHA CHITTERGUL
21	WASTEINGO	ZAHID HUSSAIN KOKA	MOHAMAD AMBIR KOKA	THIMRAN
22	WUSHER NARD	SUMAIRA JAN	ABDUL SALAM SHEIKH	THIMRAN
23	ZAMPATHRI CHAKLIPORA	SHAHEENA AKHTER	SHARIF AHMAD KHAN	CHAKLIPORA
24	ZAMPATHRI THIMRAN	AABIROO JAN	MANZOOR AHMAD WANI	THIMRAN
25	ZAMTRAG	NAZAKET ALI	HABIBI UL REHMAN	RAKHI BRAH
26	CHETACART	SAFEENA AKHTER	MOHAMMAD AYOOB KHAN	CHAKLIPORA
27	HAJIBAL CHOWGAM	SHAKEEL AHMAD KHAN	MOHD SHAFI KHAN	PATHRIBAL
28	WANDERNARD	KHUSHBOO JAN	MOHAMMAD SHAFI KHAN	SHANPORA
29	GODTRAG	SHABNUM AKHTER	MUMTAZ ALI KHATANA GOJAR	SUNGLAN

DIPK-11829/25 dated: 12-03-2026

Zonal Education Officer Shangus

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death
 Public Notice
 This office has received a written application from ABDUL HAMID MIR S/o Habibullah Mir R/o Zoonipora, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of Namely Abdul Hamid Mir born on 04-10-1979 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.
 Tehsildar
 Executive Magistrate
 Bomial fko

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death
 Public Notice
 This office has received a written application from MUDASIR AHMAD SHIEKH S/o Abdul Rashid Shiekh R/o Tujar, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Fatima Mudasir born on 06-04-2021 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.
 Tehsildar
 Executive Magistrate
 Bomial fko

CORRECTION

I, the father of ANOOR LATEEF, wish to correct my ward's parentage names in the school records. She is currently studying in Class 2nd-D at Presentation Convent Higher Secondary School. In the school records, the name has been written as ANOOR LATEEF, where her father's name is recorded as Dr. Lateef Ahmad Tantary instead of LATEEF AHMAD TANTARY, and her mother's name is recorded as Anjum instead of ANJUM ARA. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file the same before the Principal, Presentation Convent Higher Secondary School, Rajbagh Srinagar within 7 days failing which no objection will be entertained.

CORRECTION IN NAME & DOB FOR PASSPORT

The name and date of birth in my passport have been incorrectly entered in my passport bearing No. M0392398 as Hajra Bano (Old) with DOB: 27/05/1966 (Old), whereas my Aadhaar records reflect my correct name as HAJIRA BANO (NEW) and DOB: 25/05/1966 (NEW). Since the passport expired on 04/08/2024, I have applied for a fresh passport with my correct name and date of birth. If anybody is having any objection, he/she may contact Passport Office, Srinagar within 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...
 PUBLIC NOTICE..
 The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Ahmad bin Mudasar Teli s/o Mudasar Nabi Teli R/o Mamoosa Tehsil Pattan with verified date of birth 12/05/2020 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.
 Sd
 Naib Tehsildar Pattan fko

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub.. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Death..
 Public Notice..
 The registrar Death BDO Sherabad Khore has submitted a case file pertaining to death of Abdul Gaffar Hajam s/o Abdul Salam Hajam R/o Shirpora bangil with verified date of birth 15/02/2024 occurred at home in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.
 Sd
 Naib Tehsildar Pattan fko

Office of the Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub... issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth...
 PUBLIC NOTICE..
 The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Aleeza Zehra D/o Ghulam Mohammad Malla R/o Duslipora Tehsil Singapora with verified date of birth 13/02/2024 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.
 SD
 Naib Tehsildar Pattan fko

BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF PRINCIPAL DISTRICT JUDGE AT GANDEBAL

Caveat Application No..... /2025
 IN THE MATTER OF:

Imaad Parvez Rohella
 Aged about 25 years,
 S/o Talat Parvez Rohella
 R/o House No. 17, Sector-B,
 Umarabad, Peerbagh,
 District Badgam, Jammu & Kashmir

.... CAVEATORS
 VERSUS
 ... NON-CAVEATOR
PUBLIC AT LARGE

IN THE MATTER OF : CAVEAT APPLICATION
 MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

- That, the Caveators have been declared eligible for license to run the Petrol Pump by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. at Village Sonmarg, Left Hand Side on National Highway (from Sonmarg towards Leh), Ganderbal, Jammu & Kashmir.
- That, the Caveators apprehend that the Non-Caveators may approach this Ld. Court and file a civil suit for injunction against the caveators or institute any other proceedings on false and frivolous grounds, and may succeed in getting an ex-parte interim order against the Caveator, therefore, the Caveator may be given an opportunity of being heard by being put to notice before any direction or order is passed in the event the Non-Caveators approach this Ld. Court.
- That the notice of this Caveat application has been published in a leading local daily newspaper and the cutting of the said newspaper is filed herewith and marked as Annexure-I.

PRAYER
 In the premises, it is therefore, prayed that in the event the Non-Caveators approach this Ld. Court by filing a Suit or any other proceedings against the caveators, the Caveators be given an opportunity of being heard before any ex-parte order/s is passed against the Caveator.

AND FOR THIS ACT OF KINDNESS THE APPLICANT AS IN DUTY BOUND SHALL EVER PRAY.

Caveator Through Counsel
Aswad R Attar
 (Advocate)
 Ph. 9055516542

DATED: 12.03.2026
 PLACE: Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Adhar card bearing No 901226406291 the name is entered as AZI while my actual name is AZMI. 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.
 AZMI W/O GHULAM AHMAD SHEIKH
 R/O MOHANPORA BUDGAM mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Passport while travelling from Hermain To Shopian. 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 passport office Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Zarifa Akhter
 W/o Bashir Ahmed
 R/o Hermain Shopian fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that we, the parents of our ward, are applying for correction of our daughter's name and mother's name in the school records. Our ward is presently studying in Class 9th, Section A at Presentation Convent High School, Srinagar. The corrections are as follows:
 Ward's Name: From TABIAH to ANABIA BINTI MUKHTAR
 Mother's Name: From ZARQA MUKHTAR to ZARQA
 If anyone has any objection to the above correction, they may contact the office of the Principal, Presentation Convent High School, Srinagar, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the expiry of the said period.
 Mukhtar Ahmad Sheikh & Zarqa
 Parents of Anabia Binti Mukhtar
 R/O:Shahi Mohalla Awanta Bawan Soura Sgr
 Mob:9906579171

اطلاع عام

برخلاف وعام کو بعد از شہزادہ مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ میری نویں جماعت پاس کی سرٹیفکیٹ میں میرا نام SYED MAQBOOL SHAH S/O SYED ZAFAR AHMAD SHAH ہے جبکہ میرا اصل نام SYED MAQBOOL SHAH ہے۔
 SYED MAQBOOL SHAH S/O SYED ZAFAR AHMAD SHAH
 SYED JAFFAR
 اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اپنا اعتراض پرنسپل کو نمٹانے کے لئے ہائیڈرو کیمیکل سیکشن، ایف ڈی ایف، سیکشن آفیسر بڈگام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 سید مقبول ولد سید جعفر سکن پاٹوا بڈگام
 فون: MBC9596810012



Residents Urge Crackdown on Maxi Cab Stands at Shalteng

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Residents of Shalteng in Srinagar have filed a formal complaint with the Senior Superintendent of Police (Traffic City), raising concerns over persistent traffic disruptions caused what they called "illegal halting of maxi cabs" at Shalteng Chowk.

In a written representation to the SSP Traffic City, locals alleged that maxi cab drivers operating on routes connecting Srinagar with Baramulla, Kupwara, Gulmarg and Tangmarg routinely park their vehicles near the Traffic Police Booth at the busy junction while waiting for passengers. According to residents, the practice has effectively turned the area into an unofficial cab stand, resulting in frequent traffic congestion, particularly during peak hours.

Badamwari Garden Staff Seek Job Security after Years of Service

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Nestled at the foothills of Hari Parbat in Srinagar's old city, the Badamwari Garden, spreading over more than 350 kanals, is maintained largely by casual labourers who are now seeking permanent status for their years of service.

Located near Kathi Darwaza in Rainawari, just five kilometres from Srinagar city centre, the garden is famous for its sprawling almond trees that bloom every spring, drawing thousands of visitors.

Despite its cultural and historical significance, the majority of the roughly 30-40 gardeners employed here are casual labourers. Only

seven to eight are permanent staff. The gardeners, who have worked at the garden for several years, told KNO that they work every day, tending to the lawns, almond trees and flower beds, es-

ing anonymity, said. He added that casual labourers perform the same responsibilities as permanent staff, including cleaning, pruning and preparing the garden for visitors, but their

gardener said. Visitors and locals also say the gardeners' work ensures that the historic park remains vibrant and well-kept.

"Badamwari is not just a garden, but a part of Srinagar's heritage. Those who maintain it deserve recognition and permanent jobs," said a local.

Importantly, located at the backdrop of Hari Parbat (Koh-e-Maraan), Badamwari Garden features hundreds of almond trees that herald the arrival of spring. Despite the casual status of most workers, gardeners say they remain committed to preserving the beauty of the park for locals and tourists alike.

"We have been serving Badamwari Garden for years. It is our livelihood and our pride. Permanent employment would give us dignity and security,"

pecially during the bloom season when thousands visit. Yet most of them remain casual workers, with no job security or benefits.

"We only ask to be recognised for our work with permanent positions," one of the gardeners, wish-

temporary status leaves them uncertain about their future.

"We have been serving Badamwari Garden for years. It is our livelihood and our pride. Permanent employment would give us dignity and security," another

DC Takes Stock of Construction Work at Govt Middle School

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo on Thursday visited Gangbug area of the District and conducted an on-site inspection of the ongoing work on construction of new building for Government Middle School.

During the visit the DC

was accompanied by Joint Commissioner SMC, Nuzhat Khurshid, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Superintending Engineer SMC, Sajad Kawoosa, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Umar Gulzar, Chief Medical Officer, Dr Tahir Sajad, Executive Engineer R&B, Khalid Mehmood, Executive Engineer PCD-I, Na-

sir Ahmad, Executive Engineer, Master Plan, Muzamil Ahmad and other concerned. During the inspection, the Deputy Commissioner assessed the progress of construction of the new school building, which aims to fulfill a long-pending demand of the local population and strengthen educational infrastructure in the area.

UT of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama Ground Floor Mini Secretariat, DC Office Complex

Fax: 01933-224123

Email: dcpulwama@jk.gov.in

Website: pulwama.gov.in

Subject:

Preliminary Notification Under Section-11 of the Right to Fair Compensation & Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation & Resettlement Act, 2013 for acquisition of land measuring 09 Marlas falling under Survey No. 1558 situated in estate Niklora, Tehsil Shahoorra Litter, District Pulwama required for public purpose namely acquisition of land for construction of Approach Road to Lift Irrigation Scheme Niklora.

Preliminary Notification Under Section-11(1) Notification No: 009 of 2026 Dated: 09-03-2026

Whereas, it appears to the appropriate Government that a total land measuring 09 Marlas is required for construction of Approach Road to Lift Irrigation Scheme Niklora, Tehsil Shahoorra Litter, District Pulwama for public purpose, for which the Chief Engineer Kashmir Irrigation & Flood Control Department Srinagar has placed formal indent vide No. CEO/Rev/9264-66 dated 29-09-2025.

Whereas, Social Impact Assessment Study was carried out by the SIA team constituted by District Collector Pulwama vide No. DCP/LA/2023/121-22 dated 07-07-2023 as laid down under Rule-4 of the said Act and a detailed Social Impact Assessment Report has been submitted through Tehsildar Shahoorra Litter vide No. TSL/OQ/25-26/844 dated 08-12-2025, which is as under:

- 1. That the proposed acquisition of land serves public purpose.
2. That the extent of land proposed for acquisition is the absolute bare minimum needed for the project.
3. That the acquisition of land at an alternate place has been considered and found not feasible.
4. That there is no unutilized land previously acquired in the area.
5. That there is no unutilized acquired land available which can be used.

On the basis of recommendations of the SIA Committee report submitted to the District Collector Pulwama vide this office No:DCP/Col/2025/433 dated 19-01-2026 for its acceptance and authorization for issuance of the Notification under Sec. 11 (1) of the said Act.

The District Collector has authorized to the undersigned for the issuance of the said notice vide his No:DCP/LA/2025/630-31 dated 28-01-2026.

Therefore, it is notified that a piece of land measuring 09 Marlas of standard measurement, whose detailed description is given here under needs to be acquired for public purpose i.e., for construction of Approach road to Lift Irrigation Scheme Niklora Tehsil Shahoorra Litter.

Table with 7 columns: S.No, Survey No., Type of title, Type of land, Area under Acquisition, Name and address of person interested, Boundaries. Row 1: 01, 1558, Proprietary, Gair mumkin Ara, 09.0, Mohammad Ismail S/o Aziz Rather, 1557, 1562, 1551, 1598

Table with 4 columns: Variety, No., Report awaited, Structure, Type, Plinth. Row 1: Fruit bearing trees, 18 (Assessment awaited), Nil, Nil

The Notification is made under the provisions of Section 11 (1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (30 of 2013).

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of Collector Land Acquisition Pulwama on any working day during the working hours. It is further notified under Section 11 (4) of the Act, that no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land/structure i.e., sale/purchase, etc., or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such Notification without prior approval of the Collector. Objections to the acquisition, if any, may be filed by the person interested within 60 (Sixty) Days from the date of publication of this Notification as provided under Section 15 of the Act before Collector Land Acquisition (Assistant Commissioner Revenue) Pulwama and any objection filed beyond proper timeline shall not be entertained.

No. DCP/Col/2025/513-19 D1PK-11840/25 Dated: 12/03/2026

Shahbaz Ahmad Boda Collector Land Acquisition Assistant Commissioner (Rev) Pulwama

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE. Tender No: 246-2025-26-ADEN-I-ASR. Date: 11.03.2026. Details of Tender table with columns: S.No, Tender No., Advertisment Value (Rs.), Earnest Money (Rs.), Validity of Offer, Period of Completion.

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited Corporate Headquarters. M.A.Road, Srinagar - 190 001. Tel: +91(0)194-2481930-35. Email: iarb.chq@jkbmail.com

'e-AUCTION NOTICE' [Rule 8 to 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules] The undersigned in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act read with Rule 8 to 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 notify the Sale of the secured assets detailed herein-below for realization of dues of the Bank on "as is where is", "as is what is", "whatsoever there is" and "no complaint" basis.

Table with 2 columns: Description of the mortgaged properties (Put on sale), Name of the Borrower, Amount outstanding as on 28.02.2026 for the recovery of which the property is sold, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Bid Increase Amount, Name of the Branch, Last Date & Time of submission of Bid, Date and Time of e-Auction, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Other Remittance/s details by RTGS to Account Number.

The interested bidders shall submit their offer along with EMD details through website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net and can obtain user ID and password free of cost by registering on the website. The detailed notice containing all the terms and conditions are available at Bank's website https://www.jkbank.com/pdfs/eauction. For any query related to the said auction, the interested bidders may contact Branch Manager, Impaired Assets Recovery Branch on cell 6006656980.

Place: Srinagar (J&K). Date: 12-03-2025. (Authorized Officer)

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686. PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883. PDD: 0194-2450213. FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488, 2452222, 2452155. CAPD: 18001807011. SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081. Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200. AIRPORTS: SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311. RAILWAYS: SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259. ANANTNAG: 01932-228243. BARAMULLA: 0194-102029. BIJBERA: 01932-228243. PAMPORE: 01933-294132. PATTAN: 01954-293507. QAZIGUND: 01951-296153. HIGHWAY STATUS: Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open), Mughal Road - (Open), Srinagar-Leh - (Open).

PRAYERS. FAJR 5:23, ZUHR 12:41, ASR 4:56, Magrib 6:39, ISHA 8:00. HIJRI CALENDAR. 23-Ramazan 1447.

- This Day In History. 1567 - Battle at Oosterweel: Spanish troops destroy Geuzenleger. 1569 - Battle of Jarnac, Count of Anjou defeats Huguenots. 1591 - Battle at Tondibi: Moroccan army under Judar defeats Sultan Askia Ishaq II of Songhai. 1865 - Confederate President Jefferson Davis signs bill authorizing use of slaves as soldiers (US Civil War). 1881 - Alexander II of Russia is assassinated by members of far-left terror group 'People's Will' who throw a bomb at him in the city of St. Petersburg. 1884 - Siege of Khartoum, Sudan begins by Mahdist forces, lasts 10 months. 1900 - British troops occupy Bloemfontein, capital of the Orange Free State (Boer War). 1911 - The Colonial-Born and Settlers Indian Association is formed at a meeting in Durban, South Africa, and has at its aim to fight the infamous 3 poll tax. 1912 - Bulgaria and Serbia conclude an alliance pact ostensibly against Austria, but it secretly provides for a possible war against Turkey. 1918 - Trotsky gains control of the Red Army. 1920 - After the German government is forced to cut its army to 10,000 men, military groups plot an unsuccessful coup - a revolt ended by a general strike. 1921 - Mongolia (formerly Outer Mongolia) declares independence from China.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE. Tender Notice No: 433_Sig_32_25_26. Date: 12/03/2026. Closing Date/Time: 06/04/2026 15:00. Sr. DSTE/JAT acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on https://www.ireps.gov.in against Tender Notice no. 433_Sig_32_25_26 Closing Date/Time 06/04/2026 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, 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 online payment modes available on IREPS portal like Net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice. Dy.CE/GSU/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites Open Tender (E-Tenders) against below titled tender and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date-06.04.2026 up to 11:30 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Tenderers are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit Receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information log on to www.ireps.gov.in. Details of Tender table with columns: S.No, Tender No., Advertisment Value (Rs.), Earnest Money (Rs.), Validity of Offer, Period of Completion.

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Lessons for the Global South

Iran's resilience and America's gamble could reshape geopolitics and revive debates about modernity beyond the West.



Wajahat Qazi



by appointing the late Ayatollah's son, Mojtaba Khomeini, as his successor. All this makes it difficult for disaffected Iranians to either support "regime change" or grumble against the government.

What then has Donald Trump achieved till now, and how will the war douse?

Trump, having been led down the primrose path, has achieved nothing. In fact, he may have lost a lot. At one level, he went against his promises to the Trump base that, under his watch, the US would disavow "forever wars". At another level of analysis, with mid-term elections approaching in the US, Trump's forfeiture of his electoral promises, and importantly the prospects of an upended US economy, with both interest rates and inflation rising, may undercut both the president and the brand of politics associated with him.

In this sense, Donald Trump may have actually ruined his legacy and the kind of United States he had envisaged. Given all this, I will stick my proverbial neck out and posit that the world may witness an off-ramp in the coming days, initiated by the United States and pending approval by Iran.

But all this leaves open the question and the issue for the rest of the world, the non-West and the Global South. How is the non-West to read the US invasion of Iran, its aftermath and the Iranian response?

There are indeed poignant and pertinent lessons to draw. One, post-war the world will be a very different place. It will be determined by Knightian uncertainty, where a new power-political configuration and system polarity will emerge.

The Russia-China axis will draw its conclusions. Till now the former paired in a way where one was the disruptor of the international order and the other presented its normative ingress for the "new" world. Given the bare-knuckled, no-holds-barred US-Israel and Iran war, this may change.

Both China and Russia may now become bolder and more assertive. In terms of political economy, new trade patterns are likely to emerge with a corresponding pattern of capital flows. New forms of balancing, not very overt but subtle, against the United States may also happen.

While there is surely uncertainty over the forms of change and the corresponding configurations, military, political and economic, changes are afoot. Against this backdrop, how is the Global South to comport itself?

Fundamentally, the answer is conceptual. The first prong of that must be conceptual clarity regarding the "Global South" itself. If structural and conceptual factors militate against a coherent Global South, then the very term, appellation and its wellsprings must be redefined. The issue, or matter, then becomes cultural.

The Global South must redefine itself in cultural terms. The rest, even structure, is a mere corollary. But if the Global South defines itself in cultural terms, how are we to advance and progress? Is not the pathway to either defined and set by the West and its modernity? Will not redefining the Global South be regressive for us?

Conflating modernization and progress with the West is as ahistorical and naïve as can be.

All societies and cultures have, in the past, had their own definitions and standards for progress. Only modernity appears to be a Western wild card here.

But if modernity means the privileging of reason and technos in absolute terms over any other value or ideal, we of the "Global South" have no choice but to chart our own course of modernity.

Instead of a homogeneous, totalizing world, whose ultimate values are unbridled consumerism, hedonism, the fetishizing of the body and the self, all overlaid by hollow nihilism, the Global South must take a dive into "multiple modernities". Not only will we protect ourselves from the gales of the present, inspired and determined annihilating nihilism, but we shall also liberate ourselves from the tyranny of totalizing alternatives.

These are the lessons that we, from and of the Global South, must draw. It is here that liberty and dignity lie. Multiple modernities defined by values, ethical and moral orientation, progress defined not by harnessing the destructive potential of technology but inspired by higher-order thinking, worldliness meshed with transcendence, must be our buzzwords.

In the final analysis, the choice whittles down to "to be" or "not to be". But be we must!

The author 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.

What did U.S. President Donald Trump get wrong after deciding to attack Iran? And what did he get right? What made him attack Iran? And what are the implications for the "rest", especially the "Global South"?

Donald Trump's foundational and fundamental "error" lay in the conceptual, emotional and spiritual (or mystical) premises of modern-day Iran. These do not lie in historical Persia but in the foundational and seminal currents of Shia Islam: the day of Karbala (Ashura).

Owing to the schism in Islam on account of "succession issues" after the death of the Prophet of Islam (PBUH), political permutations and combinations led, among other things, to the murder of the Prophet's grandson, Imam Hussein (AS), at Karbala.

Besieged by the forces of his opponent Yazid, and overwhelmed by superior military capabilities and numbers, Imam Hussein (AS) and his small band of followers chose to fight and resist Yazid.

While the outcome of the battle at Karbala, where hunger and thirst were weaponized against Imam Hussein (AS), his family and followers, was almost foreordained, Imam Hussein (AS) fought. Culminating in his martyrdom, the most poignant moment of the battle may have been when Imam Hussein (RA) asked to pause the battle for a moment to quench the thirst of his six-month-old son, Hazrat Ali Asghar (AS).

Inhumanely and cruelly, instead of giving the infant water, an arrow was shot into his throat by the notorious Shimr. Framed and viewed as a battle between oppression and tyranny, and re-enacted every year through a "passion play" on Ashura, Karbala, its premises and lessons are central to Shia Islam's ethos. It is the dominant paradigm, in fact.

In the schemata of Karbala and Ashura, victory is not seen in material, military terms, but in transcendental, spiritual terms. This, to put it crudely, constitutes the Shia Muslims' ideal, and this is what accounts for Iran's resilience, courage and optimism against all odds.

In all likelihood, this is what Donald Trump did not understand. But where he may have gotten it right, partly, is in terms of the Iranian state's capabilities. Ossified, but not hollowed out, by decadal sanctions, the eight-year war with Iraq (justified as "double containment"), economic issues, relative isolation and so on, Trump and his advisers may have assumed the worst about Iranian capabilities and held that the Iranian state and its allied political structures would disappear with the first missile strike on Iran.

Spurred by other forces whose chest-thumping proponent is US Defense Secretary Peter Hegseth, a mediocre time-passing clown who embarrasses the pantheon of past distinguished defense secretaries, Trump chose to attack Iran. But what we are witnessing in the post-war interregnum is classic "asymmetric war" by Iran and its power structure. This suggests that Iran, over

the years, had factored in an attack and the decapitation of its governing elite.

The asymmetric war of defense conducted by Iran is neither suicidal nor maniacal. It appears to be designed in a deliberate, calibrated manner to raise the costs of war for the US, in the region and beyond. In a world still defined by "complex interdependence", Iran is attacking nodes and chokepoints of the global economy and carrying out quasi guerrilla-type missile attacks into Israel and Gulf states, more in the nature of limited probing, harrying attacks.

In this schema, the element of time is central. Iran appears to view US-Israel attacks as costs it can absorb. The more time elapses, the more difficult it gets for its adversaries to prolong the conflict, economically and politically. In this whole saga, the name of the game for Iran appears to be the survival of the republic.

Conceptually and emotionally, Iranians have rallied around their flag in an idiom of Islamo-nationalism. Continuity of the republic has been signaled

KO VIEW

Kashmir's Street Test

On any busy road this Ramzan, you will notice something strange.

The same people fasting all day are honking like crazy, cutting each other off, and arguing over parking spots. Someone pulls out their phone, uploads the drama, and suddenly the whole world is watching.

Here's the problem: we are nailing the physical fast but failing the patience test.

We skip lunch just fine, but an hour later, we are yelling at strangers. The hunger is supposed to teach restraint, but somehow that lesson vanishes the moment we get behind the wheel.

Our roads reveal who we really are. They show how we treat people we will never see again, and expose how we act when nobody's watching.

When aggression wins on the street, our "hospitable" community loses something built over years.

Social media makes everything worse. One bad moment now travels everywhere in hours. Outsiders form opinions about Kashmir from these clips. Young people copy what they see.

Bad behaviour spreads faster than good ever could.

The fix starts with each of us. Bite your tongue instead of shouting back. Let someone else take that parking spot. Help an elderly person cross safely.

These small choices turn private faith into public goodness. They prove Ramzan changes more than just meal times.

Religious leaders say Ramzan's lessons should last all year, and the street is the place to start.

Kashmir has deep spiritual roots and a history of enduring hardship with care. Now it is time to bring that same patience to daily traffic.

These final days of Ramzan are our chance to prove faith shapes real action, and that belief moves beyond prayer rugs into how we treat strangers on the sidewalk.

True worship shows in small moments, like giving space on a crowded street and choosing kindness over winning an argument. The streets can carry Kashmir's best behaviour.

Let roads show that discipline lives here, strong and visible, long after the last iftar.

CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

Buy During Dips

Continue your SIPs, market drops mean more units for your money.

Irshad Mushtaq

Most small investors in Kashmir panic when they see the stock market dropping. They want to stop their mutual fund investments immediately. But here is the truth: falling markets are actually a buying opportunity.

Think of it like a sale at your favorite shop. When prices drop, you get more for the same money. Mutual funds work the same way. When the market falls, your monthly investment buys more units. When prices rise again, those extra units make you more profit.

Here is how it works. Say you invest 2,000 rupees every month. In month one, the fund price is 20 rupees per unit. You get 100 units. In month two, the market crashes and the price drops to 10 rupees. Your same 2,000 rupees now buys 200 units. You now own 300 units for 4,000 rupees. Your average cost is just 13.3 rupees per unit. When the price returns to 20 rupees, your investment is worth 6,000 rupees. You made 2,000 rupees profit because you bought cheap when others were scared.

This is called rupee cost averaging, and it is the smartest way for ordinary people to build wealth.

So what should you do? First, never stop your monthly SIPs when markets fall. That is exactly when you get the best deals. Second, if you have extra money from a bonus or seasonal income, split it into three to six parts and invest gradually. Third, only invest money you do not need for daily expenses. Never borrow to invest.

Keep your goals in mind. If you are investing for your child's education, a home, or retirement five years or more away, short term drops do not matter. Indian markets have always recovered and reached new highs.

History proves that investors who stayed calm during crashes did better than those who sold in fear. The market is not against you. It is giving you a chance to buy quality at discount prices. Stay disciplined, stay invested, and let time do the work.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial educator.

Letter to Editor

Jammu and Kashmir Must Modernize Land Laws Now

Land is personal in Jammu and Kashmir. It feeds families, defines communities and holds memories across generations. Two laws shape this relationship today: the Land Revenue Act of 1996 Bikrami and the Agrarian Reforms Act of 1976. They rewrote rural life decades ago. Now they creak under the weight of modern governance.

The Land Revenue Act built the system for tracking ownership and collecting taxes. The Agrarian Reforms Act broke up large estates and handed land to the cultivators. Villages transformed and power shifted from absent landlords to working farmers. These were revolutionary changes for their time.

But their time has passed. Today, we live digital lives, bank on phones, sign documents electronically and expect instant verification. But our land laws still imagine clerks hunched over paper registers in village offices. They assume records live in handwritten books called Jamabandis, and ignore the reality that thousands of these records now exist as scanned files in computer systems.

This digitization was necessary, as paper rotted and files disappeared. Verifying ownership meant traveling to distant offices and waiting weeks for answers. The government responded by scanning generations of Jamabandis.

The Scanario system now lets officials and citizens pull records instantly. Trans-

parency improved and access expanded.

But the law remains stubbornly blind to these advances. The Land Revenue Act never mentions digital records. It gives no guidance on whether scanned documents hold legal weight. Courts occasionally stumble over this gap. And litigants exploit the uncertainty. Justice slows while lawyers argue over whether pixels on a screen count as real evidence.

The problems run deeper as digitization exposed cracks in the historical record. Many old mutations, those critical updates tracking inheritance and sales, never made it into electronic databases. Revenue officials now spend countless hours comparing fragile paper archives with digital entries. Disputes multiply,

errors persist, and people wait too long for corrections that should take minutes.

Legislative updates can validate digital records, standardize processes, integrate mapping, and clarify officials' duties.

Reform would honour the original purpose of these laws while equipping them for modern challenges. The Agrarian Reforms Act sought fairness for farmers, while the Land Revenue Act sought orderly administration.

Both goals remain vital, but the tools have changed. Our laws must catch up.

Sincerely,

Mohammad Amin Mir
miramin354@gmail.com

Jumu'atul-Wida in Kashmir

The last Friday marks Ramzan's closing stretch with packed mosques and renewed vows of faith in the valley.



Gowher Bhat



THE FAREWELL FEELING MEANS EVERYTHING TO KASHMIR. The valley keeps it closer to the bone. The history has taught people to value collective moments. When thousands gather safely in one space, the gathering itself becomes the point. The sermon matters, so do the shoulder-to-shoulder prayer and the shared breath of a community acting as one body.

Jumu'atul-Wida arrives at the hinge. The name itself is a door closing.

Jumu'ah means Friday, and Wida: goodbye. Arabic offers no softening between them.

The day comes once each year, and Kashmir receives it with full weight. The valley knows about endings. It has watched many beautiful things depart.

By mid-morning, the old city flows toward Jamia Masjid. Men in white kurtas move through streets that narrow and widen like verses. Women walk in groups, their pherans brushing stone. Children press ahead with prayer mats rolled tight. The mosque rises at the center, wooden and old, holding centuries of feet in its yards.

Today, it will hold more. Crowds spill through doors and spread out on flat surfaces. They press shoulder to shoulder until the building seems to breathe with one lung.

The sermon finds its own pace here. The cleric does not rush. He moves through Kashmiri, through Urdu, sometimes touching Arabic for divine blessing. He speaks of continuation, asks what remains when fasting stops, and pushes the crowd to keep the nightly prayers alive, the giving, the attention to those who have less.

The words land differently in this valley. Kashmiris have learned to hold rituals through hard seasons. They know that the body remembers when the heart forgets.

Charity moves through the crowd like another language. Zakat gets calculated and weighed. Sadaqah flows free, without record. Hands open that stayed closed all year. Food moves through neighbourhoods in parcels and bags. Money reaches those who need it without the slow work of institutions.

The giving holds special weight in these final hours. People treat it as proof of change before the month ends. The poor receive the signal that they were seen.

The timing holds its own teaching. Jumu'atul-Wida falls inside Ramzan's last ten nights, a period already set apart. Somewhere in these nights hides Laylat al-Qadr, the Night of Power, which the Quran ranks above a thousand months.



Believers stay awake through darkness, reading and praying, waiting for mercy to concentrate.

The Prophet, peace be upon him, pushed himself hardest here, sleeping little, asking constantly. Jumu'atul-Wida borrows this intensity. It becomes a daylight version of the same struggle, a final push before the finish line.

Kashmir responds with its own customs. After prayers, people walk to shrines and sanctums. The old city fills with walking groups, families greeting relatives they have not seen since Ramzan began. Markets

stay open but move slower. Shopkeepers stand in doorways, watching crowds with different eyes. Everyone feels the shift coming.

Eid al-Fitr waits with its celebrations, but first comes this farewell, this accounting.

The farewell feeling means everything to Kashmir. The valley keeps it closer to the bone. The history has taught people to value collective moments.

When thousands gather safely in one space, the gathering itself becomes the point. The sermon matters, so do the shoulder-to-shoulder

prayer and the shared breath of a community acting as one body.

Scholars still debate whether Jumu'atul-Wida counts as formal observance. The name appears nowhere in the Quran. Early Muslims did not mark it separately. The tradition grew on its own, spreading through societies that needed a ritual for goodbye. Kashmir embraced it fully.

The valley made it its own, adding shrine visits, family walks, the particular mood that settles over the old city.

This is how practice stays alive. It travels, then it roots, and then it

becomes local.

Morning comes differently after this Friday. The pre-dawn meal continues a few more days, but the end is visible. People count what remains, tally fasts completed, plan Eid purchases. Sermons shift toward celebration. But something of Jumu'atul-Wida stays in the air, a question that will not close: Did the month work?

The answer arrives months later, in ordinary time, when the test comes without warning.

— The author is a Pulwama-based educator.

The Making of an Ayatollah

For nearly a millennium, a single Iraqi city has produced Shii Islam's most powerful scholars through a rigorous education that makes a Ph.D. look like a weekend workshop.



Ahab Bdaiwi

What exactly is an Ayatollah? If you have heard the word on the news or seen it in headlines about Iran or Iraq, you might picture an elderly man in religious robes wielding political power.

But the title has a specific meaning rooted in centuries of scholarly tradition, and the path to earning it is far more demanding than most people realize.

In simple terms, an Ayatollah is a senior scholar in Shii Islam who has reached the highest level of religious law.

This is someone who can independently interpret Islamic scripture and issue legal rulings using traditional methods of analysis and reasoning.

The word itself is an honorific that dates back to the 1200s, but the system that creates these scholars stretches back even further.

The journey begins at a hawza, a Shii seminary whose name literally means "enclosed space where knowledge is guarded." The most prestigious hawza in the world sits in Najaf, Iraq, about six miles from the ancient city of Kufa. Founded in 1055, it is the oldest surviving Shii seminary on the planet.

Najaf itself holds deep spiritual significance. The city perches on a plateau



above the desert, and tradition holds that it is the burial place of Imam Ali [R.A.], the cousin and son-in-law of the Prophet Muhammad [PBUH].

Ali was assassinated in 661 while praying in a nearby mosque, and according to Shii tradition, his sons buried him secretly at night at a spot he had chosen because it rested near the graves of prophets Hud and Salih.

Over the centuries, this burial site transformed Najaf into a center of learning and pilgrimage.

The famous seminary was formally established by al-Shaykh al-Tusi, a scholar who fled Baghdad in 1055 to

escape sectarian violence. Seljuk forces had attacked the city, targeted Shii scholars, and reportedly burned Tusi's home and library to the ground.

When Tusi resettled in Najaf, he brought with him a revolutionary educational model. Together with his students, he created a structured madrasah system whose teaching methods still influence religious education today.

The modern Najaf hawza operates much like Oxford or Cambridge. It contains more than 30 semi-autonomous colleges, each with its own character but sharing a uniform curriculum. The oldest college occupies the very resi-

dence where Tusi lived and taught in the 11th century. The second oldest, Miqdad College, dates to 1422.

The educational path follows three distinct stages, and the whole process typically takes more than 20 years.

First comes the preliminary stage, lasting four to eight years, where students master Arabic grammar, rhetoric, logic, and the basics of Islamic law. Think of it as the undergraduate years, except the coursework is entirely in classical texts.

Next is the intermediate stage, which can stretch up to ten years. Here students dive deep into medi-

eval legal and philosophical texts in a seminar format. Unlike traditional lecture classes, these sessions encourage debate. Students challenge their teachers and each other, sharpening their analytical skills on complex religious problems.

Finally, there is the advanced stage, known as "bahth al-kharij," which means "study beyond the text." At this level, students gain true intellectual independence. They no longer simply read ancient books. Instead, they listen as their teachers work through legal problems in real time, explaining how they arrive at their conclusions. It is the difference between reading about surgery and watching a surgeon operate.

When a teacher decides that a student can independently derive religious rulings with sound reasoning and deep knowledge of tradition, he grants an ijaza, a formal license to practice ijthad.

At this point, the student becomes a mujtahid, or independent jurist. When peers recognize this achievement, the honorific "Ayatollah" follows naturally.

There is neither central committee that appoints Ayatollahs, nor bureaucratic process to follow. The system remains stubbornly merit-based and communal. Recognition comes from other scholars who have walked the same long road and can judge whether a colleague has truly mastered the material.

Today, Najaf continues to train leading Shii jurists from around the world. Despite wars, political upheaval, and the pressures of modernity, this ancient institution preserves an intellectual lineage that stretches back a thousand years.

When you see an Ayatollah issuing a



THE MODERN NAJAF HAWZA OPERATES MUCH LIKE OXFORD OR CAMBRIDGE. It contains more than 30 semi-autonomous colleges, each with its own character but sharing a uniform curriculum. The oldest college occupies the very residence where Tusi lived and taught in the 11th century. The second oldest, Miqdad College, dates to 1422.

religious ruling or guiding a community, remember that behind that title stands decades of intense study in a tradition that has outlasted empires.

The next time you hear the word Ayatollah, you will know it refers to a scholar who has survived one of the most demanding educational marathons on earth.

— The author is a university lecturer in Arabic and Medieval Philosophy and Late Antique Intellectual History at the University of Leiden. This piece first appeared on the author's X profile.

C-Section Births in India Rise Fourfold Since 2008-09: Govt

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Caesarean section deliveries in India have recorded a more than four-fold increase over the last 16 years, now accounting for more than 27 per cent of all reported childbirths in 2024-25, the government has informed Parliament.

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Health Prataprao Jadhav said

that while the total reported deliveries remained largely stable, rising marginally from 1.88 crore to 1.98 crore between 2008-09 and 2024-25, C-sections jumped from 12.03 lakh to over 54.35 lakh during the period.

The data shows the figure has increased consistently year-on-year. The share of C-section deliveries in total reported deliveries first crossed the double-digit mark in 2012-13 at 11.47

per cent. It subsequently moved past the 20 per cent mark in 2020-21. By 2023-24, one in every four reported deliveries (25.27 per cent) was a C-section, a figure that further rose to 27.46 per cent in 2024-25.

The minister, citing a 2022 study by the Population Research Centre (PRC), Dharwad, attributed the rise in C-sections to a combination of doctors' clinical decision-making and changing

patient preferences.

The study titled 'Understanding the Context of Caesarean Delivery from the Providers' and Receivers' Perspectives' listed clinical indications such as advanced maternal age, multiple pregnancies, fetal distress, previous C-sections, prolonged labour, and maternal complications as factors increasing the likelihood of caesarean deliveries.

On steps taken to regulate unnecessary C-sections, Jadhav in his reply on February 6 stated that CGHS-empanelled hospitals are required to prominently display information on the ratio of Caesarean section deliveries to normal deliveries.

Additionally, under the 'LaQshya' initiative, a dedicated C-section audit component has been incorporated into the

assessment checklist for maternity operation theatres across all government hospitals.

The minister also noted that training programmes such as 'Daksh', 'Dakshta', and 'Skilled Birth Attendant' (SBA) have been instituted to ensure the availability of well-trained human resources to promote normal deliveries.

In parallel with the rise in surgical deliveries, the government

data showed a consistent decline in mortality rates, with the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) dropping from 212 per 1 lakh live births in the 2007-09 period to 88 in 2021-23.

Similarly, the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) declined significantly from 57 per 1,000 live births in 2006 to 25 per 1,000 live births in 2023, according to the SRS Statistical Report cited in the reply.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

First Message Of

blood of our children and infants," he vowed. Mojtaba Khamenei's remarks signalled Iran's willingness to continue fighting the war, which has disrupted global energy supplies, international travel, and the relative security long enjoyed by Gulf Arab states. The war has also inflicted heavy losses on Iran, its leadership and military.

First appearance through television message Mojtaba Khamenei has not appeared in public since the war began. His first statement since being chosen as Supreme Leader was read on state television by a news anchor.

Iranian state media did not explain why the 56-year-old leader did not appear on camera.

There is speculation that he may have been wounded, possibly in the February 28 US-Israeli strike that killed his 86-year-old father and several members of his family.

In his message, Mojtaba said he learned of his own selection as supreme leader from Iranian state television, just like the rest of the public.

"I, your servant, Seyyed Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei, learnt of the result of the respected Assembly of Experts' vote at the same time as you, through the media of the Islamic Republic.

For me, to assume a position where two great leaders, the great Khomeini and the martyred Khamenei, have sat is a difficult task."

He did not disclose his location, suggesting he may be in a secure site to avoid a possible Israeli assassination attempt.

The Israeli military has warned that it would pursue any successor or those involved in selecting one, signalling that Israel's campaign against Iran's leadership could continue.

Minutes after the speech was broadcast, air-strikes were reportedly heard again in Tehran.

Continuation of policy The new leader's message suggested he intends to continue the approach pursued by his father in confronting the United States and Israel.

Iran's attacks on shipping traffic and energy infrastructure in the Persian Gulf have already pushed oil prices above \$100 per barrel, as American and Israeli strikes continue to target Iranian military and government infrastructure.

Tehran appears to be trying to inflict enough economic disruption globally to pressure the United States and Israel to halt their bombardment, which began on February 28.

"We have land or sea borders with 15 countries, and we have always been and are willing to have warm and constructive relations with all of them.

In the recent aggression, some military bases were used, and naturally, as we had clearly warned, and without attacking those countries, we solely targeted those same bases. From now on, we will inevitably continue this," he said.

The Iran leader asked GCC countries to clarify their position. "These countries must clarify their position regarding the aggressors against our dear homeland and the murderers of our people. I advise them to close those bases as soon as possible because they must have realised by now that America's claim of establishing security and peace was nothing but a lie."

Mojtaba Khamenei also indicated that Iran could open new fronts if the war continues.

"Regarding the opening of other fronts where the enemy has little experience and will be highly vulnerable, studies have been conducted, and their activation will take place if the state of war continues and based on the observation of interests," he said.

Compensation

"I also have sincere thanks for the fighters of the Resistance Front. We consider the countries of the Resistance Front to be our best friends, and the matter of resistance and the Resistance Front is an inseparable part of the values of the Islamic Revolution."

"One point I must emphasise is that, in any case, we will obtain compensation from the enemy," he said. "If it refuses, we will take from its assets to the extent we deem appropriate, and if that is not possible, we will destroy its assets to the same extent.

Addressing the Iranian public, Mojtaba Khamenei called for unity and urged citizens to set aside internal differences in the face of external pressure.

"Unity among all individuals and strata of the nation must not be harmed. This will be achieved by overlooking points of disagreement," he said, adding, "Effective presence on the scene must be maintained, whether in the form you showed in these recent days and nights of war or in the form of various effective roles in social, political, educational, cultural, and even security arenas."

Family deaths acknowledged

Mojtaba Khamenei confirmed the deaths of several family members in the strike that killed his father.

"I had the honour of seeing his body after his martyrdom." Mojtaba said of his father. "What I saw was a mountain of steadfastness, and I was told that the fist of his intact hand had remained clenched."

"Besides my father, whose loss has become a public matter; my dear and faithful wife, in whom I had hopes; my self-sacrificing sister, who dedicated herself to serving her parents and finally received her reward, along with her young child; and my other sister's husband, who was a knowledgeable and noble person, joined the caravan of martyrs," he said.

"What makes patience in the face of hardships possible, and even easy, is paying attention to God's definite and certain promise of a great

reward for the patient."

His message sets the tone for Iran's strategic posture under its new leadership, signalling a continuation — and possible escalation — of confrontation with the United States and its allies as the conflict in West Asia deepens. (Trans Asia News)

India In Touch

the foreign minister of Iran have had three conversations in the recent days. The last one discussed issues pertaining to safety of shipping and India's energy security. Beyond that, it would be premature for me to say anything," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in his weekly media briefing.

Global oil and gas prices have surged after Iran virtually blocked the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow shipping lane between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, that handles roughly 20 per cent of global oil and LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas).

Asked about reports that Iran allowed two Indian-flagged ships to pass through the key shipping route, Jaiswal said he does not have any update on it, adding the shipping ministry could answer the query.

Jaiswal said around 9,000 Indians are currently staying in Iran and the government of India is assisting those who want to travel to Azerbaijan and Armenia for their subsequent return to India.

"These 9,000 Indian nationals comprise students, they also comprise seafarers, some business people, some professionals, and some pilgrims," he said.

India has already shifted several Indian nationals including students and pilgrims, from Tehran to other safer locations and cities in Iran.

"We are also assisting Indian nationals who wish to travel to Azerbaijan and Armenia, and from there to take commercial flights to return home. We are assisting them with visas, we are also assisting them with land border crossings," Jaiswal said.

"We have had several Indian nationals who have approached us and we have helped them to cross over into Azerbaijan and Armenia, and from there to take commercial options of flying back home," he said.

Jaiswal also urged the Indians who want to leave Iran to adhere to the advisory issued by the Indian embassy in Iran.

"I would take this opportunity to advise all Indian nationals who are desiring to leave Iran via land borders, they should adhere to the advisory that our embassy has issued," he said.

The MEA spokesperson also referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's phone conversation with several leaders of the Gulf region.

In these conversations, he stressed on the need for dialogue and diplomacy so that early peace can return. He also underlined the need to avoid civilian casualties and he focused on the priority for protection of civilians," Jaiswal said.

"We have a large Indian community in the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) countries and obviously, their security and welfare is of utmost importance. This was highlighted."

"We also, in several cases, condemned the violation of sovereignty and territorial integrity of states," he said.

"As far as the impact of the war, it is there for everybody of this conflict to see what's happening around and obviously, you know, it has several issues, several of our lives have been impacted by it, and not just ours but of people and countries around the world," he noted.

Bid On Dr Farooq's

Kailash area on the outskirts of Jammu.

Gunman Opens Fire At Wedding Function

According to officials, the incident occurred when the 88-year-old leader was leaving the wedding venue after attending the function of National Conference leader B S Chouhan's son.

Abdullah was accompanied by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's advisor Nasir Aslam Wani when the accused allegedly approached him from behind and fired a shot.

The attacker was identified as Kamal Singh Jamwal, a 63-year-old resident of Purani Mandi in Jammu.

Officials said Jamwal used a licensed pistol and managed to fire one round before being restrained by an inspector and a sub-inspector of the Jammu and Kashmir Police security wing. Alert personnel immediately overpowered the accused and disarmed him before any harm could be caused.

No one was injured in the firing. Police said the accused was allegedly in an inebriated condition at the time of the incident.

Accused Sent To Five-Day Police Custody Jamwal was later produced before a court in Jammu, which remanded him to five days' police custody for questioning.

Police sought custody stating that further interrogation was necessary to ascertain the motive behind the attack and verify whether the accused had links with any organisation or individual.

The court, after hearing both sides, granted the remand and also directed the police to ensure proper medical check-up of the accused every 24 hours.

Officials said police have also initiated a detailed probe into the antecedents of the accused, examining his background, personal history and recent activities before the attack.

According to investigators, Jamwal reportedly told police that he had been waiting for an opportunity to target Abdullah for nearly 20 years and claimed the act was driven by a "personal

motive".

He also told reporters that he had fired at Abdullah and that the act was not carried out at anyone's behest.

'God Saved Me': Farooq Abdullah Speaking about the incident, Abdullah described his escape as an act of divine intervention. "I am fine and God has saved me," Abdullah said.

Recounting the moments of the attack, he said he initially mistook the sound of the gunshot for firecrackers.

"When the bride arrived, after that we took permission from them and started leaving. I had just stepped out of the wedding pavilion when I heard a sound like a firecracker. I thought someone must have burst a firecracker because people often burst them at weddings," he said.

Abdullah said he later felt a burning sensation but did not realise immediately that it was a gunshot.

He credited his survival to the swift action of his Special Security Group (SSG) personnel and National Security Guard (NSG) commandos.

"They stood in front of me and showed immense courage. That is why I am alive," he said.

Farooq Abdullah also raised concerns over the security arrangements at the venue.

He said several prominent people were present at the wedding and adequate police arrangements should have been in place.

"There was a total absence of police arrangement," he said, while adding that a proper inquiry should determine how the incident occurred.

Shah Dials Farooq;

I told him, thank God I survived. He said the accused has been caught and there will be an investigation. I told him I hope they get to the bottom of it," Abdullah said.

Omar Calls It a 'Close Shave' Chief Minister Omar Abdullah described the episode as a "close shave" and questioned how a person managed to get so close to a Z-plus protected leader with a loaded weapon.

"Allah is kind. My father had a very close shave. Details are sketchy at the moment but what we know is that a man with a loaded pistol was able to get within point blank range and discharge a shot," Omar Abdullah wrote on X.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary also termed the incident a serious security lapse.

"When the former chief minister, deputy chief minister and the advisor are present at a function and a person can enter inside with a gun, you can imagine what the security arrangements were like," Choudhary told reporters.

Incident Echoes In Rajya Sabha The Centre on Thursday termed the murderous attack on National Conference president Farooq Abdullah a matter of "great concern".

The assassination attempt also echoed in the Rajya Sabha, where Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge raised concerns over the incident.

"If the attacker had got even a minute or two more, he could have killed him," Kharge said while addressing the House.

The government is taking the assassination bid with utmost seriousness, Leader of the House and Union minister J P Nadda said. The statement came in response to Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge's allegation that there seemed to be a conspiracy to eliminate Abdullah - who has Z+ category security - and blaming revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood for the incident.

"A murderous attack on Abdullah is a matter of great concern and a very serious matter..." Nadda said, adding a thorough investigation is being conducted to ascertain the motive of the arrested assassin and to prevent any such security lapse in the future.

He assured the members that "appropriate action will be taken".

Accepting the severity of the attack on Abdullah, Nadda strongly rebutted the opposition's attempt to use the security breach to comment on the political status of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Reaching a conclusion that this happened because (Jammu and Kashmir) was not given statehood... and making allegations that there is in a way a conspiracy being hatched to kill him... is condemnable," Nadda said.

Kharge raised the issue when the House met for the day, saying the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister's security was at risk.

"His security is under threat because statehood of Jammu and Kashmir was revoked," the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha said.

The situation in Jammu and Kashmir today is because security is with the Union Home Ministry after the revocation of statehood, Kharge alleged. "Law and order has broken down and conspiracy is being hatched to eliminate important leaders."

National Conference MP Choudhary Ramzan also demanded an immediate upgrade in Abdullah's security cover, saying the veteran leader survived the attack because those present at the venue acted swiftly and managed to overpower the attacker.

Ramzan also claimed that a senior political leader accompanying Abdullah was injured during the scuffle before the attacker was subdued.

Political Leaders Condemn Attack Political leaders across Jammu and Kashmir condemned the attack and demanded a thorough probe.

People's Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti said she was shocked by the incident but relieved that Abdullah was safe.

"Shocked to hear about the grave attack on Dr

Farooq Abdullah sahib. Relieved to know that he's safe and doing well. Hope the police get to the bottom of this very perturbing security lapse," she said.

Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq also condemned the attack, saying the fact that someone carrying a loaded weapon managed to get so close to Abdullah must be thoroughly probed.

People's Conference president Sajad Gani Lone described the attack as a cowardly act, while Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari said the incident must be thoroughly investigated to determine whether it was merely a drunken act or something more serious.

National Conference MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi also condemned the incident, calling it reprehensible and stressing that those responsible must be dealt with strictly according to the law.

NC Holds Protest In Jammu

Meanwhile, the National Conference staged a protest march in Jammu on Thursday against the attack, demanding a thorough probe and restoration of law and order.

Hundreds of party workers carrying NC flags and placards marched from the party headquarters Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan, raising slogans such as "We want justice" and "Farooq Abdullah zindabad".

Police stopped the protesters at Raghunath Bazaar, leading to brief jostling before the crowd was dispersed.

Party leaders described the incident as a major security lapse and demanded a comprehensive review of security arrangements for Abdullah and other high-profile leaders.

LG, CM Greet

holy month of Ramzan, may the Almighty graciously accept our prayers and devotions and continue to steer us toward a future founded on compassion, unity, and enduring harmony," LG added.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also extended warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Jumatul-Vida.

In his message, the Chief Minister emphasized the profound spiritual significance of Jumatul-Vida, the last Friday of the holy month of Ramazan, which holds special importance for the Muslim community.

He urged people to utilize this sacred occasion for prayers, introspection and seeking divine blessings for peace, prosperity and harmony in society.

"May this blessed occasion bring peace, prosperity and well-being to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Let us pray for unity, harmony and the continued progress of our society while strengthening the bonds of compassion and brotherhood," the Chief Minister said.

The Chief Minister also appealed to the people to remember the underprivileged and extend support to those in need, underscoring the values of kindness, charity and generosity that define the spirit of Ramazan.

He expressed hope that the prayers offered on this sacred occasion would inspire everyone to work collectively towards building a more just, inclusive and peaceful society.

Peace Due to

families to gather, athletes to compete and communities to thrive, did not come without a price. It was secured through the sacrifices of the J&K Police, the Army and the CAPFs. Our duty is not just to remember them, but to ensure their sacrifice endures by preserving the peace they won," Sinha said.

Issuing a stern warning to those attempting to disturb the peace, the Lieutenant Governor said such elements would be dealt with firmly.

"You will find no place to hide. We will hunt you down from the deepest depths," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor felicitated sportspersons from various state police forces and CAPFs who participated in sports disciplines including Kabaddi, Gymnastics, Fencing and Kho-Kho. He said the discipline and determination displayed by the participants reflected the core values of policing.

"Sports have always bridged divides. Language, geography, social status, rank and authority fade away on the field. Only courage and resolve matter. The sports ground binds us in a shared humanity," he said.

Sinha said sporting events also teach important lessons about teamwork, trust and shared purpose, values that contribute to lasting public security, peace and prosperity.

Lauding the Jammu and Kashmir Police, the Lieutenant Governor said its Civic Action Programme has strengthened the bond between the police and the community, especially by supporting youth initiatives.

"The people here have always seen the J&K Police as a guide and mentor, an integral part of the community. These competitions reflect that spirit," he said.

Calling upon the youth of Jammu and Kashmir to recognise the opportunities before them, the Lieutenant Governor urged them to dream big and make full use of the freedom and opportunities available to them.

He also cautioned young people against the menace of narcotics and called for a collective fight against drug abuse.

"A bright future requires a healthy foundation. The youth must remain vigilant against drugs and work together to defeat this menace," he said.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor also felicitated the Jammu and Kashmir cricket team for winning their maiden Ranji Trophy title and congratulated the players for their landmark achievement.

An e-Souvenir of the 2nd All India Police Kabaddi Cluster 2025-26 was also released during the event.

Among those present were Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat, Special DG Coordination S.J.M. Gillani, Commandant General Home Guards, Civil Defence and SDRF Abdul Ghani Mir, ADGP Armed Police Anand Jain, ADGP Headquarters M.K. Sinha, Joint Director IB Pankaj Thakur, and other senior officials of J&K Police and Civil administration and eminent sports personalities.

Court Issues NBW

the accused on March 30.

Subsequently, the court recalled the warrant after Abdullah's counsel filed an application stating that the 88-year-old is suffering from multiple age-related ailments and has been placed under a "high-risk medical category."

The application also referred to "a traumatic and life-threatening murderous attack" on him in Jammu on March 11.

The former Member of Lok Sabha from Srinagar stated that although he survived the attempt, the "physical and psychological aftershock" had severely aggravated his pre-existing medical conditions, including fluctuating blood pressure and cardiac distress.

Abdullah further stated that he has been placed under strict clinical observation and a "restricted security protocol." He added that his medical consultants have strictly prohibited any travel, particularly air or road travel between Jammu and Srinagar, as it could pose a grave risk to his life and health.

Earlier, the court also rejected an application seeking exemption from personal appearance on behalf of another accused, Manzoor Gazanfar Ali, who along with another accused, Gulzar Ahmad Beigh, has been granted pardon in the case.

On the previous date of hearing on March 2, the court had observed that the essential ingredients of offences under Sections 120-B, 406 and 409 of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC) were prima facie made out against the accused.

Besides Abdullah, the accused include Mohammad Saleem Khan (then general secretary of JKCA), Ahsan Ahmad Mirza (then treasurer), Manzoor Gazanfar Ali, Bashir Ahmad Misgar (an executive with Jammu & Kashmir Bank), and Gulzar Ahmad Beigh.

17 Booked In

including PHCs at Chuntimullah, Ashtangoo, and Sheikhpura Gurez.

"It was a well-planned conspiracy. The beneficiaries, using forged orders, not only secured illegal appointments but also drew salaries and arrears from the government treasury," a spokesperson for the Crime Branch said.

The chargesheet has been filed against 17 accused, including a Chief Medical Officer, a Block Medical Officer, several doctors, office assistants, and 12 beneficiary employees who were fraudulently appointed. They have been charged under relevant sections of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC) pertaining to criminal conspiracy, forgery, and cheating, as well as the Prevention of Corruption Act.

The investigating agency has established that the accused caused "crores of rupees in wrongful loss" to the government while deriving illegal gains for themselves. The case now awaits judicial determination. (KNS)

Parental Income

a constitutional imperative intended to ensure that the benefits of reservation reach those who are socially and educationally backward in the true sense of the phrase.

"The principle seeks to prevent relatively advanced segments within the backward classes from siphoning off the advantages of affirmative action, so that the objective and purpose of the constitutional scheme of affirmative action, of which reservation is a reflection, are adhered to," the bench said.

Several civil services examination candidates who claimed reservation under the OBC Non-Creamy Layer category had moved the Central Administrative Tribunal.

The tribunal had directed the Centre to reallocate the service of the applicants on the basis of their OBC status.

The Centre had issued Office Memorandum on September 8, 1993, specifying who shall be creamy layer among OBCs and the clarificatory letter issued in this regard on October 14, 2004.

The top court noted that while the Office Memorandum excluded income from salary and agricultural income from the Income/wealth test for determination of creamy layer status, the letter dated October 14, 2004 directed inclusion of salary income of PSU and private sector employees.

"It is evident from a comprehensive reading of the 1993 OM along with the clarificatory letter dated October 14, 2004 that income from salaries alone cannot be the sole criterion to decide whether a candidate falls within the creamy layer."

"The status as well as the category of post to which a candidate's parent or parents belong is essential. Mere determination of the status of a candidate as to whether he/she falls within the creamy or the non-creamy layer of the OBCs cannot be decided solely on the basis of the income," the bench said.

Phased Repatriation of Indian Students from Iran Begins

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The phased repatriation of Indian students stranded in Iran has begun as the first batch departed from the country amid escalating tensions and the ongoing war in the Middle East, bringing a sense of relief to anxious families awaiting their safe return.

According to details obtained by KNO, Indian students enrolled in different medical universities across Iran have started travelling in groups by buses towards the border points of Armenia and Azerbaijan. From these neighbouring countries, the students will be flown back to India as part of the evacuation process being coordinated by the Indian authorities.

The first batch of students includes those studying at Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences (SBUMS), Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS)



and Iran University of Medical Sciences (IUMS). These students had earlier been relocated to the city of Qom as part of precautionary measures taken to ensure their safety and facilitate their movement towards exit routes.

In addition, another group of students from Urmia University of Medical Sciences has also begun travelling towards the Armenian border to join the evacuation process.

Officials familiar with the developments said the Embassy of India in Tehran is

closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with authorities in Iran, Armenia and Azerbaijan to ensure the safe and smooth passage of Indian nationals. The embassy is currently awaiting the necessary clearances from the Azerbaijan authorities.

Once the required permissions are granted, students from universities including Shiraz University and Arak University are expected to proceed towards the Azerbaijan border as part of the next phase of the evacuation.

However, uncertainty and anxiety continue

among students after some of them received notifications that their scheduled flights from Armenia had been cancelled, as some flights for the seventeenth have been cancelled.

Dr Mohammad Momin Khan, who has been assisting in coordinating communication between students and authorities, reassured the students that the issue had been addressed and that the cancelled flights had been rescheduled.

He said the revised travel arrangements are being made to ensure that the evacuation process continues without major disruptions.

As per the tentative schedule, a large group of students is expected to arrive at Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi on March 15, while another smaller batch is likely to land a day earlier on March 14 at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport in Mumbai.

SC Grants Bail to Shabir Shah in Terror Funding Case

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday granted bail to Kashmiri separatist leader Shabir Ahmad Shah in a terror funding case, in which he was arrested by the National Investigation Agency on June 4, 2019.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta said a detailed order will follow with some stringent bail conditions on Shah.

The bench passed the order after hearing rejoinder arguments on behalf of Shah, represented by senior advocate Colin Gonsalves. Senior advocate Siddharth Luthra appeared on behalf of the

National Investigation Agency (NIA).

During the hearing, the bench pointed out several anomalies in the trial and flagged the long incarceration of Shah.

On September 4 last year, the apex court refused to grant interim bail to Shah in the case and issued notice to the NIA, seeking its response on his plea challenging a Delhi High Court order dated June 12, 2025, that denied him relief.

The high court refused to grant bail to Shah, observing that the possibility of his carrying out similar unlawful activities and influencing witnesses could not be ruled out.

In 2017, the NIA booked 12 people

on allegations of conspiracy for raising funds to disrupt peace by way of pelting stones, damaging public property and conspiring to wage war against the central government.

According to PTI, Shah was alleged to have played a "substantial role" in facilitating a separatist movement in Jammu and Kashmir by inciting the general public to raise slogans in support of Jammu and Kashmir's secession, paying tributes to the family of slain terrorists by eulogising them as "martyrs", receiving money through hawala transactions and raising funds via cross-LoC trade, which were allegedly used to fuel subversive and militant activities.

GOVT. OF UT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PULWAMA
GROUND FLOOR MINI SECRETARIAT DC OFFICE COMPLEX WATHBUGH PULWAMA 192301
Website: pulwama.gov.in | Email: dcpulwama@nic.in | Contact No: 01933-242433 | Fax: 01933-241306

Subject: Preliminary Notification Under Section-11(1) of Right to Fair Compensation & Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation & Resettlement Act 2013 for Acquisition of land measuring 09 Marlas falling under Survey No.1558 situated in estate Niklora Tehsil Shahoora Litter District Pulwama required for public purpose namely Acquisition of Land for construction of Approach road to Lift Irrigation Scheme Niklora.

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION UNDER SECTION-11(1)
NOTIFICATION NO. 009 OF 2026
DATED: 09 / 02 / 2026

Whereas, it appears to the appropriate Government that a total land 09 Marlas construction of Approach road to Lift Irrigation Scheme Niklora Tehsil Shahoora Litter District Pulwama for public purpose for which the Chief Engineer Kashmir Irrigation and Flood Control Department Srinagar has placed formal indent vide No. CEO/Rev/9264-66 dated 29-09-2025.

Whereas Social Impact Assessment study was carried out by SIA team constituted by District Collector Pulwama Vide No.DCP/LA/2023/121-22 Dated: 07-07-2023 as laid down under rule 4 of said Act and a detailed Social Impact Assessment Report has been submitted through Tehsildar Shahoora Litter vide his No. TSL/OQ/25-26/844 Dated: 08-12-2025 which is as under:-

- That the proposed acquisition of land serves public purpose.
- That the extent of land proposed for acquisition is the absolute bare-minimum needed for the project.
- That the acquisition of land at an alternate place has been considered and found not feasible.
- That there is no unutilized land which has been previously acquired in the area.
- That there is no unutilized acquired land that can be used for this public purpose.

On the basis of recommendations of the SIA Committee report submitted to the District Collector Pulwama vide this office No:DCP/Coll/2025/433 dated 19-01-2026 for its acceptance and authorization for issuance of the Notification under Sec. 11 (1) of the said Act.

The District Collector has authorized to the undersigned for the issuance of the said notice vide his No:DCP/LA/2025/630-31 dated 28-01-2026.

Therefore, it is notified that a piece of land measuring 09 Marlas of standard measurement, whose detailed description is given here under needs to be acquired for public purpose i.e., for construction of Approach road to Lift Irrigation Scheme Niklora Tehsil Shahoora Litter.

Land Details Table

S. No.	Survey No.	Type of title	Type of land	Area under Acquisition			Name and address of person interested	Boundaries			
				K	M	S		E	W	N	S
01	1558	Proprietary	Gair mumkin Ara	0	09	0	MOhammad Ismail S/o Aziz Rather	1557	1562	1551	1598

Trees		Structure	
Variety	No.	Type	Plinth
Fruit bearing trees	Report awaited	Nil	Nil
Non fruit bearing trees	18 (Assessment awaited)		

The Notification is made under the provisions of Section 11 (1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (30 of 2013).

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of Collector Land Acquisition Pulwama on any working day during the working hours. It is further notified under Section 11 (4) of the Act, that no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land/structure i.e., sale/purchase, etc., or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such Notification without prior approval of the Collector. Objections to the acquisition, if any, may be filed by the person interested within 60 (Sixty) Days from the date of publication of this Notification as provided under Section 15 of the Act before Collector Land Acquisition (Assistant Commissioner Revenue) Pulwama and any objection filed beyond proper timeline shall not be entertained.

No. DCP/Coll/2025/513-19
Dated: 09 / 02 / 2026
DIPK-11840-25
DT: 12/03/2026

Shahbaz Ahmad Bhat
Collector Land Acquisition
Assistant Commissioner (Rev)
Pulwama

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE LANGATE

Subject: Auction of Entry Fee/Terminal Tax Collection contract at Municipal Committee Langate
AUCTION NOTICE
NIT No: MC/LAN/2025-26/03 of 2026 Dated: 09/03/2026

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of J&K Union Territory, online bids are invited through the E-Auction process from reputed and financially sound Agencies, Firms, or Parties for the Collection Rights of Entry Fee / Terminal Tax under the jurisdiction of Municipal Committee Langate initially for the year 2026-27 w.e.f.01/04/2026 to 31/03/2027 (Extendable by one more year if Terms & Conditions/Payment Schedule is fulfilled Strictly). The Minimum reserved bid for initial first year i.e. 01/04/2026 to 31/03/2027 is fixed at rupees ₹3487000/- (Rupees Thirty Four Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand Only) subject to strict adherence to terms, conditions and timely receipt of payments every successive year.

The successful highest bidder is bound to recover Entry Fee as per the approved Tax Collection schedule of Municipal Committee Langate. The Copy of same is attached as Annexure-A. Deviation/Misappropriation in collection of Taxes as per approved schedule shall result in cancellation of contract, forfeiture of CDR/EMD and Heavy fines /Blacklisting of Firm/Agency.

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the GeM Portal, as per the schedule of dates given below:

S.No.	Pre-Qualification Submission Start Date &Time (Documents)	09/03/2026 from 10:30 PM
1	Pre-Qualification Submission Start Date &Time (Documents)	09/03/2026 from 10:30 PM
2	Pre-Qualification Submission End Date &Time (Documents)	21/03/2026 upto 11:00 PM
3	Pre-Qualification assessment Start Date &Time	22/03/2026 from 11:30 AM
4	Pre-Qualification assessment End Date &Time	24/03/2026 upto 11:00 PM
5	EMD Payment Start Date &Time	25/03/2026 from 10:00 AM
6	EMD Payment End Date &Time	27/03/2026 up to 3:00 PM
7	Auction Start Date & Time	28/03/2026 from 10:30 AM
8	Auction End Date & Time	30/03/2026 at 12:30 PM discussion

9 Submission of CDR/EMD

The bidder shall be bound to accompany his bid offers with Call Deposit Receipt CDR/EMD of ₹70000 (Seventy Thousand Only) of amount drawn from any Nationalized bank, pledged to the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Langate (without Which offers shall be liable for rejection)

10	Mode of Payment	Year 2026-2027
		10% of H1 bid amount as token money on spot, 65% of H1 amount before taking possession of the toll post and balance 25% of H1 amount to be paid after three months but before 6 months from the date of taking the possession.

➤ The CDR/EMD amount shall not be treated as part of due amount and shall be released only after completion of contract, due Payments and its Terms & Conditions.
➤ The dates may vary slightly due to GeM generated Auto dates, the dates mentioned online on portal shall be final.

Documents required:-

- GST certificate and Latest GST return not more than 2 month old.
- Pan Card and Income tax Return filed, latest, last 3 quarters of the year
- Minimum 1 years' Experience of Similar trade (Adda entry/ Parking contracts) certificate/NOC to be provided from department where last such contract held.
- Latest Character Certificate from Police Station of Residence.
- Sworn affidavit that the bidder is not black listed/barred by any other department.
- Affidavit for Bid Security.

ANNEXURE-A

Rate List for Collection Of Entry fee/Terminal Tax for the year 2026-27			
S.No.	Commercial Vehicle	Purpose	Entry fee to be Levied
1	Buses	Passenger ferrying	Rs.20/- per trip
2	Metador 407/Sumos/Autos/Scorpio/Tavera/Tempo	Passenger/Commercial	Rs.20/- Per day
3	Trucks/Tipppers	Loaded	Rs.40/- Per trip
4	Trucks/Tipppers	Unloaded	Rs.20/- Per trip
5	Tractors/Load carriers	Loaded	Rs.30/- Per trip
6	Tractors/Load carriers	Unloaded	Rs.20/- Per day
7	Fruit vehicles using Urban area of langate for movement/commercial activities	Loaded	Rs.50/ Per trip
8	Trollers/ dumper above Six tyres	Loaded	Rs.100/ Per trip
9	Trollers/ dumper above Six tyres	Un-Loaded	Rs.50/ Per Trip
10	Auto Load carriers	Loaded	Rs.30/- Per trip.
11	Auto Load carriers	unloaded	Rs.20/- Per day
12	JCB	---	Rs.70/- Per day
13	Container with Loaded Maruti, scooti, Motor Cycles etc	Loaded	Rs.300/- Per day
14	School Buses	---	Rs 20/- Per day

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Bids must be accompanied with the cost of tender document in shape of Bank Challan / Receipt/UPI/ mPay (Credited to A/c No. 0082040500007245) maintained with Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch: Langate in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Langate amounting to Rs.2000/- (two thousand only) (Non-Refundable) and Bid securing declaration as per format Annexure - I, below on stamp paper duly attested by Notary in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Langate, failing which tender will be rejected.
- The bidder shall have the active registration with the Labour Department for deposition of EPF and other related subscriptions without which the bid shall not be accepted and rejected without further consideration.
- All costs related to labor welfare and statutory compliance (EPF, PF, EDLI, etc.) must be borne exclusively by the Contractor. It is explicitly clarified that no separate percentage or overhead charges shall be payable by MC Langate. The Contractor shall deposit these dues independently and shall have no right to seek compensation or adjustment from the Authority for these expenses from the bid amount and the proof of the same shall be produced upon request.
- The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website www.gem.gov.in. The bids of the responsive bidders shall be opened online on the same website in the office of the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Langate.
- The bidder must submit a sworn affidavit on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs. 100/- (or as per the prevailing State stamp act), duly attested by a Notary Public or a First-Class Magistrate. The affidavit must declare that the bidder/firm has never been blacklisted, debarred, or suspended by any Government Department, Semi-Government Authority, PSU, or Autonomous Body in India. Any bid submitted without this affidavit shall be treated as non-responsive and rejected. If, at any stage, the declaration is found to be false or if the bidder is found to have concealed a blacklisting order, the Authority (MC Langate) shall forfeit the EMD/Security Deposit, terminate the contract immediately, and initiate proceedings for permanent blacklisting of the bidder.
- The bids for the tender shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids.
- Bid Security Declaration: The bid security declaration shall be submitted as per the Format Annexure (format for the bid security declaration).
- Submission of both the Call Deposit Receipt (CDR/EMD) and the Bid Security Declaration is mandatory. Any bid failing to include both documents will be deemed non-responsive and rejected immediately without further consideration.

- The contract of collection of Entry Fee/Terminal Tax shall be initially for the year 2026-27 w.e.f.01/04/2026 to 31/03/2027 however subject to adherence to Govt Orders Extended dates if any. And Terms & Conditions Strictly and without which no claim for any further yearly extension on any pretext will be entertained beyond the allotted period from time to time.
- In case the successful bidder fails to deposit the token amount or first installment of the yearly bid amounts, the CDR shall be forfeited and the bidder shall be blacklisted for future participation/e-auctions, and in case the allottee fails to deposit the second installment of the bid amount, the Committee shall take over the possession of the collection posts and go for fresh auction viz- a- viz recovery of the default amount as per the norms.
- No allottee shall do any forgery or deviate the rate schedule of Municipal Committee Langate and in case of any such report the contract shall be cancelled at the risk and cost of the contractor besides criminal proceedings shall be initiated against the allottee.
- The Successful bidder/contractor/agency shall not claim any extension/relief on the grounds/ situations that may arise/occur during the contract period which are beyond the control of this Institution like Hartals / Bandhs / Pandemic/ Security Situations or any other ground unless granted by the Government.
- That, the successful bidder has to execute an agreement / Affidavit duly registered in the Hon'ble court of law before issuance of allotment and within 7 days of taking over the possession of the collection post failing which no permission shall be granted for recovery until agreement/ Affidavit and allotments submitted/ made in favour of successful contractor.
- The Successful Bidder shall be bound to effect recovery of Entry Fees as per approved schedule of MC Langate, which is available with this office as mention above, same shall be displayed on-site at all points. In case of any violation to the approved schedule, legal action against the contractor / allottee will be initiated.
- That, the successful bidder shall have to bear/provide/arrange Manpower, Stationary, furniture, Sanitation, Toll posts etc. without claiming any compensation therefor, from the office of the undersigned.
- That the Successful Bidder Shall install 2 high resolution CCTV Cameras at the Toll Post for Vigil, Security and Surveillance with minimum recording of 10 days and access shall be given to the Municipality and any other security agency if asked for.
- The Successful Bidder Shall install proper Pre-fabricated Posts at the extreme ends of Road at each location and shall ensure zero traffic jamming on the said road. Besides the Prefabricated structures must be painted with Road safety Slogans/Graffiti and beautified with flower pots.
- At the end of the Contract, the Pre-fabricated posts shall be the property of MC Langate and no claim of Compensation/Charges shall be claimed.
- The Highest Bid offered shall be inclusive of 2% TCS income tax, however exclusive of any other taxes (Income Tax/GST etc.) as such the successful bidder shall be bound to bear all kinds of taxes like Income Tax/Sales Tax/GST/Labour Cess beyond etc, which shall be payable by the successful bidder.
- After expiry of the contract the successful bidder shall hand over the possession of the Entry posts with infrastructure to the MC Langate in its original position without any damage/wear and tear.
- The MC Langate reserves the right to foreclose the contract or to extend the contract every successive year and the successful agency must not object in any manner whatsoever.
- The successful Contractor shall deposit all cheques / Transfer due Amounts under his own seal and signature/Bank Accounts and no third-party cheques / Transfers shall be accepted. No cash shall be accepted.
- That, the successful contractors shall have to collect Entry Fee at above Toll posts as per the approved schedule of this institution and the realization of the entry fee / terminal tax shall be in a public friendly manner without causing any inconvenience to public/visitors, and also the display of schedule of rates shall be visible to every vehicle at each Post/Spot.
- Rerouting of traffic temporarily or permanently by Authorities shall not attract any concessions.
- The contractor shall be responsible to maintain entry fee collection posts with special care to sanitation / hygiene of the environment and surroundings.
- That, the Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason therefor.
- In case of any dispute arising between the parties with respect to any of the conditions as laid down here in above or any ambiguity will be referred to arbitrator and the decision of the arbitrator i.e ; Director Urban Local Bodies Kashmir shall be final and binding upon the parties.
- The interested persons shall upload affidavit for acceptance of all terms and conditions mentioned above in the bid declaration form without which no tender will be accepted (or as decided by tender acceptance/PQ Assessment committee)
- No tender will be accepted of those bidders who are defaulters or acquaintance /partners of defaulters of this institution or any other Urban Local Bodies Institutions in J&K. The successful bidder shall have to produce an affidavit duly sworn/attested in the court of law regarding non defaulter nature of firm/individual.
- The Electricity bill/ water Bill/ other bills if required at entry fee collection post during the contract period shall be borne by the successful contractor during the contract period.
- The Labour engaged for collection of toll Tax at different posts must be of utmost integrity, conduct and character. Any Laxity/issue with respect to integrity/ character/ conduct shall be sole responsibility of the Successful Contractor/Agency and any misadventure/issue shall be strictly dealt as per Law, applicable both to Contractor/Agency and his engaged Labour.
- CDR/EMD shall not be released till All Bills (Electricity/Water etc and all Taxes) are paid by the agency/Contractor.
- In case of any technical error or Lack of Know on GeM Portal, the bid/Auction shall be cancelled without citing any reason thereof and shall be uploaded afresh with revised dates and T&Cs. In such case MC Langate reserves the right to cancel the bid/auction.
- Code of Conduct and Staff Discipline: The Contractor shall ensure that all personnel and labor maintain a high standard of professional conduct. Any verified instance of misconduct, harassment, or unprofessional behavior toward the general public or drivers shall constitute a material breach of this Contract. In such events, the Authority reserves the right to impose liquidated damages as decided by the undersigned or terminate the contract at the Contractor's sole risk and cost.
- If the successful bidder turns out to defaulter at any stage of this contract the criminal proceedings will be initiated against him as per law and recovery under rules/ applicable Laws/Land Revenue Act in vogue shall be initiated.
- The successful contractor is bound to abide the instruction issued by the Government/Director Urban Local Bodies Kashmir/Municipal Committee Langate from time to time with regard to collection of entry fee and relevant matters.
- All the Vehicles of Employees of Housing and Urban Development Department/ULBJK are exempted from the Entry fee for the said contract period.
- The tender should be accompanied with an undertaking/ affidavit wherein it should be mentioned that the Tenderer/ bid participant is not defaulter of any Municipal Committee / Committee of Kashmir division of UT of J&K.
- In Case of any major Development/widening/ alteration of road by virtue of which the collection may get affected, the same must be bought in to the notice of the Arbitrator (DULBK), the decision regarding the matter shall be bound to both parties as and when decided by the Arbitrator.
- The special convoys /VIP cavalades /convoys are exempted for payment of any toll fees.
- The vehicles of Magistrates/ Executive Magistrates/ security forces are exempted from payment at any Municipal toll.
- In case of any errors/omissions, the Municipal Committee Langate shall reserve the right to clarify the same or recover the amount (if any) with justified reasons.
- In case the conditions mentioned here in above are not adhered in letter and spirit and there is any default on the part of the bidder/contractor in depositing the dues scheduled payments, the contract shall be cancelled ab-initio and the losses, if any, suffered by the Institution shall be recovered from the defaulter with interest under rules.

Instructions to the Bidders regarding application on GeM process:

- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.gem.gov.in into acquait bid submission process.
- Bids will be opened on line as per time and schedule.
- Bidders must ensure to uploads scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Note - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt/challan in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Langate and bid securing declaration must be uploaded with the bid.
- The Bidder must have to upload (soft copies) of the following documents (Photostat/Original should be clearly seen in all respect with Ink Signed and Seal):
 - Valid original Bank Challan/Receipt
 - Call Deposit Receipt(CDR)
 - BID Securing Declaration on stamp paper duly attested by Notary.
 - Valid GSTIN/PAN Card No.
- The Bidder should upload the Tender Document format attached below (Not Mandatory).
- Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including BID Securing Declaration and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document(s) which has/ have not been uploaded shall not be pertained in the format hardcopy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
- The Highest Bidder will have to submit hard copies of all documents uploaded on GeM Portal before issuance of Allotment.

For any Clarifications, please contact Tax Collector on 9622709137, or email: eo.mclangate@jk.gov.in visit Office of Municipal Committee Langate.

Sd/-
Executive Officer
Municipal Committee
Langate

DIPK-NB-3575-25
DT: 12/03/2026

