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LG: Laws Alone Can't Win War On Drugs

Sets 85-Day Target For Drug-Free J&K

Says Crisis Fueled By Neighbouring Country To Fund Terror

Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday set a results-driven agenda for Jammu and Kashmir's ongoing anti-drug campaign, stating that the success of the next phase will be measured not by public mobilisations or slogans, but by concrete outcomes on the ground.

Addressing officials and community stakeholders, the Lieutenant Governor said the next 85 days are critical in dismantling the drug network and reversing the damage caused by substance abuse across villages and urban neighbourhoods.

"Success in the next 85 days will not be measured by marches or slogans, but by how deeply the drug menace is cleaned out from villages and city



neighbourhoods," he said.

Outlining a clear framework, Sinha called for weekly tracking of progress, insisting that authorities must present measurable indicators of impact. These include the number of individuals rehabilitated, drug peddlers and smugglers prosecuted, fake de-addiction centres shut down, cases registered, and the quantity of contraband seized.

He also stressed the role of community participation, directing officials to ensure the formation of women's committees in panchayats and urban wards to | [More on P6](#)

Trump Halts Envoys' Pak Visit As Iran Pushes Demands

"You're not going to be making any more 18 hour flights to sit around talking about nothing." - Trump Told Witkof & Kushner

Trans Asia News

Islamabad: Iranian Foreign minister Abbas Araghchi left Islamabad on Saturday after holding talks with Pakistani leadership on regional security and efforts to sustain a ceasefire with the United States, presenting Tehran's demands for ending the eight-week conflict.

During his visit, the first leg of a three-nation tour, Araghchi met Pakistan's army chief, Asim Munir, as well as prime minister Shehbaz Sharif and foreign minister Ishaq Dar.

Top Iranian diplomat



outlined Iran's "principled positions" regarding the status of the truce and what he described as the need for a complete end to the imposed war against Iran, media reports said.

Dar said the meeting between Pakistani leaders and the Iranian delegation lasted about two hours, adding that Pakistan emphasised "the importance of dialogue and diplomacy".

Prime Minister Sharif described his meeting with Araghchi as the "most warm, cordial exchange of views on the current regional situation". "We also discussed matters of mutual interest, including the further strengthening of Pakistan-Iran bilateral relations," he posted on X.

The Iranian delegation departed Islamabad ahead of a planned visit by US

envoys Steve Witkof and Jared Kushner, who had been expected to meet mediators in the Pakistani capital.

However, US president Donald Trump later said he had cancelled the trip.

Speaking to Fox News, Trump said he had instructed US envoys not to travel to Pakistan for talks with Iran, adding: "they can call us anytime they want."

In a brief phone interview on Saturday, Trump said he told negotiators Witkof and Kushner: "you're not going to be making any more 18 hour flights to sit around talking about nothing." | [More on P6](#)

Avalanche Hits Srinagar-Leh Road

Agencies

Srinagar: A massive avalanche struck Shaitani Nallah in the Drass sector of Kargil on Saturday afternoon, trapping multiple vehicles and disrupting traffic along the strategic Srinagar-Leh National Highway, officials said.

The incident occurred around 4 pm near the Zojila axis, a stretch known for frequent snow-related hazards. At least seven goods vehicles, including two tankers, were caught in the avalanche while en route to Kargil from Sonamarg.

Officials said a coordinated rescue operation was launched immediately, with teams from the civil administration and police rushing to the site in Drass. Efforts were initiated to evacuate those trapped and assess the scale of the impact.

No fatalities were reported in the incident. | [More on P6](#)

Raids, Detentions, Seizures: Kashmir's Anti-Drug Push Gains Ground

CASOs In 20 Hotspots In Anantnag, 12 Kingpins Jailed | ₹3.5 Cr Assets Attached In Srinagar, Shopian Police Display Lists Of Peddlers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Police across Kashmir on Saturday intensified their crackdown on drug trafficking, launching coordinated operations, detaining repeat offenders, attaching properties linked to narcotics proceeds, and publicly identifying alleged peddlers as part of a multi-pronged strategy to dismantle drug networks.

In south Kashmir's Anantnag district, police



carried out coordinated narco cordon-and-search operations (CASOs) at nearly 20 identified

hotspot locations. Multiple teams conducted searches at the residences of alleged drug kingpins in an effort to disrupt trafficking networks.

Officials said police K9 units were deployed during the campaign to detect concealed contraband. Authorities have also begun surveying properties suspected to have been acquired through illicit means, with plans to initiate attachment proceedings under provisions of the | [More on P6](#)

Final Electoral Rolls By Mid-May: J&K SEC

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir State Election Commissioner (SEC) Shantmanu on Saturday said that final electoral rolls for the Union Territory are likely to be ready between May 10 and 15, with voter enrolment witnessing an improvement of around 4-5 per cent during the ongoing revision exercise.

Speaking to the media in Budgam, Shantmanu said the revision process, which began on March 27, is in its concluding phase. He noted that continuous monitoring through

meetings and field inspections has ensured steady progress. "On-ground visits help us understand the actual situation, and I am satisfied with the way the process is being carried out," he said.

The SEC said the current exercise includes enrolling newly eligible voters who have attained the age of 18, while removing the names of deceased individuals and those who have shifted from their original locations. "Necessary corrections in voter details are also being undertaken simultaneously to enhance the accuracy of | [More on P6](#)

'True Champions Come From Small Towns'

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday underscored the need to build a strong grassroots sports culture, asserting that true champions are often discovered in small towns rather than elite academies. Addressing the national 'Chintan Shivir' on sports, the Lieutenant Governor said the three-day event, organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, is focused on tackling key | [More on P6](#)

JKCA Fund Misappropriation

Court Puts In Abeyance Proceedings Against Farooq

M Ahmad

Srinagar: A Court here on Saturday put in abeyance a trial court order regarding framing of charges against former Chief Minister of J&K Farooq Abdullah in a case involving alleged multi-crore fund misappropriation in the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA).

The Court of Additional Session Judge, Farooq Ahmad Bhat, also put in abeyance the Chief Judicial Magistrate's 2 March order dismissing Abdullah's plea for discharge in the case registered against the three-time chief minister of J&K and other

accused persons by the CBI. "The operation of the Impugned Order dated 02.03.2026, and the subsequent proceedings dated 30.03.2026 (framing of charges), conducted by the trial magistrate, shall remain in abeyance exclusively as they pertain to the revisionist Dr. Farooq Abdullah till the next date of hearing," the court

said observing that Farooq has raised substantial questions of law, specifically whether "Presidential Authority" can be equated with "Legal Entrustment" or "Actual Dominion" under Section 409 RPC in the absence of a direct money trail. and | [More on P6](#)



SC Directs States, UTs To Draft 'Practical' Plan For ICUs

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has asked all the states and Union Territories to prepare a "realistic and practical" action plan to implement the guidelines necessary as a minimum standard for intensive care units.

The apex court was informed that "Guidelines for Organisation and Delivery of Intensive Care Services", on which there is consensus and which is practical, implementable and necessary as a minimum standard for an ICU, has been prepared.

A bench of Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and R Mahadevan said copies of the guidelines should be shared

with all the states and UTs.

"Moving further, as an immediate measure, let all the additional chief secretaries/secretaries... heading the department of health and medical education in the states and the UTs, convene a meeting of all experts involved in this exercise to prepare an action plan for implementation of the guidelines. Such a plan shall be realistic and practical," the bench said in its April 20 order.

The top court was hearing a matter relating to healthcare services, including guidelines for the treatment of patients in the ICU or critical care unit.

The bench said five basic issues shall be identified and prioritised | [More on P6](#)



In Srinagar's inner lanes, children carve out space for play amid the rhythms of daily life. KO Photo By Abid Bhat.

The Silent Phase: Why Menopause Remains Unspoken In Kashmir

Farzana Nisar

Srinagar: In a modest home in south Kashmir, 52-year-old Rafiq Begum wakes up long before dawn. Sleep, she says, has become unpredictable. Some nights she lies awake for hours, her body restless, her mind racing without reason. Other days, a dull ache settles in her joints, making routine chores feel unusually heavy.

She has never spoken about these changes to anyone outside her immediate family. Even there, the conversation is brief, almost apologetic.



"I thought something was wrong with me," she says quietly. "But then someone told me this happens with age. So I

kept quiet." Rafiq's experience is not isolated. Studies suggest that over 80% of women report

menopausal symptoms, many of them severe. Yet, in Kashmir, these experiences remain largely unspoken.

Across Kashmir, thousands of women move through menopause in silence, experiencing a complex mix of physical and emotional changes without language, support, or recognition.

A Phase Without Vocabulary

In many Kashmiri households, reproductive health discussions remain narrowly framed around menstruation,

pregnancy, and childbirth. Once a woman crosses her reproductive years, the discourse fades.

Menopause, despite being a universal biological transition, rarely finds mention in everyday conversation. There is no commonly used, comfortable vocabulary around it. Instead, it is referred to indirectly, often reduced to "umar ka asar" or simply ageing.

This linguistic absence reflects a deeper cultural discomfort.

"Women are expected to endure," says | [More on P6](#)

PDD Appointment Fraud

2 Booked, Dead Engineer Named In Chargesheet

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW), Srinagar, has filed a chargesheet in the Anti-Corruption Court, Baramulla, against two accused and a deceased former engineer in an alleged Power Development Department (PDD) job scam involving fake appointment orders, forged service records and illegal salary payments.

A spokesperson said the

Economic Offences Wing (EOW), Srinagar, of the Crime Branch J&K has filed a chargesheet in FIR No. 46/2023 before the Hon'ble Anti-Corruption Court, Baramulla, against Nasir Ahmad Mir of Kunan Babagund, Bandipora; Mushtaq Ahmad Malik of Aragam, Bandipora (a government employee in KPDCI); and a deceased former Executive Engineer of KPDCI/ED Sumbal, a resident of Jammu. He said, the | [More on P6](#)



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**OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE
1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI**

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Shabir Ahmad Mir S/o Khizar Mohd Mir R/o Nowpora Tujjar, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Babar Shabir Mir born on 01-03-2015 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

Tehsildar
Executive Magistrate Bomial
fko

**OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE
1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI**

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Umar Ashraf Kawa S/o Mohd Ashraf Kawa R/o Tujjar, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Mohd Arham born on 17-09-2022 Mohammad Dayam born on 17-08-2024 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

Tehsildar
Executive Magistrate Bomial
fko

**OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE
1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI**

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Gh Nabi Najar S/o Ab Aziz Najar R/o Harwan, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Momin Nabi Najar born on 11-04-2015 Neelofar Nabi born on 20-06-2013 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

Tehsildar
Executive Magistrate Bomial
fko

**OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE
1ST CLASS ZAINGEER BOMAI**

Subject: Issuance of registration order in respect of delayed Birth & Death

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Mohd Shafi Bhat S/o Abdul Razaq Bhat R/o Lokripora, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Salmaan Shafi Born on 04-04-2014 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

Tehsildar
Executive Magistrate Bomial
fko

Public Notice..

This is information for the general public that in Birth Certificate of my son the name is entered as RAHIL ABASS while his actual name is RAHIL ABASS DAR. Now I want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BUDGAM with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that. SHAHEEN HUSSAIN DAR F/o RAHIL ABASS DAR R/o ICHIGAM BUDGAM CELL. 9596167724

fko

Public Notice..

This is information for the general public that I MOHD RAMEEZ RAJA Son of BHAT HAMID ULLAH Prop. of BARKAT ROAD CONSTRUCTION CO., am holder of BEE class contractor issued by Superintendent Engineer R & B SB/BEE/1251 of 2018-19, BEE to (A) change class. If any body having any objection regarding the same they may submit their objection written to the Chief Engineer Civil investigation wing JKPCD, Bemina Srinagar within a period of 7 days from the date of this notice. No objection will be entertained after that. MOHD RAMEEZ RAJA S/O BHAT HAMID ULLAH R/O KHADERMOH PAMPORE

fko

Public Notice..

This is information for the general public that in my passport bearing No N6930175 the Spouse name is entered as SHANI BHAT while her actual name is SHANI RASHID. Now I want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Regional Passport Officer Srinagar with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that. SHOWKAT AHMAD BHAT S/O NOOR MOHAMMAD BHAT R/O SIR SYED ABAD WANBAL RAWALPORA SRINAGAR PIN 190005

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 Zeeshan Ajaz Bhat S/o Ajaz Ahmad Bhat R/o wani-gam payeen Tehsil Pattan with verified date of birth 13/05/2021 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

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Bashir Ahmad Wani, R/o Buchpora, Srinagar, do hereby solemnly affirm that I have applied for correction in the school records of my children regarding their mother's name. The details are as follows:

1) Name: Soliha Jan
Class: 9th Yellow
Date of Birth: 18/08/2011
Mother's Name (Incorrect): Dilshada Jan Mother's Name (Correct): Dilshada Bano
2) Name: Huda
Class: 5th Blue
Date of Birth: 18/04/2015
Mother's Name (Incorrect): Dilshada Mother's Name (Correct): Dilshada Bano.
If any person has any objection to the above-mentioned corrections, they may inform the school authority, R.P School, Mallabagh, Srinagar, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objections will be entertained

Media line adst

INDIAN RAILWAYS

"PUBLIC NOTIFICATION"

Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the Completed section of the under noted section of the Northern Railway that the 25 kV, 50 Hz, AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction line shall be treated as live at all time and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line.

Section	Date
Private Railway Siding for Jammu CUP Oil Depot at Bajalta from (Km Location BLA/1000, chainage 10/154.00) to (Km Location BLA/1045 & BLA/2030, chainage 12/379.00) over Jammu Division, Northern Railway.	05.05.2026

INDIAN RAILWAY

**INTRODUCTION OF 25 KV AC TRACTION
"WARNING TO ROAD USERS"**

It is notified for information of the Public that in connection with introduction of 25 KV AC electric traction over LC-2, height gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with clear maximum height 4.78 m above road level with a view to prevent loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wire (Contact Wire). Which shall be at a height of minimum 5.5m above the rail level at level crossings.

Division	Section	From	To	Date of Energization
Jammu Tawi	Electrification of Private Siding for Jammu CUP Oil depot at Bajalta (BLA) yard of Jammu Division	OHE KM loc. BLA/1000, Chainage 10/154.00	OHE KM loc. BLA/1025 & BLA/2030 Chainage 12/379.00	05.05.2026

Public are hereby notified to observe the height specified above for the purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the loads carried in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under any circumstances. The dangers of a load of excessive height are as follows:-
i) Danger to the height gauge and consequent obstruction to the road as well as the railway line.
ii) Danger to the materials or equipment carried or the vehicle itself.
iii) Danger of fire and risk of life due to contact with or dangerous proximity to the conductors.

No.: 230-Elect/TRD/JAT/133
Date: 23.04.2026
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/
Traction, Jammu Tawi, Northern Railway
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1371/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE..

I want to correct my name on Driving Licence as it has been wrongly mentioned as 'Ajaz Ahmad Parry S/O Sonaullah Parry while as my actual and correct name is 'Ajaz Ahmad Parry S/O Sonaullah Parry' Under Driving License Number JK-0520130038040
If anyone has any objection he/She can contact concerned department within the period of seven days from this date.

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 Emaan Khurshheed s/o Khurshheed Ahmad Bhat R/o Hygam Tehsil khoie with verified date of birth 30/06/2020 occurred at SDH pattan in this connection if any body having objection for issuance of said certificate he may contact to this office within 04 days after that no objection shall be entertained.

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of the general public that I, Tawqeer Ahmad Mir, S/o Gh. Mohammad Mir, R/o Dowlatpora, Tehsil Kreeri, District Baramulla, have applied for issuance of a D Class Contractor Card in the office of R&B Division Baramulla. If any person has any objection regarding the issuance of the said D Class Contractor Card in my favour, he/she may file the objection in the office of the R&B Division Baramulla within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of the stipulated period, no objection shall be entertained and the department will proceed accordingly.
Applicant
Tawqeer Ahmad Mir
S/o Gh. Mohammad Mir
R/o Dowlatpora, Tehsil Kreeri
District Baramulla
fko

**The Jammu and Kashmir
State Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar
Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-

Roll No: 302461
Class 10th
Year & Session 2002 Bi-Annual. -
Registration No. -306918-BDG-IX-90
Name: FIRDOUS AHMAD LONE
Father's Name: MOHD HAYAT LONE
Mother's Name: MALI BAGAM
D.O.B: 01-04-1979
Residence: BADUGAM TULAIL GUREZ.



According to the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice. (Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 1107216 be treated as "CANCELLED")
No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)/B(KD/
Dated
fko
Assistant Secretary
Certificates, KD.

OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR PATTAN..

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

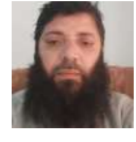
Public Notice..

The registrar birth EO MC pattan has submitted a case file pertaining to birth of Sobiya Jan D/o Shabir Ahmad Lone R/o Dargam Tehsil Pattan with verified date of birth 24/03/2022 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

It is informed to the General public that my name and Parantage in my Aadhar Card bearing Aadhar No :- 5799 9296 8521 has been wrongly mentioned as Molvi Naseer Ahmad Pathan S/O :- Molvi Abdul Aziz Pathan instead of Naseer Ahmed Mohlvi S/O. Ab Aziz Mohlvi .Now I am applying for its Correction as per J&K BOSE record Vide Certificate Serial No- M 112328 . if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may contact the same in the office of the General Manager Ranbir Govt Press Jammu within a period of seven days from the publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained after expiry of stipulated period.
Naseer Ahmad Mohlvi
S/O. Ab Aziz Mohlvi
R/O :- Chount Wali War Tehsil :- Lar
Distt :- Granderbal . J&kashmir
fko



PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name of my minor daughter has been wrongly recorded in her Aadhaar Card bearing No. 5714 2495 3798 as Fazila Hilal instead of Diya Hilal.
That her correct and actual name is Diya Hilal.
Now, I have applied for correction of her name from Fazila Hilal to Diya Hilal in all concerned records.
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Hilal Ahmad Wani
F/o Diya Hilal
R/o Hajipora, Shopian
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that my name and date of birth have been wrongly recorded as Gh Mohammad Malla with date of birth 14/04/1967.
That my correct and actual name is Gh Mohd Malla and correct date of birth is 10/04/1967 as per service records.
Now, I have applied for correction of my name and date of birth from Gh Mohammad Malla (DOB: 14/04/1967) to Gh Mohd Malla (DOB: 10/04/1967) in all concerned records.
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Gh Mohd Malla
S/o Gh Hassan Malla
R/o Turkawangam, Chitragam, Shopian
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name of my son has been wrongly recorded in his Aadhaar Card as Tanveer Ahmad Paswal instead of Tanveer Ahmad Paswal. That his correct and actual name is Tanveer Ahmad Paswal.
Now, I have applied for correction of his name from Tanveer Ahmad Paswal to Tanveer Ahmad Paswal in all concerned records.
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Parvaiz Ahmad Paswal
F/o Tanveer Ahmad Paswal
R/o Sanimarg Gatipora, Keller, Shopian
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card as Masooda Bano instead of Masooda Akhter.
That my correct and actual name is Masooda Akhter.
Now, I have applied for correction of my name from Masooda Bano to Masooda Akhter in all concerned records.
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Masooda Akhter
W/o Abdul Aleem Paul
R/o Dangerpora, Shopian
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card as Rozey Jan instead of Jameela Qasim.
That my correct and actual name is Jameela Qasim.
Now, I have applied for correction of my name from Rozey Jan to Jameela Qasim in the concerned records.
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Jameela Qasim
W/o Jahangeer Ahmad Bhat
R/o Turkawangam, Shopian
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card as Ro-hee John instead of Roohi Jan.
That my correct and actual name is Roohi Jan.
Now, I have applied for correction of my name from Rohee John to Roohi Jan in the concerned records.
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Roohi Jan
D/o Ab Sattar Bhat
R/o Khanpora, Yaripora, Kulgam
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name of my daughter has been wrongly recorded in her Aadhaar Card as Natasha Batool.
That her correct and actual name is Khuwela Tehseen.
Now, I have applied for correction of her name from Natasha Batool to Khuwela Tehseen in all concerned records.
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Salim Ahmad Salim
F/o Khuwela Tehseen
R/o Sindoo Shirmal, Keegam, Shopian
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Nisar Ahmad Misgar, S/o Abdul Rasheed R/o Bilal Colony Soura Srinagar hereby inform that my father is the Registered Consumer of PDD having Electric Connection bearing Consumer no.0204040012169. His health condition is not well and not able to move freely to anywhere. So I intend to transfer the electric connection to my name 'Nisar Ahmad Misgar'.

If any person or party has any objection in this transfer they may file their objection in writing in the office of the Sub Division Hawal Srinagar within 7 (seven) days from the Date of Publication.No objection shall be entertained after stipulated Time Period.

Nisar Ahmad Misgar
S/o Abdul Rasheed
R/o Bilal Colony Soura
9419454915
Media line adst

**Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Office of The Naib-Tehsildar Palhallan
Executive Magistrate 1st Class.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for information of the general public that the Block Development Officer (BDO) Pattan has forwarded the case file for issuance of Date of Birth certificate Certificate in favour of Abrar Hussain Hurra S/o Mohd Akber Hurra R/o Malpora Sultanpora with DOB 20-08-2014
Objections, If any, regarding the details furnished by the applicant may be submitted in writing in the office of the Naib Tehsildar Palhallan within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice.

If no objections are received within the stipulated time, the case shall be processed for issuance of the Birth certificate as per rules in vogue.
fko
Naib Tehsildar Palhallan

**Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Office of The Naib-Tehsildar Palhallan
Executive Magistrate 1st Class.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for information of the general public that the Block Development Officer (BDO) Pattan has forwarded the case file for issuance of Date of Birth certificate Certificate in favour of Sadakat Ali S/o Kifayat Hussain Yattoo R/o New Mohalla Sultanpora with DOB 20-08-2014
Objections, If any, regarding the details furnished by the applicant may be submitted in writing in the office of the Naib Tehsildar Palhallan within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice.

If no objections are received within the stipulated time, the case shall be processed for issuance of the Birth certificate as per rules in vogue.
fko
Naib Tehsildar Palhallan

**The Jammu and Kashmir
State Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar
Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s issued under as per below mentioned details:-

Roll No: 7345
Class 10th
Year & Session Oct No 1987
Registration: 18085-Pip-IX-86
Name : Ab Majid Najar
Father's Name: Ab Khaliq Najar
Mother's Name : Hajira Begum
Date of Birth:- 10-02-72
Residence:- Goshbugh Pattan Baramulla



According to the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice. (Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: M-59373 be treated as "CANCELLED")
No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)/B(KD/
Dated
fko
Assistant Secretary
Certificates, KD.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name and date of birth of my daughter have been wrongly recorded in her Aadhaar Card bearing No. 6785 0900 9514 as Mahee Zahid with date of birth 26-07-2011.
That her correct name is Mahira Zahid and correct date of birth is 10-05-2015 as per school records issued by Principal, Public Model High School, Turkawangam, Shopian.
Now, I have applied for correction of her name and date of birth from Mahee Zahid (DOB: 26-07-2011) to Mahira Zahid (DOB: 10-05-2015).
If anybody has any objection regarding this correction, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Zahid Hussain Ganie
D/o Gh. Nabi Ganie
R/o Turkawangam, Shopian
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that my name and date of birth have been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 5577 2424 5566 as Mahraj Ahmad Mir S/o Gh Mohammad Mir with date of birth 01-05-1988.
That my correct name is Mehraj Udin Mir S/o Gh Mohd Mir and correct date of birth is 07-02-1988 as per my school records.
Now, I have applied for correction of my name and date of birth from Mahraj Ahmad Mir (DOB: 01-05-1988) to Mehraj Udin Mir (DOB: 07-02-1988).
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Mehraj Udin Mir
S/o Gh Mohd Mir
R/o Saidpora, Shopian, J&K - 192303
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name of my daughter has been wrongly recorded in her Aadhaar Card bearing No. 9750 4903 7334 as Moomin Jan.
That her correct name is Moomina Mudasar as per her personal and official records.
Now, I have applied for correction of her name from Moomin Jan to Moomina Mudasar.
If anybody has any objection, they may file the same within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Mudasir Ahmad Wagay
F/o Moomina Mudasar
R/o Narapora, Keller, Shopian
fko

HCI CEO Reviews Arrangements for Pilgrims

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Haj Committee of India, Shanavas C. (IAS), on Saturday reviewed arrangements at the Srinagar Haj Embarkation Point as departures for Haj 2026 continue from Kashmir.

As per the details obtained by KNO, the CEO began his visit at the J&K Haj House, Bemina, where he inspected facilities being provided to intending pilgrims before their departure to Srinagar International Airport.

He reviewed baggage handling systems, documentation counters and other facilitation measures put in place for pilgrims.

He also interacted with several pilgrims and enquired about accommodation, refreshment and support services at the Haj House.

During the visit, Shanavas directed officials to maintain proper hygiene standards and ensure round-the-clock assistance for elderly and specially-abled pilgrims.

Later, the CEO visited Srinagar International Airport and inspected embarkation procedures, including immigration and security arrangements for the smooth movement of pilgrims. He reviewed the dedicated immigration counters set up to facilitate quick clearance and avoid delays in Haj flights.

Kashmir All Set for Mega Anti-Drug Rally in City: Div Com

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Saturday said all preparations have been put in place for a mega anti-drug rally scheduled to be held in Srinagar on May 3, 2026, under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan. He urged the people from all walks of life to participate in the movement against the growing drug menace.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a plantation drive here, the Div Com, as reported by KNO, said plantation always sends a positive signal and protecting the environment is a shared responsibility of every citizen.

He congratulated the employees who took the initiative for organising the plantation drive and said the Government of India and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha have consistently stressed the need to take special care of environmental protection, particularly in Kashmir.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "One Tree One Mother" initiative, he said Kashmir has taken a lead in the programme at the national level and encouraging participation has been witnessed from civil society in different areas.

Garg appealed to people to continue the momentum during the upcoming plantation season and in the run-up to World Environment Day in June by planting more trees and promoting eco-friendly practices such as reducing waste, maintain-



ing cleanliness, conserving natural resources and saving water.

On the anti-drug campaign, he said the Nasha Mukta Jammu Kashmir Abhiyan was launched by the Lieutenant Governor on April 11 from Jammu, where he personally led the campaign across the city.

"The movement has drawn participation cutting across political and party lines, with common masses, civil society members, media organisations, NGOs, religious leaders, industrial stakeholders and people from different sections of society joining hands against the drug menace," he said.

After launching the campaign from Jammu, the Lieutenant Governor travelled to several districts of Jammu province, where he motivated people and spread awareness regarding the dangers of substance abuse, Garg said.

He said awareness remains a key pillar of the campaign, alongside strict action against anti-social elements, drug peddlers and those pushing youth and children to-

wards narcotics.

The Div Com said district administrations and police in Kashmir have already carried out several anti-drug activities over the last 20 days, adding that the focus is to collectively confront the problem as a society.

"For that, a similar campaign has been conceived in Srinagar on May 3, and I appeal to all of you to participate in it," he said, adding that the May 3 event would only be a flag-off, after which the already announced 100-day programme would continue with intensified activities across Kashmir.

The Divisional Commissioner urged people to provide any information related to drug trafficking or peddling to control rooms established by district administrations and police helplines so that timely action can be taken.

The success of the campaign, he said, depends on public support and collective responsibility to save youth from the menace of drugs.

500 Deodar Saplings Planted in Dignibal Forest

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a remarkable example of community-driven environmental responsibility, residents organised a mega plantation drive at the Dignibal Forest Block under the Estate Range of the Urban Forestry Division Srinagar, where 500 Deodar saplings were planted in a single day.

According to KNO, the initiative stood out for its simplicity and purpose, as it was carried out entirely by local citizens without the backing of any NGO

or formal organisation. The effort reflected a growing public awareness about the need for collective action in the face of environmental challenges.

The drive was led by community members, including Irfan Mir of SP School Srinagar, Faizan Arif, an independent climate analyst, Dr Tasneema, Dr Tajamul, Dr Rehana, Abrar, Zahir Majeed, Showkat Hamid, Zubair, and several other volunteers who came together with the shared objective of contributing to afforestation and ecological restoration in the region.

DEPARTMENT OF URBAN LOCAL BODIES KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE SUMBAL

Fax/Ph. 01954230787

Subject: Auction of Adda Entry /Terminal Tax of Municipal Committee Sumbal for the year 2026-27 for a period of (10 Months & 25 Days) (w.e.f 05.05.2026 to 31.03.2027)

E - AUCTION NOTICE
E - NIT No: - MC/Sbl/2026-27/
Dated: 24 / 04 /2026

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, e-tenders (2 cover system) are invited from the interested persons /parties /firms/ Companies for the auction of Adda Entry/ Terminal Tax of Municipal Committee Sumbal for a period of 10 Months 25 days (w.e.f 05.05.2026 to 31.03.2027). The Minimum reserved bid is fixed as Rs.14569786/- (One Crore forty five lacs sixty nine thousand seven hundred and eighty six). The Tax Schedule of the vehicles is as under and the successful highest bidder is bound to recover Entry Fee/ Terminal Tax as per the same schedule.

Terms and conditions:

- The aspiring/ interested bidder must be bonafide person/party with sound financial back ground holding PAN and Income Tax returns and should submit bids in two covers. The first cover should contain the following documents as qualifying criteria.
 - Audited balance sheet dully authenticated by a Chartered Accountant for the last three Years with minimum turnover of Rs. 40.00 Lacs in any one year.
 - Income Tax returns of the last two years.
 - Copy of PAN Card.
 - Latest GST Clearance Certificate.
 - An Affidavit dully registered before the Court /Public Notary certifying that there is nothing outstanding on account of the Adda Entry Fee/ Terminal Tax of any Municipal Body of Urban Local Bodies Kashmir.
 - The second cover should contain financial bid dully offered in a neat and clean manner recorded in both words and figures.
 - While opening the bids the Auction Committee will in the first step open the cover of qualifying criteria bid. Once the qualifying criteria cover is found up to level then the financial bid will be opened.
- The Contract of collection of Adda Entry Fee / Terminal Tax shall be for the (10 Months 25 Days only) commencing from the date of handing over of possession of Tool Posts.
- The minimum reserve bid of above auction period has been fixed Rs.14569786/- (One Crore forty five lacs sixty nine thousand seven hundred and eighty six).
- The intending bidder shall be bound to accompany Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) for an amount of Rs.3,00,000/- (Rupees Three Lac only) from any Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank pledged to Executive Officer Municipal Committee Sumbal without which no bid document can be issued.
- After finalization of auction proceedings, the highest bidder shall have to deposit 10% of the total bid as Bid Acceptance Token on spot and 90% of the balance bid amount shall have to be deposited by the successful bidder in two instalments.
 - 65% before taking over the possession
 - 25% within (3) months after taking over possession for which an ire-recoverable Bank guarantee from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank be submitted within one month after taking over the possession of entry posts. However, the contractor has to deposit post-dated cheque for the 25% at the time of taking over possession from his own bank account which will be confirmed from the bank before its acceptance and later the cheque will be returned back after receiving of bank guarantee within one month of the said amount. The post-dated cheque from any other person cannot be accepted.
- In case the successful bidder fails to deposit the token amount of (10%), the CDR of the earnest money deposited by the aspirant shall be forfeited.
- The persons/parties against whom any outstanding amount exists on the records of this department on account of contracts of Adda Entry Fee/ Terminal Tax cannot participate in the bid. If any such person who participated in the bid and later on the outstanding surfaced before the department/ Municipality, his contract shall seize along with all deposits.
- The interested bidder shall have to present earnest money in the shape of Call Deposit Receipt.
- The successful bidder shall be bound to execute an agreement duly registered in the Court of Law with the undersigned after receipt of the allotment and before taking over the possession of the toll posts.
- The successful bidder shall be bound to collect entry fee from the check posts of this Municipality viz 01.Wangipora 02. Near New Bridge 03. Near Wasikhan & 04. Sonbaran strictly as per previous rates which are re-casted in the last Para :-
- In the event of violation, noticed or reported the same shall invite legal course of action against contractor, including cancellation of the contract.
- The bids offered by the bidders shall be inclusive of all applicable taxes and the due tax will be deposited by the contractor under rules.
- The successful bidder shall have to provide/arrange manpower, furniture, toilet, stationery, electricity charges and drinking water & toolbars and also beautify the tool post at his own level and at his own expenses without claiming any compensation thereof from this institution.
- The interested bidder shall have the experience (at least one year) in the contract of Adda Entry Fee/ Terminal Tax (experience certificate be uploaded) which should be issued by any Municipal Council/ Committee.
- The contractor while offering the bids shall be responsible to visualize all conditions/ circumstances like Hartals, un-favourable circumstances, unrest, Pandemic etc. well in advance. Later on, no claim for relaxation/ relief in the contract shall be entertained at any stage.
- After expiry of the contract period the successful bidder shall handover the possession of entry

fee collection posts to the Municipality in its original position without any damage & there should be no enhance of the contract.

17. The authorized contractor is bound to engage well versed persons who are not involved in any kind of criminal activities for collection and must be with proper uniform during collection of Entry Fee/ Terminal Tax at the entry posts and the realization of the entry fee/ terminal tax shall be collected in a public friendly manners without causing any inconvenience to the public.

18. The contractor is bound not to charge any entry fee from the VIPs/ Government Vehicle/ Vehicles of Security Forces.

19. In-case of any dispute arising between the parties with respect of any of the conditions as laid down here in above or any ambiguity the same will be referred to the arbitrator (i.e) Director Urban Local Bodies Kashmir and the decision of the Arbitrator shall be final and binding upon both the parties.

20. The successful bidder shall be bound not to sublet contract to any other person/ parties/ firm.

21. The contractor is bound to collect revenue with friendly attitude. In case of any confrontation by the driver the contractor shall not take law in his hands. However he will report to the Municipality for taking the cognizance.

22. The document fee of Rs. 3000/- is compulsory for the bidders who are interested for bidding of the above noted NIT/Auction notice.

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

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	25/04/2026
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	25/04/2026
3	Bid submission Start Date	27/04/2026 from 10:00 AM
4	Bid submission End Date	02/05/2026 upto 3:00 PM
5	Date & Time of opening of Bids (Online)	04/ 05/2026 at 01:00 PM in the office of the Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Sumbal.
6	Submission of CDR.	The bidder shall be bound to accompany his bids offers with Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs. 3,00,000/- (Rupees Three Lac) from any Nationalized bank, pledged to the Executive Officer, Municipal committee Sumbal, (with-out which offers shall be liable for rejection) The original CDR be submitted before the office on 02 /05/2026 upto 12:00 pm.
7	Mode of Payment	a) 10% of the total bid as Bid Acceptance Token on spot b) 65% before taking over the possession c) 25% within 3 months after taking over possession

Instructions to the Bidders regarding E- Tendering process:

- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.
- Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document of Rs:- 3000/- in shape of Bank Receipt/challan in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Sumbal and bid securing declaration must be uploaded with the bid.
- The Bidder must have to upload (soft copies) of the following documents (Photostat/Original should be clearly seen in all respect with Ink Signed and Seal):-
 - Valid original Bank Challan/Receipt
 - Call Deposit Receipt (CDR)
 - BID Securing Declaration on stamp paper duly attested by Notary.
 - Valid GSTIN & PAN Card No.
 - The Bidder should upload the Tender Document form attached below (Not Mandatory).
 - Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including
 - BID Securing Declaration and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document(s) which has/ have not been uploaded shall not be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
 - The Highest Bidder will have to submit hard copies of all documents uploaded on e-tending portal before issuance of Allotment.

Rated Schedule

S.No	Particulars	Scheduled Rate
1	Passenger Bus, Matador, Sumo, Vans	Rs. 10 per day
2	Tractors, Auto, 407, Tata Mobile (without Load)	Rs. 10 per day
3	407, Tata Mobile, Tractor (Loaded)	Rs. 30 per Trip
4	Tipper, Truck, Tanker (Loaded)	Rs. 50 per Trip
5	Tipper, Truck, Tanker (un Loaded)	Rs. 10 per Day
6	Entry Fee for Tourist Xylo, Innova, Scorpio, Tempo, Sumo etc.	Rs. 70 per Day
7	Entry Fee for Tourist Buses	Rs. 100 per Day
8	Troller above six tyres (Loaded)	Rs. 100 per Trip
9	Private School Buses	Rs. 300 per month
10	Private colleges/professional colleges	Rs. 300 per month

Further details can be had from the office of undersigned on any working day during office hours.

No: MC/Sbl/2026-27/862-66
:DIPK-NB-265/26 Dated: 25/ 04 /2026

Sd/-
Executive Officer
Municipal Committee Sumbal

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEKH UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈️

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

PRAYERS

FAJR 4: 19
ZUHR 12:29
ASR 5: 15
Magrib 7:14
ISHA 8: 41

HIJRI CALENDAR
08 Zil-Qadah
1447

This Day In History

- 1514- Copernicus makes his 1st observations of Saturn
- 1755- 1st Russian university opens (Moscow)
- 1803 Meteorites fall in L'Aigle, France
- 1803 Meteorites fall in L'Aigle, France
- 1828- Russia declares war on Turkey to support Greece's independence
- 1865 - Battle of Durham Station, NC (Greensboro)
- 1865 - Battle of Ft Tobacco, VA
- 1904 - Bell Telephone Company of Antwerp Belgium forms
- 1915- Italy secretly signes Pact of London with Britain, France & Russia

**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 Showkat Sultan Lone S/o Mohd Sultan Lone R/o Tujjar Sharief, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Hyder Showkat born on 20-01-2022 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

Tehsildar
fko Executive Magistrate Bomial

**OFFICE OF 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 Showkat Ahmad Wani S/o Ch Mohi-ud-din Wani R/o Nathipora, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely (Zola Jan) born on 26-10-2021 Mubadus Jahan born on 13-08-2015 Sidra Jan born on 11-02-2017 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days. After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

Tehsildar
fko Executive Magistrate Bomial

**NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-AUCTION NOTICE**

Revised dates for e-auction of the contracts invited by the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur will be as per below:

Catalogue No.	Nature of contract
Date of E-Auction: 11.05.2026	
EAFFZR-ADVT26-11	Allotment of contract for Advertisement rights through: a) Vinyl wrapping on exterior of coaches of Train No. 20424/23 & 14680/79/82/81. b) Overhead of 5 Water Tanks at Ludhiana Railway Station.
EAFFZR-MIS26-7	Allotment of contract for: a) Setting up and operation of Kiosks for sale of Pooja Samagri at Amritsar Railway Station. b) Setting up and operation of food van at Phillaur Railway Station. c) Renovation & Operation of Rail Coach Restaurant at Amritsar Railway Station. d) Allotment of contract for setting up and operation of Automatic Vending Machines on PF No. 1 and 4/5 at Amritsar Railway Station.
EAFFZR-CTG26-2	Allotment of Catering Stall on contract at Phagwara Railway Station.
Date of E-Auction: 12.05.2026	
EAFFZR-MIS26-8	Allotment of contract for: a) Setting up and operation of Automatic Vending Machines on PF No. 1 and 6/7 at Amritsar Railway Station. b) Setting up and operation of small food van near TTE Rest house at Ludhiana Railway Station. c) Setting up and operation of Kiosks for sale of Mobile and Mobile accessories at Amritsar Railway Station.
EAFFZR-ADVT26-12	Allotment of contract for Advertisement rights through Vinyl wrapping on exterior of coaches of Train No. 12408/07.
Date of E-Auction: 13.05.2026	
EAFFZR-AVM26-1	Allotment of contract for setting up and operation of Automatic Vending Machines on PF No. 2/3 at Amritsar Railway Station.
EAFFZR-ADVT26-13	Allotment of contract for Advertisement rights through Vinyl wrapping on exterior of coaches of Train No.14622/21/26/25.
Date of E-Auction: 14.05.2026	
EAFFZR-SBS26-1	Allotment of contract for setting up and operation of Single Brand Premium Store at Amritsar Railway station.

For other details and registration, please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in
No. NR-FZROCOML(NFR)/18/2024 Date: 24.04.2026

SERVING CUSTOMER WITH A SMILE 1384/2026

Kashmir's Waiting Daughters

Status-driven marriage culture in Kashmir now pushes ordinary families into debt, delay and social humiliation while young women pay the heaviest price.



Dr. Rameez Ahmad

Modern weddings in Kashmir increasingly resemble public exhibitions where families compete through spending, decoration and spectacle.

Banquet halls overflow with excess, designer outfits appear for a single evening, and wazan feasts grow larger with every season.

Gold, furniture, electronics and expensive gifts pass through the ceremony as silent social requirements. Every event sends the same message: social standing must remain visible.

Many families simply cannot keep pace.

A painful social crisis now sits behind the glitter of wedding culture. Hundreds of young women remain unmarried because their families lack the money required to satisfy rising expectations. Education, character and compatibility often receive less attention than financial display. Marriage proposals come with indirect demands wrapped in polite language. Families understand the code immediately.

One young woman from north Kashmir illustrates this reality with heartbreaking clarity.

Sana, whose name has been changed, completed her education years ago and hoped to begin a stable married life. Her father works as a daily-wage labourer and spent years saving small amounts for her wedding. Every proposal eventually collapsed under the pressure of expectations tied to lavish celebrations, expensive clothing and costly exchanges between families. Time moved forward while hope slowly faded inside the household.

Sana represents many daughters in Kashmir today.

This problem extends far beyond rising wedding expenses. Kashmir's marriage culture now operates through status competition. Families measure social respect through visible consumption. American sociologist Thorstein Veblen described this process more than a century ago as "conspicuous consumption," where spending becomes a performance aimed at gaining recognition and prestige.

Kashmir now presents a clear example of that social behaviour.

Even lower-income families feel compelled to imitate wealthy households. Fear of judgement drives much of this behaviour. Parents worry about gossip, humiliation and social



“Honest discussion about expectations, finances and future responsibilities creates stronger foundations for married life. Sociology has long emphasized the importance of everyday interaction in maintaining stable social relationships. Healthy marriages depend upon clarity, mutual understanding and emotional honesty far more than decorative displays.”

exclusion if a wedding appears too simple. Restraint feels socially dangerous, while extravagance appears safer.

That pressure affects nearly every stage of marriage negotiations.

Dowry practices continue through indirect expectations that many families accept as normal social customs. Furniture packages, gold jewellery, electronics and cash exchanges move silently through discussions surrounding marriage arrangements. French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu described this process as symbolic violence, where harmful social pressures become so deeply accepted that people stop questioning them altogether.

The valley's marriage culture increasingly reflects that condition.

Consumerism has also altered how families evaluate marriage itself. Compatibility, emotional understanding and shared values once stood at the centre of marital decisions. Financial status and outward lifestyle now dominate

many discussions surrounding matchmaking.

Families compare salaries, social circles, property, fashion and wedding plans before they consider emotional maturity or mutual respect.

That approach weakens marriages before they even begin.

Many family disputes after marriage emerge from unrealistic expectations established during wedding negotiations. Competitive spending creates pressure surrounding lifestyle, income and social obligations long after the ceremony ends. Family functions become financial tests. Comparisons continue, and dissatisfaction grows slowly inside relationships.

Open communication between prospective partners could ease many of these tensions.

Honest discussion about expectations, finances and future responsibilities creates stronger foundations for married life. Sociology has long emphasized the importance of everyday interaction in maintaining stable social relationships. Healthy marriages depend upon clarity,

mutual understanding and emotional honesty far more than decorative displays.

Young men also face severe pressure within this system.

Families expect them to function as providers despite rising unemployment and economic uncertainty. Many struggle to meet financial expectations surrounding marriage arrangements and post-marital responsibilities. Kashmiri society places enormous pressure upon men to prove economic strength before marriage.

Women, however, continue to bear the heavier social burden of delayed marriage.

A new social category now exists inside Kashmir: the waiting daughter.

She studies, works, contributes to her family and hopes for a stable future. Social expectations surrounding weddings delay her transition into married life even when she possesses every quality associated with a good partner. Her waiting shows structural inequality rather than personal failure.

That reality should disturb every family in Kashmir.

A troubling contradiction also defines modern wedding culture. Some families spend extraordinary amounts on a single event while others struggle to arrange the most basic ceremony. Food waste at lavish weddings exists beside households burdened by debt and anxiety.

Such disparities reveal how cultural practices can deepen exclusion when prestige becomes more important than human concern.

Change remains possible because many Kashmiris already recognize the problem.

Conversations with married couples and parents often reveal frustration with current expectations. Many admit they prefer simpler weddings and smaller gatherings. Social pressure pushes them toward excess because nobody wants to appear inadequate before relatives and neighbours.

That cycle continues because entire communities participate in sustaining it.

Kashmir desperately needs voices capable of challenging these harmful norms with clarity and courage. Sociologists, teachers, students, religious leaders and community elders can help rebuild healthier social attitudes surrounding marriage.

Awareness campaigns, public dialogue and community initiatives supporting simple weddings could gradually weaken the culture of competitive display.

Educational institutions also have an important role to play. Young people deserve dialogues about marriage rooted in compatibility, emotional intelligence and social responsibility rather than status anxiety.

Communities that encourage moderation and reject dowry practices create stronger social bonds and healthier family structures.

Kashmir possesses a rich cultural tradition grounded in simplicity, mutual respect and collective care. Those values still survive beneath the pressure of modern consumer culture.

Society now faces a choice between preserving marriage as a meaningful human bond or reducing it to an expensive social performance.

That decision will determine whether future generations inherit hope or exhaustion.

Honour should emerge from compassion, fairness and responsibility rather than public exhibition.

Until Kashmir embraces that truth, many daughters will continue waiting for marriages delayed by expectations their families never created and cannot afford.

This article was coauthored by Zeenat Aman and Ruqiya Jaan. The authors are affiliated with the Department of Sociology, Government Degree College Thindim Kreeri. The student coauthors are pursuing undergraduate studies.



Mohammad Amin Mir

Hope in the Fields

A bold anti-poppy drive in Vessu shows how local governance, public duty and community action can push Jammu and Kashmir toward a drug-free future.

Jammu and Kashmir stands before a defining test. The region has spent decades battling discord, disturbance and distress. Another threat now presses into villages, schools and homes with alarming force: drug abuse.

This crisis reaches far beyond addiction. Families break under financial pressure. Young people drift away from education and work. Criminal networks tighten their grip on vulnerable communities.

Every district now tells stories of parents searching for treatment, teachers watching students decline and neighbourhoods losing promising youth to narcotics.

Against this difficult backdrop, a recent operation in Village Vessu in Qazigund gave something rare in public life: proof that determined administration still matters.

Revenue officials in Qazigund launched a field operation to identify and destroy illegal poppy cultivation. Their work may appear modest beside the scale of Jammu and Kashmir's narcotics problem. Still, the significance of this effort reaches far beyond a single village.

The operation demonstrated what governance looks like when officials step out of offices and into public service with seriousness and conviction.

The campaign followed repeated calls by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to build a completely drug-free Union Territory. Public speeches often fade into routine bureaucracy, but Qazigund told a different story.

Officials translated political direction into visible action on the ground.

A team that included the Tehsildar, Girdawars, Patwaris, Lumberdars and Chowkidars inspected more than fifty vegetable gardens in Village Vessu. Officials relied on local intelligence and field-level knowledge to identify illegal cultivation hidden among ordinary crops. Wherever poppy plants appeared, teams destroyed them immediately.

That detail matters.

Illegal poppy farming survives through hesitation, local silence and weak enforcement. Swift destruction changes the equation.

Villagers see consequences, networks that profit from narcotics lose confidence, and communities begin to understand that the administration intends to act consistently rather than symbolically. The operation also revealed the untapped strength of Jammu and Kashmir's revenue machinery.

Most people associate revenue officials with land records, mutations and surveys. Qazigund showed how these officials can serve as frontline defenders of public welfare.

Revenue officers understand village geography better than almost any other branch of administration. They know crop patterns, land ownership and local dynamics with remarkable precision.

That knowledge becomes invaluable when illegal cultivation hides beneath ordinary agricultural activity.

This initiative also restored value to grassroots institutions that many people overlook.

Lumberdars and Chowkidars played a central role in the operation. Their presence gave the drive legitimacy within the village itself. Residents saw familiar local figures working alongside officials rather than watching an outside force descend upon the community.

Public cooperation grows stronger when enforcement feels rooted in the community instead of imposed upon it.

Another striking element of the Qazigund initiative came through a deeply personal gesture. One officer and five officials voluntarily dedicated one day's salary to the anti-drug campaign.

That contribution held symbolic force far greater than its monetary value.

Public frustration with bureaucracy often stems from a belief that officials remain emotionally distant from the suffering around them. This gesture challenged that perception.

These officials signalled that the anti-drug



“Another striking element of the Qazigund initiative came through a deeply personal gesture. One officer and five officials voluntarily dedicated one day's salary to the anti-drug campaign. That contribution held symbolic force far greater than its monetary value.”

campaign belongs to them personally as citizens and public servants. Their action created moral credibility that official circulars and communications rarely achieve.

Jammu and Kashmir now needs many more examples of this kind of public leadership.

Drug abuse cannot be addressed through policing alone. Narcotics thrive where unemployment grows, educational opportunities shrink and social supervision weakens. A successful response therefore requires coordination among every major institution of govern-

ment and society.

Police agencies must target trafficking networks with sustained intelligence operations. Health services must expand de-addiction facilities and counselling programs. Schools need structured awareness campaigns that speak honestly about addiction and peer pressure. Teachers require training to identify early signs of substance abuse among students. Parents need support systems that help families respond before addiction deepens into tragedy.

Religious leaders, civil society groups and local media also hold enormous influence. Public messaging works best when it comes through trusted voices within the community itself.

Stories like the Qazigund operation deserve wider attention because they create belief that progress remains possible.

Economic policy also deserves a central place in this discussion.

Some farmers engage in illegal poppy cultivation because quick financial returns appear attractive in areas with limited income opportunities. Enforcement therefore must move alongside practical economic alternatives. Farmers need access to profitable legal crops, agricultural guidance, market connections and financial support. Sustainable change grows when lawful farming becomes economically rewarding.

The law already provides strong authority for action. Illegal poppy cultivation violates the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act and carries severe penalties. Effective governance, however, combines legal firmness with social understanding.

Communities respond more positively when the administration pairs enforcement with opportunity and education.

Qazigund also offers an important lesson about administrative culture.

Transformative governance rarely begins through big announcements in distant offices. Real change often starts through disciplined local action led by officials who treat public service as a responsibility rather than a routine assignment.

One village operation may seem small in statistical terms. Its larger value lies in the example it sets for every district in Jammu and Kashmir.

Replication now becomes the real challenge. Every tehsil possesses revenue officials, local functionaries and field intelligence networks. Each district administration holds the capacity to organize similar operations.

Consistent monitoring, regular inspections and interdepartmental coordination can gradually weaken the ecosystem that sustains narcotics production and distribution.

Qazigund has shown the way. Jammu and Kashmir now faces a larger question: whether others possess the will to follow it.

The author is a policy commentator and legal researcher based in Jammu & Kashmir. He writes on land governance, rural administration, and social justice.

When Sympathy Feels Like Humiliation

A daughter's grief became a public script of pity, restriction and performance in a society that still struggles to let women mourn as human beings.

Rehana Jamal

A year has passed since my father died, and grief has changed its voice inside me.

Early days felt heavy and chaotic, filled with condolences, prayers and crowded rooms. Later months brought a different kind of pain. Time exposed people more clearly than loss itself ever could.

Everyone says death reveals the value of relationships. My father's death revealed the performance hidden inside many of them.

People came to our home in large numbers after his funeral. They sat in neat rows, lowered their voices and repeated familiar lines about patience and strength. Many faces looked sincere at first glance. Many words sounded polished and proper. Something inside me still sensed distance in those conversations, as though several people came to complete a social duty instead of sharing our sorrow.

Kashmir understands mourning deeply. Families open their homes, neighbours come without invitation and entire communities gather around the bereaved. That collective culture carries warmth and humanity. I still value that part of who we are. Another side of this culture also surfaced before me during those days.

Grief became theatre for some people, and I sat in the middle of it watching every scene unfold.

Several people repeated the same sentence in front of me again and again: "Poor girl, she has no father now."

That sentence followed me everywhere. Relatives said it softly, visitors whispered it to others while I sat nearby. Some people looked directly at me with expressions of pity that felt heavier than silence itself.

Each repetition reduced me into a category instead of seeing me as a person. I stopped feeling like a daughter mourning her father. I started feeling like a public object people discussed and displayed through sympathy.

Pity creates its own form of humiliation. Genuine compassion gives space to a grieving person. Pity places them under a spotlight.

A strange shift entered my life soon after the funeral days ended. People began speaking to me differently, advising me differently and watching me differently. My father's death suddenly became a reason for social surveillance.



I NEVER WANTED PEOPLE TO SEE ME AS "BECHARI." I wanted people to see me honestly: a daughter carrying immense loss while trying to continue living with self-respect.

Someone would ask where I was going. Someone else would mention "family reputation." A simple outing invited comments about "what people will say." Each talk carried an invisible instruction attached to it: behave carefully now. That word "now" stayed with me.

As though my father's death had changed my right to exist freely in public.

Kashmiri society often places daughters inside invisible boundaries after a father dies. People speak about protection and respect, though many of those expectations revolve around control. A grieving daughter receives advice about modesty, movement and appearances at the exact moment she needs emotional understanding.

Grief already consumes enormous emotional energy. Society then adds another burden by turning women into symbols of family honour during mourning.

Those first days after my father's death also exposed another painful truth about human behaviour. Some people cried loudly in ways that felt staged and exaggerated. Their grief came with dramatic gestures and public display. Tears

flowed easily before an audience.

Other visitors sat in corners gossiping about unrelated matters while my family struggled through shock and exhaustion. A few people even criticised the food served in our home during mourning gatherings.

I still remember hearing those comments.

A family had lost a father, a husband, the centre of its home. Some visitors still found room to discuss taste and hospitality.

Death strips away social masks very quickly.

Several moments from that period remain sharper in my memory than the funeral itself. Grief sharpened my understanding of people. Certain silences felt deeply sincere. Certain ordinary gestures felt full of care. A few people spoke very little and still brought immense comfort through their presence alone.

Real support rarely announces itself loudly.

Another part of grief entered my life slowly during this year. I began noticing fathers everywhere. A daughter laughing beside her father in a market. Someone resting their head on his shoulder. A family sharing tea together.

Small scenes suddenly pierced me with unbearable force.

My mind immediately fills with questions that have no answers now.

What if I had hugged him more often?

What if I had sat beside him longer instead of staying inside my own world?

What if I had tried harder to understand his anger, his worries, his exhaustion?

What if I had given him more reasons to smile?

Regret grows inside ordinary memories. Grand moments matter less after death. Tiny missed opportunities become enormous.

I think often about family outings when my father stayed home while the rest of us went somewhere together. Someone always had to remain behind. Somehow, that person became him again and again. I accepted it casually then. Today those memories return with painful clarity.

I do not even have a single photograph with him.

That fact crushes me more than people realise.

A picture sounds small while someone is alive. A picture becomes priceless after they leave.

Many people believe grief fades after a few months. My experience feels different. Grief changes form instead. Early pain arrives loudly, and later pain enters silently through memory, regret and ordinary daily moments.

This year has also changed my emotional world. Small acts affect me more deeply now. Slight disrespect cuts sharply. Changes in tone stay in my head for hours. Loss leaves the nervous system exposed in ways society rarely understands.

People expect grieving individuals to recover publicly within a fixed period. Real grief refuses such schedules.

The hardest part of this year has involved more than missing my father. Society's response to my grief created another layer of exhaustion. Constant pity, endless reminders and social policing turned mourning into something public and performative.

I never wanted people to see me as "bechari." I wanted people to see me honestly: a daughter carrying immense loss while trying to continue living with self-respect.

This year taught me difficult lessons about human beings. Some people genuinely stand beside you during suffering. Others stand beside suffering itself because society expects their attendance.

Grief reveals that difference with brutal clarity.

My father's absence remains the deepest wound of my life. Nothing will erase that emptiness. His death also gave me a sharper understanding of the world around me and the ways society treats grieving women in Kashmir.

Loss does not make a person weak. Public sympathy without sincerity damages people far more deeply than silence ever could.

— The author can be reached at rj1one01@gmail.com.

On Crime and Conscience

Revisiting Maulana Mustafa Ansari's 'Mujrim' two decades later

Rubab Fatima

On the twentieth death anniversary of the distinguished Kashmiri scholar, thinker, and writer Maulana Mustafa Hussain Ansari, we revisit the opening pages of his remarkable work *Mujrim* (The Criminal).

The text presented here is an English rendering of the original Urdu, intended to convey the spirit and central ideas of Maulana Mustafa's reflections on crime, conscience, and society. While not a strictly literal translation, it seeks to preserve the philosophical depth and moral urgency of the original.

Maulana's words continue to resonate, urging readers to look beyond judgement and to reflect on the human conditions that shape wrongdoing.

MANY years ago, as I leafed through pages dealing with crime and punishment, a thought arose unbidden: what is it that turns a human being into a criminal? From there, a long chain of reflection began—on crime, on punishment, and on human life itself.

Crime—what is it?
Why does it come into existence?
Who commits it?
Is it merely the violation of a law, or is it the cry of a wounded soul?
Does it arise from within man himself, or do the surrounding conditions compel him to do it?

These questions have always remained active within my mind. We see that laws are made, courts are established, punishments are prescribed—yet crimes are not eliminated. Why is this so?

If punishment were sufficient, then by now crime should have disappeared. The reality is that crime is not merely an external act; rather, it is the result of an inner disturbance.

When the balance within man is disrupted, when harmony between thought and conscience is broken, when desires overpower restraint, and when the soul loses its direction—then crime comes into being.

Man does not become a criminal all at once.

He passes through many stages before reaching that point. At times hunger drives him, at times deprivation, at times injustice, and at times the indifference of society.

There are occasions when a person calls out, yet no one hears him.

He struggles, he resists, he tries to steady himself, but gradually he begins to slip—and when he finally falls, he is called a criminal.

But is he alone responsible?

Is there no share in this responsibility of the society which did not understand him?

Of the system which ignored his suffering?

Of the environment which influenced his decisions?

This book is not merely a collection of narratives; rather, it is a mirror of society.

It invites you to look not only at the crime, but also at the human being behind it.

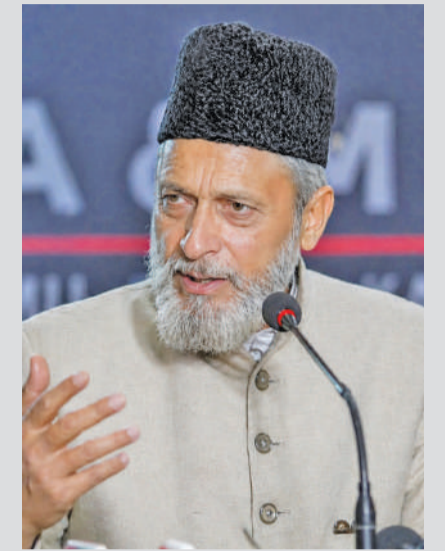
It asks of you not merely judgment, but reflection.

For behind every crime there is a story.

Behind every story there is a struggle.

and within every struggle there is a human being who is searching, faltering, and often unheard.

If these pages succeed in awakening even a single moment of thought, or in stirring even a slight sense of feeling, then their purpose shall be fulfilled.



Maulana Mustafa Hussain Ansari (1945-2006)

Behind Every 'I'm Fine'

A moving portrait of a young woman trapped between the image she gave the world and the sadness she hid from everyone around her.

Madeeha Farooq

She always had a smile on her face. Even on dull mornings in her hometown in Kashmir, her bright grin made people look twice. Friends leaned in when she spoke, strangers stayed a moment longer. Her cheer was like a warm scarf, you could feel it, and it made everything feel a little safer.

She liked this part of herself. She liked the idea that she could make people feel lighter. Even the saddest souls seemed to walk taller after passing her. She thought she was gifted, chosen to lift the weight of others.

But underneath that bright and buoyant body language, a small voice whispered doubts. That voice told her she was unworthy, imperfect, and unfit for deep attachment.

Lifelong friendships never took root. People stayed at the edges, close enough to enjoy the warmth but never to see the ache behind it.

When she was alone in her room, the tears came like rain on tin roofs: sharp, relentless, and unobserved. She wiped her face, adjusted her scarf, and stepped into the streets again, smiling as if her heart had never cracked.

School had its battles. She stumbled academically. Teachers doubted her, peers whispered. "She won't make it," they said, and she heard the words as sharply as knives.

She passed her board exams with a score that silenced the whispers, a small triumph that tasted of iron and honey.

Later came the NEET exams, a crucible that she failed despite her efforts.



Failure could have been a wound, but it became a bridge. She found friends who believed in her, who celebrated her existence beyond grades and results.

Four friends, scattered across different cities, yet somehow their affection remained unshaken. Letters, calls, late-night messages created a small constellation in her life. For a time,

the "happy girl" and the "loser" lived together: one in the world's eyes, the other in her own secret sphere.

Then the transformation came without warning. The laughter faded. Her smile became a mask that strained against the shifting landscape inside her. People began noticing. "Why do you look so sad?" they asked. She laughed and said, "Nothing,

I'm okay."

Pressed further, she snapped: "You're the problem. Always asking me what's wrong. I'm okay. Did you get it?"

Her cheerful halo began to tarnish. People speculated, judged, and withdrew. The absence of her closest friends, the weight of unshared worries, the fear of burdening her parents



SHE WITHDREW FROM THE WORLD SHE ONCE LIFTED. Her laughter no longer travelled the streets. She moved among people like a ghost of herself, seeing their warmth but feeling none of it. The mirror reflected a stranger she neither hated nor recognized.

combined into a suffocating fog.

Her mornings became exercises in endurance. She wished she could stay in bed, away from mirrors and other faces, away from the relentless expectation to be "happy girl." Her colleagues noticed and advised her to focus on herself, breathe, and step back.

She repeated the words that had become armour: "I'm good. Nothing is wrong with me."

She withdrew from the world she once lifted. Her laughter no longer travelled the streets. She moved among people like a ghost of herself, seeing their warmth but feeling none of it. The mirror reflected a stranger she neither hated nor recognized.

She had become a girl who could be adored, but no longer believed she deserved it.

Within this subdued form, a silent spirit stirred. She remembered the music of her own cheer, the gratitude of strangers, the joy in friends' eyes. The world had loved her once for her light. Could she summon it for herself now? She did not know.

Sometimes, when the wind carried the scent of saffron from faraway fields, she would smile, softly, for no one else, and remember that the girl who made others whole still lived somewhere inside.

She had survived disbelief, failure, loneliness. She had carried joy through the heaviest rains. If she could survive all of that, perhaps the girl she had always been, the happy and radiant one, could exist again, even if only in secret.

Her hometown waits, life moves, and she walks among it, a girl who smiles, sometimes for the world, sometimes for herself, learning that even in shadows, the light she carries can endure.

— The author is a B.Sc. Nursing student at Kular College of Nursing, Ludhiana, affiliated with Baba Farid University of Health Sciences. She can be reached at mj4.peer@gmail.com

CM Omar Pitches J&K As Premier Filming Destination During Bengaluru Outreach

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: BENGALURU, Apr 25: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today interacted with filmmakers in Bengaluru, showcasing Jammu & Kashmir's scenic beauty and rich cultural heritage as an ideal destination for cinema.

A delegation of leading film producers and representatives of major production houses met the Chief Minister to explore opportunities for film production and collaboration.

The Chief Minister assured full support and a friendly, enabling environment for artists, reiterating the Government's commitment to making filmmaking in Jammu & Kashmir easier and more accessible.

The interaction formed



part of the Jammu & Kashmir Government's focused outreach in South India, aimed at building stronger connections with key stakeholders in the region's tourism and film industries. Recognising South India as a major hub of cinema, creativity, and outbound tourism, the initiative seeks to position J&K as a preferred destination for both

filmmakers and travellers.

During the engagement, the Chief Minister highlighted J&K's unparalleled natural beauty, diverse landscapes, and rich cultural heritage, ranging from serene valleys and snow-clad mountains to vibrant traditions and local craftsmanship.

He also underlined recent policy measures introduced to

facilitate film production in J&K, including streamlined permission processes, logistical support, and incentives for production houses.

Assuring full cooperation, the Chief Minister said that the Government is committed to providing a safe, supportive and enabling environment for artists and filmmakers. He added that continuous engagement with the film fraternity will help address their requirements and strengthen collaboration.

The Chief Minister also emphasised the role of cinema in boosting tourism, noting that films shot in Jammu & Kashmir can significantly enhance its visibility and inspire travel, thereby generating economic opportunities for local communities.

IMD Issues Heatwave Advisories As Temperatures Soar

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: With temperatures rising across several regions, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) released detailed heatwave guidelines and advisories, officials said on Saturday.

These include avoiding prolonged exposure to direct sunlight, especially during peak afternoon hours, staying adequately hydrated, wearing light and breathable clothing, and avoiding strenuous outdoor activities during high-temperature periods.

The IMD advised special care for vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions. "The department

emphasised that early awareness and preventive action are critical in reducing heat-related illnesses such as heat exhaustion and heat stroke," an official said.

In its latest assessment, the IMD said that maximum temperatures in many parts of northwest, central, and peninsular India currently range between 40 degrees Celsius and 44 degrees Celsius, with the highest temperature of 44.5 degrees Celsius recorded at Sri Ganganagar in Rajasthan.

In several regions, temperatures have been markedly above normal by five degrees Celsius or more, indicating a developing heat stress scenario across parts of the country.

"The IMD indicated that heatwave conditions are very likely to develop in isolated pockets of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and central India over the coming days," the official said.

Hot and humid conditions are expected over coastal and eastern regions, while warm night conditions are likely in parts of north India.

"The department further projected no significant change in maximum temperatures over northwest India till April 27, followed by a gradual fall, while central and other regions may witness a gradual rise and subsequent decline in temperatures during the forecast period," the official said.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

LG: Laws Alone

strengthen grassroots vigilance and support systems.

"Weekly outcomes must be clear—how many people were rehabilitated, how many smugglers prosecuted, how many fake centres shut down, how many cases registered, how much contraband seized, and how many women's committees formed," he added.

The Lieutenant Governor described the anti-drug campaign as a people's movement that requires coordinated efforts from law enforcement agencies, civil society, families, and particularly the youth. He said young people must be at the forefront of the fight against drugs, both as stakeholders and as agents of change.

Calling the drug menace a "grave challenge" to society, Sinha said the administration is committed to a zero-tolerance approach and will intensify enforcement alongside rehabilitation efforts. He emphasized that while strict action against drug networks is essential, equal attention must be given to rescuing and reintegrating those affected by addiction.

Officials were directed to ensure better coordination between departments, timely action against offenders, and transparency in reporting progress. The Lieutenant Governor also warned against complacency, stating that visible and sustained results on the ground would be the only benchmark of success.

Reiterating the broader vision, Sinha said the campaign aims not just to curb supply but to rebuild communities and secure the future of the younger generation.

"This movement must inspire confidence that change is possible when society stands united," he said, adding that the coming weeks should demonstrate a tangible shift in the fight against drugs across Jammu and Kashmir.

'True Champions' policy challenges, strengthening coordination between the Centre and states and Union Territories, and preparing a roadmap to position India as a global sporting power.

The event is being attended by sports ministers from various states, senior administrators, principal secretaries, and representatives from national sports federations.

Highlighting the need to mainstream sports, Sinha said physical activity must move beyond stadiums and competitions and become embedded in everyday life. "Sports must thrive in neighbourhoods, streets, and open fields, becoming part of daily routines," he said.

He also stressed the pivotal role of physical education teachers in schools, urging policymakers to equip them with adequate resources and recognition. "Physical education teachers are often undervalued compared to those teaching science or mathematics. This mindset must change. They play a vital role in identifying and nurturing talent at an early stage," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor said that while infrastructure is important, it must be supported by purpose-driven initiatives. He called for co-ordinated efforts involving schools, communities, local administrations, and families to create an enabling ecosystem for young athletes.

"Infrastructure alone is not enough; every young athlete must find a platform—whether on a running track, football field, basketball court or swimming pool—to discover their potential," he said.

Emphasising inclusive growth, Sinha said India's strength lies in aligning national vision with local execution to ensure that central schemes reach villages rich in talent. He also advocated sharing and replicating best practices across states.

"We must establish systems that identify and propel rural youth talent through scientific, accessible, and unbiased mechanisms. Sports infrastructure must be fully and efficiently utilised," he said.

Calling for broader participation, the Lieutenant Governor urged the corporate sector to contribute to building a sustainable sports ecosystem. He said government efforts alone would not suffice and that corporates must step in as active partners in the mission.

"India is rich with gifted athletes. Our responsibility is to bridge the gap between talent and opportunity. Strengthening grassroots sports ecosystems is not merely an aspiration but a duty," he added.

Trump Halts

Trump claimed "we have all the cards." The remarks came a day after the White House said the envoys would travel to Pakistan for another round of negotiations with Iran. Tehran had previously indicated there were no

plans for its delegation to meet US representatives in Islamabad.

Pakistan's mediation efforts appear to have stalled amid disputes over what Iran has described as an illegal US naval blockade of its ports, as well as disagreements over Washington's demands.

Araghchi is expected to travel next to Oman and Russia to continue discussions aimed at ending the conflict, which began with attacks on Iran by Israel and the United States on 28 February.

Avalanche Hits

However, some drivers sustained minor injuries and were shifted to Sub-District Hospital Drass for treatment.

Authorities said snow clearance operations were also underway to restore connectivity along the highway, which serves as a critical lifeline between Kashmir and Ladakh.

The extent of damage to vehicles and road infrastructure was being assessed at the time of filing this report.

The incident comes weeks after a deadly avalanche near Kani Pathri along the Zojila stretch on March 27, where several passenger vehicles were buried, leaving seven people, including a child, dead. The recurrence of such avalanches has raised concerns over safety measures and monitoring systems along the high-altitude corridor.

Final Electoral

electoral rolls so that whenever in the future panchayat elections happen, our electoral rolls are ready," he said.

He said that Panchayat Secretaries and Booth Level Officers are actively conducting door-to-door verification across the district. "Teams are reaching every household, assisting people in filling out forms, and ensuring that no eligible voter is left out. The response from the public has been encouraging," he added.

Shantmanu further said that once the final rolls are published, the remaining preparations for Panchayat elections are expected to be completed by May or June. The final decision regarding poll dates, he added, will be taken jointly by the Government of India and the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

He reiterated that all necessary steps will be taken to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections under the supervision of the Election Commission of India.

The State Election Commissioner was accompanied by District Development Commissioner Budgam Athar Aamir Khan during the visit. (KNO)

Raids, Detentions,

Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

In a parallel action, police booked 12 alleged narco kingpins under the NDPS Act in Anantnag. The individuals, described as repeat offenders involved in drug peddling and related activities, were detained and lodged in Subsidiary Jail Kehribal.

A police spokesperson said the accused had continued to engage in narcotics trade despite prior action, posing a serious threat to public health and safety. Their detention, he said, followed due approval from the competent executive magistrates.

Further tightening the noose, police attached properties worth Rs 3.5 crore belonging to suspected drug smugglers in the district. According to officials, the Action was carried out under Section 68F of the NDPS Act as part of the ongoing 'Nasha Mukht Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyaan'.

At Sangam, police attached two immovable properties linked to accused Shakeel Ahmad Ganie and Farooq Ahmad Mir, both residents of the Kreshbal area of Noorbagh. The attached assets include double-storey residential houses along with one kanal of land each, valued at over Rs 2 crore and Rs 1.5 crore respectively.

Officials said the properties were identified as illegally acquired assets generated through proceeds of drug trafficking.

Meanwhile, in neighbouring Shopian district, police adopted a public outreach approach by displaying lists and photographs of alleged drug peddlers at police stations and posts. The initiative, officials said, aims to enhance public awareness, promote transparency, and deter involvement in narcotics.

The galleries featuring such individuals have been set up at various police establishments to signal zero tolerance and encourage community vigilance against drug abuse and trafficking.

Police said the intensified crackdown reflects a broader strategy combining enforcement, preventive detention, asset seizure, and

public participation to curb the growing drug menace in the region.

SC Directs States,

in the first instance. "The challenge ... lies in determining what ought to be treated as absolutely essential and mandatory; accordingly, an initial list of five basic requirements, in terms of priority, relating to both manpower and equipment/logistics, shall be prepared," it said.

It said a methodology should also be formulated for implementation on the ground, and more importantly, a mechanism to ensure compliance and monitoring of the implementation.

"We expect the exercise to commence immediately and the first meeting to be held within one week from today. We direct that the meeting shall be attended personally by the concerned additional chief secretary/secretary ... heading the department of health and medical education in the states and the UTs," the bench said.

It said the report prepared pursuant to the deliberations should be forwarded by the respective states and UTs to the Secretary of the Department of Health, Government of India, who in turn would circulate it to all the states and UTs.

The bench said thereafter, a meeting of all concerned should be convened where a final common agreed draft shall be prepared and circulated.

"A final report/blueprint/recommendation shall be prepared, which shall be placed before this court on the next date," it said, adding that the entire exercise should be completed within three weeks.

"Let the Ministry of Health, Government of India, formally issue the guidelines placed before us today, to the states and UTs concerned by way of an advisory. A copy of it shall also be uploaded on the website of the Ministry of Health, Government of India," the bench said, while posting the matter for further hearing on May 18.

During the hearing, it was suggested that for future requirements, the nursing staff should be trained to handle such situations since they remain with the patient round the clock, unlike doctors who may visit periodically.

"We fully endorse the suggestion, which is not only pragmatic but also imperative. Accordingly, the Indian Nursing Council and the Para Medical Council of India are impleaded as party respondents," the bench said.

It said on the next date, the newly added respondents shall come up with a plan indicating how they propose to augment the courses or curriculum and training imparted by them so that persons emerging from institutions recognised by them are capable of managing and handling situations in the ICUs.

2 Booked, Dead

case originated from a written complaint alleging fraudulent appointments in the Power Development Department (PDD). During the investigation, it was found that Nasir Ahmad Mir had secured employment using a fabricated appointment order purportedly issued under SRO-43 of 1994.

"The said order was found to be missing from official records, raising serious doubts about its authenticity. The investigation further revealed that Mushtaq Ahmad Malik, then serving as a Senior Assistant, prepared a forged service book for Nasir Ahmad Mir, falsely reflecting his appointment under SRO-43."

The spokesperson said, forensic analysis confirmed that the entries in the service book were authored and signed by Mushtaq Ahmad Malik. Furthermore, no official dispatch or receipt records supported the issuance of the alleged appointment order.

He said, verification by the then Tehsildar, Bandipora, confirmed that Nasir Ahmad Mir was not eligible for appointment under SRO-43, as no qualifying family circumstances existed. Despite this, the deceased Executive Engineer facilitated salary disbursement in 2009 without proper verification, more than three years after the purported date of appointment.

"The investigation established a criminal conspiracy among the accused, involving forgery, cheating, and misuse of official position. Accordingly, offences under Sections 420, 468, 471, and 120-B RPC have been established, along with relevant provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act against the involved public servants. The chargesheet has been submitted for judicial adjudication," said the spokesperson.

Court Puts In

whether the addition of Section 109 RPC

(Abetment) without a specific overt act of instigation constitutes a mechanical exercise of judicial power.

The court further held that the contentions advanced by the revisionist merit consideration, including whether a senior citizen should be subjected to the rigours of a prolonged criminal trial based on a remote administrative act dating back to 2008.

The trial court had framed charges against Abdullah under Sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy), 406 (criminal breach of trust), 409 (criminal breach of trust by public servant) and 109 (abetment) of the Ranbir Penal Code.

In his plea, Abdullah contended that the trial court failed to properly appreciate the facts while rejecting his discharge application. He argued that as President of the JKCA, his role was largely honorary and that day-to-day financial management and control over funds rested with the association's Treasurer and General Secretary.

Farooq submitted that his role was limited to a routine administrative signature on a 2008 resolution, which, according to him, does not establish criminal liability.

The case pertains to alleged financial irregularities in the functioning of the JKCA, which was investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

The CBI has filed a chargesheet accusing Abdullah and several others of siphoning off more than Rs 43 crore from grants provided by the Board of Control for Cricket in India to the association.

On March 2 this year, the CJM court observed that the essential ingredients of offences under Sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy), 406 (criminal breach of trust), and 409 (criminal breach of trust by a public servant) of the Ranbir Penal Code were prima facie made out against him.

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

The Silent Phase:

a Srinagar-based gynaecologist. "If they speak about hot flashes, anxiety, or mood swings, it is often dismissed as weakness or overthinking."

The result is a generation of women who normalize distress.

"Women tend to endure menopausal symptoms without recognising them as a health issue. They treat it as something to quietly endure," says Dr Berkeez.

She added that there are certain symptoms like Postmenopausal bleeding and increased endometrial thickness, if overlooked, have the potential to worsen if left unaddressed.

Living Through It, Alone

Medical literature identifies menopause as a phase marked by hormonal shifts that can trigger insomnia, irritability, depression, and musculoskeletal pain. But in Kashmir, these symptoms are frequently unrecognized or misattributed.

Women often interpret anxiety as personal failure, fatigue as laziness, and emotional volatility as something to suppress.

A mental health practitioner in Srinagar notes a pattern: "We see women in their late forties and fifties reporting anxiety or depressive symptoms. When you probe further, many are in the menopausal transition, but they have no awareness of it."

Without awareness, there is no help-seeking behaviour.

Instead, coping mechanisms remain private and often inadequate.

Mental health experts warn that menopause is often a hidden psychological phase. Global data shows that nearly 35% of menopausal women experience depression.

According to a study titled, Bio-psychosocial-cultural perspectives on menopause, cultural beliefs profoundly shape the experience, perception, and reporting of menopause, influencing whether it is viewed as a medical crisis, a social taboo, or a liberating life stage. While vasomotor symptoms (hot flashes/sweats) are universal, their frequency and distress levels vary significantly by region.

Menopause is not defined by a single symptom but by a wide range of physical and psychological changes that vary across individuals, says the World Health Organization. While hot flashes and night sweats are the most recognised, experts say women frequently report persistent insomnia, fatigue, joint and muscle pain, weight gain, and fluctuations in blood

pressure. Hormonal shifts can also affect mood, leading to irritability, anxiety, and depression, alongside cognitive changes such as forgetfulness or difficulty concentrating.

The Weight of Silence The silence surrounding menopause is not accidental. It is shaped by intersecting factors: modesty norms, lack of sex education, and a healthcare system that prioritizes maternal health over midlife care.

For many women, speaking about bodily changes linked to reproductive organs is seen as inappropriate, especially after a certain age.

"There is a sense that this phase is not important," says an ASHA worker from Budgam. "Pregnancy is treated seriously. But when periods stop, people think the need for care also stops."

This perception carries consequences. Unaddressed menopausal symptoms can affect not only physical health but also family dynamics, productivity, and mental well-being. Yet, because these struggles remain invisible, they rarely enter public discourse.

Gaps in the Healthcare System Kashmir's public health infrastructure has made significant strides in maternal and child health. However, menopausal care remains largely absent from policy focus.

Dedicated counselling services, awareness campaigns, or routine screening protocols for menopausal women are limited or non-existent in most government facilities.

"We do see menopausal patients, but they usually come with specific complaints like joint pain or bleeding issues. There is no structured approach to menopausal health as a category," said a Srinagar based doctor.

Hormone replacement therapy, lifestyle counselling, and mental health support are available in theory but remain inaccessible for many due to cost, awareness, or social hesitation.

The silence deepens in rural areas, where cultural barriers are stronger.

Women rely heavily on informal networks or local health workers, who themselves may not have adequate training on menopausal health.

"Sometimes we don't know what to tell them," admits Shaheena, an ASHA worker. "We can guide them during pregnancy, but for menopause, there is no clear training."

For many, the experience extends far beyond the commonly cited symptoms.

Humaira Nabi, a Ganderbal resident, recalls noticing changes in her mother long before she understood what they meant. "It was not just hot flashes," she says. "She gained a lot of weight, her blood pressure went high, and she would feel unusually uncomfortable even in winter. She could not wear a sweater sometimes."

What stayed with her more was the silence around it.

"She never spoke about it. I only realised later, when my aunt reached menopause and they started discussing it among themselves. I overheard them. That is when it made sense."

Humaira points to a pattern that many families quietly reproduce. "Women do talk, but mostly to each other, not to their children or even their partners. And rarely to doctors unless something becomes serious."

She also highlights a growing concern that often goes unaddressed. "Early menopause is becoming more common, and from what I have seen, it seems harder to deal with."

Breaking the Quiet

Experts argue that addressing menopause requires both cultural and institutional shifts.

At the societal level, normalizing conversations is critical. This includes intergenerational dialogue, community awareness, and media representation that frames menopause as a natural phase rather than a hidden burden.

At the policy level, integrating menopausal care into primary healthcare services could make a significant difference.

Simple interventions such as awareness sessions, routine check-ups, and mental health screening can help women better understand and manage the transition.

A Story Still Untold

For now, menopause in Kashmir remains a silent phase, lived but rarely spoken.

Back in her kitchen, Rafiqqa pauses between chores, reflecting on the past few years.

"If someone had told me earlier what this is," she says, "maybe I would not have been so worried."

Her words capture the core of the issue, not just lack of treatment, but lack of knowledge, language, and acknowledgement.

Until that changes, menopause will continue to be experienced in isolation, one quiet story at a time.

Jammu Sizzles above 39°C as Kashmir Records Intermittent Rainfall

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Meteorological Centre Srinagar on Saturday said Jammu and Kashmir recorded uncertain weather conditions on Saturday with light rain at scattered places and a rising temperature trend in Jammu division.

A Met official told KNO that he predicted generally cloudy conditions with intermittent light rain and thunderstorms over the coming days.

According to the daily weather parameters, Srinagar recorded a maximum temperature of 21.2°C, which was 0.8°C below normal, and a minimum of 13.5°C, above normal by 4.8°C.

The city received 1.4 mm of rainfall during the last 24 hours ending 0830 hrs. Relative humidity stood at 92 percent in the morning and 71 percent in the evening.

In South Kashmir, Qazigund recorded a maximum of 20.0°C and a minimum of 10.0°C, while Pahalgam registered 16.4°C and 10.0°C respectively with 5.8 mm rainfall. Gulmarg recorded a maximum of 11.8°C and a minimum of 6.2°C with 0.2 mm rainfall.

Kupwara reported a maximum of 21.8°C, while Koker-

nag recorded 19.8°C with 3.4 mm rainfall. Banihal recorded a maximum of 22.0°C and a minimum of 13.4°C with 3.0 mm rainfall.

In Jammu division, temperatures remained significantly higher. Jammu recorded a maximum of 39.5°C, which was 5.1°C above normal, and a minimum of 22.8°C. Katra recorded 36.0°C, Batote 27.1°C, and Bhandarwah 26.5°C. Trace rainfall was reported at a few stations including Katra and Bhandarwah.

The weather forecast issued by the MET Centre said that on April 25, parts of Jammu and Kashmir are likely to witness partly to generally cloudy conditions with one or two spells of light rain or thundershowers at scattered to many places, accompanied by gusty winds in the afternoon or evening hours.

For April 26, generally dry weather has been predicted, while from April 27-28, light rain and thundershower activity is expected at scattered to many places, mainly during afternoon and evening hours.

Between April 29 and May 2, partly cloudy to generally dry conditions are likely, with brief spells of light rain or thunder at isolated places.

CM Omar Approves ₹9.60 Cr Multi-Level Car Parking Project for Ganderbal

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has accorded administrative approval for the construction of a Multi-Level Car Parking facility at Ganderbal at an estimated cost of ₹9.60 crore. The project is aimed at addressing increasing traffic congestion and enhancing urban infrastructure in the fast-growing town.

The approval has been granted under the Capex Budget 2026-27 in favour of the Director, Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir. The project will be executed in accordance with approved technical specifications and



codal procedures to ensure quality, efficiency and timely completion.

Judge Govt on Work Not Timeline: Minister Sakeena

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Cabinet Minister Sakeena Itoo on Saturday defended the performance of the government, saying it should not be judged solely on its 1.5-year tenure, given the challenges involved.

Speaking to reporters, Itoo, as reported by KNO said the administration remains committed to strengthening public services, particularly in the health sector, while acknowledging that long-standing gaps cannot be addressed overnight. "We will not compromise on patient care. Wherever required, gaps will be filled. But decades of systemic failure cannot be resolved in a short time," she said.

Highlighting progress in the health department, she said significant improvements have been made over the past 18 months, and hospitals are being equipped with better facilities. She warned that attempts to malign the government's image would be dealt with strictly and urged the media to also highlight positive developments.

Addressing concerns over staff shortages, the minister said the contribution of doctors must be recognised. "People talk about the lack of doctors and facilities, but surgeries and treatments are continuing. That

work must be acknowledged," she said, adding that action is being taken against those involved in private practice in violation of rules.

Itoo said the administration is functioning in a transparent manner and will act firmly against misconduct and corruption. Referring to a recent suspension in Baramulla, she said any official found involved in bribery or wrongdoing will face action.

Responding to criticism over her educational background, the Health Minister said she had to leave her medical studies due to unavoidable circumstances and entered politics with public support. Without naming any individual, she hit out at critics, saying her qualifications are often questioned due to gender bias.

"I have been given a responsibility, and I am trying to fulfil it. Some people are not happy and continue to criticise," she said, adding that similar scrutiny was not applied to previous ministers.

The proposed facility is expected to significantly decongest the busy market areas of Ganderbal, providing organized parking space and improving overall traffic management. It will also contribute to better urban planning and public convenience in the area.

The Chief Minister emphasized adherence to strict quality standards, transparent tendering processes and timely execution of the project. He directed the concerned departments to ensure that all necessary approvals and regulatory clearances are obtained prior to the commencement of work.

DLSA Conducts Legal Awareness Programme at Mujkund

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar today organized an awareness programme under the guidance of Haq Nawaz Zargar, Chairman DLSA (Pr. Distt. & Sessions Judge), Srinagar and overall supervision of Secretary DLSA, Srinagar at the Legal Literacy Club, Mujkund, aimed at sensitizing students and the local community on important legal and social issues.

The program featured informative sessions delivered by learned panelists. Zeenat Nazir, Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC) addressed the gathering on the growing menace of drug abuse, highlighting its harmful impact on individuals, families, and society.

Emphasis was laid on preventive measures, early intervention, and the role of youth in combating substance abuse.

Adv. Sabya Kaunsar, Pro Bono lawyer delivered an insightful talk on the Motor Vehicles Act and road safety rules. The speaker stressed the importance of responsible driving, adherence to traffic regulations, use of helmets and seat belts, and the legal consequences of violations.

BRO Intensifies Snow Clearance Operations on Bandipora-Gurez Road

BANDIPORA: Even as the snowbound Razdan Pass has emerged as an unexpected tourist destination, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has intensified snow clearance operations to restore traffic on the Bandipora-Gurez road, which remains closed due to heavy winter snowfall.

An official told KNO that snow cutters have reached the upper reaches of Razdan Pass, situated at an altitude of nearly 12,000 feet, where teams are working under adverse weather conditions, they said.

He described the operation as challenging, with accumulated snow of around six to seven feet at the pass. "The machines have reached the toughest stretch at Razdan Top. It is a herculean task given the terrain and weather," the official said.

They said the road could be opened soon from both sides if weather conditions remain favourable.

Amid the ongoing operations, hundreds of tourists from outside Jammu and Kashmir have been visiting the Razdan Pass area to witness fresh snowfall in late April - a phenomenon no longer visible at most other tourist destinations in the Valley this time of the year.

Several tourists expressed satisfaction over experiencing snowfall, saying it added to the appeal of their visit. "We came expecting greenery, but witnessing snowfall in late April at Razdan is unbelievable. It's something we never imagined experiencing in Kashmir this time of the year," said Rohan Mehta, a tourist from Delhi.

"The snow here feels fresh and untouched. We had heard Gulmarg had less snow now, but Razdan gave us the perfect winter experience even in April," said Ayesha Khan, a visitor from Mumbai.

Notably, the administration recently allowed tourist movement towards Razdan Pass after it remained restricted last year following the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 tourists dead. (Observer News Service)

3rd Suicide Attempt at Budshah Bridge Foiled

SRINAGAR: Another suicide attempt at Srinagar's Budshah Bridge was foiled on Saturday after alert locals and police personnel intervened in time, marking the third such incident in a row at the bridge. The public has also intensified its demand for immediate fencing and preventive measures.

An official told KNO that the incident occurred in the evening when SDRF teams were winding up the day's rescue operation near Budshah Bridge after continuing the search for a missing youth in river Jhelum.

"At that time, a man attempted to jump into the river; however, vigilant locals present at the spot, along with a police party deployed nearby, quickly noticed the move and rushed towards him, successfully preventing the tragedy," he said, adding that the man was immediately taken into custody for his safety and later handed over to police for further proceedings.

The recent incident has sparked serious concern among locals, as Budshah Bridge has witnessed three jump attempts in the last few days, making it one of the city's busiest bridges a vulnerable point. (Observer News Service)

Jhelum Navigation Boost Likely as Tulbul Project Nears Decision Stage

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The long-pending Tulbul Navigation Project on the Jhelum river in Jammu and Kashmir is under active consideration and may move forward, officials told KNO on Saturday.

The project, also known as the Wular Barrage, is being reviewed alongside ongoing ecological restoration efforts at Wular Lake in north Kashmir's Bandipora district, they said.

Officials said consultancy work related to the project is nearing completion and further steps are expected after the assessment. The Tulbul Navigation Project was initiated in 1984 to regulate water flow in the Jhelum and ensure navigability during lean winter months.

However, work was halted between 1987 and 1989 follow-

ing objections from Pakistan, which argued that the structure violated provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty that restrict storage on western rivers.

India has maintained that the project is a non-consumptive navigational facility permissible under the treaty. The issue has remained unresolved for decades, effectively stalling the project.

Fresh momentum has emerged after India placed the treaty in abeyance in 2025, prompting a review of projects that were earlier constrained under its provisions, officials said.

They said the Tulbul project is designed to regulate water discharge by storing excess water in Wular Lake during high-flow periods and releasing it during lean months, helping maintain stable water levels in the Jhelum.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information to the general public that I Idris Aman S/o Aman Ullah Khan R/o Fateh Kadal srinagar have lost my HSRP bearing the number JK01AN 9929. In this regard if anybody have any kind of objection he/she may file the same with RTO Srinagar within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained afterwards.

GOVT. OF JAMMU & KASHMIR (UT) OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER BUDGAM

Sub: Extension of Tender Notice of Eatable/Stationary & other Items for KGBV Patwava Zone Budgam for the financial year 2026-27.
For and on behalf of Governor of J&K State sealed Tenders are invited from authorized/registered dealers for supply of the below mentioned items during the year 2026-27 which should reach to the office of the under S/d. in a sealed envelope supported with the CDR of Rs: 5000.00 pledged in the name of Zonal Education Officer Budgam within three days from the publication of this tender notice in the News paper. The tenderers shall in clear terms indicate the quality & quantity of each item as per tender notice without any cutting. The rate mentioned in the quotation should be for KGBV Patwava and shall remain valid for the entire financial year 2026-27. The tenders shall be opened on the next day after expiry of 03 days in presence of tenderers or their authorized representatives. The tenderers shall have option to remain present on the day of opening of tenders. A copy of GST registration may also be enclosed. The rate quoted by tenderers be inclusive GST. ZEO Budgam reversed the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason. The cause of extension is due to the low response the tender is extended for 3 days.

S. No.	Name of the Item	Unit	S. No.	Name of the Item	Unit
01	Mustered Oil (Jumbo A Grade)	15 Ltr. Pack	28	Cucumber	Per Kg
02	Chilli Powder (Kanwal/Elephant)	Per Kg	29	Curd	Per Kg
03	Turmeric Powder (Kanwal/Elephant)	Per Kg	30	Soap Detol	Per Piece
04	Spices (Masala)	Per Pack	31	Wheel Powder	Per Kg
05	Rice (Wond Apple Brand)	Per Quintal	32	Quilt	Per Piece
06	Lipton Tea (Taaza)	Per Kg	33	Mattresses with Moga Cotton	Per Piece
07	Sugar	Per Kg	34	Pillow With Moga Cotton	Per Piece
08	Milk (Tetra Pack Amul)	Per Ltr.	35	Bed Sheet	Per Piece
09	Bread	Per Piece	36	Covers of Quilts/Pillow	Per Piece
10	Flour (Atta) (Fine)	Per Kg	37	School Bag "Tycoon 1"	Per Piece
11	Sheep Meat	Per Kg	38	Note Book 24x18 132 Pages	Per Piece
12	Cheese	Per Kg	39	Pencil/Shapner/Eraser	Per Piece
13	Chicken (Broiler)	Per Kg	40	Geometry Box	Per Piece
14	Dal Rajmash "Grade A"	Per Kg	41	School Shoe (Action/School Time)	Per Piece
15	Dal Mong "Grade A"	Per Kg	42	School Sock Cotton	Per Piece
16	Dal Chulla "Grade A"	Per Kg	43	Full Uniforms (Girls)	Per Set
17	Peas	Per Kg	44	Sweater "Snowsun"	Per Piece
18	Cauliflower	Per Kg	45	Scarf	Per Piece
19	Cabbage	Per Kg	46	Tea Green Packed "Samawar"	Per Kg
20	Tomato	Per Kg	47	Tooth Brush "Colgate"	Per Piece
21	Potato	Per Kg	48	Tooth Paste "Colgate"	100 grm Pack
22	Onion	Per Kg	49	Hair Oil "Asli" 80ML	Per Piece
23	Brinjal	Per Kg	50	Shampoo "Clinic Plus" 80 ML	Per Piece
24	Carrot	Per Kg	51	Comb Large Size	Per Piece
25	Capsicum	Per Kg	52	Nail Clipper	Per Piece
26	Radish	Per Kg	53	Suji	Per Kg
27	Salt "Tata"	Per Kg	54	Ball Pen Ordinary	Per Piece

Terms & Conditions:

- Quality of Dietary/Non Dietary items should be as per sample approved by the committee.
- Regular check of the items approved by the committee will be made off on.
- Convener of the committee is authorized to reject any items at any time if found substandard.
- A fine of 5 times the cost of the items will be imposed if found substandard.
- The approved dealer is bond to supplying the items on spot i-e KGBV Patwava
- The approved dealer will be bond to deliver the goods in time.
- Vegetables/Meat/Eggs/Cheese are to be supplied as per requirement on daily menu.
- Dry food items should be supply on monthly basis.
- Payments as per claim will be released soon after the availability of funds.

No: ZEO/B/ _____
Dated: _____

DIPK-753-26
DT: 25/04/2026

Zonal Education Officer
Budgam

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
GOVT. HSS CHAKOORA, PULWAMA

NOTICE INVITING AUCTION

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public, interested parties, and scrap dealers that the auction of dead stock and unserviceable items of Govt. HSS Chakoora, Pulwama will be conducted on 04.05.2026 at 11:00 AM in the school premises.

The interested bidders are invited to participate in the auction on the above-mentioned date and time. The items will be auctioned on "as is where is basis."

Terms and Conditions:

- The interested parties may inspect the items in the school premises on 28.04.2026 during working hours.
- The highest bidder shall be declared successful, subject to approval of the competent authority.
- The successful bidder shall have to deposit the full bid amount on the spot.

NO: HSSC/Estt-Acts/04/2026/65-68
Dated: 24/04/2026

DIPK-764-26
DT: 25/04/2026
Principal
Govt. HSS Chakoora, Pulwama

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER LIDDER FOREST DIVISION BIJBEHARA.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
e-NIT No. - 01 of 2026-27 DATED: 25-04-2026

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders in two cover system are hereby invited from contractors registered with J&K Forest Department, FDC for extraction/supply of firewood for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026 as detailed below: --

S.NO	NAME OF WORK	Advt. COST (Rs. In lacs)	CLASS OF CONTRACTOR	Earnest Money Deposit	Cost of Tender Document	TIME OF COMPLETION
1	Extraction / conversion of firewood from various compartments of Lidder Forest Division Bijbehara and Carriage/ transportation of splitted firewood from P.L.P of compartments to base camp Chandanwari/ Pahalgam through trucks/ ponies including loading at P.L.P and un-loading at Pahalgam / Chandanwari, weightment at Chandanwari and also chopping of hakries at base camp into small pieces of 2' length including staking and weightment for further supply to hill stations viz: Pissu top, Zajipal, Sheshmag, M.G.Top and Poshpathn.	44.62	"A" & "B" Class Deptt/ FDC Contractor	Rs. 89240/-	Rs. 1100/-	90 Days

Note:- Time of completion is very essential in view of National importance of the religious pilgrimage.
The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bills of quantities, (B.O.Q) (Tender documents) set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from Website: [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://jktenders.gov.in).
Position of Funds: Demanded.
Position of AA/TS: Accorded.
Receiving/ Opening Authority: Tender Opening Committee

Publishing Date: -	28-04-2026 2:00 PM
Download Start Date: -	28-04-2026 from 02:00 PM
Bid submission Start Date: -	28-04-2026 from 02:00 PM
Bid submission End Date: -	11-05-2026 Up to 06:00 PM
Date of Opening of Technical Bid Online: -	12-05-2026 at 12:00 PM in the Office of the Conservator of Forests Kashmir South Circle Bijbehara Anantnag.
Date of Opening of Financial Bid Online: -	To be opened (Online) at any convenient date & time after complete Evaluation of Technical Bids Received.

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: - <https://jktenders.gov.in>
- The date for opening of Technical & Financial bids online shall be opened as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406010000000000-Forestry and Bid Security Deposit in shape of CDR pledged to Divisional Forest Officer Lidder Forest Division. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- As per rule 171 of GFR-2017, Performance Security shall have to be deposited by successful bidder in accordance to the circular No. FD.Code/441/2021-22-158 dated 08/08/2025.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website jktenders.gov.in
- To participate in bidding process bidders, have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act Bidders can get Digital Certificate form approved vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their Technical & financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form.
- Bidders must ensure to upload attested, copies of all valid necessary documents, viz Registration Card Issued by Forest department, Income tax return for last 03 years, Latest GST return, PAN No. /GST/TIN No. NOC from Divisional Forest Officer Lidder Forest Division Bijbehara, Divisional Forest Officer Anantnag Forest Division Anantnag that the Contractor is not defaulter/Blacklisted, Treasury receipt/ Challan (cost of Tender Document) and Bid Security Deposit in shape of CDR. No affidavit will be entertained for requisite documents. All the tender documents shall be uploaded in PDF format at a resolution of not less than 300 DPI, in case the documents uploaded by the bidder are not legible, his/her bid shall stand cancelled ab-initio.
- The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labour Registration Certificate issued by Labour Department after issuance of award of contract.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).
- The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria /policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
- The tender accepting Authority however reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PDF form 25 (double leaf) and as per the detailed document.
- Other conditions as envisaged under manual for procurement of work-2025 shall apply Mutatis Mutandis.
- DFO/ Lidder/2026-27/ Accts/01-08
Dated: - 25/04/2026

DIPK-786-26
DT: 25/04/2026
DFO, Lidder Forest Division
Bijbehara

Delhi Sizzles at 42.8 Deg C, Hottest Day of Year So Far



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The national capital sweltered on Saturday, recording its highest maximum temperature of the year so far. Several weather stations reported heatwave conditions across the city, even as the IMD has forecast rain from Monday to Wednesday, bringing some hope of respite to Delhiites.

While a yellow alert had been issued for Saturday, a similar alert remains in place for Sunday as well, warning people of isolated heatwave conditions.

On Saturday, Safdarjung, representative of the city's weather, recorded a maximum temperature of 42.8 degrees Celsius, 5.1 degrees above normal and a 0.9-degree rise from the day before, thus fulfilling the criteria for a heatwave.

According to the India Meteorological Department, a heatwave is classified when the maximum temperature is 40 degrees Celsius or above, and it is 4.5 degrees to 6.4 degrees above normal.

This was also the highest maximum recorded in Delhi in the last four years since 2022, when the maximum had reached 43.5 degrees Celsius on April 28, 2022.

Safdarjung recorded a minimum temperature of 25.2 degrees Celsius, 2.5 degrees above normal and a

mere 0.7-degree rise from the day before.

Other weather stations also recorded isolated heatwave conditions. Lodhi Road recorded a maximum temperature of 42.6 degrees Celsius, 5.6 degrees above the normal; Ridge recorded a minimum of 44.5 degrees, 6.1 degrees above the normal; and Ayanagar logged a minimum temperature of 43.2 degrees Celsius, 4.8 degrees above the normal.

While the IMD had initially classified Friday as the season's first isolated heat wave, the MeT department later clarified on Saturday that it had been the third consecutive day of a heatwave.

IMD classifies a heatwave when at least two stations have met the required criteria. An IMD official clarified that while Delhi had fulfilled the heatwave condition only in one station on Thursday, the two-step criteria are actually for the entire subdivision of Haryana-Chandigarh-Delhi.

"On Thursday, one station, Rohtak to be specific, of Haryana and Ridge of Delhi, had satisfied heatwave criteria, thus making it the first day. Saturday was the third consecutive day of heat waves," an IMD official said.

Meanwhile, the weather department has issued a yellow alert for Sunday as well. The official added, "These

conditions are likely to continue till Sunday.

Under the influence of the setting in of lower tropospheric level easterly winds, the maximum temperature might drop on Tuesday, as forecasts suggest very light rain possible from Monday.

According to forecasts by the MeT department, a spell of very light rain, along with thunderstorms and gusty winds, might bring some respite from Monday to at least Wednesday. The maximum temperature is forecast to fall to 38-40 degrees Celsius by the end of next week.

The minimum temperature is likely to be around 25-27 degrees Celsius for the next couple of days.

The 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) of Delhi stood at 243 (poor) at 4 pm, compared to an AQI of 226 (poor) recorded at the same time on Friday, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

According to CPCB standards, an AQI of 0-50 is considered 'good', 51-100 'satisfactory', 101-200 'moderate', 201-300 'poor', 301-400 'very poor', and 401-500 'severe'.

The Air Quality Early Warning System (AQEWS) for Delhi has forecast the AQI to remain in the poor category over the weekend and then improve to the moderate category in the subsequent days.

RSS Ramps Up Global Outreach to Dispel 'Misconceptions'

Press Trust of India

WASHINGTON: The RSS is on a mission to remove the misconceptions about it in the western world with senior leader Dattatreya Hosabale reaching out to intellectuals and academics in the US and the UK to convey the aims and objectives of the organisation in its centenary year.

Hosabale, the RSS General Secretary, has been touring different cities across the US, addressing conferences at the Stanford University in

dress the misconceptions about India and Hindu culture and set a clear narrative of what it stands for.

"The narrative about India and Hindu culture has been distorted for decades within India and outside. Such narratives have to be corrected.

"Many people who are not from the RSS background are involved in setting the proper narrative of India, of Hindu culture. Those things in the society should be spread. That's one area where RSS wants to focus



San Francisco and Hudson Institute here and meeting a cross-section of the Indian diaspora.

"All these years, the RSS has been working silently with the belief that our work is the message. Now, we thought that it is better to reach out. Our words should also become the message," Hosabale told PTI in an interview here. He is accompanied by RSS Joint General Secretary Mukunda CR.

The RSS General Secretary said there have been misconceptions about the organisation, especially in Western countries, which view the Sangh as a Hindu supremacist organisation.

This mispropaganda has continued for decades. They have portrayed RSS as a Hindu supremacist organisation, as anti-minority, anti-women, all such misconceptions have been there, he said, adding that the visit to the US is an effort to remove such misgivings about the RSS.

In its centenary year, a key task before the RSS is to ad-

more," he said. Hosabale arrived in the US last week after a tour of the UK, where he interacted with academic circles, thought leaders, policy experts and a cross-section of the Indian diaspora as part of the outreach efforts.

He said his conversations with a cross-section of Americans focussed on addressing misconceptions about the RSS that he said were a result of propaganda against the 100-year-old organisation for the past several decades.

Hosabale said his message to the Indian diaspora in the US was to be good citizens, win the hearts of locals through hard work and prove that Hindus can contribute to society and provide leadership in different walks of life.

The RSS view is that Indians who have come here to build their career, academic or otherwise, should be loyal to this country, because this is where they are earning their livelihood.

₹4 Lakh Cash Scattered on UP Highway – Returned to Owner!

Press Trust of India

MUZAFFARNAGAR: Police have handed over Rs 4 lakh in cash stacked in a dozen bundles, which was found strewn on the Meerut-Karnal highway in Shamli district, to its owner, officials said on Saturday.

After a local resident informed the police about cash -- six bundles of Rs 500 notes, four bundles of Rs 200 notes and two bundles of Rs 100 notes -- lying on the road near Kabaraut village on Friday, the police recovered it and deposited it in the police

evidence room. Additional Superintendent of Police Sumit Shukla said.

Meanwhile, Shubham from Muzaffarnagar district had claimed ownership of the money, saying that the cash fell while he was returning home on a motorcycle after withdrawing it from a bank in Haryana.

Shamli Superintendent of Police Narendra Pratap Singh told reporters that during the investigation, the real owner of the cash was found to be Shubham, and Rs 4 lakh in cash was handed over to him on Saturday.



Punjab National Bank Holds Town Hall Meeting at Kashmir University PRESS RELEASE



Srinagar, April 24: Punjab National Bank (PNB) organized a Town Hall Meeting at the Gandhi Bhawan, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, under the leadership of its MD & CEO, Shri Ashok Chandra. The event was graced by the presence of Shri Ashish Gandhi, Zonal Head, Amritsar, and Shri Balbir Kumar, Circle Head, Srinagar, along with other senior officials. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from bank officials and employees across the PNB Branches in Kashmir & Ladakh. The Town Hall served as an important platform for direct interaction between the top leadership and staff, fostering dialogue, motivation, and alignment with the Bank's strategic vision. Addressing the gathering, Shri Ashok Chandra emphasized PNB's continued commitment to strengthening customer-centric banking and enhancing service delivery. He highlighted various key initiatives and flagship schemes of the Bank aimed at promoting financial inclusion, supporting MSMEs, empowering farmers, and facilitating digital banking adoption. The MD & CEO also underlined the importance of engaging directly with customers.

He noted that such interactions enable the Bank to gather valuable feedback and insights, helping in refining and tailoring banking products and schemes to meet the evolving needs and expectations of customers, particularly in regions like UT of Jammu & Kashmir & UT of Ladakh. During his interaction with the media, Shri Ashok Chandra, MD & CEO reiterated the Bank's focus on innovation, operational efficiency, and expanding its footprint while maintaining strong asset quality. He further underscored the importance of leveraging technology to deliver seamless, secure, and efficient banking services. Shri Ashok Chandra, MD & CEO appreciated the dedicated efforts of the staff in the region and encouraged them to continue working with commitment and integrity to achieve the Bank's objectives. He emphasized that customer trust and service excellence remain the cornerstone of PNB's sustained growth. The event concluded on a positive note, with a renewed sense of commitment among employees to contribute effectively towards the Bank's vision and mission.



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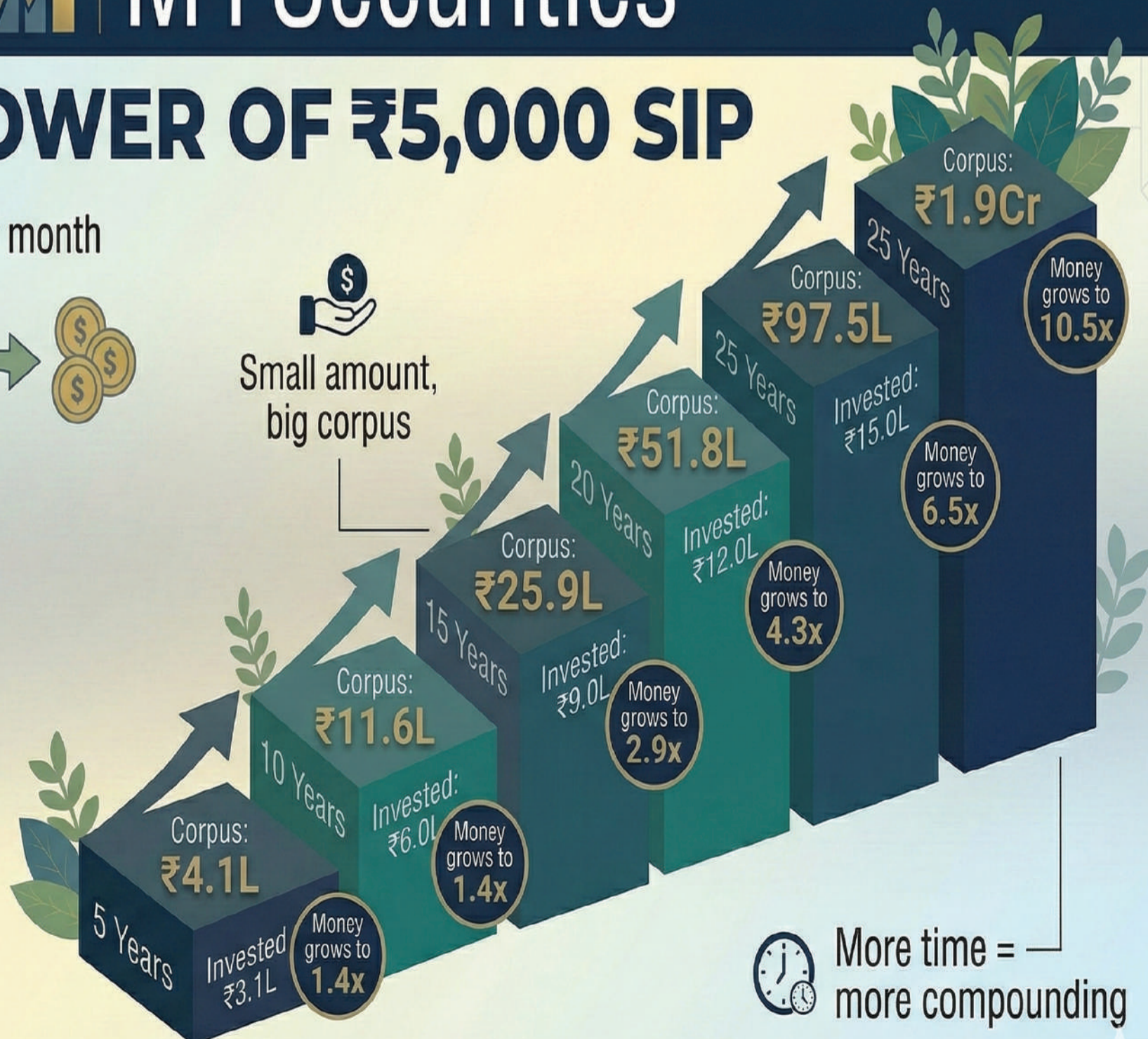
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