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Women's Quota Bill Fails In LS Despite Govt Push

- ◆ Falls short of two-thirds majority; 298 support, 230 oppose in vote
- ◆ Oppn calls it 'electoral map change'; govt terms it historic miss



KO Web Desk

Srinagar: In a major setback to the Centre, a Constitution Amendment Bill seeking to implement 33 per cent reservation for women in legislatures and expand the Lok Sabha to 816 seats was defeated in the Lower House on Friday after it failed to secure the required two-thirds majority.

The Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill garnered 298 votes in favour and 230 against, falling well short of the 352 votes needed for passage. A total of 528 members participated in the voting.

The proposed legislation aimed to operationalise women's reservation in Parliament and state assemblies ahead of the 2029 general elections by

increasing the strength of the Lok Sabha from the current 543 seats to 816, following a delimitation exercise based on the 2011 Census. It also proposed a corresponding rise in seats across state and Union Territory assemblies.

The defeat marks the first instance of a bill being rejected in Parliament under the government led by Narendra Modi.

Soon after the voting, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla adjourned the House for the day, announcing that proceedings would resume on Saturday. The three-day special session of Parliament had been convened from April 16 to 18 to secure approval for the legislation.

Following the setback, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju | [More on P6](#)

Rain, Gusty Winds To Continue In J&K Till April 19

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Moderate to heavy rainfall accompanied by thunderstorms swept across Jammu and Kashmir over the past 12 hours, while light snowfall was recorded in the higher reaches of the Valley, the Meteorological Department said on Friday.

Director Meteorological Department Srinagar, Mukhtar Ahmad, said the weather is expected to remain generally cloudy with intermittent spells of light rain and thundershowers at many places from April 17 to 19.

"Rain activity is likely to occur particularly during morning and late evening hours," he said, adding that gusty winds with speeds of 40 to 50 kmph and possible hailstorms at isolated locations cannot be ruled out during this period.



The official said weather conditions are expected to improve from April 20, with generally dry weather likely to prevail across the Union Territory till April 24. Similar conditions are expected on April 25 and 26, although brief spells of light rain or thundershowers accompanied by gusty winds may occur at isolated places during the afternoon. Strong winds | [More on P6](#)

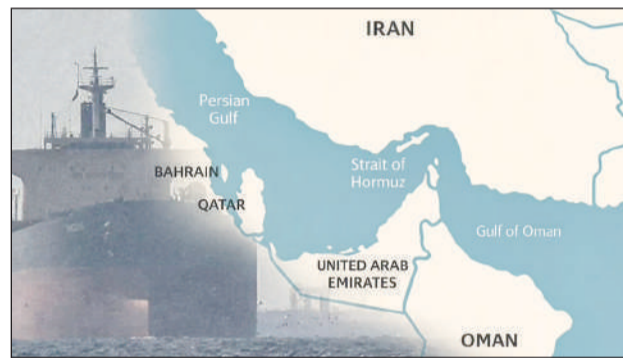
Iran Opens Hormuz Shipping Lanes After Lebanon Ceasefire

Oil futures fall, stocks rise as Trump expects Iran deal 'soon'

Trans Asia News

Tehran: In a significant development, Iran has announced the full reopening of the Strait of Hormuz to commercial shipping following the implementation of a ceasefire in Lebanon, in a move that signals tentative de-escalation after weeks of conflict that disrupted global energy markets.

Iran's foreign minister, Abbas Araghchi, said on Friday that the strategic waterway



would be "completely open" for all commercial vessels for the duration of the ceasefire, with ships required to

follow routes designated by Iran's Ports and Maritime Organisation.

The announcement came a day after US president Donald Trump declared a 10-day ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon, part of a broader diplomatic push linked to stalled negotiations between Washington and Tehran.

"Iran has just announced that the Strait ... is fully open and ready for full passage," Trump said in a post, welcoming the move. | [More on P6](#)

Pak Starts Preparing For Next Round Of US-Iran Talks

Press Trust Of India

Pakistan has started preparing to host the second round of high-stakes talks between the US and Iran during the next week for a landmark peace deal to end the war in West Asia that has crippled global energy

supplies, officials said on Friday

The US and Iran held rare direct talks in Pakistan over the weekend aimed at ending their conflict, but the talks ended early Sunday without any agreement. Official sources in Pakistan on Friday said that a feverish diplomatic activity followed to bring | [More on P6](#)

Free Ration For J&K Migrants From April 18

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday announced the distribution of free ration to migrants from April 18 across designated ration depots in the Union territory.

According to the Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, the ration distribution will be carried out under a special scheme for migrants in both Kashmir and Jammu divisions as notified by the government on March 5.

"All relief ration card holders, irrespective | [More on P6](#)

Border Villages Are India's First Identity, Not The Edge: LG

Says Security Flows From Soldiers, Border Residents | Urges Officials To Ensure No Eligible Beneficiary Is Left Out Of Central Schemes

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said a nation is defined by its remotest village, asserting that border areas are no longer the country's edge but its "first village" and a key opportunity for growth.

Addressing a public gathering during his visit to Sariah village in Rajouri, the Lieutenant Governor said



that under the leadership of Narendra Modi, a renewed focus has been placed on developing border regions and

integrating them with the national mainstream.

"Border areas are no longer the nation's edge but its first village and foremost opportunity. A new commitment has taken root, and connection with the mainstream is now visible," he said.

During the visit, the Lieutenant Governor inaugurated a Common Service Centre and launched several development works, including | [More on P6](#)

Census 2027: J&K Govt Seeks Accurate Public Response

Agencies

Srinagar: Ahead of the commencement of the census exercise in Jammu & Kashmir, the administration has issued a directive, urging the public to extend full cooperation by furnishing accurate information during the headcount exercise.

The Planning, Development & Monitoring Department has issued a formal notification, urging the public to extend cooperation during Census 2027. "In exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 8(ii) of the Census Rules, read with Circular No. 15 dated 12.03.2026 issued

by the Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India, the Government of Jammu & Kashmir hereby directs the public to cooperate in furnishing accurate and unambiguous information in respect of all questions that may be put to them for the smooth conduct of the Census 2027," reads the notification, a copy of which has been accessed by news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

The notification has been issued almost one-and-a-half month before commencement of first phase of census in J&K. | [More on P6](#)

Ganderbal NDPS Case

HC Denies Bail To Delhi Resident, Cites Conspiracy

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has rejected a bail application of an accused arrested from New Delhi last year in a narcotics case registered at Police Station Ganderbal, holding that the material on record prima facie establishes his involvement in a drug trafficking conspiracy.

The accused, MD Monish, had sought bail in FIR No. 276/2024 under Sections 8/21 and 29 of the NDPS Act with his

counsel arguing that no contraband was recovered from his possession and that his alleged role was based solely on disclosure statements and financial transactions lacking evidentiary value.

However, a bench of Justice Sanjay Parihar observed that the case involves recovery of 141 bottles of codeine-based manufactured drugs, amounting to commercial quantity, thereby attracting the stringent bar under Section 37 of the NDPS Act. The Court | [More on P6](#)

Haji Flights From Srinagar Begin Today

4,704 Pilgrims To Depart

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Haji flights from Kashmir are set to commence from Saturday, with 4,704 pilgrims scheduled to depart in 28 flights from Srinagar embarkation till May 5, officials said.

Executive Officer of the Haji Committee, Shujaat Ahmad Qureshi, said all arrangements have been finalised to ensure a smooth and orderly departure of pilgrims.

Out of the total, 3,990 pilgrims will travel through Srinagar embarkation, including 323 from Ladakh, while the remaining pilgrims will depart via Delhi and Mumbai, officials said.

In a new initiative this year, each pilgrim will be provided with a SIM-enabled smartwatch to facilitate tracking and coordination during the pilgrimage.

Authorities have also implemented stricter health screening protocols, while discontinuing self-cooking | [More on P6](#)

Anti-Drug Drive Intensified Across Kashmir Districts

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Police across several districts of Kashmir on Friday intensified awareness and enforcement activities under the ongoing 100-day "Nasha Mukht Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan," with major programmes held in Shopian, Budgam, Sopore and Ganderbal to combat drug abuse and promote a drug-free society.

In Shopian, police launched a sticker campaign under the supervision of the Senior Superintendent of Police, beginning from the Clock Tower. Awareness stickers carrying messages such as "Say No to Drugs" were pasted on vehicles and at prominent public places. The campaign witnessed participation from senior police officers, civil society members and local residents, reflecting a collective stand against substance abuse.

Police said the initiative was aimed at sensitising the public, particularly the youth, about the harmful effects of narcotics and encouraging them to stay away from drugs. Citizens were also urged to report drug-related activities, with authorities assuring confidentiality of informants.

In Budgam, police organised village-level Police Community Partnership Group meetings in Sonpah, Khag and Checkmarg to strengthen coordination with the public. Officers highlighted the growing concern of drug abuse | [More on P6](#)

Court Discharges 9 Accused In 1997 KVIB Loan Scam Case

M Ahmad

Srinagar: A court here has discharged nine accused persons in a nearly three decade-old alleged loan scam linked to the Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB).

The Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Srinagar, Ms. Tabasum, passed the order while considering charges in case (FIR No. 02/2001) registered by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) for offences under Sections 409, 468, 419 and 120-B of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC).



The matter was initially tried before the Special Judge Anti-Corruption Court here because offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act were also alleged against certain public

servants. However, on 10 July last year, the Special Judge Anti-Corruption Court discharged the accused public servants from offences under Section 5(2) of the J&K Prevention of Corruption Act on the ground that the sanction for prosecution was invalid and remitted the matter to the CJM Srinagar for consideration of the offences under the RPC alone. The accused persons were represented before court by advocates FA Bhat and Marouf Khan.

The case pertained to alleged irregularities in sanction and disbursement | [More on P6](#)

IGP Orders Heightened Vigil Ahead Of Tourist Season



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir Zone, VK Birdi on Friday ordered heightened vigil and intensified cordon and search operations across sensitive areas of the Valley while reviewing overall security preparedness

ahead of the upcoming tourist season.

The directions were issued during a high-level security review meeting held at the Police Control Room (PCR) Kashmir, attended by senior officers from CRPF, BSF, SSB, ITBP, the Army's 15 Corps, Traffic Police, and district | [More on P6](#)

60-Day Social Media Curbs In Jammu

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The district administration on Thursday imposed a blanket prohibition on posting or sharing communally sensitive and inflammatory content on social media platforms across Jammu for a period of 60 days, citing threats to public order and communal harmony.

The order, issued by District Magistrate Rakesh Minhas, invokes Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, to curb the misuse of digital platforms for spreading provocative and misleading content.

Officials said social media platforms have increasingly been used to circulate false, inflammatory and communally sensitive material capable of disturbing public peace, inciting tensions and endangering lives and property.

The order strictly prohibits posting, uploading, sharing or forwarding any content — including text, images, videos, audio, memes or reels — that promotes enmity or hatred between communities on grounds of religion, race, caste, language or region.

It also bans the creation or dissemination | [More on P6](#)



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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name of my ward has been wrongly recorded in Aadhaar Card as Saleha Riyaz.

The correct name is Soliha Riyaz as per official records (Domicile Certificate).
If any person has any objection regarding this correction, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Riyaz Ahmad Mir
R/o Panditpora Bala, Tangmarg
District Baramulla 2605.6601.1273 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 FAROOQ AHMAD WAR S/o Abdul Ahad War R/o Wadoora , Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Farooq Ahmad War born on 22-10-1968 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

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. 8002 1319 8311 Now I want to change my name from ASIFA BASHIR (Old Name) to ASIYA RASHID (New Name). In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he or she may approach the concerned authorities within a period of seven days. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Name:- ASIYA RASHID inf
D/O:- AB RASHID KUMAR
R/O:- SOIBUGH, BUDGAM , Jammu And Kashmir- 191111

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that I, Showkeena Maqbool, D/o Maqbool Ahmad Dar, R/o Parriswani Tehsil Kawahama, District Baramulla, am a permanent resident of J&K.

That my name has been wrongly recorded as Showkeena Begum in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 24158.3461.640). I intend to correct my name to Showkeena Maqbool as per my school records.

If anybody has any objection to this correction, they may file the same before the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Sd/-
Showkeena Maqbool fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No 8972 1979 0808 Now I want to change my name from GHULAM AHMAD GANAIE (Old Name) to AHMAD GANIE (New Name). In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he or she may approach the concerned authorities within a period of seven days. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Name:- AHMAD GANIE inf
S/O:- RAHIM GANIE
R/O:- KAKAN MARAN, BUDGAM Jammu And Kashmir- 191111

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No 9986 8699 7362 Now I want to change my name from GHULAM ALI ALAYEE (Old Name) to GH ALI ALAI (New Name). In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he or she may approach the concerned authorities within a period of seven days. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Name:- GH ALI ALAI inf
S/O:- IBRAHIM ALAI
R/O:- SUNDIPORA , BUDGAM Jammu And Kashmir- 191111

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No. JK-0420110013875 issued in favour of AJAZ AHMAD LOAN Parentage GULZAR AHMAD LOAN
Whereas an application has been received by one AJAZ AHMAD LOAN Parentage GULZAR AHMAD LOAN wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as AJAZ AHMAD LONE Parentage GULZAR AHMAD Which needs to be changed as AJAZ AHMAD LOAN Parentage GULZAR AHMAD LOAN. Also the Date of Birth in license is entered as 30-12-1988 Which needs to be changed as 06-01-1992.

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

I, Aijaz Ahmad Wani S/o
Mohammad Sadiq Wani R/o
Parisabad Pora Budgam I am
applying for contractor Card (D-
Class) in the office of the JKPCDC
Chief Office Bemina Srinagar,
anybody having any objection may
please contact above mentioned
Department within a period of
seven days after that No objection
will be entertained

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old name) Saima Mehboob to (new name) Saima Mehboob Hafiz.
In future i will be known as (new name) Saima Mehboob Hafiz.
If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact passport office srinagar, within & 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The DOB of my ward has been wrongly written in his school records as 15-07-2014 While his correct DOB is as per adhaar is 15-07-2016. 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 office of the New Horizon Instt. Of Sec. Education Yaripora Kulgam within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Mustakeem Shafi
S/o Mohammad Shafi Ganie
R/o Chitragam Shopian fko

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub .. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth.
PUBLIC NOTICE

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Mohammad Usman Pandith D.o.B 27/10/2020 and Zeenat Amir Pandith D.o.B 12/12/2022 S/D/O Amir Ahmad Pandith R/o ussan khowe Tehsil Pattan. In this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan
fko

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub .. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth.
PUBLIC NOTICE

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Reyaan Khursheed S/o Khursheed Ahmad Ganie R/o Buran Tehsil Pattan with verified date of birth 12/05/2021 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan
fko

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Sub .. issuance of registration order in respect of delayed birth.
PUBLIC NOTICE

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Faieq Mushtaq S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Najar R/o warpora Tehsil Dagerpora with verified date of birth 14/01/2021 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Sayeda Begum, D/o/W/o Bashir Ahmad Shah, R/o Kalsari Nihalpora, Tehsil Pattan, District Baramulla, J&K (UT), hereby declare that I was born on 03-02-1971 at village Takiya Batapora and my date of birth is not recorded in official records. I require a Date of Birth Certificate from Block Kunzer for official purposes. If anybody has any objection, he/she may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, after which no objection shall be entertained.

Sd/-
Sayeda Begum
R/o Kalsari Nihalpora, Pattan
Baramulla FKO

اطلاع عام

ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ مجھے اپنی والدہ ماجدہ بیگم زوجہ عبد الرحیم میر جو کہ بتاریخ 02-02-2024 کو فوت ہو چکی تھی مگر تقیٹ نکالی نہ گئی ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر پاک ڈیپارٹمنٹ آف پبلک ریسٹوریشن کے ذریعہ رابطہ قائم کریں۔ یہ عداگنہ کرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
بشیر احمد میر ولد عبد الرحیم میر ساکن ٹولی پورہ بڈگام
فون - 9697056479 MBC

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DIVISION, BIJBEHARA

e-mail : xenphe.bij@jk.gov.in
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
(Yatra Works)

e-NIT No.:- 08/PHE/BIJ/ of 2026-27 [e-Tendering]

Issued under endorsement No. PHE/BIJ/463-86 Dated:16.04.2026

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:-

S.No.	Name of work	Class of Contractor	Adv Cost (Rs in lacs)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Cost of Tender doc. (in Rs)	Time of completion
1.	Laying fitting of RWM, From Head works upto RSFP (at Baisaran Pahalgam) During SANJY 2026-27 under Capex Tourism MH-5452.	AAY BEE	48.43	1,45,290	1000	60 days

01. 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.jk-tenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below.

02. Bids must be uploaded on JKetenders.gov.in with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Division Bijbehara (Tender receiving authority).

03. Earnest Money equivalent to 3% of Adv. Cost shall have to be uploaded by the tenderer in shape of CDR/FDR/BG without which the tender shall not be entertained.

04. The quantity of items in the BOQ are purely on tentative basis just to arrive at a genuine / exact comparative cost. The quantity items in the BOQ can increase or decrease and shall not be mentioned in the allotment order.

05. The successful bidder shall have to respond within the minimum possible time (not more than 03 hours) to execute the requisite job failing which the Engineer In-charge or the authorized supervisory staff shall be at liberty to get the job executed / completed through any other means on the risk and cost of the allottee. If the allottee will fail to respond in time continuously for 03 turns his contract shall be deemed to have been cancelled and the job shall be put to fresh tenders after forfeiting of his performance security and shall be debarred for a period of 3 years in SANJY Works.

06. The tenderer shall have to satisfy himself regarding all aspects like topography of the area, climatic conditions, geographical conditions within the peripherals of the area, before tendering for the NIT of the particular area at his own expenses.

07. The tenderers have to submit the tender online without any addition or alteration in the rate schedule items or any conditions thereof. No conditional tender whatsoever shall be entertained even if the rates shall be lowest one.

08. The tenderer has to understand fully the nature of work or works as per proper nomenclature of items of work in rate/quantity schedule in the form of BOQ.

09. The tenderer has to sign a deed at the time of allotment and has to give full details of men and machinery available with him or he has to give a written bond duly stamped as per norms of providing men and machinery as required for execution of any of the work or works allotted to him.

10. The successful bidder has to remain in close liaison with the Divisional Office and subordinate sub divisional office of PHE Division Bijbehara till the expiry of the contract, besides the tenderer shall have to remain available (24x7) round the year as such have to maintain his residence near Head Quarter of the respective sub division, so as to remain available during night hours also.

11. The contractors who wish to put their tenders for the Yatra works should bear in mind that the works under tendering needs day and night operations and has to execute the work or works in all conditions of weather or any untoward situations.

12. The execution shall be made as per actual requirement at site, however the upper ceiling cost in any case shall not exceed the approved ceiling cost.

13. The agency shall have to dump material required at site except (G.I / HDP) to Sub Divisional store against proper receipt within 10 days positively after issuance of L.O.I. In case of failure by the agency, additional security deposit / earnest money shall be forfeited.

14. Since the Yatra works are of emergent nature, therefore, in order to execute works/jobs are to be carried out during day and night hours.

15. The Payment to the concerned agency shall be made as per availability of funds.

16. Work done claims have to be supported with pre, during and post photographic evidence.

17. The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ), terms and conditions of contract can be seen/downloaded from the departmental web site (jk-tenders.gov.in) as per the dates shown below:-

S.No.	Description	DD	MM	YYYY	Time
1.	Publishing date of NIT	17	04	2026	09:00 AM
2.	Download start date	17	04	2026	09:00 AM
3.	Bid submission start date	17	04	2026	09:00 AM
4.	Bid submission end date	22	04	2026	04:00 PM
5.	Bid opening date	23	04	2026	11:00 AM

- 01 Enlistment card Registration with latest card renewal 2025-26 / 2026-27 or online mode
- 02 Card verification
- 03 Latest GST Certificate along with GST 3B
- 04 Scanned copy of the latest Income Tax Return.
- 05 Treasury Challan (MH-0215) / e-Challan
- 06 Earnest Money equivalent to 3% of Adv. Cost shall have to be uploaded by the tenderer in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG without which the tender shall not be entertained.
- 07 Additional security deposit in the shape of CDR / FDR/ BG as specified, in case of unbalanced tenderer.
- 08 Debarred Affidavit duly notarized.
- 09 Bidder Address details.

13. All other terms, conditions are as per the PWD form 25 (Double agreement form)

DIPK-490/26 DATED: 17-04-2026

Executive Engineer,
J.S.PHE Division Bijbehara.

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI
Advt. No. R&P/314/2026 Dated: 12.03.2026

Online applications are invited in the prescribed Application Form from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor in the Academic Pay Level-10 of the 7th Central Pay Commission Pay Matrix, in the Centre for Hindu Studies, University of Delhi. The last date for receipt of application is two weeks from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News. For details, please visit the University website www.du.ac.in and click "Advertisement - Departments" under the Head "Work with DU".

Any addendum/corrigendum shall be posted only on the University website.
cbc21231/12/0011/2627 REGISTRAR

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI
Advt. No. R&P/320/2026 Date: 17.03.2026

Online applications are invited in the prescribed Application Form from the eligible candidates for appointment to the posts of Associate Professor, in the Academic Pay Level 13A, and Professor in the Academic Pay Level 14 as per 7th Central Pay Commission Pay Matrix, in Department of Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Electronics and Communication Engineering, Faculty of Technology, University of Delhi. The last date for receipt of applications is two weeks from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News. For more details, please visit the University website www.du.ac.in and click "Jobs and Opportunities" under the Head "Work with DU".

Any addendum/corrigendum shall be posted only on the University website.
CBC 21231/12/0010/2627 REGISTRAR

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI
Advt. No. R&P/317/2026 Dated: 17.03.2026

Online applications are invited in the prescribed Application Form from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Associate Professor in the Academic Pay Level-13A of the 7th Central Pay Commission Pay Matrix, in the Departments of Botany, Commerce, Computer Science, Economics, English, and Psychology, University of Delhi. The last date for receipt of applications is two weeks from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News. For more details, please visit the University website www.du.ac.in and click "Jobs and Opportunities" under the Head "Work with DU".

Any addendum/corrigendum shall be posted only on the University website.
CBC 21231/12/0004/2627 REGISTRAR

GMC Sgr Conducts UT-level Psychiatry Virtual Medical Board Meet

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Department of Psychiatry, Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS), GMC Srinagar, on Friday successfully conducted the first UT-level Virtual Medical Board Meet in Psychiatry.

The academic meet witnessed an overwhelming participation of around 200 delegates, including senior faculty members, consultants, postgraduate scholars and trainees from all medical colleges across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, including GMC Jammu SKIMS Medical college GMC Anantnag, GMC Baramulla, GMC Handwara, GMC Doda, GMC Kathua, GMC Rajouri and also Psychiatrists from Telemans team.

The session was inaugurated by Principal GMC Srinagar who emphasized the need for strengthening academic integration and clinical uniformity across all medical institutions of the UT.

The Scientific session mainly revolved around the newer role for mECT particularly in Neuro Cognitive Disorders. An atypical clinical case with diagnostic and management implications was presented by Dr. Chandini Wani senior resident and moderated by Dr. Yuman Kawoos, Assistant Professor Psychiatry and Dr. Faisal, Assistant

Professor Anaesthesia provided insights about anaesthetic implications of the procedure.

The meet served as an important platform for discussion on key psychiatric and mental health priorities, standardization of clinical practices, interdepartmental referrals, and structured academic activities aimed at improving mental healthcare delivery.

The role of IMHANS, GMC Srinagar, was particularly significant in facilitating the academic coordination, expert interaction, and structured conduct of the virtual board meet, reaffirming its position as a leading mental health and academic hub in the UT.

The participants actively engaged in discussions related to evolving challenges in mental health care, strengthening institutional collaboration, and enhancing coordinated psychiatric services across Jammu and Kashmir.

The initiative was widely appreciated by attendees as a step forward towards unified mental health planning and improved academic networking.

The Department of Psychiatry at GMC Srinagar reiterated their commitment to continue such UT-level academic and clinical engagements in the future, with the goal of enhancing both patient care and academic excellence in the field of Psychiatry across the region.

Div Com Reviews Progress of Noorbagh STP, Other Key Projects

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Friday conducted a comprehensive review of the progress on the 60 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Noorbagh, along with other major ongoing projects being executed by the Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED) in Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Akshay Labroo; Chief Engineer, KPDCI; Superintending Engineer, UEED; Executive Engineer, R&B; representatives from NBCC; and other concerned officials.

At the outset, the Superintending Engineer, UEED, delivered a detailed presentation covering key aspects of the projects, including electricity supply, leakage issues, pending household connections, relocation of shops along the 90-foot road, and demolition of unsafe structures at Alamgiribazar.

He also shared details on the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for newly developed habitations in Zone-III of Greater Srinagar, incorporating advanced systems such as tertiary treatment and SCADA for the 60 MLD STP.

The meeting also reviewed progress on other proposed STPs, including a 30 MLD facility aimed at mitigating pollution in Dal Lake, a 14 MLD STP at Alluchibagh, and



a 6 MLD STP to address pollution in Doodganga.

During the review, the Divisional Commissioner directed that all issues related to electricity supply and leakages at the Noorbagh STP be resolved by May 31 to ensure the facility becomes fully operational. He further emphasized expediting the connection of all pending households to the STP network.

Regarding the relocation of

shops, officials informed that funds have already been released by UEED and the process is expected to be completed by August this year.

It was also noted that UEED is in the process of preparing a fresh in-house DPR for newly developed habitations in Zone-III of Greater Srinagar, incorporating tertiary treatment, SCADA, and Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring Systems (OCEMS).

NIT Srinagar Hosts Rajbhasha Saptah

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Rajbhasha Cell of National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar on Friday concluded the Rajbhasha Saptah, held from April 13 to 17, featuring a series of engaging activities and competitions on campus.

As part of the week-long pro-

gramme, various competitions, including Administrative Vocabulary and Essay Writing were organized for the ministerial staff to promote the use of Rajbhasha in official work.

The events witnessed enthusiastic participation, with experts such as Dr. Neelofar Hameed, Hindi Anuvadak at RRIUM Srinagar, and Dr. Mudasir Ahmad, Assistant Pro-

fessor, Department of Hindi, University of Kashmir, serving as judges.

Mr. Mohammad Iqbal Dar, Assistant Registrar (Academics) and Hindi Teaching & Training Supervisor of the Rajbhasha Cell, In-Charge Hindi Officer Dr. R.P. Shukla (Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering Department), and Coordinator of the event, Dr. Sabzar Gani, played

a key role in organizing the events.

Appreciation awards were presented to the top three performers in each competition, while certificates were distributed to all participants.

In his message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, emphasized the importance of promoting Rajbhasha as

an official language.

He also encouraged staff and students to actively participate in such initiatives to strengthen linguistic inclusivity and administrative efficiency. Institute's Registrar, Prof. Atikur Rehman, appreciated the efforts of the Rajbhasha Cell in successfully organizing the week-long programme.

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PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
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FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES :
2479488, 2452222, 2452155
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SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
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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: 31
ZUHR 12:32
ASR 5:11
Magrib 7:06
ISHA 8: 32

HIJRI CALENDAR
29 - Shawwal
1447

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Jaffar Ali Sofi father of Rihan Ali Sofi, do hereby certify that my son is currently studying at Firdous Educational Institute, Zakura crossing, Srinagar. It is hereby notified that the name of his mother has been incorrectly recorded in the school records as Samiya. The correct name of his mother is Sanya Zehra.

Now, I intend to get the said correction made in the school records, if anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may submit the same to the office of the Principal Firdous Educational Institute, Zakura Crossing, Srinagar, within 07 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice in the leading newspaper, after that no objection shall be entertained after the expiry of the stipulated period.

Jaffar Ali Sofi
F/O Rihan Ali Sofi

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
Impaired Assets Recovery Branch
Corporate Headquarters
M.A.Road, Srinagar - 190 001
Tel:+91(0)0194-2481930-35, Extn.1070/71/72
Email: iarb.chq@jkbmail.com

AUCTION NOTICE
It is notified for information of public in general & interested persons in particular that auction of vehicle hypothecated to the J & K Bank Ltd as per following details is scheduled to be held:-

S/No	Vehicle	Registration No.	Model	Makers Name	Minimum Reserve Price (Excluding GST)	Earnest Money 10% of the Reserve Price
1.	Ashok Leyland Ltd Bharat Stage VI 2018 Diesel	JK01AL1862	2018	Ashok Leyland	Rs.3.50 lacs	35000.00

Auction will be held on 02-05-2026 at bank's zonal office M.A Road IARB-Srinagar at 1.00Pm "As Is Where Is" and "As Is What Is" and "Whatever There IS" basis for recovery of balance outstanding and interest in the loan accounts of M/s ARMCO FOODS through its proprietor Mr. Nissar Ahmad Mattoo S/o late Abdul Razak Mattoo R/o Adalat masjid Madeen Sahib Hawal. The above vehicle shall be available at inspection between 10:30AM to 3:00pm on any working day with prior arrangement with branch manager of J&K Bank, IARB-Srinagar (mobile No 6006656980) by the perspective bidders up to 24-04-2026.

The interested persons will submit their sealed bids for auction of said vehicle through deposit of earnest money of 10% of reserve price as bid amount for vehicle by way of payment order/DD in favor of The J & K Bank Ltd, prior to the auction date, which shall be refunded to unsuccessful bidder at the time of completion of auction process. The Earnest Money Deposited (EMD) shall not attract any interest.

The sealed bids will be opened on 02-05-2026 at Bank's Zonal Office M.A Road, IARB- Srinagar at 1.00 Pm in presence of bidders who choose to remain present on given day and time and they will be given an opportunity of inter se bidding to improve the offer and highest bidder shall be declared as successful bidder subject to his bid/offer accepted by the undersigned the successful bidder shall have to deposit the entire qualified auction amount within seven days (07). In the event of default in payment of amount or the sale is not completed by reason of any default on part of successful bidder Bank shall be entitled to forfeit all the money paid till dan by the successful bidder and the vehicle shall again be put for resale in absolute discretion of the undersigned. The auction vehicle referred here in above had to be lifted by 11-05-2026. The bank reserves the right to withdraw /cancel the bid / auction of the vehicle at any time/ stage without assigning any reason thereof and shall neither entertain any claim/liability of any other person whatsoever nature. All attendant charges / due's / taxes/ insurance/ including transfer of ownership/ permits etc. shall have to be borne and be the responsibility of the purchaser exclusively at his own.

-Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Simultaneously notice in terms of rules 6(2) of the security interest (Enforcement) rules, 2002 is also given hereby to the borrower/mortgagor/guarantors that the shall bank shall not sell the above mentioned vehicle in case the said borrower/mortgagor/guarantor pay the due's of the bank outstanding against the borrower in its loan accounts, together with interest, charges, expenses extra within 15 days from this notice.
Date:-17-04-2026
Place: Srinagar
Sd/-
Authorised officer

Form No 3
[See Regulation -13(1)(a)]
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL CHANDIGARH (DRT I)
2nd Floor SCO 33-34-35
Sector-17 A, Chandigarh
Case No. OA/1692/2025

Summons under Sub Section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with sub rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure)Rules,1993

Exh. No: 32855
JAMMU AND KASHMIR BANK LIMITED VS M/S SEVEN SEAS READYMADE GARMENTS
To:
(1) Ghulam Nabi Ganai
S/o: Ali Mohammad Ganai
Resident of Mustafabad Zainakote, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir

SUMMONS

Whereas , OA/1692/2025 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/ Registrar on 21.01.2026

Whereas this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons / notice on the said application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs 2314745 (application along with copies of documents etc, annexed).

In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under:-

- (i) to show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;
- (ii) to disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application;
- (iii) you are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties;
- (iv) you shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/ or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;
- (v) you shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realised by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.

You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on 30.04.2026 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence
Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date : 23.01.2026

Signature of the Officer Authorised to issue summons
Note: Strike out whichever is not applicable

Form No 3
[See Regulation -13(1)(a)]

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL CHANDIGARH (DRT I)
2nd Floor SCO 33-34-35
Sector-17 A, Chandigarh
Case No. OA/1776/2025

Summons under Sub Section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with sub rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure)Rules,1993

Exh. No: 33076
JAMMU AND KASHMIR BANK LIMITED VS M/S SM FOODS
To:
(1) Abdul Rahim Rafter
S/o: Abdul Majid Rather R/o: Kralpora Srinagar
Jammu and Kashmir-190015
2) Towseef Rashid
S/o: Abdul Rashid Bhat
R/o: Chanapora Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir-190015

SUMMONS

Whereas , OA/1776/2025 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/ Registrar on 04.02.2026

Whereas this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons / notice on the said application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs 16626426.30 (application along with copies of documents etc, annexed).

In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under:-

- (i) to show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;
- (ii) to disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application;
- (iii) you are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties;
- (iv) you shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/ or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;
- (v) you shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realised by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.

You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on 29.04.2026 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence
Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date : 05.02.2026

Signature of the Officer Authorised to issue summons
Note: Strike out whichever is not applicable

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A Tender Against the Trees

Sixty-two mulberry trees on a single road produce enough oxygen to sustain dozens of lives. A government tender nearly made them disappear.



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

The photographs reached my phone on the morning of April 12, 2026. A friend from Mochwa Baghe Mehtab sent images of workers moving along Canal Road with axes, targeting the mulberry trees that had lined this embankment since the 1970s.

Sawdust covered the ground where six trees had already fallen. The remaining fifty-six stood in the path of chainsaws scheduled to return the following day.

I posted the images to social media within the hour. The response came rapidly: nearly one lakh views, messages flooding in from sericulture workers, environmentalists, and families who remembered the oxygen shortages of 2021.

Director Ajaz Ahmad Bhat of the Jammu and Kashmir Sericulture Development Department was in Delhi attending to his wife's medical treatment when the calls reached him. He issued a stop-work order the following morning, canceling the permission his own department had granted three weeks earlier. The remaining trees stayed standing because enough people raised their voices at the right moment.

The confrontation revealed a deeper conflict between development imperatives and environmental law.

The Roads and Buildings Department's Rajbagh division had sought removal of ninety-two mulberry trees in November 2025, citing road-widening needs along the Bund Road corridor. After field verification, the Sericulture Department approved sixty-two trees for auction on March 20, 2026.

The contract, awarded to a local contractor for Rs 1.10 crores, specified an eighteen-month completion window. I examined the tender documents, and they contained no environmental impact assessment, no reference to the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act of 1969, which bans mulberry felling entirely, or the Jammu and Kashmir Mulberry Protection Act of 1949.

I calculated what these trees actually produce.

A single mature mulberry tree generates approximately 3,000 kilograms of oxygen annually while absorbing over 4,000 kilograms of carbon dioxide. The sixty-two trees on Canal Road collectively produce 1,86,000 kilograms of oxygen yearly, equivalent to the output of more than 4,000 jumbo medical cylinders.



Srinagar's air quality measurements continue to register particulate levels exceeding World Health Organization guidelines. The city experiences periodic flooding that tests embankment integrity. The silk industry seeks expansion to absorb unemployed youth. Each of these challenges intersects along Canal Road, where sixty-two trees perform work that no government scheme replicates.

At current market rates of Rs 10,000 to Rs 16,000 per cylinder, replacing this natural production would cost approximately Rs 5.20 crores annually.

During the COVID-19 crisis of 2020-2021, I watched families pay black-market prices of Rs 50,000 per cylinder while hospitals turned patients away. These trees generate that same oxygen daily, without supply chains, price fluctuations, or depletion.

The air purification capacity extends beyond oxygen production.

Canal Avenue handles thousands of vehicles daily, releasing particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen fluoride, and chlorine compounds. Mulberry leaves possess exceptional absorption properties for PM2.5 and PM10 particles, the microscopic pollutants that penetrate deep into human respiratory tissue.

The canopies along this corridor filter industrial and vehicular emissions continuously, functioning as stationary air treatment facilities rooted in place for decades.

Flood protection adds another dimension of value.

The Doodhganga channel requires stable embankments during Kashmir's monsoon seasons. Tree canopies intercept rainfall, reducing surface water velocity. Root systems create underground channels that absorb stormwater rather than allowing it to flow horizontally.

A mature mulberry tree absorbs over 400 liters during a single storm event. Sixty-two trees collectively manage 24,800 liters per downpour. Research indicates that tree cover combined with natural ground cover reduces stormwater runoff by up to sixty-five percent.

The sericulture department planted these specific trees along flood channels precisely because they stabilize soil and prevent embankment breaches.

The economic calculus involves more than timber value. These sixty-two trees produce approximately 1,860 kilograms of mulberry leaves annually, supporting silkworm cultivation that yields roughly 149 kilograms of cocoons.

At current bivoltine rates of Rs 450 per kilogram, direct cocoon sales generate Rs 67,000 yearly. The processing chain, including reeling, twisting, weaving, and dyeing, multiplies this value three to five times, creating total annual economic activity of approximately Rs 2 lakhs.

The trees generate 310 man-days of employment annually for leaf collectors, rearers, cocoon handlers, and textile workers.

Sericulture remains embedded in Kashmiri identity. The industry supports 34,000 families across 2,880 villages in Jammu and Kashmir. Cocoon production reached 8.5 lakh kilograms in 2024-25, marking an 18 percent increase that signals active sector revival.

Mulberry trees provide additional community resources: fruit for nutrition, branches for winter firewood, leaves as calcium-rich livestock fodder. These trees serve multiple purposes simultaneously, without requiring irrigation infrastructure, fertilizer inputs, or maintenance budgets.

The immediate threat of felling has passed, though a secondary danger remains. The R&B Department's contract includes concretization of the embankment pathway: laying concrete tiles and paving surfaces around existing trees. This practice violates multiple legal frameworks.

Municipal regulations throughout India require one meter of unpaved, open soil around tree trunks to maintain aeration and water percolation.

The Delhi Preservation of Trees Act of 1994 explicitly prohibits concretization, with the Delhi High Court and Forest De-

partment ordering concrete removal and imposing fines for violations. The National Green Tribunal has issued comparable directives nationwide.

Concrete surfaces surrounding tree bases create fatal conditions. Roots suffocate without gas exchange. Water cannot penetrate to root zones during dry periods.

The sixty-two saved trees would face gradual decline over subsequent years, killed by the infrastructure project that spared them from immediate axes.

I filed formal complaints with local residents and the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee. On April 17, 2026, Regional Director JKPC Kashmir issued official communication directing the Executive Engineer of R&B Division Rajbagh to cancel the tender.

The directive cited violations of the Jammu and Kashmir Preservation of Specified Trees Act and the Jammu and Kashmir Mulberry Protection Act. The Executive Engineer faces a decision that will determine whether environmental law takes precedence over contractual obligations.

This episode illuminates broader patterns in Kashmir's development administration. Government departments issued permissions that contravened existing statutes. Tender documents omitted mandatory environmental clauses. Field verification procedures approved tree removal without calculating atmospheric, hydrological, or economic losses.

But social media exposure and individual intervention proved more effective than institutional oversight in enforcing legal protections.

Srinagar's air quality measurements continue to register particulate levels exceeding World Health Organization guidelines. The city experiences periodic flooding that tests embankment integrity. The silk industry seeks expansion to absorb unemployed youth.

Each of these challenges intersects along Canal Road, where sixty-two trees perform work that no government scheme replicates.

The saws have stopped for now, the concrete trucks have halted, and the mulberry trees continue producing oxygen, absorbing carbon, filtering pollution, anchoring soil, feeding silkworms, and employing workers.

Their value accumulates daily, measured in liters of clean air, kilograms of silk, and the absence of crisis that characterized the pandemic years.

Whether this accounting enters official development mathematics depends on which documents the Executive Engineer signs next.

The author is an environmental activist and policy analyst based in Kashmir. He chairs the J&K Climate Action Group and founded the Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement.

KO VIEW

Kashmir's Godot Syndrome

In Waiting for Godot, two men pass their days in endless anticipation of someone who never arrives. They talk, argue, and hope, while life moves past them without consequence.

That absurdity feels uncomfortably close to the mood that has settled over Kashmir in recent years. A habit of waiting has taken root in public life. Many people tend to believe that some external force will step in and fix what is broken. Streets gather waste, water bodies choke, institutions falter, and a silent agreement forms that responsibility lies elsewhere. Personal spaces stay orderly and cared for, while the shared environment receives little attention. That imbalance slowly erodes the foundation of a healthy society.

This mindset shows up in everyday crises. Unemployment fuels frustration, drug use spreads among the young, and families struggle with rising tensions that often end in separation. Mental health concerns grow more visible, and physical ailments follow the stress that builds over time. Discussions happen in homes and social circles, but collective action rarely gathers force. A few voices raise concern about pollution, governance failures, or social decay, though they often stand alone.

People deserve better systems and responsive leadership. That expectation remains valid. At the same time, a society cannot outsource its conscience. Waiting for a distant solution weakens the instinct to act in the present. A sense of entitlement begins to replace a sense of duty, and that shift deepens the very problems people hope someone else will solve.

Kashmir holds a long tradition of community life where neighbours looked out for one another and local institutions held real influence. That memory still exists, though it needs renewal.

Schools, colleges, mosques, shrines, health workers, and local leaders can play a direct role in rebuilding a culture of participation. Civic groups can organize cleanups, awareness drives, and local problem-solving forums that bring people together around shared concerns.

Change begins with small acts that build trust. A neighbourhood that keeps its surroundings clean sends a message. A group that speaks openly about addiction offers a path for others to follow. A community that questions poor management creates pressure for improvement.

Each step breaks the pattern of passive waiting. Kashmir does not lack awareness or intelligence. It needs a shift in attitude that places responsibility closer to home. People who stop waiting and start acting create momentum that spreads through society. That shift restores balance between private care and public duty.

The characters in Samuel Beckett's play remain trapped in their waiting. Kashmir does not have to follow that script.

The Cost of Cutting Silk

Kashmir risks losing up to ₹20,000 crore as mulberry trees vanish and a centuries-old rural economy collapses.



Irshad Mushtaq

Mulberry trees have long stood outside many Kashmiri homes. Families planted them, fed their leaves to silkworms, and sold the cocoons to meet everyday needs, including schooling.

Over time, this simple tree supported rural households and sustained a local silk economy.

But today, axes bite into those century-old trunks with growing frequency. Every falling tree topples a family's future alongside the garbled wood. The loss extends beyond shade and timber. Each cut destroys a biological factory that minted money for generations.

Mulberry leaves provide the sole sustenance for silkworms. The equation runs straight: trees feed worms, worms produce cocoons, cocoons become silk, and silk generates earnings. One mature tree yields between 5,000 and 15,000 annually in cocoon sales.

This payout continues every season reliably for three to five decades.

Thirty thousand families throughout Ganderbal, Pulwama, Shopian, Anantnag, and Kupwara depend upon these earnings. Together,

they maintain a rural economy valued between 150 crore and 300 crore each year.

These numbers represent food on tables, medicine for elders, and fees for schools. They represent sons and daughters remaining in their homes rather than migrating to cities for domestic work.

Consider a farmer setting aside merely ten percent of his earnings, say 5,000 yearly, less than 420 monthly, into a simple fund growing at eight percent.

Over three decades, that modest sum balloons to 6,11,729. Families saving 10,000 annually accumulate over 12 lakh during that same period.

Multiply this arithmetic across all thirty thousand households. At 5,000 yearly savings each, the collective wealth reaches 1,835 crore after thirty years. At 10,000, the total hits 3,670 crore.

This represents basic mathematics, development dreams grounded in reality. The mulberry tree makes this possible.

Remove the tree, and this future vanishes, completely, and permanently.

Kashmir produces India's only premium bivoltine silk, commanding between 5,000 and 8,000 per kilogram on world markets. Farmers reinvesting ten percent of earnings into superior seeds, improved rearing methods, and better technology could double the sector's value from 300 crore to 600 crore annually.

Kashmiri silk belongs in Paris, Milan, and Tokyo showrooms. Over thirty years, cumulative sector value could reach between 7,500 crore and 15,000 crore. This requires



Kashmiri silk belongs in Paris, Milan, and Tokyo showrooms. Over thirty years, cumulative sector value could reach between 7,500 crore and 15,000 crore. This requires living mulberry trees standing tall throughout the valley.

living mulberry trees standing tall throughout the valley.

Combine lost earnings, savings destroyed before birth, and quality investments aborted, and the generational loss staggers, between

10,000 crore and 20,000 crore over thirty years.

This equals thirty thousand children locked out of college educations. Thirty thousand women losing their sole personal earnings source. Thirty thousand families leaving ancestral vil-

lages to seek daily labour in distant cities.

Compare this to development projects. A walking track costs several lakhs. Engineers can reroute such paths within hours when necessary. Fifty-year-old mulberry trees demand more than a single human lifetime to regenerate. The mathematics of development favours preservation over destruction. Meanwhile, the saw blades spin.

The mulberry tree functions like a fixed deposit issuing dividends each season. The principal remains whole while the tree stands. Every year brings returns through leaves, cocoons, silk, earnings, and hope.

Chopping such a tree means breaking a poor family's savings before maturity. It tells mothers their plans face cancellation. It tells children that college must wait. It transforms self-employed farmers into wage labourers overnight.

This tree gave Kashmir everything during five centuries of existence. It demanded water pipelines, government schemes, or subsidies. It simply grows and gives.

It asks only to remain standing. Ensure it does. Protect these trees on behalf of our families, our children, and the Kashmir our grandchildren deserve.

Save the mulberry, save the silk, and save Kashmir's future.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial educator.

The Strong Woman Trap

Beneath the surface of success and self-reliance, high-achieving women carry a loneliness shaped by expectation and silence.



Haziqah Showkat

Barbara heard it again last Friday, in a room filled with light and easy laughter. Someone called her a strong woman. It sounded like a compliment. She smiled, the way she always does, and let it pass.

Later that evening, she sat alone with her thoughts and turned the phrase over in her mind.

Strong woman sounded clean and complete, like a conclusion people had reached about her life. It left limited space for questions.

People saw her as someone who stood complete on her own.

Barbara had learned to live inside that idea. She worked, earned, spoke with clarity, and moved through the world with a sense of direction. She met deadlines, managed accounts, kept her home in order, and remembered every birthday. Colleagues praised her efficiency, while relatives lauded her composure.

Her life looked full from the outside. Friends often turned to her for advice, and family relied on her judgment. She became the one who held things together.

Somewhere along the way, the questions faded.

Kashmir provides a particular light for women like Barbara. Education, financial independence, and a voice that carries conviction place her in a different light. People admired her. They also kept a certain

distance.

Discussions around her stayed respectful, sometimes careful. Men spoke to her with formality. Women her age regarded her with a mixture of respect and hesitation.

She occupied a place few reached, and that place could feel solitary.

A report by the World Bank notes that women's workforce participation in India still hovers around twenty-five percent. Each woman who earns and leads holds more than her own story. She holds expectations, projections, and silent judgments. She represented possibility for some, threat for others.

Barbara felt all of it.

Her independence became a symbol. People saw ambition in her choices, some saw defiance, and a few felt unsettled by the ease with which she stood on her own.

The roles she once held with simplicity began to shift, and gathered new meaning. Family looked to her for solutions rather than closeness. Friends admired her self-sufficiency while struggling to find their own place beside it.

That shift brought a certain distance.

People assumed she could manage everything, including work, home, and emotions. They believed strength extended to every corner of her life. They thought clarity meant certainty, and survival erased her need for care.

That belief built a kind of loneliness. It lived in the space between her public self and her private needs. It grew each time someone said she could handle anything, as though her competence removed her right to need.

Barbara often found herself surrounded by people, touched only on the surface. Her achievements drew attention, while her feelings stayed in the background. She listened to others, offered comfort, gave time. She remembered the small sorrows people shared with her. She gave such depth constant-



BARBARA CAME TO SEE HER STRENGTH IN A DIFFERENT WAY. She saw it as the ability to feel deeply and still move forward. She saw it as the courage to speak her needs, even when others expected silence. She saw it as the refusal to let capability erase her humanity.

ly. It returned to her in small measures. Her inbox overflowed with requests. Invitations to simply be trickled in slowly.

A 2023 study by the American Psychological Association found that high-achieving women report higher levels of emotional exhaustion when their support systems remain limited. The study pointed to a pattern where competence

leads others to withdraw care, assuming it remains unnecessary.

Barbara understood that truth before reading any study. She lived it.

She remembered the way girls in her community grew up. They learned to adjust, endure, and place family first. Strength entered their lives early, often nameless. It arrived during evenings when

mothers worked past exhaustion. It appeared during winters when daughters managed households while fathers sought work elsewhere.

When those girls grew into women who excelled, the expectations deepened.

Now they had to lead, and lead while hiding every strain.

Barbara held that expectation with discipline. She showed up for her work, for people, and even on days when she wanted someone to sit beside her and ask nothing of her.

She wanted simple things. A talk that stayed separate from advice. A moment where she explained nothing about her strength. A space where she spoke freely, beyond discussions of her competence. She wanted someone to notice when her voice dropped, eyes tired, and the weight became visible.

Relationships sharpened this distance. Her independence drew admiration. It also created space between her and others. She gave more, understood more, forgave more. She had been taught to do so. She learned that love meant accommodation, that care meant sacrifice, and that a woman who asked for anything revealed weakness.

Over time, that pattern left her unseen.

This story asks for attention. Strength brings a cost when people treat it as a reason to withdraw care. Independence loses its warmth when it replaces connection. A society that praises its strong women while ignoring their exhaustion builds a hollow admiration. It creates a world where capability becomes a cage.

Barbara came to see her strength in a different way. She saw it as the ability to feel deeply and still move forward. She saw it as the courage to speak her needs, even when others expected silence. She saw it as the refusal to let capability erase her humanity.

Change, she knew, would take time. Societies shift slowly, ideas about women shift even slower.

Still, each discussion and moment of awareness, opened a small door. Each honest word chipped at the old assumptions.

Barbara stood again under the mulberry tree outside her home the next morning. Light filtered through the leaves and rested on her hands. She thought about all the names people gave her: strong, capable and independent.

She let them stay. Then she added one more, softly, for herself: Human.

This time, she held that word close.

— With a background in Law and EdTech, the author engages with the deeper structures that shape society.

The Almond Garden Archive

A heritage worker asks whether objects can outlive floods, wars, and forgetting.



Ilyias Rizvi

Blossoms filled every branch in Badam Va'er that morning, almond trees dressed in spring white. Bees drifted through, their low hum settling over the orchard. I spread the dastarkhan on the grass, anchoring its corners with smooth stones, just as my grandmother had taught me.

Schoolchildren gathered close, eyes shifting between the blossoms above and the objects laid out below. The Haft Seen workshop began with a simple question: what stories do the things we keep carry?

EdRAAK organized this gathering as part of Soun'tich Mashq, an annual series reaching its tenth year. We invited young minds to sit together, share food, and speak about heritage. The dastarkhan tradition matters here.

Families once gathered around these cloth spreads for every meal, talking through morning bread and evening rice. Today, tables have replaced the floor. Mobile phones claim attention during meals. Family talks shortened to quick exchanges and the art of eating together needs revival.

This year marks fifteen years since I founded the Foundation of Education Revival Through Arts and Aesthetics in Kashmir. We began with a small photo exhibition in 2013. Since then, EdRAAK has grown into multiple verticals: heritage walks through old city lanes, creative workshops at schools, and exhibitions featuring heritage crafts.

Our programs challenge obsolete methods by introducing arts, crafts, and AI-assisted pedagogies into learning spaces. Our goal remains constant through every season.

We want to preserve emotions, aes-

thetics, and creativity through direct engagement with living culture. We hope to foster compassionate, responsible, and imaginative individuals ready to serve the greater good.

Haft Seen draws inspiration from the Persian spring custom of arranging seven items beginning with the letter Seen. Each object holds symbolic weight: sprouts for renewal, coins for beauty, vinegar for patience, apples for prosperity. We adapted this tradition toward community archiving.

Participants brought household items, old photographs, letters, and diaries. One child presented her great-grandmother's copper samovar. Another shared a black-and-white photograph of the Jhelum before the floods. Each item opened a door to memory.

The workshop process follows a careful pattern. A participant presents an artifact and tells its story. The group listens with full attention as questions follow and related memories surface. After everyone shares, we discuss archiving itself.

How do communities save their own histories? What forms should these archives take?

The answers vary. Some suggest digital records, others prefer oral transmission through elders. All agree that objects tell stories when given space to speak.

World Heritage Day arrived this April with a theme that struck close to home. The International Council on Monuments and Sites declared 2026 the year of "Emergency Response for Living Heritage in Context of Conflicts and Disasters." Kashmir understands this language.

The floods of 2014 submerged entire neighbourhoods. Water reached the ceiling of my friend's house in Rajbagh. Heritage sites suffered extensive damage during those days. Paper records turned to pulp, wooden structures rotted, and memories dissolved along with the waters.

Current events beyond Kashmir reinforce these fears. The ongoing conflict in Iran has damaged rare heritage sites. The Gulistan Palace in Tehran sustained harm. A historic synagogue lost portions of its structure. Cities like Isfahan and Shiraz saw destruction at



cultural landmarks.

Estimates suggest around one hundred heritage sites have suffered damage throughout the Middle East during recent conflicts. These places hold collective memory.

When bombs fall, walls crumble. When walls crumble, stories disappear.

Climate change adds another layer of threat. Glaciers melt above our homeland, earthquake faults shift beneath our feet, and fire follows drought.

Each disaster tests the endurance of built heritage and living tradition alike. Physical structures matter to every community, and so do the practices around them: the way we lay a dastarkhan, the manner we arrange Haft Seen items, the methods we use to pass knowledge between generations. All constitute heritage requiring ac-

tive protection.

I once watched a young girl trace the engraved pattern on her grandmother's jewelry box. Her finger followed the floral motif while she spoke about Eid mornings past. The box travelled from Lahore during Partition. Three generations kept it through every upheaval. At present she wondered aloud about its future. Her question hung in the almond-scented air. Will her own children recognize this box? Will they understand its journey?

EdRAAK attempts to answer these questions through practice rather than theory alone.

We organize heritage walks through downtown Srinagar, stopping at wooden bridges and paper-maché workshops. We teach children to document oral histories from their grandparents. We encourage artists to reinterpret traditional motifs through

contemporary media.

Spring light filtered through the almond branches as the morning workshop closed. Children helped fold the dastarkhan, pressing the creases with small hands.

Someone tucked a fallen blossom between the pages of a notebook. The samovar sat cooling on the grass.

These small gestures matter, as they demonstrate that heritage survives through attention and repetition.

Objects remain on shelves and in hearts while stories persist through telling and retelling. Communities endure by choosing to remember.

— The author is a Srinagar-based crafts and heritage consultant and founder of EdRAAK, a decade-long initiative dedicated to reviving arts, crafts, and cultural heritage in Kashmir.

I WATCHED A YOUNG GIRL TRACE THE ENGRAVED PATTERN ON HER GRANDMOTHER'S JEWELRY BOX DURING YESTERDAY'S SESSION. Her finger followed the floral motif while she spoke about Eid mornings past. The box travelled from Lahore during Partition. Three generations kept it through every upheaval.

Adani Overtakes Ambani To Become Asia's Richest

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Tycoon Gautam Adani has overtaken fellow Gujarat business czar Mukesh Ambani to become Asia's richest person, as a sustained rally in shares of his ports-to-energy conglomerate lifted his net worth.

With a net worth of USD 92.6 billion, Adani surpassed Ambani, whose fortune stands at USD 90.8 billion, to become

the richest person in India and Asia, according to the latest billionaire rankings.

Adani, founder of his eponymous group, oversees India's largest private seaport network, is the country's biggest renewable energy producer and private airport operator, and ranks among the world's largest coal traders.

He is currently ranked No. 19 on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, which tracks the world's

500 richest individuals and is updated daily.

Adani's wealth is largely derived from his shareholdings across the group's 10 listed companies. A recent surge in Adani Group stocks has added billions of dollars in market value, underscoring strong investor appetite for assets linked to India's economic expansion and energy transition.

By contrast, Ambani's wealth, anchored by his flagship

conglomerate Reliance Industries that spans energy, telecom and retail, has seen comparatively modest gains, reshuffling the region's billionaire rankings.

Topping the billionaire ranking is Elon Musk, the chief executive of Tesla – the world's most valuable carmaker – and rocket manufacturer SpaceX. His networth of USD 656 billion is more than double of his closest rival, Larry Page, Page, cofounder of Alphabet, the

holding company for Google, is worth USD 286 billion.

Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon, is ranked at No.3 with a net worth of USD 269 billion.

Adani and Ambani are the only Indians in the top 50. Ambani had consistently been India's richest for over a decade before Adani's eye popping gains in company stock prices catapulted him to the top spot in February 2022.

However, his group's stock

tumbled in the aftermath of a damning report by a US short seller Hindenburg that led to Adani group losing USD 100 billion in market value at lowest point. This led to Ambani making a comeback at the top.

In mid-2024, Adani again overtook Ambani. This is largely because of Adani stocks surging due to infrastructure expansion and the energy transition narrative. Ambani again overtook the top slot in mid-2025

before losing it again this month.

The Adani Group has built a diversified portfolio spanning transport and logistics, integrated energy infrastructure across generation, transmission and distribution, as well as interests in natural resources, airports, defence and aerospace, data centres, cement, media, roads, rail and metro networks, real estate, urban redevelopment, food and FMCG, digital platforms and business incubation.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Women's Quota

informed the House that the government would not proceed with two other proposed legislations – the Delimitation Bill and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill – as they were interlinked with the Constitution Amendment Bill.

Rijiju termed the outcome a "lost opportunity" for the country, asserting that the government's efforts to secure women's representation would continue. "We will not rest until women get their rightful place in legislatures," he said.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah blamed opposition parties, including Congress, TMC, DMK and the Samajwadi Party, for blocking the bill's passage. He criticised opposition leaders for celebrating the outcome, calling it "condemnable" and against the interests of women.

"Women will not get 33 per cent reservation now. Those opposing this will have to answer to the women of this country," Shah said, warning of political repercussions in future elections.

Earlier, replying to a two-day debate, Shah had attempted to build consensus by offering an official amendment ensuring a 50 per cent increase in Lok Sabha seats across all states and Union Territories. However, the opposition remained unconvinced.

Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi rejected the proposal, alleging that the bill was less about women's empowerment and more about restructuring India's electoral map. "This is not a women's reservation bill but an attempt to alter the country's electoral framework," he said during the debate.

Prime Minister Modi, who was present during the voting, had earlier appealed to MPs to support the bill, urging them to act in the interest of "nari shakti" and ensure women's rightful participation in decision-making.

The government also pushed back against opposition concerns over delimitation, with Shah asserting that periodic redrawing of constituencies is constitutionally mandated and necessary to uphold the principle of equal representation. He cited disparities in voter size across constituencies, arguing that some seats represent as many as 45 lakh voters while others account for as few as six lakh.

He further dismissed allegations that the exercise would disadvantage southern states or delay caste enumeration, stating that the Cabinet had already approved caste enumeration alongside the upcoming Census.

With the bill's defeat, the government's push to implement women's reservation ahead of the 2029 elections has suffered a significant setback, setting the stage for a sharper political contest over representation, delimitation and electoral reforms in the coming years.

Iran Opens Hormuz

However, he added that a US naval blockade targeting Iran would remain in place "until such time as our transaction with Iran is 100% complete". The Strait of Hormuz, a vital chokepoint for global oil shipments, had been effectively restricted during the conflict, with Iran limiting access to vessels linked to adversaries. The disruption contributed to volatility in energy markets and heightened fears over global supply chains.

The reopening reflects a fragile diplomatic moment, with both sides maintaining a ceasefire agreed earlier this month after 40 days of fighting that began on 28 February, when the US and Israel launched attacks on Iran. The conflict inflicted heavy damage across the region and raised concerns of a wider war.

Tehran has framed the development as a result of sustained military and diplomatic pressure. Iranian officials say their forces carried out extensive retaliatory strikes during the conflict while maintaining a firm stance in negotiations.

Central to the diplomatic breakthrough was Iran's insistence that any broader agreement must include a ceasefire in Lebanon. That demand had earlier contributed to a deadlock in US-Iran talks held in Islamabad last weekend, which ended without agreement.

Iran's parliament speaker, Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf, reiterated the position this week, saying Tehran considers a ceasefire in Lebanon as important as one in Iran and urging the US to commit to a broader peace framework.

The Lebanon truce appears to have unlocked movement on other fronts. Trump announced the ceasefire following talks with Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Lebanese president Joseph Aoun, while US officials have been working to prevent Israeli operations from undermining wider negotiations with Iran.

Pakistan has played a central mediating role in the process. A high-level delegation led by Pakistan's army chief, Field Marshal Asim Munir, visited Tehran this week, meeting senior Iranian leaders including president Masoud Pezeshkian, Qalibaf and commanders of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

According to officials, the delegation carried messages from Washington and discussed the framework for a possible second round of negotiations between the US and Iran. Iranian media said the talks were part of ongoing efforts to facilitate communication between the two sides.

Pakistan is now preparing to host another round of high-stakes negotiations, expected

as early as next week, although no date has been confirmed. Authorities have begun extensive security preparations in Islamabad and neighbouring Rawalpindi, with thousands of additional personnel deployed and contingency plans for traffic restrictions under consideration.

Prime minister Shehbaz Sharif has also stepped up diplomatic engagement, visiting Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey as part of efforts to build regional support for a negotiated settlement. During a meeting in Antalya with a senior US adviser, Massad Boulos, Sharif discussed Pakistan's mediation efforts and the prospects for peace.

Trump has expressed optimism about the process, telling reporters he may travel to Islamabad if a final agreement is reached there. "If a deal is signed ... I may go," he said, adding that Iran had accepted "almost everything" under negotiation.

Despite the progress, significant uncertainties remain. The current ceasefire between the US and Iran is due to expire on 21 April, and key issues – including Iran's nuclear programme, maritime security and post-war arrangements – remain unresolved.

For now, the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz offers a measure of relief to global markets and a signal that diplomacy, however fragile, is gaining ground after weeks of confrontation.

Pak Starts Preparing

the two sides back to the negotiating table. It was met with success as both continue to observe the temporary two-week ceasefire, allowing Pakistan to relaunch its mediatory push.

After working behind the scenes, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif embarked on a trination tour on Wednesday, while Field Marshal Asim Munir landed in Tehran on the same day.

The Prime Minister, after discussion with the Saudi and Qatari leaders, reached Turkiye on Thursday night as the Field Marshal spent more than 24 hours in Iran meeting its political and military leaders.

Though nothing has been officially said about the outcome of talks between the Pakistani civil and military leaders, security officials back home suddenly became active on Thursday evening, authorities said.

According to officials in Islamabad, "preparations have started in Islamabad and neighbouring Rawalpindi as thousands of police and paramilitary personnel have started coming from other provinces."

Traditionally, the Islamabad administration seeks support from provinces to help in the work of law enforcement in case mega security arrangements are needed.

During the first round of talks, more than 10,000 security personnel were deployed.

There are also reports that transport companies have been approached by the Islamabad and Rawalpindi districts officials to inform them that traffic coming from other cities or leaving the twin cities may face drastic restrictions.

According to a message shared on social media, such restrictions, once imposed, may continue until the end of next week. It urged citizens to avoid unnecessary travel during the next week or plan well in advance.

Similarly, educational institutions may be closed in the two cities along with markets in areas close to the airport to reduce traffic on roads, officials said.

US Vice President JD Vance, who led the American delegation, said the talks failed to reach a deal, citing Tehran not forgoing its nuclear programme as one of the key sticking points.

Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, who led the Iranian delegation in marathon peace talks, said that his team raised "forward-looking initiatives, but the opposite side ultimately failed to win the trust of the Iranian delegation in this round of negotiations."

The conflict began after the US and Israel launched attacks on Iran on February 28, paralyzing global energy markets and disrupting trade.

The ceasefire between the US and Iran would expire on April 22.

The chances of a peace deal got further support when President Donald Trump told reporters on Thursday that he may travel to Islamabad if a final agreement with Iran is signed there, while claiming that Tehran has accepted "almost everything" currently under negotiation.

"If a deal is signed in Islamabad, I may go... They want me," he told the reporters on the White House lawn before departing for Nevada and Arizona.

Trump expressed optimism about Pakistan-led diplomatic efforts to end hostilities and secure a settlement before the current ceasefire expires, indicating that he would extend it, although he suggested such a move might not be necessary if a deal is reached in time.

The US leader has repeatedly praised Pakistan and its leaders, Prime Minister Shehbaz and Field Marshal Munir, as "extraordinary, kind and very competent", has once again shown his ability to swing the global conversation with a single statement.

Haji Flights

facilities. Instead, comprehensive food arrangements have been made for all pilgrims.

Due to ongoing repair work at Srinagar airport, flights will operate with reduced passenger capacity. As a result, aircraft will make refuelling halts in Delhi before proceeding to Madinah, officials added.

To assist pilgrims arriving from distant districts, including Jammu and Ladakh, accommodation facilities have been arranged at the Hajj House ahead of their scheduled departures.

Officials said all logistical, security and facilitation measures have been put in place to ensure a hassle-free Hajj journey for pilgrims from the Union Territory.

Anti-Drug Drive

among youth and emphasised the need for joint efforts to address the issue.

Pledge-taking ceremonies were also held at Government Degree College Khanshib and several higher secondary schools, where students, faculty and staff committed to building a drug-free society.

Meanwhile, in Sopore, police conducted awareness programmes in collaboration with the Education and Rural Development Departments in areas including Behrampora, Nadihal, Chankhan, Wagub and Boma. An anti-drug rally was also organised to reinforce public awareness.

Authorities also carried out inspections of drug stores and medical shops in Sopore to ensure compliance with regulations and prevent misuse of pharmaceutical drugs. Officials said both awareness and strict enforcement would continue simultaneously.

In Ganderbal, police intensified enforcement measures by conducting surprise checks of vehicles and individuals near Degree College Ganderbal and the Central University of Kashmir to curb drug peddling around educational institutions.

A special drive was also launched against the sale of tobacco products near schools and colleges, alongside awareness programmes in local markets highlighting the dangers of substance abuse.

Police across the districts reiterated their commitment to continue community outreach, awareness initiatives and strict action against drug peddlers under the campaign to ensure a safer and healthier society.

Border Villages

water conservation projects under JSB 2.0 and playgrounds in Sariah, Pukharni, Bhawani, Chapardhara and Namban villages. He also paid tributes to Brigadier Mohammad Usman.

Highlighting government initiatives, Sinha said the Border Area Development Programme, under the Vibrant Villages Programme, is ensuring that infrastructure and welfare schemes reach every household in remote areas.

"No map fully captures the true essence of our border villages. While maps show lines, I see vibrant communities and steadfast families contributing to the nation's progress," he said.

He stressed that national security is not only safeguarded by soldiers but also by residents of border villages. "A road to a border village builds not just connectivity but confidence in our defence. Electricity brings not just light but hope, and employment for youth transforms entire communities," he added.

Calling border development integral to national security, the Lieutenant Governor said his vision is to make every such village among the most prosperous in the country.

He noted that since assuming office in August 2020, the administration has prioritised the aspirations of people living in border belts. "We have ignited a new dawn of progress in these villages where communities have long stood as silent sentinels," he said.

Sinha directed officials to ensure 100 per cent saturation of key schemes, including HADP, Mission Youth and PM Mudra Yojana, so that no eligible beneficiary is left out.

"Our efforts have brought tangible change. Roads are expanding, healthcare is improving, and digital connectivity is transforming education in border areas," he said, adding that true development must ensure dignity, opportunity and confidence for every citizen.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor visited an exhibition on Gyan Bharatam and inspected stalls set up by various departments. He also launched the Vibrant Village Anthem and distributed sanction and appointment letters to beneficiaries under Mission Yuva, HADP, PM Mudra and PMAY-G.

He further distributed TV sets with DTH connections and felicitated TB-cured individuals, Nasha Mukta Abhiyaan volunteers and citizens for their contributions to society.

Senior officials, including Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, DGP Nalin Prabhat and other civil, police and army officers, were present at the event.

Free Ration For

of their categorisation into priority household, non-priority household or special category, will continue to receive 11 kg of free ration per person per month along with 1 kg of sugar as per the existing scale", Relief Commissioner Arvind Karwani said.

Individuals registered with the relief department under the non-relief category, such as

pensioners and classified under non-priority households, will receive ration at government-approved rates as per their entitlement under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), the official said.

The government has already made necessary amendments to the Jammu and Kashmir Food Security Rules, 2021, and the Targeted Public Distribution System (Control) Order, to integrate migrant ration cards with the NFSA database.

"This integration enables migrants to avail benefits under various government welfare schemes," the relief commissioner said.

Karwani also said that according to the government order, the existing scale of ration distribution and procedures related to inclusion, deletion, bifurcation, conversion and corrections in ration cards will continue as per the norms of the relief department.

The department has also issued multiple public notices and awareness jingles to inform the beneficiaries about the scheme.

The scheme will be launched formally in Jammu at 11 am on April 18.

HC Denies Bail

noted that the investigation revealed consistent telephonic contact between MD Monish and co-accused, along with monetary transfers made shortly before the recovery. These transactions, the Court said, establish a "live and proximate link" between the accused and the seized contraband.

Rejecting the contention that absence of recovery weakens the prosecution case, the Court held that conspiracy under Section 29 of the NDPS Act is a substantive offence and can be inferred from circumstantial evidence, including conduct and financial dealings.

"Section 29 of the NDPS Act makes conspiracy itself a substantive offence, and once there is material indicating meeting of minds, the rigours of Section 37 would equally apply," the court said.

Monish was arrested on 13 January 2025 from Delhi on the allegation that he conspired with co-accused persons in procuring and supplying narcotic substances, which were subsequently recovered in substantial quantity from the possession of co-accused Mohammad Rafiq Shah.

Relying on Supreme Court precedents, the Court reiterated that in cases involving commercial quantity, bail can only be granted if there are reasonable grounds to believe the accused is not guilty, and a threshold the petitioner failed to meet.

The Court further observed that charges have already been framed, making it difficult to arrive at such a satisfaction at this stage.

Holding the allegations to be grave and having wider societal implications, the Court dismissed the bail plea. However, it granted liberty to the accused to renew his request in case of any substantial change in circumstances or delay in trial.

Census 2027: J&K

The Houselisting Operations (HLO), considered first phase of census- would be carried out from June 01 to June 30 in the UT.

The notification states that Census is the primary source of information at the lowest administrative unit on housing conditions, household amenities, assets, demography, literacy, religion, economic activity, migration, and fertility.

"Census data are extensively used for planning, policy formulation, effective public administration, and delimitation/reservation of constituencies of Parliament, Assembly, Panchayats, and other local bodies," it states.

The Department has also invoked different provisions of the Census Act, 1948

The law makes it legally binding for every person to answer census questions truthfully "to the best of his knowledge and belief."

It, however, exempts citizens from disclosing the names of female household members if prohibited by custom.

The law also requires dwellers to give census officers reasonable access to premises and allow the affixing of house numbers or marks.

It has also invoked provisions that lay down penalties for misconduct during census operations. These specify fines and imprisonment for refusing duties, obstructing officers, giving false information, or neglecting responsibilities.

The law further states that individual census records are confidential and cannot be used as evidence in civil or criminal proceedings, except for prosecution under the Census Act itself. (KNO)

Rain, Gusty Winds

that lashed parts of the Valley on Thursday evening caused minor disruptions in power supply in several areas, officials said.

In view of the prevailing weather conditions, the Meteorological Department has advised farmers to suspend agricultural operations from April 17 to 19 as a precautionary measure to prevent damage to crops.

"The advisory has been issued to minimise potential losses and ensure safety during adverse weather conditions," Ahmad said.

The department has also urged the public to remain cautious during periods of strong winds and thunderstorms and to follow official

advisories.

Court Discharges

of KVIB loans in 1997, where loans were allegedly issued to fictitious beneficiaries on the basis of forged documents.

The court held that essential ingredients of the alleged offences were not made out against the accused.

On the charge of criminal breach of trust under Section 409 RPC, the court observed that there was no material to show that the accused were ever entrusted with government funds or had dominion over them.

Regarding forgery under Section 468 RPC, the court noted that the prosecution failed to identify any specific document allegedly forged by any of the accused. No forensic evidence or expert opinion was placed on record linking them to fabrication of documents.

Similarly, for cheating by personation under Section 419 RPC, the court found no evidence that any accused had impersonated another person to secure loans.

On the charge of criminal conspiracy, the court underscored that there was no material indicating any "meeting of minds" or agreement among the accused to commit an illegal act.

It also noted that private individuals arrayed as accused were not linked to any forged documents or wrongful financial gain.

Taking note of the fact that the alleged transactions dated back to 1997, the court observed that the prolonged delay had adversely impacted the availability of evidence and witnesses.

The court also recorded that the KVIB had already recovered around Rs 6.30 lakh through departmental proceedings, neutralizing any alleged financial loss. Concluding that the court discharged accused persons from the case.

IGP Orders

Senior Superintendents of Police.

During the meeting, the IGP directed officers to strengthen area domination and enhance surveillance to counter anti-national elements. He stressed the need to secure vulnerable installations, particularly key tourist destinations, and called for strict monitoring along inter-district boundaries to check suspicious movement.

Emphasising coordinated action, Birdi asked all agencies to maintain close synergy and ensure rapid response to any emerging threat.

The IGP also reviewed traffic management measures, issuing specific directions for Srinagar city. Officials were tasked with implementing a comprehensive plan to ease congestion and ensure smooth vehicular movement, especially in view of the anticipated tourist influx.

Preparations for the annual Hajj pilgrimage were also discussed, with Birdi directing officers to ensure adequate security arrangements and facilitation for pilgrims at all designated points.

He further instructed district heads to maintain strict vigilance over social media platforms to curb the spread of misinformation and prevent any attempts to disturb public order.

The meeting concluded with a resolve to uphold high standards of coordination, surveillance, and responsiveness to ensure peaceful conduct of the tourist season and upcoming events across the Valley, officials said.

60-Day Social

of fabricated or misleading information intended to trigger communal unrest, as well as the circulation of morphed or out-of-context visuals designed to inflame sentiments.

Further, the administration has barred the use of social media platforms to call for boycotts, issue threats, incite violence, or organise unlawful assemblies targeting any community. Sharing of speeches or material that may hurt religious sentiments or provoke sectarian tensions has also been prohibited.

The administration warned that violations would attract strict legal action under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and the Information Technology Act, 2000, with penalties ranging from fines to imprisonment, including severe punishment in cases impacting national unity and integrity.

Group administrators on platforms such as WhatsApp, Facebook, X, Instagram, YouTube and Telegram have been made accountable for preventing the circulation of prohibited content, failing which they may face legal consequences.

The order also directs social media intermediaries to comply with takedown requests under Section 69A of the IT Act and the IT Rules, 2021, warning of action, including loss of safe harbour protection, for non-compliance.

For enforcement, the Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu, has been tasked with ensuring immediate registration of FIRs against violators, while the Cyber Crime Unit will maintain round-the-clock monitoring of online platforms. Special monitoring cells will also be set up at the sub-divisional level, officials said.

The restrictions have come into immediate effect and will remain in force for 60 days unless modified or withdrawn earlier. The administration has urged citizens to exercise caution, avoid forwarding inflammatory content and report such material to the nearest police station or cybercrime unit.

Experts Say Families Hold Key to Fighting Drug Crisis in J&K

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As authorities intensify their crackdown on drug peddlers across Jammu and Kashmir, medical experts and addiction specialists have underlined that enforcement alone will not be enough to tackle the growing menace of substance abuse. They said families and society must play a central role in prevention and recovery.

Doctors, speaking to KNO said the tightening of action against drug networks will disrupt supply chains, which could push many dependent individuals into withdrawal and, consequently, towards seeking treatment.

"It is highly appreciable that the authorities have tightened the screws on peddlers. This is likely to reduce supply and increase treatment-seeking among patients who go into withdrawal," said Dr Nizam-ud-Din, Associate Professor at the Advanced Centre for Mental Health and Addiction Medicine, SKIMS MCH Bemina.



However, he said the success of such measures depends largely on how families and communities respond. "Family and society are the first point of contact and can play a vital role. The need of the hour is an empathetic approach—understanding these individuals as patients rather than offenders and encouraging them to seek treatment at Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATF) in their respective districts," he said.

Dr Nizam-ud-Din added that enhanced family and social support not only helps in harm reduction but also prevents patients from shifting to other

harmful substances or pharmaceutical drugs in the absence of narcotics.

Echoing similar views, Dr Aadil Ahmad, a medical officer at an ATF in south Kashmir's Shopian, described family involvement as a cornerstone of recovery. "Family support is not optional—it is essential. Patients who receive emotional, psychological and moral backing from their families show far better recovery outcomes," he said.

He said that addiction often isolates individuals, and reassurance from loved ones can significantly influence their willingness to quit.

"The reassurance that they are not alone, that their families believe in them, often becomes the strongest motivation to overcome addiction," Dr Aadil said. He urged parents to stay vigilant, maintain open communication with their children, and educate them about the dangers of substance abuse.

Experts called on society at large to shed stigma and adopt a compassionate outlook towards those battling addiction. Addiction should be viewed through the lens of empathy, not judgment, they said, adding that only then will affected individuals feel safe enough to seek help without fear of social exclusion.

Doctors stressed the urgent need to establish Indoor Patient Department (IPD) facilities in every district. They pointed out that severe cases often require medically supervised detoxification and continuous monitoring, which is not currently available everywhere.

They further called for

strengthening infrastructure, manpower, and outreach, saying that with proper facilities, ATF centres can significantly scale up their impact.

In addition to treatment, experts called for preventive strategies, particularly through education. They called for large-scale awareness campaigns in schools and colleges, where teachers and preachers can play a proactive role in identifying early warning signs of substance abuse and guiding students towards counselling.

According to a report by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment, Jammu and Kashmir has an estimated 14 lakh drug users, including over 5 lakh opioid users. Disturbingly, around 95,000 children in the 10-17 age group are reported to be affected.

Without collective action involving families, communities, healthcare providers, and authorities, the fight against drug addiction cannot be won, doctors said.

Thousands Join Anti-Drug Rally in Handwara

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Braving persistent rains, thousands of people on Friday participated in a massive anti-drug rally in Handwara town of north Kashmir, calling for urgent action against substance abuse.

The rally, organised under the "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan", witnessed participation from students, local associations and officials from civil and police departments.

Carrying banners and placards reading "Say No to Drugs, Yes to Life" and "Choose Health, Not Drugs", participants marched through the town, raising slogans against drugs.

Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Shrikant Bala-sahab Suse, as reported by KNO said the campaign has been underway



for the past several days and appreciated the large turnout despite inclement weather.

Addressing the gathering, the DC thanked participants for their commitment and stressed the need for sustained and joint efforts to eradicate the drug menace.

MLA Sajad Gani Lone said the fight against drugs requires collective action from all sections of society. He said drug abuse is not limited to individuals but is destroying entire families.

"Families, religious lead-

ers and community members must take responsibility and actively work to curb the growing menace," Lone said. He called upon preachers to raise awareness during prayers.

The rally was attended by senior officials, including the Commissioner Secretary, besides officers from the police and civil administration.

The event formed part of a 100-day special campaign launched under the "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan" aimed at curbing drug abuse across the region.

Sopore: 34 FIRs, 40 Arrests in Anti-Drug Drives This Year So Far

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police in Sopore have intensified anti-drug crackdown, registering 34 FIRs and arresting 40 persons in connection with multiple cases under the NDPS Act till April 17 this year, officials said.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sopore, Iftikhar Talib, as reported by KNO said that a significant quantity of contraband has been seized during the on-going drive aimed at dismantling the drug network in the area.

He said action has also been taken against vehicles and drivers involved in drug-related activities. "Around 20 vehicles have been deregistered during the operation, while registrations have been can-

celled. Besides, 15 driving licences have also been cancelled," the SSP said, adding that stricter measures will follow in future.

Talib said the police are focusing on

not just arrest individuals involved in peddling," he said.

He added that enforcement alone cannot curb the menace and called for collective action from society. "Drug abuse is a social crime. If we look at it only as a policing issue, it will be difficult to tackle. Public awareness and community participation are crucial," he said.

SSP Talib said police have also launched awareness campaigns in schools and localities, while religious leaders are being engaged to spread anti-drug messaging. He urged people to play an active role in the fight against drugs and support efforts to curb the growing menace.



breaking the supply chain by targeting drug peddlers and their networks. "We are working to dismantle the entire supply chain,

Residents Decry Alleged Neglect of Ashmuji-Bhaan Road

SRINAGAR: The deteriorating condition of the Ashmuji-Bhaan road in south Kashmir's Kulgam district has become a major cause of concern for residents, who allege that official apathy has turned their daily commute into a struggle.

The road, riddled with potholes and thick layers of dust, is causing immense inconvenience to commuters, traders, and students alike.

Locals, speaking to KNO, said the stretch, once macadamized nearly a decade ago, has now deteriorated to such an extent that it is barely motorable in several parts.

Mohd Shafi, a shopkeeper from Ashmuji, said the poor condition of the road has directly affected his livelihood. "I started this shop many years ago, and things were running smoothly earlier. But now, the dust from the road constantly enters my shop, damaging goods and making it difficult to even sit inside," he said. "Customers avoid stopping here because of the dust and inconvenience, which has reduced my income significantly."

Residents from both Ashmuji and Bhaan villages echoed similar concerns, stating that the road has become a persistent source of trouble for the entire community. "The road was macadamised around 10 years ago, but since then, no proper maintenance has been carried out. Today, it is completely damaged and full of potholes, making travel extremely difficult," said Sahil Ahmad, another resident.

He said the condition worsens during adverse weather. "In dry weather, the dust creates pollution and health issues, while in rainy conditions, the potholes fill with water, turning the road muddy and dangerous," Ahmad added.

Locals said the road serves as a crucial link between Kulgam and Anantnag districts, connecting over ten villages and catering to an estimated population of around 30,000 people. Despite its importance, they allege that the stretch has been neglected for years. (Observer News Service)

SASCI Reforms Aim at Capital Growth: CS

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo convened a high-level meeting of the Finance Department, attended by the Administrative Secretaries, to review the progress of departmental work plans and the status of reforms under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI).

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary assessed expenditure trends and underscored the importance of timely and efficient utilization of allocated resources. He emphasized the need to prioritize capital expenditure (Capex) from the very beginning of the financial year, cautioning against the tendency of last-minute spending rushes that often compromise efficiency and outcomes. Highlighting the importance of proactive planning, the Chief Secretary directed departments to ensure prompt uploading of works on the BEAMS portal to facilitate timely tendering and execution. He further stressed the need for equitable distribution of projects across districts, aligned with on-ground requirements to ensure balanced development across all regions. (Observer News Service)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to the general public that I Mohammad Sadiq Awan S/o Habibullah Awan R/o Mayan Mohara Baramulla J&K intend to correct the particular in my driving license bearing No JK0520160055596 from Mohamed Sadiq Awan and DOB 10-11-1995 to Mohammad Sadiq Awan and DOB 10-01-1995 as per my aadhar card. In this regard if anybody have any kind of objection he/she may file the same with ARTO Baramulla within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained afterwards.

Budgam Sees Major Action against Illegal Mining

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Authorities in central Kashmir's Budgam district have intensified their crackdown on illegal mining, registering 23 FIRs and arresting 24 individuals during the first quarter of 2026, officials said.

According to data obtained by KNO, a total of

45 vehicles involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals were seized across various parts of the district. These include 17 tippers, 20 tractors, five JCBs, two L&T machines, and one sand dredger.

The enforcement drive was carried out in multiple areas, including Beerwah,

Khag, Hardpanzoo, Chadoora, Kanigund, Doodganga, and Waterhail.

Officials said that apart from police action, the Department of Geology and Mining has also imposed fines amounting to lakhs of rupees on violators.

Police have urged the public to cooperate and

report instances of illegal mining, stating that community participation is vital in tackling the issue effectively.

Reaffirming its commitment, Budgam Police said it will continue to act against offenders to safeguard natural resources and maintain ecological balance in the district.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW (R&B) DIVISION ZAINPORA
e-mail:- randb-zainapora@jk.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
CIVIL WORKS, SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (up to Rs. 2.50 Crores)
NIT No: 05/ZNP/RnB/e-Tendering/2026-27 Dated: 16-04-2026
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Major Head Of Account	Advertised cost (in Lacs)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion	Cost of T/Doc (Rs.)	Technical sanction No. & Date
1	Minor Repair at High School Aglar.	SAMAGRA	Adv. Cost without GST: 0.838 Adv. Cost with GST: 0.988	1976/-	DEE	20 Days	200/-	05/TS/SAMAGRA (PAB) of 2026-27 Dated: 11-04-2026
2	Minor Repair at Middle School Dachoo.	SAMAGRA	Adv. Cost without GST: 0.838 Adv. Cost with GST: 0.988	1976/-	DEE	20 Days	200/-	06/TS/SAMAGRA (PAB) of 2026-27 Dated: 11-04-2026
3	Minor Repair at Middle School Pargochi.	SAMAGRA	Adv. Cost without GST: 0.846 Adv. Cost with GST: 0.998	1996/-	DEE	20 Days	200/-	07/TS/SAMAGRA (PAB) of 2026-27 Dated: 11-04-2026
4	Minor Repair at Middle School Herman.	SAMAGRA	Adv. Cost without GST: 0.837 Adv. Cost with GST: 0.987	1974/-	DEE	20 Days	200/-	08/TS/SAMAGRA (PAB) of 2026-27 Dated: 11-04-2026

Position of funds: - Committed
Project Authority: Project Director, Samagra Shiksha J&K
AAA No. Date: 396-CHIRAG of 2026 Dated: 04-02-2026
The Payment shall be made strictly as per the release of funds by the Competent authority.
1. 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	16-04-2026
2	Document downloading Start Date.	16-04-2026
3	Document Downloading End Date.	07-05-2026
4	Bid submission Start Date.	16-04-2026
5	Bid Submission End Date.	07-05-2026
6	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	08-05-2026

1. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 PWD in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Zainpora (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.
Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
1.1 At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Zainpora. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the Bid Cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period beyond 60 Days.
1.2 Provided that the fee shall not exceed 10 lakhs under any circumstances.
NOTE: The "sum in dispute" shall refer to the aggregate of all the disputed amounts, both the claim(s) amount plus the counter claim(s) amount.
32. The tender/bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.
33. Any typographical error if found in the BOQ/BOQs/NIT will be rectified as per original estimate/DPR/SSR/GCC whichever is appropriate and will be paid accordingly.
34. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form) as well as this NIT.
No: R&B/ZNP/DIV/NIT/216-26
Dt: 16-04-2026
DIPK-487-26
Dt: 17/04/2026

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER, SHANGUS
Email- dorswd.00010018@jk.gov.in

Subject: Provisional Selection List of Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) of Poshan Project Shangus and inviting of objections thereof. (PUBLIC NOTICE)

In pursuance to the Government Order No. 222-JK (SWD) 2022 dated 30.11.2022 and Government Order No. 103-JK (SWD) of 2023 dated 28-04-2023 and communication No. SWD-ICDS/43/2022 dated 14.08.2023 and approval from Mission Director Poshan J&K Vide No. MD/Poshan/38344-47 dated 03.12.2024 (for AWH) and MD/Poshan/47117-27 dated 24.12.2025 (AWWs) and advertisement Notice for Sahayikas. (Anganwadi Helpers) was issued vide Notification No:- 21 of CDPO 2026, Dated:-01-01-2026, Extension Notice No: CDPO/SHG/2025-26/400, Dated: 19-01-2026, Published in Daily Newspaper's Kashmir Monitor, Indian Times, Jabroot, Kashmir Digest on 03-01-2026 and Precious Kashmir, Daily Shahaarbeen Times on 21-01-2026 respectively. In response to said advertisement notices, 02 application forms were received against 01 post of Sahayika (AWH) for AWC- Eidgah Shangus (P/h- Shangus-B PC-09) within the stipulated time period. Out of the 02 application forms, 1st meritorious candidate namely Rozi Akhter withdraw her candidature due to personal reasons. Accordingly application form of 2nd meritorious candidate namely Nayeema was scrutinized by the selection Committees (Block level selection committee) and thereby resulting in framing the Panel showing merit duly signed by all Committee members and accordingly Provisional selection list was framed. Provisional Selection list (Annexure-A) is hereby published for information of public in general and applicants/Candidates in particular for filing appeal/Objections if any.

The appeal/objection (if any) against the Provisional Selection list, shall be filed in the office of the Child Development Project Officer, Poshan Project (ICDS) Shangus against proper receipt within ten days (in office Hours) from the date of publication of this notification. No appeal/objection shall be entertained after expiry of the last date of filing/Appeal/Objection.

Annexure-A of CDPO/SHG/2026-27/35-41 Dated: 16-04-2026.

Provisional Selection List for the post of SAHAYIKAS (Anganwadi Helper's) in response to the Adv. Notice No: 21 of CDPO 2026 Dated: 01/01/2026, further extended vide this office Extension No: CDPO/SHG/2025-26/400, Dated:19-01-2026

S.No	Appl. S.No	Panchayat Haika/ Municipal Ward	Name of the AWC	Name of the Candidate	Parantage. W/o	Qualif.	Board	DOB (DD/MM/YY)	Married/ Unmarried	Marks 10th			Total % age	Remarks
										Max Marks	Marks Obtained	%age		
1	11	Shangus-B PC-09	Eidgah Shangus	Nayeema	W/o Abid Hussain	10th	JKBOSE	18-10-89	Married	198	500	39.60%	39.60%	Selected

No: CDPO/SHG/2026-27/35-41
Dated: 16-04-2026
DIPK-488-26
Dt: 17/04/2026
Sd/-
Child dev. Project Officer,
Poshan Shangus.



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