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'No License, No Operation'

J&K Brings New Rules For Rehab Centres

New Rules Fix Staffing, Infrastructure, Monitoring Standards | Six-month Deadline For Existing Centres To Comply



Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir government has notified a comprehensive regulatory framework for drug de-addiction and rehabilitation centres in the Union Territory, making licensing mandatory and laying down strict standards for infrastructure, staffing and

treatment protocols.

According to a notification, the government has enacted the "Jammu & Kashmir Substance Use Disorder Treatment, Counselling and Rehabilitation Centre Rules, 2026" under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Under the Rules, the Director | [More on P6](#)

HC Upholds 'Waqf By User', Declares Kishtwar Shrines Waqf Properties

Ends 47-Year Dispute, Rejects Hereditary Ownership Claims; Allows Family To Stay As Lessees

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court has held that properties attached to two revered shrines in Kishtwar district are waqf properties, ruling that long-standing religious use is sufficient to confer waqf status even in the absence of formal dedication.

A bench of Justice Sanjay Dhar delivered the 36-page judgment while dismissing two writ petitions – OWP No. 97/1979 and OWP No. 441/2013 – filed by Syed Lutfullah Shah and another, bringing to a close a dispute spanning nearly five decades.

The case centred on the shrines of Ziarat Farid-ud-Din Sahib and Ziarat Assrar-ud-Din Sahib in Kishtwar, which attract thousands of devotees annually and are deeply embedded in the religious life of the Chenab Valley.

The petitioners, claiming to be hereditary custodians



(sajjada nasheens), had argued that the shrines and their attached land were private ancestral properties passed down through generations. They contended that no valid waqf had been created as there was no formal dedication by the original owner, Raja Kirat Singh, and further argued that such dedication could not have been made by

a non-Muslim.

Rejecting these claims, the court held that the legal character of the property as waqf outweighs hereditary association.

Referring to Section 3(d) of the Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Act, 1978, the bench noted that the definition of waqf explicitly includes "waqf by user," covering properties such as

mosques, dargahs, graveyards and similar institutions.

"The properties like masjid, dargah etc. by virtue of their user as such are also waqfs and no formal declaration to declare such properties as 'waqf' is required," the court observed.

The judgment emphasised that continuous use of a property for religious or charitable purposes recognised under Muslim law is sufficient to establish its waqf character. It also noted that even documents relied upon by the petitioners described the shrine as a "rauza," bringing it within the statutory definition of waqf by user.

In another key finding, the court rejected reliance on a 1969 report prepared by a Special Officer under earlier law, observing that it never attained finality as it was neither accepted nor published in the official gazette.

"Therefore, the report dated August 9, | [More on P6](#)

Iran Rejects Trump's Ceasefire Proposal

Lists Demands In 10-Point Plan

Trans Asia News

Tehran – Iran has turned down a US proposal for a ceasefire, instead sending back a ten-point response that calls for a permanent end to the war, according to the official IRNA news agency.

The response, consisting of 10 points, rejects the idea of a temporary ceasefire and emphasises the need for a lasting end to the war in line with Iran's conditions.

Tehran conveyed its position to Washington through Pakistan on Monday. The response includes demands for an end to all conflicts in the region, a protocol governing safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz, the lifting of sanctions and a commitment to reconstruction in Iran, IRNA reported.

US President Donald Trump said Washington had reviewed a proposal for a 45-day ceasefire, describing it as a step forward, though not sufficient.

"It's a significant proposal; it's a significant step. It's not good enough, but it's a very significant step," he told reporters at the White House. He added that intermediaries | [More on P6](#)

MeT Predicts Wet Spell Till April 10 In J&K

- » Lightning Damages House In Rajouri
- » Mudslide Triggers Panic In Baramulla

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Meteorological Department on Monday forecast a wet spell across Jammu and Kashmir till April 10, with widespread rain, snowfall in higher reaches, and thunderstorms expected over the next few days.

An official from the MeT office said that on April 7 and 8, the weather is likely to remain

generally cloudy, with intermittent light to moderate rain in the plains and snowfall over higher reaches at most places. Thunderstorms, hail and gusty winds are also expected at a few locations.

Some areas in both Kashmir and Jammu divisions may receive moderate to heavy rainfall, while higher altitudes could witness light to moderate snowfall, the department said.

On April 9 and 10, brief spells of light rain or snow are expected at scattered places. The weather is likely to remain generally dry from April 11 to 16, with occasional | [More on P6](#)

Hailstorm Damages Apple Blossoms In Shopian, Kulgam

A sudden and intense hailstorm battered several villages across South Kashmir's Shopian and Kulgam districts on Monday, causing damage to apple orchards at a crucial flowering stage, leaving | [More on P6](#)

Mission Ongoing On UCC, One Nation One Election: PM Modi

Commits To Implementing Women's Reservation In 2029 General Elections

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said the government's push for key reforms such as the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) and 'One Nation, One Election' remains firmly on track, with "serious discussions" underway and "tremendous progress" already achieved.

Virtually addressing party workers on the 47th foundation day of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Modi underlined that these long-standing agenda items continue to be central to the party's vision for governance.

"Our mission is still ongoing. On Uniform Civil Code, 'One Nation, One Election' and other issues, serious discussions are taking place in the country, and we have achieved tremendous progress on those



fronts," he said.

The proposed 'One Nation, One Election' model seeks to synchronise elections to the Lok Sabha and state assemblies, while the UCC aims to establish a common set of personal laws governing matters such as marriage and adoption, irrespective of religion.

Modi also announced that the Centre is committed to implementing the women's reservation law, formally

known as the Nari Vandan Adhiniyam, in the 2029 general elections. The legislation provides for 33 per cent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies.

Recalling the party's early advocacy for women's political representation, Modi said the BJP had first raised the issue in 1994 and has since worked consistently to expand women's participation in governance.

"We are fully dedicated to ensuring that the Nari Vandan Adhiniyam is implemented in the 2029 general elections," he said.

Targeting the opposition Indian National Congress, Modi accused it of suppressing BJP workers during its years in power, citing periods such as the The Emergency in India. He also referred to political violence | [More on P6](#)

Compassionate Appointments Must Not Be Delayed: CM Omar

Hands Over Job Letters To 124 Candidates In Jammu

Observer News Service

Jammu: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday called for expediting appointments under the Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme (RAS) and said the government will review and plug gaps in its implementation to prevent delays.

He made the remarks while handing over compassionate appointment letters to 124 beneficiaries from the Jammu



division under RAS, SRO-43 and SRO-94 at the Convention Centre here.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister acknowledged that the process had taken longer than intended and said shortcomings in the revised SRO-43 | [More on P6](#)

Ganderbal Encounter

CM Backs Probe Ordered By LG

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday refused to enter into the debate on whether a judicial or magisterial probe should be ordered into the Ganderbal encounter, and justified the probe ordered by the lieutenant governor, stating that a prompt inquiry was needed. The Army has claimed that the man killed in the encounter in Arhama forests | [More on P6](#)

Administrative Judges Appointed For Kulgam, Poonch

KO Correspondent

Srinagar: The Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh on Monday nominated Justice Rajesh Sekhri and Justice Mohd Yousuf Wani as Administrative Judges for District Kulgam and Poonch respectively.

The decision comes in the wake of the retirement on superannuation of Justice Javed Iqbal Wani and in supersession of previous orders pertaining to these districts.

"Consequent upon the retirement on superannuation of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Javed Iqbal Wani and in supersession of previous orders, so far they pertain to the above Districts, Hon'ble the Chief Justice has been pleased to nominate Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Sekhri | [More on P6](#)



A cluster of houseboats and shikaras seen on Dal Lake in Srinagar. KO Photo By Abid Bhat

'No Contact Since March 25'

Concern Grows Over Detained Kashmiri Nurse in Saudi

Agencies

Srinagar: Concern is mounting over the detention of a Kashmiri nurse in Saudi Arabia, with family members and medical representatives flagging a complete lack of communication since his arrest last month.

Dr Mohammad Momin Khan, Vice President of the All India Medical Students Association, has urged the Ministry of External Affairs to intervene in the case of Amjad Ali Bhat, a resident of Pattan in Baramulla district, who was working as a nurse specialist in Dammam.

According to AIMS, Bhat was detained by Saudi Civil Defence Forces on March 25, 2026. Since then, neither his

family nor his employer has received any official information regarding his whereabouts or the charges against him.

The prolonged silence has raised concerns about his safety and legal status, with his family reportedly unable to establish any contact since the day of detention.

AIMSA said the detention may be linked to a social media post described as a tribute to Iran's Supreme Leader, Ali Hosseini Khamenei, though no formal confirmation of charges has been communicated so far.

Calling the situation "deeply distressing," Dr Khan appealed to the MEA and the Indian Embassy in Riyadh to take immediate steps to establish contact with | [More on P6](#)

₹1.24 Lakh Cr Excess Spend In J&K Awaiting Approval Since 1980: CAG

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has flagged that the Jammu and Kashmir government's spending of Rs 1.24 lakh crore spanning over four decades since 1980 has been pending for legislative approval and regularisation, which undermines the system of public resource management.

Jammu and Kashmir is yet to regularise excess expenditure amounting to over Rs 1.24 lakh crore incurred between 1980 and 2020, the CAG said in its report on the Union Territory's finances for the year ended March 2024.

Regularisation of additional spending exceeding the budgeted | [More on P6](#)



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PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card As Arjumand Instead Of Taosa Ahmad Gojri while my correct name is Tawoos Ahmad Gojri . 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. Tawoos Ahmad Gojri S/o Mohhammad Maqbool Gojri R/o Hardu Aboara Tehsil Kwarhama fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in her adhaar card as Mysha Jan while her correct name is Ayesha Jan . Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained. Ghulam Mohammad Rath F/O Ayesha Jan R/O Arath Tehsil Narbal fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in her adhaar card as Aiman Showket While her correct name is Umme Aiman Showkat . 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. Maryama Bano W/o Showkat Ahmad Ahangar R/o Rajpora Heeng Tehsil Kwarhama fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my ward has been wrongly written in his/her adhaar card as Afnan Mushtaq while his correct name is Peer Afnan. 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.. Mushtaq Ahmad Peer F/o Peer Afnan FKO R/O Rawathpora Tehsil Tangmarg

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name and DOB has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Ranofar Manzoor , DOB 15-02-2002 while my correct name is Reenu Manzoor , DOB 17-02-2003. Now I have applied for the correction of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned Adhaar centre Jammu/Srinagar within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained. Reenu Manzoor D/o Manzoor Ahmad Dar R/o Tangpora Tehsil pattan fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my daughter has been wrongly written in her school records as Sobia Manzoor while her name is Sobia Jan with correct DOB 04-09-2018 . 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 office within seven days. After that no objections shall be entertained. Manzoor Ahmad F/o Sobia Jan Challa FKO R/o D.K. Pora Dreri Kali Pora Shopian

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 . Mugli Begum W/o Gh Ahmad Khan R/o ZaloorA , Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely (Chulam Ahmad Khan) born on Death: 20-04-2020 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office. fko Tehsildar Executive Magistrate Bomial

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 Ishfaq Ahmad Reshi S/o Ab Rashid Reshi R/o Yamberzalwari , Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely (Ishfaq Ahmad Reshi) born on DOB: 01-01-1992 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office. fko Tehsildar Executive Magistrate Bomial

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Aqeel Ul Rahman S/O... Abdul Rahman Chopan R/O... ZaloorA while my correct name is Aqeel Ahmad Chopan S/O... Abdul Rahman Chopan R/O... ZaloorA . 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.. Aqeel Ahmad Chopan S/O... Abdul Rahman Chopan R/O... ZaloorA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Showkat Ahmad Mir S/O Ab Rahim Mir R/o Logripora while my correct name is Shoquth Ahmad Mir S/o Ab Rahim Mir R/o Logripora . 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.. Shoquth Ahmad Mir S/o Ab Rahim Mir R/o Logripora fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Aftab Ahmad Baktoo, S/o Ghulam Ahmad Baktoo, R/o Saderbal, Hazratbal, Srinagar, do hereby inform the general public that my Registration Certificate (RC) of scooty bearing Registration No. JK01AU7316 has been lost/misplaced on the way from Nigeen to Hazratbal, Srinagar. Despite my best efforts, the same could not be traced. I have lodged a report regarding the loss of the RC at the concerned police station. If anybody finds the above-mentioned document, they are requested to kindly return it to the undersigned. In case no objection is received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, I shall apply for issuance of a duplicate RC from the concerned authority. Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ishfaq Ali Sofi, S/o Fida Hussain Sofi, R/o Syed Merak Shah Colony, Habak, hereby inform the general public that I have lost my academic documents, including the marks sheets of Class 10th, 11th, and 12th, along with the qualification certificate of Class 10th. Despite a thorough search, the documents could not be traced and are presumed to be lost. If anyone finds these documents, they are requested to kindly return them to the undersigned. Further, it is hereby notified that if any person misuses these documents for any unlawful purpose, I shall not be held responsible for the same. (Ishfaq Ali Sofi) S/o Fida Hussain Sofi Registration No. NI2302180032. R/o Syed Merak Shah Colony, Habak Contact No. 9622844579 inf

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Haja Bkhti while my correct name is Hajira . 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. Reenu Manzoor Hajira W/O Abdul Salam Sofi fko R/O Solinda Tehsil Tangmarg

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 Mehran Hassan Dar S/o Abdul Hameed Dar R/o Trikbal Tehsil Pattan with verified date of birth 01/09/2024 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 FKO Naib Tehsildar Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

The name of my daughter has been wrongly written in her school records as Sobia Manzoor while her name is Sobia Jan with correct DOB 04-09-2018 . 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 office within seven days. After that no objections shall be entertained. Manzoor Ahmad F/o Sobia Jan Challa FKO R/o D.K. Pora Dreri Kali Pora Shopian

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name of the mother of the below-mentioned ward is to be corrected/changed in the school records. That the mother's name was earlier recorded as Shabnum Begum due to inadvertent error, and now the correct name is Shabnum Rashid. The same is required to be updated in all school records. If anybody has any objection to this change, they may file their objection with the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, the change shall be deemed to have been accepted and processed accordingly. Name of Student: Saba Bilal Father's Name: Bilal Ahmad Lone Mother's Name (Existing): Shabnum Begum Mother's Name (Corrected): Shabnum Rashid Address: Devbugh, Kunzer Class: 7th (Studying) School: Allama Iqbal Institute of Education, Chanpora Kunzer Contact No.: 9797886372 fko

Public Notice

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No. 346274 Session: April May Year 1991 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by against my name as Fayaz Ahmad Waza Instead of Fayaz Ahmad Waza Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education Sub Office Budgam , if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Sub Office Magam within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained. Name: Fayaz Ahmad Waza Father's name: Gh Mohamad Waza Mother's Name: -- DOB: 05-11-1974 Residence: Sheikhpora Utikoo Mobile no: 9596305157 bmg

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 Lateef Sheikh S/O Gh Nabi Sheikh Tujar , Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Azhar Lateef Sheikh D O B 15_11_2010 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office. fko Tehsildar Executive Magistrate Bomial

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of Death Certificate in favour of my mother namely Rahme Begum who died on 29-05-1998. 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. Ghulam Mohi-Ud-Din Najar S/o Abdul Aziz Najar fko R/o Awalawah Kunzer

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 Mohsin Mohiuddin Talie S/o Gh Mohiuddin Talie R/o Nowpora Tujar , Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Mohsin Mohiuddin born on DOB: 08-04-2005 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 fko Executive Magistrate Bomial

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No. JK-0420090001565 issued in favour of SYED FARHAT IQBAL QADRI Parentage SYED GULAM MOHAMMAD QADARI Whereas an application has been received by one SYED FARHAT IQBAL QADRI Parentage SYED GULAM MOHAMMAD QADARI wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as SYED FAHRAT IQBAL Parentage SYED ABDUL HAMID Which needs to be changed as SYED FARHAT IQBAL QADRI Parentage SYED GULAM MOHAMMAD QADARI. Also Date of Birth is wrongly entered as 13-12-1977 Which needs to be changed as 30-12-1977. 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

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card as Fazhi Begum While My Correct Name Fizi Begum . 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. Fizi Begum W/O Late Ali Mohammad Malla fko R/O Wahi Gund R/O Kunzer Distt Baramulla

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 Ishfaq Ahmad Reshi S/o Ab Rashid Reshi R/o Yamberzalwari , Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely (Ishfaq Ahmad Reshi) born on DOB: 01-01-1992 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 fko Executive Magistrate Bomial

PUBLIC NOTICE

I SADAF NASEER D/O NASEER AHMAD SHAH Here by inform to general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned as SADAF NASIR D/O NASIR AHMAD SHAH in my school record while my correct name is SADAF NASEER D/O NASEER AHMAD SHAH which needs to be corrected . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may contact with concerned JKBOSE OFFICE / ZEO WAGOORA within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained Name: SADAF NASEER D/O...NASEER AHMAD SHAH R/O ...KREERI ZONE...WAGOORA fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that i have lost my passport bearing Number V1195773 issue date 22-12-2021 Expiry date 21-12-2031 during travelling. If any body found kindly return below mentioned address or Mobile Number. In other way i want to apply for its duplicate. In this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Regional Passport Office Srinagar with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that. UMAR HAMID S/O ABDUL HAMID BEIGH R/o HARDUWAIL BUDGAM CELL: 9622535195 fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my adhaar card As Arjumand Instead Of Arjumand Gowher . 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. Arjumand Gowher W/o Late Bashir Ul Ghani Zargar R/o Kanitar fko

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Government Directorate of Agriculture Kashmir, Lalmandi Srinagar. NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF DILAPIDATED BUILDING MATERIAL AT AGRICULTURE COMPLEX LALMANDI KMR.

The Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Department Kashmir invites sealed bid for public auction on "as is where is basis" for various dilapidated buildings located at Agriculture Complex Lalmandi as per details mentioned below, who wish to participate in the bid process can be downloaded from www "diragrikmr.jk.gov.in" and original copy alongwith bid format can be obtained from Accounts Section, Directorate of Agriculture Kashmir against the document charges of Rs. 500/- (Non-refundable) on any working day upto 11.04.2026 and shall have to deposit earnest money @ 5% against the total bid value of minimum reserve price bid including GST as refundable security deposit in the shape of FDR/CDR pledged to Accounts Officer, Directorate of Agriculture Kashmir which must be appended with bid form duly filled in on the day of auction which is to be scheduled on 13.04.2026 (Monday) at 1.30 pm at Agriculture Complex Lalmandi Srinagar.

S.No	Particulars	Plinth Area	Minimum Reserve Price as per Valuation by Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Sgr. (Rs.) Including GST	CDR amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
01	Seed Prod. Building Lalmandi (Single Store)	1909.00 Sft	2,64,948.00	50854.00
02	Garage Adjacent to Seed Production Building	1724.00 sft	2,04,234.00	
03	Mushroom Specialsit Lab. (Single Story) at Lalmandi Sriagar	2060.00 sft	2,71,174.00	
04	Apiculture Building (Single Story) at Lalmandi Srinagar	1160.00 sft	1,59,809.00	
05	Store/Office of Agriculture (Single Story) at Lalmandi Srinagar	1496.00 sft	1,16,917.00	
	Total		10,17,082.00	50854.00

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

1. That the interested parties can inspect the material at Agriculture Complex Lalmandi on any working day during the office hours upto 11th April 2026.
2. That the minimum Reserved Bid of the auction material will start from total bid value of Minimum Reserve price including GST mentioned in the Notice.
3. That the Auction Committee shall be at liberty to accept or reject the bids without assigning any reasons thereof.
4. That the Successful bidders shall have to deposit 100% payment on spot after he/she is declared successful bidder.
5. In case the successful bidder fails to make the payment in full on spot his/her earnest money shall be forfeited and award of auction will be granted to 2nd highest offered bidder on H1 offered rate.
6. The FDR/CDR in respect of Bidders (except the successful one and 2nd highest bidder) will be released after three days from the date of auction against proper receipt.
7. That in case any dispute arises between the parties, the matter will be referred to Director Agriculture, Kashmir and his decision shall be binding on both the parties.
8. The other terms and conditions envisaged under rules of GFR 2017 will remain in force also.

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary (A.C.)),
Directorate of Agriculture,
Kashmir

DIPK-150/26 dated: 06-04-2026

Patients Taken on Rejuvenating Tour to Tulip Garden

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Directorate of Floriculture, Kashmir, in collaboration with the Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar, organized a therapeutic visit for patients from associated hospitals to the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden Srinagar aimed to promote mental well-being, foster social interaction, and provide a rejuvenating experience in a serene natural environment.

The visit organised on the initiative of Director Floriculture Kashmir, and involved coordinated efforts from GMC Srinagar and its associated hospitals. The event focused on patient safety, structured movement, and supervised participation, with medical teams providing on-site supervision and emergency support.

The visit was jointly coordinated by Dr. Shiny Mohiuddin and Dr. Adil Fayaz (IMHANS), Kashmir and Altaf Ahmad, Assistant Floriculture Officer, who personally accompanied the group to ensure a comfortable and engaging experience.

The programme incorporated key technical components, including pre-visit health screening, deployment of medical teams, and preparedness for emergency medical support.

The initiative reflects the Directorate of Floriculture's public friendly approach to open its gardens, parks and other such assets to all walks of life and to provide such section of society an opportunity to have the beauty of valley explored who otherwise are unable to visit such places due to various reasons including health issues.

The initiative reflects GMC Srinagar's commitment to holistic healthcare, integrating clinical treatment with psychosocial rehabilitation through meaningful outdoor activities.

Director SKIMS, Prof. M. Ashraf Ganie also flagged off a special outing for pediatric cancer patients to the Tulip Garden in Srinagar, in the presence of senior faculty members.

According to KNT, the initiative was organized as a recreational and supportive engagement for young patients undergoing treatment, giving them a chance to spend time outside the hospital.

The group of pediatric patients was taken to the Tulip Garden, where they were accompanied by medical staff and faculty members.

The outing formed part of efforts aimed at improving patient well-being through supportive care activities alongside ongoing medical treatment.



Infra Upgrade on Bridges to Improve Safety: DC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo on Monday conducted an on-site inspection of ongoing fencing and allied upgradation works on Gandbal Bridge and Aramwari Bridge to assess the progress and quality of the two projects.

The DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Superintending Engineer R&B, Tatheer Manzoor, Executive Engineer R&B Dalgate, Fareed Khan, Executive Engineer R&B Rajbagh, Khalid Mehmood, Tehsildar South, Sajad Rasool Shah, Tehsildar Panthachowk, Muzamil Zaman and other concerned.

During the visit, the Deputy

Commissioner conducted a thorough evaluation of the ongoing fencing and allied infrastructure upgradation works on Gandbal Bridge and Aramwari Bridge and emphasized the importance of structural safety, durability and adherence to approved project timelines.

The DC reviewed the status of fencing, approach improvements and other allied works being undertaken to enhance pedestrian safety on both the bridges. He instructed the executing agencies to expedite the remaining works at the earliest strictly adhering to quality standards.

On the occasion, the DC highlighted the significance of these pivotal bridges as key transport links for local habitations and stressed that the upgraded infrastructure will

improve connectivity, ensure public safety and facilitate smoother movement in the area.

Highlighting the significance of these bridges as key passage links for local habitations, the DC stated that the upgraded infrastructure will improve connectivity, ensure public safety and facilitate smoother movement of the residents in the area.

He underscored that the Gandbal Foot Bridge over the River Jhelum, connecting Gandbal Soiteng areas with the National Highway at Batwara and the Aramwari Suspension Foot Bridge, linking Rajbagh localities to the Sonwar area will significantly enhance accessibility and particularly benefit students, patients and residents across these densely populated areas.

“The Gandbal Foot Bridge over the River Jhelum, connecting Gandbal Soiteng areas with the National Highway at Batwara and the Aramwari Suspension Foot Bridge, linking Rajbagh localities to the Sonwar area will significantly enhance accessibility and particularly benefit students, patients and residents across these densely populated areas”

Massive Plantation Drive Held across City Schools

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a significant step towards environmental conservation, the Plantation drive was successfully conducted on Monday across both Government and Private Schools of Srinagar.

The green initiative was carried out under the aegis of the School Education Department, aimed at transforming

the entire Union Territory into a greener and more sustainable Jammu & Kashmir.

The drive, held in Srinagar under the supervision of Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Bhat, Chief Education Officer, Srinagar, witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and school heads, reinforcing the commitment to building a greener and more sustainable Srinagar.

Tourist Woman from Maharashtra Dies in City

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A 52-year-old tourist woman from Maharashtra died after falling unconscious at a hotel in Barbershah area of Srinagar, and was declared

brought dead at a nearby hospital, police said.

The death occurred while the woman, identified as Kanta, wife of Moreswar Barbal and a resident of Parwanchwati Wanshari

Kalyani in Maharashtra, was staying at a hotel along with a group since April 3. The incident involves a visiting tourist and has led to standard medico-legal procedures being initiated by police.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ghulam Mohd Baba, holder of Driving Licence No. JK-16 20110006062, state that my licence has expired and I applied for its renewal. However, due to an inadvertent error, my name was typed as Ghulam Mohammad Baba instead of Ghulam Mohd Baba, resulting in rejection of my application. The same requires correction. Any person having objection in this regard may submit the same to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

iko

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

The Dy Chief Engineer/Const./Doubling/Northern Railway, Jammu Tawi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender under Single Packet system for the following work:

1 Name of work and location:	Repair and Maintenance of Railway Quarters, Offices and Rest House of Jammu Tawi and Pathankot Stations under Dy. Chief Engineer Construction/Doubling Jammu Tawi
2 Completion period of the work.	6 (Six) months
3 Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 1,36,48,432.60
4 Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 2,73,000/-
5 Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender	Tenders may be uploaded upto 15:00 hrs on date 30.04.2026 on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in . The bidders can participate in the e-tender, the tender will be opened at 15:00 hrs on 30.04.2026.
6 Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document:	The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway web site i.e. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in and tender document is available on www.ireps.gov.in . Above tenders document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 16.04.2026 to 30.04.2026. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.

Tender Notice No. 1-WDYCECDJAT-26-27 Dated : 04.04.2026 1130/26

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

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 . Ibrahim Rehman Malik Son of Abdul Rehman Malik Ro. Tujar , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Ibrahim Rehman Malik 15/3/1998 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 Bomai

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 . Muneer Ahmad Reshi S/o Habibullah Reshi R/o Yemberzalwari , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Muneer Ahmad Reshi born on DOB: 07-02-1982 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 Bomai

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 . Reyaz Ahmad Lone S/o Wali Lone R/o Nathipora , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Reyaz Ahmad Lone born on DOB: 04-05-1979 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 Bomai

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 . Zahida Begum W/o Showkat Ahmad Bhat R/o Wadoora , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely (Samreena Showkat Bhat) born on DOB: 30-05-2008 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.

fko

Tehsildar Executive Magistrate Bomai

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 . Zahida Begum D/o Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/o Nathipora , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Zahida Begum born on DOB: 10-09-1974 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

fko

Tehsildar Executive Magistrate Bomai

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 . Shabir Ahmad Chopan S/o Mohd Ismaeel Chopan R/o Edipora , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Shabir Ahmad Chopan born on DOB: 31-03-1986 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

fko

Tehsildar Executive Magistrate Bomai

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 . Mohd Aaqib Mir S/o Shamasud-din Mir R/o Brath , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Mohammad Aaqib Mir born on DOB: 06-04-2004 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

fko

Tehsildar Executive Magistrate Bomai

• TRAFFIC POLICE : 941993745, 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 4: 45
ZUHR 12:34
ASR 5: 07
Magrib 6:58
ISHA 8: 22

HIJRI CALENDAR
18- Shawwal
1447

This Day In History

- 1509- France declares war on Venice
- 1541- Spanish missionary Francis Xavier leaves Lisbon for the Portuguese East Indies as the first Jesuit missionary
- 1625- Albrecht von Wallenstein appointed German supreme commander by Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand II
- 1794 English chemist and theologian Joseph Priestley departs England for America on board Sansom at Gravesend
- 1805- Lewis and Clark Expedition leaves Fort Mandan (on the Missouri River near what is now Washburn, North Dakota), beginning their journey to the Pacific Ocean
- 1818- General Andrew Jackson conquers Spanish Fort San Marcos (St Marks), in Spanish Florida during his pursuit of the Native American Seminole Tribe, in what would become known as the First Seminole War
- 1827- English chemist John Walker sells the world's first friction matches, for 1s 2d (6 new pence) per 100 matches in a tin case with a piece of sandpaper

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
IAPM Department, Zonal Office Srinagar,
M. A. Road, (Opposite Women's College), Srinagar-190001, Kashmir,
0194-2452658, Ext.:132;iapmd.kmr@jkbmail.com

POSSESSION NOTICE

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under Section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 22.02.2024 thereby calling upon the Borrowers namely 1) Bilal Ahmad Mir S/O Ghulam Qadir Mir R/O Gogoo, Humhama, Budgam, (Borrower/mortgagor) and Mr. Khursheed Ahmad Mir S/O Ghulam Qadir Mir R/O Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar (Guarantor) to repay an amount of Rs. 51,26,769.18 (Rupees Fifty One Lacs Twenty Six Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty Nine and Paise Eighteen only) being the balance outstanding as on 31.01.2024 in the account of the borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrowers having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrowers in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J&K Bank Ltd. has taken possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on 04.04.2026.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs.52,08,198.18 (Rupees Fifty Two Lacs Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety Eight & Paise Eighteen only) together with future interest thereon from 01.04.2026 and other charges incurred or to be incurred. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property
Land measuring 11 Marlas falling under Khasra No.716 min, Khata No.390 and Khawat No.79 situated at Humhama, Near Salsabeel School, standing in the name of Mr. Bilal Ahmad Mir S/O Ghulam Qadir Mir R/O Humhama, Budgam.

Authorized Officer

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

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Between Two Tax Worlds

As India shifts to a new Income Tax Act, taxpayers face a prolonged period of dual compliance.



India's direct tax system turned a page on April 1, 2026. After sixty-four years of patchwork amendments and accumulated legal sediment, the Income Tax Act of 1961 has given way to the Income Tax Act of 2025.

The government calls it simplification, the Central Board of Direct Taxes calls it modernization, but taxpayers call it confusion.

The arithmetic looks impressive on paper, as the new legislation consolidates 819 sections into 536. Forms have dropped from 399 to 190, and rules have slimmed from 511 to 333.

The old "previous year" and "assessment year" terminology, always a source of bewilderment, has been replaced with the single concept of "Tax Year."

These changes represent genuine housekeeping after decades of legislative clutter. But the core architecture remains untouched.

Tax rates, slabs, surcharges, and cess hold steady. The old tax regime and the new one continue their parallel existence. Assessment procedures, reassessments, penalties, and appeals follow the same pathways they always have.

The government has redecorated the house without moving any walls.

This continuity serves a purpose. Legal certainty matters when millions of pending assessments and appeals hang in the balance. Any income earned before March 31, 2026, stays under the old Act's jurisdiction. Proceedings initiated after April 1, 2026, still apply 1961 Act provisions to pre-2026 income. The government has wisely avoided retrospective disruption.

The real changes appear in the details, and here the picture grows more interesting.

Exemption limits have jumped substantially. House rent allowance now covers Bengaluru, Pune, Hyderabad, and Ahmedabad at the 50 percent metropolitan rate, alongside Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, and Kolkata. Children's education allowance leaped from 100 to 3,000 per child monthly. Hostel expenses rose from 300 to 9,000. Employer gifts now enjoy a 15,000 annual exemption, triple the previous limit. These adjustments acknowledge economic reality.

The old thresholds had become

laughable. 100 per month for education in an era of 50,000 annual school fees?

The new numbers still fall short of actual costs, but they restore some relevance to provisions that had fossilized into irrelevance.

PAN requirements have shifted as well. Cash withdrawal thresholds dropped from 20 lakh to 10 lakh annually. Property transaction limits doubled from 10 lakh to 20 lakh. Hotel and restaurant reporting now kicks in at 1 lakh rather than 50,000.

These changes tighten the reporting net while easing compliance for smaller transactions.

The most significant structural change involves TDS compliance. A unified challan-cum-statement now replaces separate forms for property, rent, contractors, and crypto assets. Filing will use PAN rather than TAN. Form 121 merges the old 15G and 15H declarations, with automatic age detection applying the appropriate rules.

These streamlines should reduce paperwork friction for millions of taxpayers.

Compliance has grown more stringent in certain areas. HRA claims now require detailed evidence in separate Form 124 submissions. Employees must provide landlord details, though PAN disclosure remains limited to aggregate annual rent exceeding 1 lakh.

Statement of Financial Transaction reporting thresholds have tightened. Insurance premium reporting now triggers at 5 lakh with PAN, 2.5 lakh without. Capital gains disclosures must include transaction-level particulars rather than aggregate figures.

The government has built a parallel reading utility allowing taxpayers to compare old and new provisions side by side. This tool addresses a genuine need. After decades of muscle memory around Section 80C and Section 80D, professionals and ordinary filers alike must relearn the numbering system. The utility helps bridge this transition gap.

But here lies the central tension: the Income Tax Act 2025 is less a revolution than a consolidation. It cleans house without changing the floor plan. Taxpayers will spend the coming years steering between two systems: old Act pro-

visions governing pre-2026 income and proceedings, new Act rules applying to fresh earnings.

This dual-track reality will persist until the last pre-2026 assessment closes, a process that could stretch a decade or more given India's appellate backlog.

The fundamental challenges remain unaddressed. India's tax base stays stubbornly narrow. Only seven percent of the population pays direct tax. Rampant evasion in the informal sector continues draining the exchequer. Faceless assessments have failed to deliver promised efficiency. Refund delays persist, while administrative bottlenecks still plague the system.

The new Act offers clearer language and cleaner structure. And they matter.

A tax code that citizens can read and understand without professional intermediaries represents genuine democratic progress. But clarity without enforcement capacity changes little. Simplification without base expansion leaves the same burden on the same shoulders.

Time will judge whether this reform delivers on its promises. The 1961 Act accumulated 819 sections over six decades of reactive amendment. The 2025 Act starts with 536.

The question is whether future governments will resist the temptation to complicate afresh, whether the new architecture proves more resistant to accretion than its predecessor.

Benjamin Franklin observed that nothing is certain except death and taxes. India's taxpayers have learned to live with both.

The new Income Tax Act offers them a cleaner, more readable certainty. Whether it offers them a fairer, more efficient system depends on implementation, enforcement, and the political will to resist turning simplification back into complexity.

The law has changed, but the culture of compliance has a longer road ahead.

The author is a former Indian Audit and Accounts Service officer who served as Director General of Audit with the Government of India. He retired as Principal Accountant General of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

KO VIEW

War Impact

The current market anxiety stems from rising tensions around Iran, fears over supply routes like the Strait of Hormuz, and the ripple effects of expensive oil. This matters immediately for an oil-importing country like India.

Higher crude prices raise transport costs, push up inflation and weaken the rupee. A salaried worker in Srinagar feels this through costlier fuel, rising food prices and shrinking savings.

Government finances also tighten. Lower tax flexibility leaves less room for welfare spending and development support.

Markets react even faster than households. Investors look ahead, see risk, and pull back. That is why stock prices fall when war fears rise. A small investor in Baramulla watching his mutual fund dip may see panic on television, though the deeper story is adjustment.

Investors shift money away from sectors hurt by high oil and toward safer options. This reflects caution rather than collapse.

Kashmir faces a sharper impact because its economy depends heavily on tourism and external demand. When global uncertainty rises, travel plans change. A houseboat owner on Dal Lake sees fewer bookings. A handicraft exporter finds buyers in Gulf markets placing smaller orders or delaying payments. Income slows across a wide chain of workers, from artisans to drivers to shopkeepers.

This external shock exposes internal weaknesses. Many families rely on a narrow set of income sources and lack financial buffers. A single disrupted season can strain an entire household. Years ago, local systems provided some balance through agriculture, crafts and trade. Today, dependence on a few sectors has increased vulnerability.

The deeper challenge lies in how families plan money. Spending often favours visible assets such as houses, weddings or gold, while invisible safeguards receive less attention. Emergency funds, insurance and long-term investments remain limited. Financial decisions sometimes follow advice without full understanding, or chase quick returns that carry hidden risks.

These gaps become clear when uncertainty rises. A market dip or a weak tourist season then feels overwhelming instead of manageable.

A more stable path begins with small, practical shifts. Families need to treat financial planning as essential. Regular saving, diversified investments and basic insurance can reduce exposure to shocks. Businesses must expand beyond one market or one type of customer. Even simple steps such as building online reach or improving product quality can widen opportunities.

Young people play a central role. Skills in communication, digital work, design and services can open doors beyond local limits. Education gains value when paired with practical ability.

Kashmir cannot control global conflicts or oil prices. But it can control how prepared its people are. Stronger planning, broader income sources and better skills can turn uncertainty into something manageable.

The world may remain unpredictable. A more prepared Kashmir does not have to be.



K. P. Yadaw

The most significant structural change involves TDS compliance. A unified challan-cum-statement now replaces separate forms for property, rent, contractors, and crypto assets. Filing will use PAN rather than TAN. Form 121 merges the old 15G and 15H declarations, with automatic age detection applying the appropriate rules.

CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

Hidden Strain

Visible wealth often masks a deeper crisis of cash flow, planning and peace of mind in the valley.

Irshad Mushtaq

Across neighbourhoods in Srinagar and Anantnag, prosperity appears easy to spot. Large homes rise behind polished gates, cars line the driveways, and weddings glow with gold and celebration. The surface tells a story of success.

Inside many homes, a silent and sullen reality unfolds. Parents sit with fee receipts and monthly bills. Young people carry constant worry about jobs and the future. Families know that a single illness can shake everything. Life appears settled, but the mind stays tense.

The core issue is clear. Many families hold wealth in property, while regular income stays thin.

A house worth crores brings pride, and little monthly cash. Land adds value on paper. It does not cover electricity, fuel or medicines. One job or a small business often supports the entire household. When tourism slows or a shutdown hits, income drops quickly while expenses remain fixed.

This situation highlights a gap in financial learning. Most people grew up with a simple script: study, secure a job and build a home. Discussions rarely included budgeting, inflation, compounding or risk. Even educated families feel unsure when faced with investments or insurance. Confusion replaces confidence.

Spending, in contrast, feels natural. Kashmir thrives as a consumption market. Shops fill up, weddings grow larger, and lifestyles improve each year. Planning for the long term receives far less attention.

This gap creates space for poor financial choices. Products sell through emotion and trust. Clear understanding often stays missing. Over time, returns disappoint and trust weakens.

Real wealth grows through discipline. Regular saving, early investing and informed decisions shape long-term security. Hard work builds income, and planning gives it direction.

Kashmir's next step forward depends on this shift. True success means fees paid on time, emergencies managed with ease and nights spent in calm sleep. That future rests on knowledge, planning and thoughtful choices.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial educator.

Letter to Editor

Kashmiri Voters Are Still Waiting

Jammu and Kashmir's recent budget session has left many people asking a simple question: what did this mandate deliver.

The National Conference came to power with a historic win. Voters, especially young job seekers from the unreserved category, rallied behind its promise to rationalize reservations. That promise propelled the election. It helped turn support into a sweeping victory.

Two years later, that promise still waits for action.

A committee was formed and given six months to submit its report. Two years have passed and there is no report in sight. The delay has shaken trust among those who backed the party with hope and conviction. Many feel their support was taken for granted. The Assembly has also shown signs

of strain within the ruling party. Public disagreements between its own members have played out in full view.

When Dr. Bashir Veeri raised the issue of reservation rationalization, he spoke with emotion and pressed the government to act. The response he received from within his own ranks signaled division rather than direction.

Remarks from senior leaders and dismissive comments from the deputy chief minister deepened the sense that internal debate has replaced collective purpose.

The government once invited public suggestions. Today, criticism meets a wall of numbers. Leaders often point to their majority as a shield against questions, both inside and outside the Assembly.

This approach risks turning a strong mandate into a closed door. Private members' bills have faced a

similar fate. Several proposals were rejected or set aside with assurances that remain unclear. Waheed ur Rehman Parra's bill to regularize daily wagers did not pass. The response he received focused on past governments rather than present responsibility.

That line of argument may explain history, but it does little to address current needs.

Daily wagers still await relief, while young people continue to seek fair access to jobs, shaping everyday life across the region.

Other proposals, such as land rights for residents and concerns about rising school costs, also sparked debate. Some lawmakers raised these issues with clarity and purpose. Their efforts showed that the Assembly can still serve as a space for meaningful discussion. The outcomes, however, have fallen

short of expectations.

The government did pass a private university bill and presented it as a step forward in education. At the same time, funds meant for a national law university remain pending. This contrast adds to the growing perception that priorities lack consistency.

The Speaker noted that Jammu and Kashmir held one of the longest budget sessions in the country, with 22 sittings. Length alone does not measure impact. People look for decisions that improve lives.

The real test of a mandate lies in delivery. Voters placed their trust in promises that spoke to fairness and opportunity. That trust now seeks answers.

Sincerely,

Raqif Makhdoomi
raqifmakhdoomi818@gmail.com

Kashmir's Climate Answer Takes Root

A simple appeal from Khanqah-e-Hydari sparks a grassroots push for survival in a changing landscape.



Ruvaidd Wani

In the courtyard of a home near the old city, Fairoz Ahmad bent down and pressed a young plum sapling into the soil. He patted the earth firm, watered it from a brass lota, and stepped back.

Days earlier, a message had gone out from Khanqah-e-Hydari, the revered Sufi shrine complex in Srinagar. Its patron, the scholar Dr. Muhammad Sameer Siddiqui, asked followers to plant a tree that week and share the act.

Fairoz, who follows the Khanqah, responded immediately. He told a local reporter the effort gave ordinary people a direct way to protect the valley they call home.

Hundreds, then thousands, joined. Residents in towns and villages across Kashmir planted saplings in private gardens, beside homes, and in community spaces. They posted photos online, dedicating some to loved ones or to broader hopes for the land.

What began as a targeted appeal from a respected religious figure spread through personal networks tied to the shrine. The response revealed a readiness among Kashmiris to act when the invitation came in a familiar moral register. Kashmir has long lived with trees



as constant companions. They line streams, shade shrines, and mark family courtyards, holding memories of seasons and daily routines.

Today those trees stand against a backdrop of visible strain. Summers push temperatures higher, winters arrive with less snow, and streams run dry earlier. Orchards face erratic conditions that once followed predictable cycles.

Recent years brought repeated heatwaves, with Srinagar recording some of its hottest days on record. Rivers and tributaries show the effects, as reduced snowpack limits the slow release of water that sustained agriculture and households

through warmer months.

Dr. Siddiqui framed the initiative as a collective duty. He urged the use of native or climate-suited species rather than ornamental choices. He called for tying mosques, schools, local bodies, and youth into ongoing care networks.

The focus fell on the first three years, when young trees need consistent watering, soil protection, and defense against grazing or construction. His words emphasized practical stewardship over one-time events.

Trees deliver measurable gains in places like Srinagar. They lower local temperatures by providing shade and

releasing moisture through leaves. They filter air, hold soil in place, and aid groundwater recharge.

International assessments from the Food and Agriculture Organization highlight how forests and trees regulate the flow, quality, and timing of water while curbing erosion. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change points to urban greenery as a direct tool for easing heat stress and supporting adaptation.

These functions shift from general benefits to immediate necessities for daily life and farming in a valley where concrete expansion and hotter days intensify urban

heat effects.

Many past plantation efforts in the region faltered after the initial act. Saplings received attention during ceremonies, then faced neglect. Survival rates dropped without sustained aftercare.

Dr. Siddiqui proposed a sharper

compound with land-use demands and development choices. Deforestation and tree removal in some areas have drawn attention to the thin margin of remaining green cover. Agriculture, a mainstay for many families, shows strain from shifting precipitation and tempera-

WHEN A TRUSTED COMMUNITY VOICE PRESENTS ENVIRONMENTAL CARE AS AN OBLIGATION ROOTED IN SHARED VALUES, PARTICIPATION FOLLOWS MORE READILY THAN THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS ALONE.

People responded because the language felt local and enduring. Volunteers planted and spoke of the act as part of a larger commitment to the land their children would inherit.

model: select appropriate species, build local responsibility groups, and commit to protection through the vulnerable early period.

He linked the work to broader environmental needs, including better water access and limits on unplanned development pressures.

The Khanqah's approach tapped something distinctive in Kashmir.

When a trusted community voice presents environmental care as an obligation rooted in shared values, participation follows more readily than through official channels alone. People responded because the language felt local and enduring. Volunteers planted and spoke of the act as part of a larger commitment to the land their children would inherit.

Challenges extend well beyond any single drive. Climate pressures

ture patterns. Apple orchards and other crops experience disrupted flowering and water stress. The valley's famous springs and streams, fed historically by snowmelt, face inconsistent recharge.

The real measure of the Go Green effort lies in its proof of public willingness.

Khanqah-e-Hydari demonstrated that residents engage when asked in terms they recognize and respect.

Civic organizations, religious centers, schools, and local authorities now hold an opening to convert that energy into lasting practice.

— The author is a journalist based in South Kashmir, who writes on environmental issues, social change and Kashmiri narratives. He can be reached at ruvaiddwani@gmail.com.

One Coach, Many Comebacks

Through training, mentorship, and care, Muzeen Firdous is helping young Kashmiris rebuild strength inside and out.



Gowher Bhat

When Muzeen Firdous was a boy, he fell from a height and broke his leg badly. It was the kind of injury that can easily shape a person's entire life.

For years, he struggled to walk. People around him would look at him with helplessness. They thought his future was already written.

"People pitied me," Muzeen said. "But even as a child, I made a promise to myself. I wasn't going to let this be the end of my story."

Growing up in Shivpora, Srinagar, Muzeen didn't plan to become a fitness coach. He studied Mechanical Engineering and followed what many would call a 'safe' path. But even then, his heart kept pulling him back to training.

He started working out at a small CRPF gym in 2009. There were no mirrors, no fancy machines, just old equipment, sweat, and steady effort.

Later, he joined another gym in Jawahar Nagar where he met Irfan Ali, the coach who changed everything for him.

"Irfan Sir didn't just teach me how to lift weights," Muzeen said. "He taught me how to be consistent, how to control my emotions. That's what really shaped me."

But Muzeen's emotional strength didn't just come from the gym. It came from home.

His cousin, known to everyone as



Pinka Bhai, became the person he leaned on the most.

"He believed in me when no one else did," Muzeen said. "He showed me how to stay calm when life gets messy. I learned how to handle pressure because of him."

When Muzeen moved to cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, and Bangalore, he trained people from all walks of life. Young professionals, athletes, even those coming back from injuries.

He realized something important while working with them.

"Fitness isn't just about your body," he said. "It's also about your mind. People don't even realize how much stress they're carrying until they start

moving. Lifting weights helps them feel in control again."

Even though his career was growing outside Kashmir, his heart kept pulling him back home.

He eventually returned to Srinagar and started offering personal training and group sessions. He made it a point to work with people who usually can't afford it.

He began running public fitness events and sharing tips on social media, hoping to reach those who might feel too shy or unsure to start.

"I want people to understand that health isn't a luxury," he said. "It's something everyone can have."

During the Covid-19 lockdown,

when life across Kashmir became grounded and gloomy, Muzeen stepped up.

He delivered food, checked on struggling families, and called people who were feeling low and lonely.

"I wasn't trying to be a hero," he said. "I just knew people needed steady hands and steady minds."

Today, many of his young clients come to him not just to lose weight or get stronger, but to feel better about themselves.

Some of them battle low self-esteem or emotional pain. For them, his fitness sessions become a safe routine, a place to build new habits and new hope.



WHAT PEOPLE NOTICE MOST ABOUT MUZEEN ISN'T HIS POSTURING, BUT HIS PRESENCE.

His clients call him a "gentle motivator."

He pushes people, but never with force. "I've learned that showing up every day is more important than going hard one day and quitting the next," he said.

"I've learned that showing up every day is more important than going hard one day and quitting the next," he said.

Now, he is working on opening a wellness center that brings fitness, nutrition, and mental health under one roof. He's also writing a beginner's guide to fitness and planning online classes to reach more people across India.

"I don't want people to just look good," he said. "I want them to feel strong, inside and out."

For those feeling stuck or lost, Muzeen has a simple message.

"You're not broken. You're just standing at a turn," he said. "Every day is a chance to start. That's all it takes."

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

IUST's Rumi Library Launches EM-RFID System

Observer News Service

Awantipora: The Rumi Library, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), has launched its state-of-the-art Electro-Magnetic Radio Frequency Identification (EM-RFID) system, marking a significant step towards modernization and enhanced user services. The initiative aims to streamline library operations, improve efficiency and provide a seamless experience for its users.

The service has been introduced by University Librarian, Dr. Sheikh Mohammad Imran, who played a pivotal role in conceptualizing, coordinating and facilitating the implementation of the system. He opined that the adoption of RFID technology aligned with the best global practices in library services and reflects the institution's vision of creating a digitally empowered inclusive learning environment.

The RFID system was formally inaugurated by Prof. Abdul Wahid Makhdooni, Registrar, IUST, in the presence of Sameer Wazir, Finance Officer, and other University officials. The introduction of this advanced technology underscores the institution's commitment to adopting innovative solutions in library management.

Speaking on the occasion,

Prof. Abdul Wahid Makhdooni, Registrar appreciated the efforts of Rumi Library in embracing technological advancements, stating that RFID implementation will not only improve operational efficiency, but also enhance the overall accessibility and security of library resources. He also spoke about the integration of RFID to the other facilities for the students in order to provide the best facilities to the students of IUST under One University One Card plan.

The newly implemented RFID system enables self-check-in and self-check-out of books, efficient inventory management, enhanced security against unauthorized removal of library materials, faster circulation and reduced waiting time for users, and book drop facility.

The Librarian expressed gratitude to the University administration and other sister departments for their support in successfully implementing the system. He emphasised that this development will significantly improve user satisfaction and optimize library workflows. The event concluded with a demonstration of the RFID system, other important services introduced and showcasing its features and benefits to attendees.

PhD Graduate from NIT Srinagar Joins University of Edinburgh as Postdoctoral Researcher

Director lauds achievement, calls it a pride for Kashmir valley

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a proud moment for the research community, Dr. Zarak Bhat, a PhD graduate from the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, has joined the University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, as a Postdoctoral Researcher.

Dr. Zarak is the first PhD scholar from the Nanoelectronics Research and Development Group at NIT Srinagar, completed her doctoral studies under the supervision of Dr. Sheikh Aamir Ahsan in the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering.

She has been inducted into the APRIL AI Hub at the University of Edinburgh, where her research focuses on integrating artificial intelligence-driven methodologies into electron device design workflows.

Her work aims to accelerate optimisation processes, enhance performance prediction, and improve productivity in semiconductor innovation.

During her doctoral research, Dr. Zarak worked extensively on power Gallium Nitride (GaN) models. Her contributions, published in leading journals including IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices, played a key role in developing the NITSRI-GaN



modeling framework.

The research has drawn attention for bridging device-level physics with circuit-level simulations, particularly for next-generation power electronic systems.

Her appointment marks a major milestone for both the researcher and the institute, reflecting the growing global recognition of advanced semiconductor research being conducted at NIT Srinagar.

Dr. Ahsan, who leads the research group, expressed pride in this achievement, noting that such milestones highlight the group's commitment to high-quality industry-relevant research.

"It is always a rewarding experience to see students grow and take

on new challenges at leading global institutions," he said.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, congratulated Dr. Ahsan and Dr. Zarak. He termed it as a proud moment for the institute and the Kashmir valley.

"This achievement is a matter of immense pride for our institute and the entire Kashmir valley. Dr. Zarak's selection at a prestigious global institution reflects the high academic standards and research excellence nurtured at NIT Srinagar," he said.

Prof. Kanaujia added that NIT Srinagar is committed to fostering innovation and producing researchers who can contribute meaningfully to cutting-edge fields like semiconductor technology on the global stage.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

J&K Brings

Health Services Jammu/Kashmir, or any other officer notified by the government, will act as the licensing authority. No centre will be allowed to operate without a valid licence issued after inspection and verification of facilities, staff, treatment systems and compliance with prescribed medical and ethical standards.

The Rules also stipulate that no centre can function in a residential area without prior approval from the concerned Municipal Corporation, Municipality or Panchayat, along with a No Objection Certificate from the local police station.

Detailed infrastructure norms have been prescribed, including a minimum space of 400 square feet per 10 beds for inpatient facilities, separate counselling and outpatient rooms, and distinct wards for men and women ensuring privacy. Centres must also maintain at least two beds for emergency or detoxification with continuous medical supervision.

On staffing, the Rules mandate the presence of at least one clinical psychiatrist, one medical officer, one clinical psychologist for every 15 patients, one nurse for every 10 patients, along with a social worker or counsellor and essential support staff such as attendants, record keepers, sanitation workers and security personnel.

Treatment protocols must adhere to the Standard Operating Procedure issued by the Health and Medical Education Department, along with guidelines from national and international agencies. Only approved pharmacotherapies may be administered and strictly under medical supervision.

To ensure accountability, each patient will be assigned a Unique Treatment Identification Number (UTIN), linked to a central database. Centres are required to verify patient history before initiating substitution therapy.

Drug dispensation must be carried out under direct supervision, with take-home doses permitted only with written approval from a psychiatrist. The Rules mandate strict record-keeping, including daily dispensing and stock registers, with all records to be preserved for at least five years.

Each facility must establish a Quality Assurance Cell to monitor dosage, storage and expiry of drugs. Adverse drug reactions must be reported within 48 hours, while any death or serious incident must be reported within 24 hours to the police, Chief Medical Officer and licensing authority.

A Union Territory-level monitoring committee comprising representatives from key departments, including Health, Law, Social Welfare and Police (Narcotics), will oversee compliance and performance of centres.

The Rules empower the licensing authority to suspend or cancel licences in cases of violations, including misuse or diversion of drugs, compromised patient safety, or maintenance of false records.

The notification further states that all existing centres must comply with the new regulations and apply for licences within six months from the date of issuance. (KNO)

MeT Predicts

light rain at isolated locations.

Issuing an advisory, the department warned of thunderstorms, hailstorms and gusty winds reaching speeds of 40-50 kmph at a few places on April 7 and 8. It also cautioned that intense showers over short durations may trigger flash floods, landslides and waterlogging in vulnerable and low-lying areas.

Farmers have been advised to suspend farm operations during this period, while travellers have been urged to plan their movement accordingly.

Meanwhile, weather-related incidents were reported from several areas. In Rajouri, a house was damaged after being struck by lightning, while a mudslide triggered panic in Baramulla after debris slid onto a road stretch.

Reports of intense hailstorms also emerged from parts of south Kashmir. Severe hailstorm activity was recorded in Feri Pora, Kanjullar, Mutagen, Saidpora and Korel Aharbal areas of Shopian, as well as in parts of Kulgam,

including Manngam. The hailstorms reportedly caused damage to orchards and fresh bloom, raising concerns among fruit growers.

The developments come as the region braces for continued unsettled weather conditions over the next few days.

Hailstorm Damages

growers distressed and demanding immediate government intervention and compensation.

The hailstorm, which lasted nearly 20 minutes struck areas including Feeripora, Mandujan, Pudsoo, Saidpora, Adijan, Kanjullar, Nihama, Ramhama, DH Pora, Manngam, Chogalpora, Rambhama, Ladgo, Samnoo, and Bathipora, flattening delicate blossoms and raising fears of a severely affected harvest season.

Local orchardists described the situation as alarming, stating that the timing of the hailstorm could not have been worse.

"This is the flowering stage, and it is very critical for fruit set. Hailstones hitting the flowers mean they won't survive. The chances of recovery are very rare," said a grower from Shopian.

Another orchardist from Kulgam echoed similar concerns, estimating heavy losses. "I think nearly 90 percent of the flowers have been damaged. The hail continued for around 20 minutes, and its impact will not only be seen this year but could affect the next season as well," he said.

Growers said that the flowering phase determines the eventual yield, and any damage at this stage directly translates into reduced production.

"Horticulture is our backbone, and such weather events are devastating. We were expecting a good season, but this hailstorm has shattered our hopes," said another farmer from DH Pora. "We urge the government to assess the damage on the ground and provide adequate compensation to the affected growers."

The spell of erratic weather now has added to the worries of farmers in the region, who are already grappling with climate uncertainties and rising input costs.

Experts in the horticulture sector also note that damage to blossoms significantly reduces fruit formation, making recovery difficult even with subsequent favorable weather.

Meanwhile, growers have appealed to the administration and the horticulture department to conduct an immediate survey of the affected areas and extend financial assistance to mitigate their losses. (KNO)

HC Upholds 'Waqf

1969 can, by no stretch of reasoning, be stated to have attained the status of finality," the bench said.

The court further found no procedural illegality in the 1979 inquiry that brought the shrines under waqf control, noting that the petitioners had been given an opportunity to be heard and had also availed a statutory appeal before the competent authority.

While dismissing the petitions, the court allowed the petitioners to continue residing in residential structures built on the shrine land, but only as lessees of waqf property, in line with an appellate order dated April 30, 1982, which had already attained finality on this limited issue.

The court also dismissed as infructuous the connected challenge to the now-repealed J&K Waqf laws of 1978 and 2001.

Reacting to the judgment, Darakhshan Andrabi said the ruling reinforces the legal framework governing waqf properties and sets a precedent for similar disputes.

She said the verdict clarifies that continuous religious and charitable use of a property brings it within the ambit of waqf law, adding that revenue records consistently describing such shrines as waqf further strengthen their legal status.

The court also noted that earlier waqf laws have since been replaced by the Waqf Act, 1995, rendering related challenges redundant.

Iran Rejects

were continuing discussions.

He added that he is upset with the Iranian government and that they are going to pay a big price for it.

"The first regime was taken out; the second regime was taken out. Now the third group of people that we're dealing with is not as radicalised, and we think they're actually much smarter," Trump said at the annual White House Easter Egg Roll.

"US demands were unacceptable."

Iran's rejection came after Israel struck a key petrochemical plant in the massive South Pars natural gas field.

"We won't merely accept a ceasefire," Mojtaba Ferdousi Pour, head of the Iranian diplomatic mission in Cairo, told The Associated Press. "We only accept an end of the war with guarantees that we won't be attacked again."

Trump's deadline centres on Tehran opening the Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's oil is shipped in peacetime. Ferdousi Pour said Iranian and Omani officials were working on a mechanism for administering the shipping chokepoint.

Iran's grip on the strait has caused oil prices to surge and shaken the world economy.

Speaking to reporters in Tehran, Iran's foreign ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said Iran has already conveyed its requirements through intermediaries. He said that US demands were unacceptable, adding the proposal was extremely excessive and unusual and illogical.

"Iran does not hesitate to clearly express what it considers its legitimate demands, and doing so should not be interpreted as a sign of compromise, but rather as a reflection of its confidence in defending its positions," Baghaei said.

When asked about efforts for a ceasefire, he said, "We have formulated our own responses."

He added: "We are calling for an end to the war and for preventing its recurrence." He added that Iran does not reject the idea of ending the conflict, but a temporary ceasefire will only help Tehran's adversaries to regroup and prepare for further fighting.

"Any diplomatic talks incompatible with ultimatums"

Rejecting the idea of diplomacy under military pressure, he said, "Any diplomatic talks are absolutely incompatible with ultimatums, crimes, and threats to commit war crimes."

On Sunday, President Trump used his social media platform, Truth Social, to issue an ultimatum to Iran. He set a deadline of "Tuesday, 8:00 pm Eastern Time" for the country to open the Strait of Hormuz.

In another explosive-laden post, the president threatened to target Iran's energy infrastructure if the waterway remains closed.

"Tuesday will be Power Plant Day, and Bridge Day, all wrapped up in one, in Iran. There will be nothing like it!!! Open the Fuckin' Strait, you crazy bastards, or you'll be living in Hell - JUST WATCH! Praise be to Allah," Trump wrote.

The president repeated this warning on Monday. Trump has made similar statements in the past, often extending deadlines even as mediators reported potential progress toward ending the conflict on mutually agreeable terms.

Compassionate Appointments

had come to light during implementation.

"We are aware of the difficulties you have gone through and also that the process took longer than it should have. There is a need to make further changes in the scheme so that appointments are completed swiftly and efficiently," he said.

He said the government is committed to refining the scheme to ensure timely appointments. "It should not happen that appointments meant to be made in previous years are delivered much later. We will identify the gaps and bring necessary improvements," he added.

In an emotional address, Omar noted that such appointments come after personal loss. "Getting a government job is often the happiest day in one's life, but in your case, it comes after losing a loved one. The trauma you endure is far greater than any examination," he said.

He said he chose to personally hand over the letters to express solidarity with the affected families. "We could have sent these orders to your homes, but I wanted to be here to assure you that the government stands with you," he said.

Urging the appointees to serve with dedication and integrity, he said many of them come from remote areas and understand public hardships, but true satisfaction lies in addressing people's difficulties with sincerity," he said.

Reaffirming government support, he added that officials remain accessible to assist the beneficiaries.

Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani said that while no compensation can replace the loss of a loved one, such appointments provide emotional and immediate relief to affected families.

Senior officials, including Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department M. Raju, Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar and Deputy Commissioner Jammu Rakesh Minhas, were present on the occasion, along with the appointees and their family members.

CM Backs Probe

on March 31 -- identified as Ganderbal resident Rashid Ahmad Mughal -- was a terrorist. However, his family alleged that he had no terror links and termed the encounter fake, while demanding the return of his body for proper burial.

"I will not get into the debate over whether there should be a judicial probe or a magisterial probe," Omar told reporters in reply to a question on the issue.

Highlighting procedural delays, the chief minister said ordering a judicial inquiry often takes considerable time.

"The issue with a judicial inquiry is that it takes a lot of time. First of all, sitting judges are not easily available nowadays, and the Supreme Court has also placed considerable restrictions on such appointments. Even bringing in a retired judge is not that easy," he said.

Advocating a swift process, Omar said, "I believe that the inquiry should be conducted without wasting time. It should be initiated immediately, and if there is truth in the matter, it should be brought before the public."

Endorsing the magisterial probe ordered by the lieutenant governor, he said, "I think the approach adopted by the lieutenant governor is right. Let the magisterial inquiry do its work, and whatever the truth is, it will come out before the people."

Referring to the broader situation in Iran, Omar took note of remarks made by the President of the United States and questioned the tone of his public communication.

"The kind of language used by the US President and his office: does it suit him or his office? Is such rhetoric appropriate for someone in that position? The kind of words being used are such that even you and I cannot repeat them without censoring them in a broadcast," he said, adding that the dignity of the office must be maintained.

On the issue of war, the chief minister expressed concern over the prolonged conflict. "We are all concerned about it. The longer it continues, the more difficult it will become for all of us," he said.

Reiterating the need for peace, Omar said, "We all hope that a ceasefire is announced as soon as possible, that the war comes to an end, and the current situation stabilises and improves." (PTI)

Mission Ongoing

in states like West Bengal and Kerala, alleging that BJP workers had faced sustained hostility.

The prime minister used the occasion to highlight what he described as key achievements of the BJP-led government, including the abrogation of Article 370, the ban on instant triple talaq, the Citizenship Amendment Act, and the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya.

He said the government remains focused on building a "Viksit Bharat" (developed India) and addressing challenges such as corruption,

SKUAST-K Scientist Bags Norman Borlaug Award

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Dr. Shabir H Wani, Assistant Professor of Genetics and Plant Breeding at MRCFC Khudwani, SKUAST-Kashmir, has been honoured with the prestigious Dr Norman E. Borlaug Award 2026 in recognition of his outstanding achievements and contributions to the discipline of Genetics and Plant Breeding, particularly in advancing wheat improvement for food and nutritional security. Dr Wani received the award during the 13th International Conference on Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry & Allied Sciences for a Sustainable Himalayan Ecosystem, organized by HFRI Shimla recently.

Over the past five years, Dr. Wani has successfully developed the wheat variety Shalimar Wheat 3, characterized by high yield potential, resistance to yellow rust, and enhanced nutritional quality with iron and zinc concentrations exceeding 40 ppm. His prolific academic output includes more than 200 research papers published in internationally reputed scientific journals, alongside over 20 scholarly books with leading publishers such as Springer Nature, Elsevier, CRC Press, CABI (UK), and Wiley. Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, extended his heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Wani on this remarkable achievement. He emphasized that such recognitions are a testament to the dedication and commitment of the scientific staff at SKUAST-K, which continues to uphold its reputation as one of the leading agricultural universities in the country.

infiltration, demographic changes and what he termed a lingering colonial mindset.

Modi also pointed to India's evolving foreign policy, saying the country is moving from maintaining "equal distance" with nations to building closer ties globally, while continuing to uphold the principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'.

Highlighting the 25-year journey of the National Democratic Alliance, Modi described it as an "all-inclusive coalition" that prioritises regional aspirations and public welfare.

He said the BJP's governance model, which he termed "service-oriented," has gained public trust over time, contrasting it with what he called power-driven politics.

Founded on April 6, 1980, the BJP has grown into the country's dominant political force, Modi said, crediting party workers for their grassroots efforts and "selfless service" in expanding its reach.

"BJP remains committed to building a Viksit Bharat. Our collective resolve will continue to drive this vision forward," he added.

Administrative Judges

and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohd Yousuf Wani as Administrative Judge for District Kulgam and District Poonch respectively," the order by Registrar General M K Sharma reads.

Concern Grows

the detained individual and ensure his well-being.

"This prolonged lack of communication is deeply distressing for the family. We request the MEA and the Indian Embassy to ascertain Amjad's safety and secure his release," he said.

The association has also assured support to the family and called for swift diplomatic engagement to resolve the matter.

The case has once again highlighted concerns over communication gaps in cases involving Indian nationals working abroad, underlining the critical role of diplomatic channels in ensuring consular access and legal clarity.

₹1.24 Lakh Cr Excess

allocation requires approval from the state's legislative assembly.

Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh became separate Union Territories in October 2019 following the reorganisation of the erstwhile state.

"As the appropriation accounts of 1980-81 onwards had not been discussed in the public accounts committee, the excess expenditure aggregating to Rs 1,24,004.41 crore for the years 1980-81 to 2019-20 (April 1, 2019 to October 30, 2019) pertaining to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir is yet to be regularised," the report said.

The central auditor cautioned that prolonged non-regularisation of such expenditure undermines the system of budgetary and financial control and encourages financial indiscipline in the management of public resources.

Responding to the audit observations, the Finance Department of the Jammu and Kashmir government stated in February 2025 that the excess expenditure is a "legacy issue" and it would be regularised by the legislature.

The CAG report highlights decades of pending legislative scrutiny, as the Appropriation Accounts since 1980-81 have not been examined by the Public Accounts Committee, delaying the regularisation process.

"Excess expenditure remaining unregularised for extended periods vitiates the system of budgetary and financial control and encourages financial indiscipline in the management of public resources," it added.

The report noted that the excess expenditure was incurred across a total of 543 grants and appropriations year after year between 1980 and 2019, with particularly high overruns being recorded during the late 1990s and early 2000s, including Rs 12,954.06 crore in 2005-06 and Rs 9,770.53 crore in 2003-04.

It further pointed out that even in recent years, prior to the reorganisation of the state, excess expenditure continued, with Rs 5,311.53 crore recorded for 2019-20 (April 1 to October 30, 2019).

Cancer Cases Surge in Kashmir, 50,000+ Since 2018

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Cancer cases continue to rise in Kashmir, reveals the data. It states that as many as 50,551 cancer cases were reported in Kashmir between 2018 and 2024, underscoring the urgent need for early detection, timely treatment, and preventive healthcare measures.

A Right to Information (RTI) application filed by activist Syed Adil, reveals that 22,130 cancer cases were recorded at Government Medical College Jammu between 2015 and 2025, with lung cancer emerging as the most common malignancy in the region.

According to the data, cancer incidence in Kashmir has shown a steady increase over the years: 2018: 6,649 cases, 2019: 6,374 cases, 2020: 6,113 cases, 2021: 7,090 cases, 2022: 7,846 cases, 2023: 8,124 cases and 2024: 8,355 cases.

Experts note that while there was a slight dip during 2019-2020—possibly

due to underreporting during the COVID-19 period—the overall trend reflects a consistent upward trajectory, raising alarm among medical professionals.

At Government Medical College Jammu, the data shows: 2015: 1,867 cases, 2016: 1,966 cases, 2017: 1,860 cases, 2018: 2,341 cases, 2019: 2,102 cases, 2020: 1,715 cases, 2021: 1,756 cases, 2022: 1,719 cases, 2023: 2,036 cases, 2024: 2,187 cases and 2025: 2,581 cases.

Among these, lung cancer accounted for 3,272 cases, making it the most prevalent, followed by breast cancer (1,756 cases) and oral cancer (1,023 cases) over the last decade.

Doctors said that lung cancer remains a major public health issue, driven largely by smoking, exposure to second-hand smoke, and environmental pollution.

According to KNO, globally, lung cancer constitutes about 12.4% of all cancers,

while in India it accounts for approximately 5.8%, with Jammu and Kashmir reflecting similar patterns.

“High tobacco consumption, including smoking and smokeless forms, along with indoor pollution and occupational hazards, are key contributors to lung cancer cases in the region,” an oncologist said.

Experts stress that early detection significantly improves survival rates, yet many patients in J&K present at advanced stages of the disease.

“Cancer is not a death sentence if detected early. Regular screenings, awareness, and timely medical consultation can save lives,” doctors said.

They recommend: routine screening for high-risk groups, awareness about early warning signs such as unexplained weight loss, persistent cough, lumps, or unusual bleeding, increased access to diagnostic facilities in rural areas and preventive measures

and lifestyle changes. Experts emphasize that a significant proportion of cancers are preventable through lifestyle modifications.

Key precautions include: Avoiding tobacco in all forms, avoiding alcohol consumption, maintaining a balanced diet rich in fruits and vegetables, Regular physical activity, minimizing exposure to environmental pollutants and vaccination against certain cancer-causing infections (like HPV and Hepatitis B) along with strengthening healthcare response.

They said that there is the need for enhanced oncology infrastructure, including specialized cancer hospitals, trained personnel, and affordable treatment options within the Union Territory.

They have urged authorities to scale up screening programs, improve data collection, and invest in awareness campaigns, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

J&K's Textile & Apparel Sector Remains Stable amid Fluctuations

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The textile and apparel sector in Jammu and Kashmir has shown a stable trend over the past five years, with a majority of units remaining operational, reflecting sustained industrial activity in the Union Territory.

As per official figures accessed by KNO, Jammu and Kashmir recorded 24 textile manufacturing units in 2023-24, of which 23 were opera-



tional. In the wearing apparel segment, the UT had 11 units, all of which were functional during the same period.

The data indicates fluctuations in the number of textile units over the years, including 25 units in 2019-

20, 30 in 2020-21, and 20 in 2021-22, before stabilising in the recent period.

Similarly, the wearing apparel sector has largely remained consistent, with most units continuing operations across the years, showing resilience despite variations in total numbers.

The figures suggest that a substantial proportion of industrial units in the textile and apparel sector continue to remain active in Jammu and Kashmir.

KMCH Organizes Program on Mental Health at Salvatore International School



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Medical College and Hospital (KMCH), Sempora, on Monday organized an awareness programme on mental health, Basic Life Support (BLS), and mental health at Salvatore International School, Shilwat in Bandipora as part of its community outreach initiative.

The programme witnessed active participation from students and teachers, with medical experts delivering informative sessions on maintaining oral hygiene, responding to emergency situations through BLS techniques, and promoting mental health awareness.

Three departments from KMCH-Dental, Anaesthesia, and Psychiatry - participated in the programme. From the Dental team, Dr. Aqrib

and Dr. Sehrish delivered a lecture on dental health, followed by a dental OPD that catered to around 200 children, who were also provided certificates.

From the BLS team, Dr. Shakeel and Dr. Asif conducted Basic Life Support (BLS) training sessions for senior staff and drivers.

From the mental health team, Dr. Shazia delivered a lecture on mental health awareness, attended by teachers and other staff members.

In his message, worthy Principal/Dean KMCH, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Khan said that the responsibility of a medical institution extends far beyond hospital walls.

Principal/Dean KMCH, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Khan said that the responsibility of a medical institution extends far beyond hospital walls.

44 Digital Transport Services Launched in J&K

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir has rolled out 44 online transport-related services under the e-Transport Mission Mode Project, aimed at improving efficiency and ensuring hassle-free access to services for the public.

Official data accessed by KNO reveals that the Union Territory is providing 20 services under Vahan and 24 services under Sarathi, enabling citizens to avail key transport facilities through digital platforms.

The initiative focuses

on delivering faceless and contactless services, including vehicle registration, issuance of driving licences, tax payments and permit-related services, thereby reducing the need for physical visits to Regional Transport Offices (RTOs).

With integration of advanced technologies such as Aadhaar-based authentication, e-KYC, digital signatures and AI-based facial recognition, the system is expected to enhance transparency and streamline service delivery across Jammu and Kashmir.

Intense Hailstorm Leaves Bandipora Farmers Grappling

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A sudden and intense hailstorm lashed several upper areas of Bandipora district, damaging standing crops and causing losses to farmers, officials said.

The worst-hit areas, according to KNO included Arin and Dardpora, where large stretches of orchards were battered by heavy hailstorms.

Locals said the brief but severe storm flattened crops, particularly orchards and early-season produce, leaving farmers distressed at a time when

they were expecting a good yield.

“Within minutes, everything was destroyed. We had invested our savings in these fields, and now there is nothing left to harvest,” a farmer from Arin said.

Another resident said, “This is our only source of livelihood. The government must step in and compensate us for the losses we have suffered.”

Farmers demanded immediate assessment and compensation, stating that many families in the affected areas depend entirely on agriculture for survival.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
HYDRAULIC CIRCLE ANANTNAG

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
e-NIT No.:- 01 of 2025-26 [e-Tendering] Dated :- 31-03-2026

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, J&K Union Territory e-tenders (in Single Cover System) are invited on percentage basis from approved and registered Govt. contractors, for the works mentioned below:-

SNo.	Name of work	Class of Contractor	Advertised Cost (In lacs)	Earnest Money (Amount in Rupees)	Time of completion	Cost of Tender doc. (in Rs)	Major Head of Account Head
1	Construction of Flood Protection works on Right side of River Veshow at Villiage Gudder	AAY	246.52	493040/=	05 Months	2000/=	4711 NABARD (Ridff XXXI)

Position of Accord of Administrative Approval: - Accorded
Position of Accord of Technical Sanction: - Accorded
Status of Funds: - Budgetary Provision 2026-27

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

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	31-03-2026 at 03:00 PM
2	Date of start of downloading	31-03-2026 at 03:00 PM
3	Bid submission start date Technical/ Financial	31-03-2026 at 03:00 PM
4	Bid submission end date	15-04-2026 at 06:00 PM
5	Date & Time of opening of Bids (online).	16-04-2026 at 10:00 AM

Note: i) The Department shall not be responsible for any delay in the online submission of bids due to any reason whatsoever. Prospective bidders are advised to thoroughly read and understand the instructions and conditions provided in the NIT/SBD, prior to submitting their bids. Submission of the tender shall be deemed as confirmation that the bidder has read, understood, and accepted all terms and conditions stipulated therein.

40. All other terms & Conditions otherwise not mentioned in this SBD/e-NIT shall hold good and shall be the same as stated in CPWD works manual, Manual for Procurement of Works 2025, GFR 2017 updated, and other guidelines issued by the CVC Government, etc. from time to time.

No. SE/Hyd/Cors/11700-16
Dated: 31.03.2026

Superintending Engineer,
Hydraulic Circle, Anantnag/Kulgam,
H.Q. Anantnag.

DIPK-163-26
DT: 06/04/2026

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
GULMARG DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Tele/Fax No:01954254625 | e-mail: ceo-gdagmg@jk.gov.in

E-Bid Document (Auction ID: 31367)
Out-sourcing of Two No Double Bed Room Huts at Drung on "As Is Where Is Whatever Basis" through GeM Portal for a period of 05 years
Reference: GDA/F-159/2025/1841 Dated: 14/08/2025

In pursuance of the decision taken by the Outsourcing Committee of Gulmarg Development Authority, for and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, bids are hereby invited from reliable, resourceful, and experienced persons/firms through the GeM Portal for outsourcing Two No Double Bed Room Huts at Drung, on an "As Is, Where Is, Whatever Is Basis" for a period of five (05) years, subject to satisfactory performance and adherence to the terms and conditions prescribed herein.

AUCTION SCHEDULE

SN	Particulars	Date/ Amount
1.	PQ (Pre-Qualification) Submission Start Date	08-04-2026 10:00 AM
2.	PQ (Pre-Qualification) Submission End Date	21-04-2026 04:00 PM
3.	PQ (Pre-Qualification) Assessment Date	23-04-2026 05:00 PM
4.	EMD Start Date	05-04-2026 10:00 AM
5.	EMD End Date	02-05-2026 04:00 PM
6.	EMD (Bid Security) Amount (To be pledged to Accounts Officer Gulmarg Development Authority)	₹ 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lac Only)
7.	Bid Submission/ Auction Start Date	04-05-2026 10:00 AM
8.	Bid Submission/ Auction End Date	05-05-2026 01:00 PM
9.	Minimum Opening Bid Amount (Per annum with 10% escalation for each successive year)	₹ 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lac Only)

PRE-QUALIFICATION (PQ) CRITERIA (TO BE UPLOADED ON GEM-PORTAL)

- GST Registration Certificate
- PAN/ Adhaar Card
- Valid Character Certificate duly certified by concerned Police Station/ Tehsildar/ ADC Concerned
- Certificate of Registration for Hotel or Restaurant if any duly issued by the Tourism Department/ any Govt. Agency competent to issue one and/or Relevant qualification (Degree/Diploma/ Certificate Course) in the Hospitality sector and/ or having experience in the Hospitality sector with documentary Proof to be enclosed.

SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- The minimum reserve bid for the asset is fixed at ₹5,00,000 (Rupees Five Lakh only) per annum, for a contract period of five (05) years, subject to satisfactory performance by the bidder and on-time payment of dues. A compound escalation of 10% shall apply for each successive year. The bid amount shall be deposited annually in advance before the commencement of each allotment year.
- The asset is auctioned on "As is Where is Whatever is" basis. All prospective bidders must physically inspect the asset before participating in the e-bidding process. No claims regarding major deficiencies, rectifications, or alterations in the asset shall be entertained thereafter.
- No structural alteration, addition, or expansion to the footprint and bulk of the structure beyond the existing plinth area and height of the structure shall be permitted under any circumstances.
- Any repairs or renovation shall be carried out only after obtaining prior written approval of the competent authority and technical vetting by the R&B Department. Unauthorized modification shall invite termination of the contract without notice.
- All repairs, including electrification and sanitation, shall be carried out by the bidder at their own cost after obtaining departmental approval.
- The bidder shall independently arrange any additional furniture, electrical backup, and standard crockery/cutlery for service operations.
- The bidder shall ensure that the shop front, counters, furniture, and display boards are kept clean, orderly, and visually appealing. Use of plastic flexes, loud music, or cluttered displays is prohibited.
- The bidder shall not encroach upon or obstruct pedestrian movement, ski paths, or access to the ski lift under any circumstances. Seating, queue lines, and temporary counters must remain within the demarcated area allotted by GDA.
- The bidder shall use only eco-friendly and biodegradable cups, plates, spoons, and packaging materials. Use of single-use plastics, polythene, or thermocol shall be prohibited.
- The bidder shall maintain and operate the asset in a professional, hygienic and aesthetically pleasing manner. Any structural facelift, cladding, or modifications shall be carried out only by the advice and design of a recognized architect and upon obtaining written permission from this authority.
- Failure to maintain the premises in sanitary, operational, or secure condition as required under the contract shall attract a penalty of ₹5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) per day without prejudice to the Authority's right to terminate the contract.
- The bidder shall make independent arrangements for staffing, stationery, and all other operational needs. Only professionally qualified and trained personnel shall be employed by the bidder for service delivery.
- The bidder shall provide uniforms and ID/name plates to the staff. The bidder shall be vicariously liable for any misconduct or unlawful acts by his/hers staff.
- The bidder shall ensure courteous and satisfactory service. Any complaints of misbehavior or substandard service shall attract penal action including cancellation of the allotment and termination of agreement.
- All equipment must be eco-friendly and shall be installed only after prior approval.
- The bidder shall make adequate arrangements for the safe disposal of solid and liquid waste and shall ensure compliance with all pollution control/ environmental protection norms.
- The bidder shall be solely responsible for the security and maintenance of the property, laws, and landscape, if any. No departmental staff shall be posted for the same.
- The premises shall be subject to inspection by authorized officials of GDA. In case of unsatisfactory performance, the contract may be cancelled summarily.
- The bidder shall coordinate with Tourism Department staff, if any, stationed at the site for smooth operation.
- Sub-letting of the premises is strictly prohibited. In case of premature vacation, a three-month prior notice and payment of full lease amount for the remaining year is mandatory.
- Daily cleaning, sweeping, and general upkeep shall be maintained by the bidder. Any failure may result in enforcement of remedial action at the bidder's risk and cost.
- The bidder shall prominently display approved rates for all services within the premises particularly at the entrance.
- The bidder shall maintain proper record of all collections made from users, including issuance of printed or digital receipts for each transaction for tax purposes. The bidder shall also provide a facility for online and cashless payments, including UPI, QR code, etc. approved by the Government, to ensure convenience for users.
- Guest registration, maintenance of visitor records including identification verification as per legal requirements, and compliance with applicable laws such as Registration of Tourists Act, Police Verification Rules, and taxation obligations shall be mandatory. Digital registration and submission of accommodation data to the designated authority shall also be ensured.
- The bidder shall be solely responsible for the safety, upkeep, and maintenance of the asset throughout the contract period. The bidder shall ensure adequate safety measures, including availability of first aid and fire-fighting equipment.
- Any proven case of negligence or poor performance shall lead to immediate termination of contract without notice.
- Provision and upkeep of heating systems appropriate for winter conditions shall be ensured. The use of open fires, high-emission fuel, or any heating equipment that may pose a safety hazard or cause environmental degradation shall be disallowed without specific written permission.
- A gestation period of 45 days or as deemed fit by the Authority or actual commencement of operations (whichever is earlier) shall be allowed.
- Upon expiry of the lease, GDA shall retake possession of the premises without any further notice. In case of overstay beyond the contract period, charges shall be levied at ₹10,000 per day for the first 10 days and ₹20,000 per day for the next 10 days. Thereafter, legal proceedings for eviction shall be initiated.
- The bidder shall insure the property in the name of the Chief Executive Officer, Gulmarg Development Authority, through a Nationalized Insurance Company. The premium shall be borne by the bidder, and the insurance certificate must be submitted within two weeks from the day of allotment.
- The bidder shall operate the double-bedroom hut strictly for the purpose of visitor accommodation and related hospitality services. Any conversion of the premises into a restaurant, bar, or retail outlet beyond the approved scope shall be strictly prohibited.
- Room interiors, furnishings, bedding, and sanitary facilities shall be maintained to tourism-grade standards. Minimum hospitality standards (such as linen change, cleanliness turnaround time, water supply, heating, and lighting) shall be adhered to at all times, subject to inspection by GDA or Tourism Department officials.
- No permanent branding, hoardings, or exterior signage, except the approved nomenclature plate with the GDA logo, shall be affixed. Ensuring harmony with the natural aesthetics and alpine character of Gulmarg shall be paramount.
- The bidder shall obtain and renew Licenses/permissions from competent authorities, wherever applicable.
- Any damage to the structure, furniture, utilities, or landscape shall be restored by the bidder at their cost prior to handing back possession. Restoration charges, if not complied with voluntarily, may be recovered from the security deposit or by legal recourse.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- Only eligible bidders who uploaded all relevant documents and submitted an EMD in the form of a CDR for the amount mentioned above and pledged to the Accounts Officer, Gulmarg Development Authority, shall be permitted to participate.
- The participant in the e-bid must apply in their individual name or in the name of a registered firm as reflected in the uploaded PAN and GST certificates to be uploaded on GeM Portal.
- No serving employee of any Government Department or Public Sector Undertaking shall be eligible to participate in the bidding process.
- The successful bidder shall deposit the Successful Bid Amount i.e., full amount upfront within seven (07) calendar days of the issuance of Letter of Intent, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited. In case of the due date of payment is a Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday, the due date for payment will be considered as the next working day.
- The successful bidder shall execute a formal agreement with the department within seven (07) days from the date of issuance of the Letter of Allotment, on a Non-Judicial Stamp Paper, along with an undertaking to comply with all terms and conditions. All expenses related to the preparation and execution of the agreement shall be borne by the bidder.
- The successful bidder shall be solely responsible for payment of all applicable taxes including GST, SGST, Income Tax, Labour Cess, and any other taxes as may be levied under the law. The bid amount is exclusive of these statutory dues.
- Electricity, water charges and other ancillary charges shall be borne by the bidder as per actual consumption and prevailing tariffs.
- Bids deemed anomalously high, aimed at disrupting the auction process, may be rejected and such bidders may be blacklisted.
- Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, GDA reserves the right to summarily disqualify/reject any or all bids at any stage of the Auction or after the Auction is completed on grounds of non-compliance with eligibility conditions, misrepresentation, non-compliance with the relevant Auction Rules, or non-compliance with any other pre-condition prescribed for participating in the Auction or any matter that may, in the opinion of the Authority, be contrary to general public interest without assigning any reason to the bidders.
- GDA reserves the right to halt the e-bidding process at any stage if any irresponsible bidding or attempts to disrupt the auction process were observed. Such intimation shall be issued through the "Marquee Message" on the GeM portal.
- The Bidders and their respective employees, agents and advisers shall observe the highest standard of ethics during the tender process and subsequent to the issue of the allotment and during the subsistence of the Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, or allotment order or the Agreement, the Authority may reject a Bid, withdraw the allotment order, or terminate the Agreement, as the case may be, without being liable in any manner whatsoever to the Bidder, Qualified Bidder, or the Successful Bidder, as the case may be, if the Authority determines that the Bidder has, directly or indirectly or through an agent, engaged in Corrupt, Fraudulent, Coercive, Undesirable or Restrictive Practice in the tender process. In such an event, the Authority shall be entitled to forfeit and appropriate the EMD or deposited amount as damages, without prejudice to any other right or remedy that may be available to the Authority.
- Bidders with outstanding dues or history of defaulting on payments shall not be eligible to participate in the auction.
- If the bidder abandons the contract midway, or if the agreement is cancelled due to non-compliance or non-payment, the EMD/ CDR shall be forfeited.
- Any damage to Government property shall be recoverable at double the cost assessed by the R&B Engineering Wing. Violations will lead to contract cancellation.
- The department reserves the right to use the premises for official purposes/events, without payment of rent to the bidder.
- The bidder shall comply with all departmental and statutory directions issued from time to time concerning law and order, sanitation, environment, and public interest.
- Conditional offers or proposals in deviation from tender terms shall be summarily rejected.
- Any dispute arising between the parties shall be referred for arbitration to the Director, Tourism Kashmir (Chairman Outsourcing Committee GDA), who shall act as sole arbitrator. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding.
- The Gulmarg Development Authority reserves the right to terminate the contract at its sole discretion, without assigning any reason, by giving 30 days' written notice to the Allottee. In such a case, no claim for compensation or damages shall be entertained.
- No extension shall be granted under any circumstances, including natural calamities or any Force Majeure events. The asset shall be re-auctioned upon contract completion.
- The Gulmarg Development Authority shall not be responsible or held liable for any kind of loss to the revenue sustained by the bidder due to Force Majeure events, including by reason of war, or hostility, acts of the public enemy, civic commotion, sabotage, Act of State or direction from Statutory Authority, explosion, pandemic or epidemic, quarantine restriction, strikes and lockouts, fire, floods, natural calamities or any act of GOD etc. that are beyond the control of GDA.
- Though adequate care has been taken in the preparation of this notice, the Bidders should satisfy themselves that the auction notice is complete in all respects and intimation of discrepancy, observed if any, should be given to the office three day prior to the PQ Submission end date otherwise it shall be presumed that the bidders are satisfied that this notice is complete in all respects.
- The issuance of this notice does not imply that the Authority is bound to select or shortlist a Bidder as the Preferred Bidder or to appoint the Preferred Bidder as Successful Bidder thereof.
- GDA reserves the right to verify all statements, information and documents submitted by the Bidder in response to this notice and the Bidder shall, when so required, make available all such information, evidence and documents as may be necessary for such verification. GDA may, in its sole discretion, share/ disclose all statements, information and documents submitted by the Bidder in response to this notice to any governmental authority for their verification. Any such verification or lack of such verification by the Nominated Authority shall not relieve the Bidder of its obligations or liabilities hereunder nor will it affect any rights of the Nominated Authority thereunder.
- Gulmarg Development Authority or its employees make no representation or warranty and shall have no liability to any person, including any Bidder under any law, statute, rules or regulations or tort, principles of restitution or unjust enrichment or otherwise for any loss, damages, cost or expense which may arise from or be incurred or suffered on account of anything contained in this notice or otherwise, including on account of the accuracy, adequacy, correctness, completeness or reliability of this notice and any assessment, assumption, statement or information contained therein or deemed to form part of this notice or arising in any way from participation in this auction process.
- Following issue of this Notice, GDA has the discretion to publish further information and to amend the Notice from time to time either on its own or in response to any clarification requested. All such amendments will constitute a part of the Notice and shall be binding for compliance on the bidders.

No. GDA/F-37/2025-26/01-04
Dated:02/04/2026

Tarique Hussain (UKAS)
Chief Executive Officer
Gulmarg Dev. Authority

DIPK-NB-82-26
DT: 06/04/2026

Strait of Hormuz: Is Iran Ending the American Empire?

WANA

Fifty years after the Suez Crisis marked the decline of two European empires, the world is now witnessing the emergence of a new order in the Persian Gulf—one in which Tehran, by leveraging the “power of the strait,” has become a dominant player in global energy dynamics.

According to international reports, as direct confrontations between Iran and the U.S.–Israel axis enter a critical phase, the Strait of Hormuz has turned into the central axis of this conflict. It is no longer just a maritime passage, but a decisive geopolitical lever reshaping the global balance of power.

Suez 1956: A Model Iran Has Now Perfected

The 1956 Suez Crisis demonstrated how a nation could dismantle decades of established power structures by relying on nationalism and control over a vital waterway. Egypt, under Gamal Abdel Nasser, effectively ended British and French dominance in the region by nationalizing the canal, signaling to Washington that the “age of colonialism” was over.

Today, analysts argue that Iran has taken that model to a more advanced level. If Suez changed the “ownership” of a waterway, Hormuz is redefining the “rules of passage” at the world’s most critical energy chokepoint.

Five weeks into U.S. and Israeli strikes, the Strait of Hormuz has become the strategic center of gravity in the conflict. Contrary to Western media narratives, field developments suggest that Tehran has not been weakened; rather, it has seized the initiative by transforming the strait into a global pressure tool.

The Numbers That Have Shaken the World

Data from maritime analytics firm Kpler paints an unprecedented picture of the situation in the Strait of Hormuz. According to these figures, maritime traffic has dropped by up to 95%. Since March 1, only 221 vessels have passed through the strait—mostly with Iranian approval and coordination.

A key detail makes this even more significant: 60% of these ships were



either Iranian-owned or heading to Iran.

These figures indicate that while Iran is simultaneously facing war and sanctions, it has managed to maintain its economic flows. In contrast, Western economies and their regional allies are grappling with fuel shortages and unprecedented inflationary pressures.

Within this context, some Western analysts acknowledge that U.S. military actions have effectively handed Iran a “weapon of mass disruption”—a tool capable of steering global energy markets, with an impact some compare to strategic weapons.

Why No Naval Fleet Can Break the Hormuz Lock

While Western officials initially promised a swift reopening of the strait, their tone has since shifted significantly.

French President Emmanuel Macron stated bluntly: “Opening the strait by military means is unrealistic.”

UK Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper also emphasized that the only viable options are “diplomatic pressure and sanctions,” not military escalation.

Military experts highlight several key factors behind this reality:

Cheap drones, expensive deterrence:

According to analysts, stopping tanker traffic may require only “one or two drones.” Iran, possessing thousands of such systems, can target vessels from deep within its territory or from nearby islands.

Decisive geography:

With a width of just 33 kilometers

and shipping lanes as narrow as 3 kilometers, vessels in the strait are highly vulnerable targets.

Qeshm Island: An impregnable stronghold:

The largest island in the Persian Gulf, with its complex terrain and natural formations, has become a secure base for fast boats and anti-ship missile systems.

An Admission from Within the U.S. Security Establishment

William Burns, former CIA Director, warned: “Even if the United States captures Iran’s southern coastline, Tehran can still lock down the strait from 100 kilometers inland. All it takes is a single missile or one naval mine.”

These remarks clearly highlight the limitations of conventional military power against a combination of geography and asymmetric warfare.

Hormuz: The Beginning of a New Order?

Recent developments once again underscore a key reality: in the 21st century, power is not defined solely by advanced weaponry. Control over critical energy chokepoints can be even more decisive.

If the Suez Crisis symbolized the fall of classical empires, the Hormuz crisis may represent a serious challenge to major global powers by regional actors.

Many analysts now believe the world must prepare for a new reality: the Strait of Hormuz is no longer just a transit route—it has evolved into a strategic lever capable of reshaping global power dynamics for years to come.

Amnesty Calls Trump’s Threats Against Iran ‘Disgusting’

Agencies

LONDON- Amnesty International has condemned recent threats by Donald Trump to target infrastructure in Iran, warning that such actions could amount to war crimes and cause severe harm to civilians.

The organisation described Trump’s remarks about attacking Iranian power plants and bridges as “disgusting”.

Its Secretary General, Agnès Callamard, cautioned that such actions could trigger “a potential wave of war crimes”, emphasising that civilians would bear the brunt of the damage.

“What a disgusting and hateful message,” Callamard said. “Iranian civilians will be the first to suffer from the destruction of power plants and bridges, and they will not be able to escape the attacks.”

She added: “This could amount to a wave of war crimes. This is Donald Trump, the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces.”

The comments came after Trump, continuing what critics describe as an aggressive stance, reportedly called on Sunday for the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, warning that otherwise Tuesday would mark the targeting of bridges and power plants inside Iran.

NASHA MUKT ABHIYAAN

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DIPK-179-26
DT: 06/04/2026

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