

German Chancellor Says, US Being 'Humiliated' By Iran



Agencies

Berlin – German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said on Monday Iran's leadership was humiliating the United States and getting US officials to travel to Pakistan and then leave without results, in an unusually abrupt rebuke over the war Trump launched alongside Israel on February 28. Speaking to students in the German town of Marsberg on Monday, Merz said the situation has exposed a deeper strategic problem for the US as he drew comparisons with past military debacles.

"The problem with conflicts like this is always you don't just have to get in – you have

to get out again," Merz said and warned that Washington lacks a clear path out of the conflict as Tehran gains the upper hand.

"The Iranians are clearly stronger than expected, and the Americans clearly have no truly convincing strategy in the negotiations either," Merz said, according to German Press Agency DPA. The remarks marked some of Merz's fiercest criticism yet of the US-Israeli war with Iran. At the outset of the war, Merz was relatively supportive of the US effort, saying Germany shared the goal of 'regime change' in Iran despite doubts about the Trump administration's methods.

But as the conflict has dragged on | [More on P6](#)

Putin Praises Iran's 'Heroic Fight' for Sovereignty

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi on Monday met Russian President Vladimir Putin, who hailed the Iranian people for fighting bravely and heroically for their sovereignty and said Moscow is ready to do its best to help bring peace to West Asia as soon as possible. Araqchi, who held talks with Omani and Pakistani | [More on P6](#)

Decisive Blow To Terror In J&K: Shah

Credits PM; Cites Article 370 Move In Bengal Rally



Agencies

Srinagar: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi dealt a decisive blow to terrorism by taking bold steps like abrogation of Article 370, surgical strikes and Operation Sindoor.

Addressing an election rally in West Bengal, Shah, said, "PM Modi crushed terrorism which no previous leader or regime could. Operation Sindoor after the Pahalgam terror attack sent a clear message to the adversary that | [More on P6](#)

Left Behind On The Road

Minibus Operators Struggle As Smart Buses Expand

Nazakat Aslam

Srinagar: At a busy bus stop in Srinagar, a minibus driver sits behind the wheel, watching passengers drift past. He glances at the empty seats behind him, uncertain if anyone will board, an unease that now defines his everyday routine.

That unease spilled onto the streets on April 20, when transporters across Srinagar enforced a "Chakka Jam," bringing the city to a halt. For thousands of commuters, it was a day of inconvenience. For minibus operators, it was a question of survival.

Behind the disruption lies a growing crisis. As the government-backed fleet of electric smart buses expands steadily across Srinagar and into adjoining areas, traditional minibuses

Let Every Household Stand As Vigilant Bastion: LG

Says Unity Will Be Our Shield In War Against Drugs

Observer News Service

Jammu: Calling for a united fight against drug abuse, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday urged citizens to make every household a "vigilant bastion" against narcotics as he joined a padyatra in Udhampur under the Nasha Mukta Jammu Kashmir Abhiyan.

Addressing the gathering, the Lieutenant Governor said the battle against drugs must become a collective mission. "In the war against drugs, unity will be our shield and resolve our weapon. Let us commit to shaping a Jammu Kashmir where young people carve free destinies, families remain whole, and communities thrive," he said.

He stressed that no single authority can tackle the menace alone and called



for widespread public participation. "No authority can wage this battle against drug abuse alone; it must ignite within every heart," he said.

Urging grassroots action, he added, "Let every village, hamlet, and city become a fortress of resistance. Let every household stand as a vigilant bastion. I call upon each resident | [More on P6](#)

J&K Emerging As Sports Powerhouse: LG

Observer News Service

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said world-class sports infrastructure is now

reaching the grassroots as he inaugurated the Baba Jitto Indoor Stadium in Marh and an Indoor Sports Stadium at Jourian in Akhnor. Dedicating the facilities to the youth, | [More on P6](#)

Vande Bharat Extension

Need More Capacity, More Trains: CM



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said the upcoming train service between Jammu and Srinagar will significantly boost the tourism sector in the Union Territory.

In a major step to strengthen rail connectivity, a specially designed Vande Bharat Express will begin operating between Jammu and Srinagar from April 30, officials said. The premium service, which has been running between Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra and Srinagar for over nine months, will now be extended up to Jammu Tawi. Reacting to the | [More on P6](#)

Under the scheme, 330 new

J&K Gets ₹4,568 Cr Rural Push, 330 Roads Planned

Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's To Launch PMGSY-IV Today

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu & Kashmir is set for a major rural development push with Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan announcing a ₹4,568 crore package, alongside the rollout of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)-IV, Batch-II, to expand connectivity and livelihoods across the Union Territory.

Chouhan, who began a two-day visit to J&K on Monday, said the PMGSY-IV Batch-II will be formally launched on



April 28 at SKICC, Srinagar, in the presence of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary.

Under the scheme, 330 new

Says Centre Committed To Ensuring No Village Be Left Behind

roads covering nearly 1,600 kilometres will be constructed at an estimated cost of around ₹3,500 crore, benefiting 363 habitations, particularly in far-flung and mountainous areas. The Minister said the roads are aimed at providing all-weather connectivity to villages, improving access to schools, healthcare facilities, markets and employment opportunities.

Highlighting the broader package, Chouhan announced the release of ₹4,568.23 crore as the Central share under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) for 24

states and Union Territories, with the process being anchored from Srinagar. He said the initiative reflects a continued push to strengthen women-led self-help groups and rural entrepreneurship.

Jammu & Kashmir currently has nearly 96,000 Self Help Groups, 7,500 Village Organisations and around 650 Cluster-Level Federations, which, according to the Minister, are playing a key role in income generation and financial inclusion. He added that the Centre's focus remains on expanding livelihood opportunities, particularly for | [More on P6](#)

Ladakh Gets 5 New Districts

Observer News Service

Leh: Ladakh Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Monday approved the creation of five new districts in the Union Territory, fulfilling the aspirations and long-pending demand of the people of the region. He termed the decision a "historic day" for Ladakh.

"I have approved the notification for the creation of five new districts in Ladakh, fulfilling the aspirations and long-pending demand of the people of Ladakh," the LG said in a post on X.

Saxena said that with the creation of five new districts – Nubra, Sham, Changthang, Zaskar and Drass – Ladakh will now have seven districts, taking the total number of districts in the Union Territory to seven.

Earlier, Leh and Kargil were the only two districts in Ladakh, the largest Union Territory in terms of area but the second least populous. It has an expanse of 86,904 square | [More on P6](#)

Shopian Seminary Declared Unlawful Under UAPA

Admin Orders Asset Seizure, Student Shift

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has declared Darul Uloom Jamia Siraj-ul-Uloom in the Imam Sahib area of Shopian district as an unlawful entity under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, citing alleged links with a banned organisation and multiple irregularities, officials said on Monday.

The order, issued by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg, said the action was based on inputs including a dossier submitted by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Shopian, on March 24, 2026.

The institution, described as a prominent educational establishment in south Kashmir, is allegedly linked to the outlawed Jamaat-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir and its affiliate | [More on P6](#)

'Non-Application Of Mind'

HC Quashes PSA Detention Of AAP MLA

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on Monday quashed the preventive detention of Aam Aadmi Party legislator Mehraj Malik under the Public Safety Act (PSA), holding that the order was legally unsustainable and based on "non-application of mind".

Setting aside the detention order issued by the Doda district magistrate against Malik on September 8 last year, Justice



Mohd Yousuf Wani directed authorities to "release the petitioner/detenu forthwith from his preventive detention".

Reacting to the verdict, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and

CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami highlighted the misuse of the stringent PSA that allows detention without charge or trial for up to two years in some cases, while Malik's supporters took to streets in his home constituency in Doda to welcome the ruling.

Malik, who is the AAP's J&K unit president, was detained under the PSA in September for allegedly disturbing public order and was subsequently lodged in the Kathua jail.

On September 24, he filed a habeas corpus | [More on P6](#)

**Public Works (R&B) Department
UT of Jammu & Kashmir**

Accelerating J&K's Growth Story

"Roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana are not just a piece of physical infrastructure. Each of these roads lift the rural economy and increase Ease of Living."

– **Shri Narendra Modi**
Hon'ble Prime Minister

**Launch of
PMGSY-IV, Batch-II in J&K**

Number of Roads	Road Length	Project Value	Habitations benefiting
330	1,600 Km	₹3,550+Cr	363

by

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India

in the august presence of

Jenab Omar Abdullah
Hon'ble Chief Minister, J&K

&

Shri Surinder Kumar Choudhary
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, J&K

April 28, 2026 | SKICC, Srinagar

Legacy of Connectivity in J&K since 2000

3,328 Roads Constructed | 19,851 km Road Network Created | 257 Bridges Built

DIPK-813/26 | Dated: 27.04.2026



To place an advertisement
CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)
No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

GDCHE-PO/24/2022-03-PRINCIRAL GOVT DENTAL COLLEGE SRINAGAR (OUTSIDE SECTT)

1/709150/2026

**Govt. Dental College & Hospital (Purchase Section)
Shireen Bagh, Srinagar, Kashmir
Fax: 2504703 | Email, gdosrinagar.ik.gov.in**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, sealed tenders affixed with Revenue Stamp of Rs 5 are invited from the registered/approved/authorized dealers/suppliers/firms for supply of the following Essential Dental Material items required for day to day smooth running of the Hospital on the terms & Conditions mentioned below

S. No.	Name of the item
01	IOPAR X-Ray films
02	X-Ray Developer (Lituid/Powder)
03	X-Ray Fixer liquid/powder

Terms and Conditions:

- 01 Sealed tenders accompanied with CDR/FIR worth Rs 10000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand) pledged to the Office, Govt. Dental College Srinagar should reach to the office of the undersigned within 7 days from the publication in the daily newspaper up to (01.00 PM)
- 02 The rates quoted at the terms with all specifications must be typed without any cuttings/corrections and shall be inclusive of all taxes/charges whatsoever and for stores GDC Srinagar
- 03 The tenders received after the prescribed date and time will not be entertained.
- 04 The sealed tenders bids opened shall be opened in the same day in the office chamber of the Medical Superintendent, Govt. Dental College, & Hospital, Srinagar or any other date convenient to the committee created for the purpose.
05. In case any of the bidders intends to be present, he/she will be allowed only after having the authorization from the tenderer duly signed/stamped
- 06 The successful bidder/Firm shall have to supply the ordered item within (107) days from the date of issuance of supply order as the items are being of urgent nature
- 07 The tender shall remain valid for three (03) months from the date of finalisation of tenders or till the supplies are received through JKMBCL whichever is earlier. The items floated in this tender notice are not available at present with JKMBCL & NOC has also been obtained from JAKMSCL
- 08 On the product specification of the above repaired items are not available at present on GeM portal due to repairs of category as GeM ARAPTS certificates generated from Dem Portal.
- 09 The successful bidder/Bidder has to provide a copy of the PAN card, Asilhar card, GST details and bank account details of the firm to the tenders shall have to deposit the sample of quoted item
- 10 The committee shall have the right to reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason there

GDC/Pur/2026/724-30

DIPK-814/26

Date-27-04-2026

Dr. Asha Hussain Qurrahi
Purchase Officer
GDC&H Srinagar

NOTICE

It is hereby notified that the particulars of my ward, Hammad Bin Tahseen, a student of Class 9th (Yellow), Roll No. 24, under Admission No. 4674-16B, have been incorrectly recorded in the school records as follows:

Name: Hammad Bin Tahseen
Father's Name: Tahseen Bashir Bhat
Mother's Name: Sumaira Tahseen
However, the correct and actual particulars are:
Name: Hammad Bin Tahseen
Father's Name: Tahseen Bashir Bhat
Mother's Name: Sumer Jan

It is requested that the necessary corrections be made in the official records accordingly. If anyone has any objection regarding this correction, they may submit the same to the Principal of Tyndale Biscoe & Mallinson School, Srinagar, within a period of seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections shall be entertained thereafter.

**Tahseen Bashir Bhat Father of Hammad Bin Tahseen
Residence - Old Gagrival Road Srinagar
Cell No. 7006809201 | 9906548095**

ab

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mujeba W/o Farooq Ahmad Dar, R/o Ogmuna, Tehsil Kawarhama, District Baramulla, hereby notify that my name and Date of Birth have been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 3963 2234 9756 as Majeeda Akhter with DOB 18/03/1981 instead of the correct name Mujeba and DOB 01/04/1981 as per school records.

Now, I intend to correct my name and Date of Birth in the Aadhaar records. If anybody has any objection, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

fko

Sd/-
Mujeba

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Pattan

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 Aasiya Aashiq D/o Aashiq Hussain Bhat R/o Gund Ibrahim Tehsil Singpora with verified date of birth 26/04/2021 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.

fko

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name "Aaqib Mushtaq Bisati" S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Bisati mentioned in the Driving Licence records is incorrect.

The correct name is: Aaqib Mushtaq Bisati S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Bisati.

Driving license No.: JK-1620110007274.

I am applying for correction in the official records. If anyone has any objection to the same, they may contact ARTO office

Ganderbal, within 7 days of publication of this notice. After that, no objection will be entertained.

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that the name "Mukhtar Ahmed Wali" S/o Gogulam Mohd Wali mentioned in the Driving Licence records is incorrect.

The correct name is: Mukhtiar Ahmed Wali S/o Ghulam

Mohamad Wali.

Driving license No.: TN21X 1997 0000281.

I am applying for correction in the official records. If anyone has any objection to the same, they may contact RTO office

Srinagar, within 7 days of publication of this notice. After that, no objection will be entertained.

fko

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Pattan

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 Ather Naseer Malla s/o Naseer Ahmad malla R/o Tangpora Tehsil Pattan with verified date of birth 08/11/2021 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.

fko

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan

Office Of The Naib Tehsildar Pattan

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 Kounsar Rashid D.O.B 13/03/2014 and Sadaf Rashid D.O.B 01/07/2013 Daughters of Abdul Rashid Sheikh R/o Eidgah mohalla 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.

fko

Sd
Naib Tehsildar Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is information for the general public that in Adhar card bearing No 396491253268 the name is entered as Shaida Akhtar while actual name is Shahida Farooq. Now I want its correction, in this regard if anybody having any objection may contact Concern department with in a period of seven days. No objection shall be entertained after that.

Shahida Farooq
W/O Farooq Ahmad Wani
R/o Khalidabad Baghat Barzulla

mcb

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

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

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Mehnaza Maqbool D/o Mohd Maqbool Dar R/o Seeloo , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely Mehnaza Maqbool born on 15/06/2008 and as per document evidence produced by the applicant. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he/she may file the same before the undersigned within 07 days.

After that, no objection whatsoever will be entertained by this office.

fko

Tehsildar
Executive Magistrate
Bomai

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No. 121025048 Session: Regular Year 2025 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed against my father's name as Wiqar Younis Lone Instead of Viqar Younis Lone



Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education Sub Office Budgam , if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Sub Office Magam within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Lone Mehwish
Father's name: Viqar Younis Lone
Mother's Name: Arifa Begum
DOB: 14-06-2009
Residence: Kawarhama
Mobile no: 7006288781

bmj

**Office Of The
Tehsildar Tangmarg
(EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS)**

Notice for the general public

It is hereby notified that the applicant. Fareeda Begum W/o Bashir Ahmed Khan R/o Kuthipora had applied for the issuance Birth/Death certificate of his/her Daughter namely Iqra Bashir . The applicant intends to register the per the hospital/School/ other 1989 the applicant DOB/DOD of his/her Daughters record which in 02/10/2009

If anybody is having any objection/claim regarding the same, he/she may approach the office of undersigned within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice or else any such claims/objection shall not be entertained.

fko

Executive Magistrate
1 Class Tangmarg

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform General Public through the medium of this notice that I Mohammad Hunain Khuroo intend to change my Mothers name in my Date of Birth Certificate, Domicile Certificate and Passport. The name of my Mother in these documents is mentioned as Shereen Abid. While as Real and actual name is Gulafroz Maqbool. Accordingly the name Shereen Abid needs to be changed to Gulafroz Maqbool

W/o Abid Hussain Khuroo
Residence Address: House No. 251, Housing Colony Ompora, Budgam -Kashmir - 191111.

Anyone having any objection should approach Concerned Authority within 07 days from the publication of this Notice. No objection shall be entertained after the lapse of 07 days from the publication of this notice.

fko

iko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Heema Begum W/o Ab Ahad Ahanger, R/o Lalpora, Tehsil Kunzer, District Baramulla, hereby notify that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 2138 7408 9566 as Meema Begum instead of the correct name Heema Begum as per Domicile Certificate.

Now, I intend to correct my name from Meema Begum to Heema Begum in the Aadhaar records. If anybody has any objection, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

fko

Sd/-
Heema Begum

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

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

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Manzoor Ahmad Hajam S/o Mohd Jamal Hajam R/o Lati'shat , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward(s) Namely Humaira Jaan born on 11-06-2015, Mohammad Ibraheem born on 12-06-2017 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.

fko

Tehsildar
Executive Magistrate
Bomai

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

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

Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Mohd Shafi Bhat S/o Abdul Razzaq Bhat R/o Lagripora , Tehsil Zainger for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward(s) Namely Salman 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.

fko

Tehsildar
Executive Magistrate
Bomai

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Masrat Yousuf W/o Mohammad Yousuf Ganie, R/o Devdrager, Tehsil Tangmarg, District Baramulla, hereby notify that my name and my husband's name have been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 5994 5105 8851 as Maqsooda Akhter and husband's name as Ashiq Ahmad Paray instead of the correct name Masrat Yousuf and husband's name Mohammad Yousuf Ganie as per Domicile Certificate.

Now, I intend to correct my name and my husband's name in the Aadhaar records. If anybody has any objection, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Sd/-

Masrat Yousuf

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No 3034 1873 0492 Now I want to change my name from SYED ZEHRAN UL HAQ (Old Name) to SYED ABDUL BARI (New Name). In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he or she may approach the concerned authorities within a period of seven days. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Name:- SYED ABDUL BARI
S/O:- SYED HILAL AHMAD
R/O:- TAKIA FAROOK SHAH KHANSAHIB BUDGAM

inf

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my name has been wrongly mentioned in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. 8069 0134 8978 Now I want to change my name from ZEENAB JAN (Old Name) to ZAINAB JAN (New Name). In this regard, if anyone has any objection, he or she may approach the concerned authorities within a period of seven days. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Name:- ZAINAB JAN
D/O:- TARIQ AHMAD KUCHAY
R/O:- MUNIPOPY BUDGAM , Jammu And Kashmir- 191111

inf

از نیابت پارٹیوہ
عنوان۔ چھٹی آمدہ دا دفتر پاک ڈیویٹ آفس پارٹیوہ زیر نمبر
BDO/PAR/DB/35 مورخہ 27-04-2026 نسبت تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ
بقسمت سامیہ مظفر دختر محمد مظفر میر ساکن موضع بگرو تحصیل خانصاحب۔
اشہد برائے گاہی ہر خاص و عام
ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار آگاہ کیا جاتا ہے کہ مسائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض
حصول تاریخ پیدائش پیش کی ہے۔ اس ضمن میں مکمل فیڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا
گیا ہے۔ جو کہ حسب ذیل ہے۔
نمبر شمار نام مسائل سکونت تاریخ پیدائش
01۔ سامیہ مظفر دختر محمد مظفر میر بگرو 05-03-2013
لہذا اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو مذکورہ سرٹیفکیٹ بحق مسائل اجراء کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا
اعتراض ہو تو وہ ایک ہفتے کے اندر اندر دفتر پیدائش میں پیش کریں بعد ازاں عذر کوئی بھی
عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہ ہوگا۔
تحریر صدر
نائب تحصیلدار پارٹیوہ

mcb

UP Youth's Body Fished out from Jhelum

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The body of an Uttar Pradesh (UP) youth, who had jumped into river Jhelum on April 22, was recovered on Monday by SDRF teams from Old Zaina Kadal area of Srinagar after five days of continuous search operations, officials said here.

An official told KNO that SDRF Quick Response Team (QRT) Jhelum recovered the body during early afternoon search operations. The deceased was identified as Mohammad Quresh Siddiqi (18), son of Mohammad Nawab Siddiqi, a resident of Uttar Pradesh.

"The body was retrieved from the river during a coordinated search operation at Zaina Kadal stretch and was later handed over to police for medico-legal formalities," ASI SDRF Jhelum Srinagar, Mohammad Ashraf, told KNO.

Locals in the area expressed

grief over the incident and urged authorities to strengthen safety measures along riverbanks. "This is extremely painful. Such incidents need urgent preventive action so that lives are not lost in this manner," said a resident.

Officials said SDRF teams had been conducting continuous search operations since April 22, covering multiple stretches of Jhelum, including Budshah Bridge, Chattabal weir and downstream areas.

"Despite sustained day and late-night efforts, the body could not be traced initially due to strong water currents and river conditions," Ashraf said, adding the body was finally recovered this afternoon during intensified search operations at Zaina Kadal.

Residents and pedestrians have urged the government to install iron fencing on both sides of the bridge, enhance CCTV surveillance and ensure round-the-clock police deployment in the area.



A worker paints road dividers as authorities gear up for the upcoming Darbar Move. KO PHOTO ABID BHAT

No Permission Granted for Tree Felling in Last Five Years: SMC Tells NGT

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has informed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that no permission has been granted for cutting or felling of trees within its jurisdiction over the past five years.

According to KNO, the submission was made in response to a case arising from reports of large-scale tree felling at the historic Amar Singh College campus.

In its reply filed before the Principal Bench of the NGT in Original Application No. 360/2024, the SMC

stated that its Tree Authority has not issued any approval for cutting, felling, or removal of trees from the financial year 2020-21 to 2024-25.

The case pertains to a report alleging felling of around 234 trees on the century-old Amar Singh College campus, which triggered environmental concerns and legal scrutiny.

According to the SMC, the Tree Authority, constituted under the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act, 2000, has not granted permission to any individual or department for tree removal during the said period.

The corporation further submitted that a formal mechanism

for processing applications seeking permission for tree felling, including the prescribed format and fee structure, has been forwarded to the government and is currently under examination. It assured the tribunal that it will implement the procedure once it receives approval from the government.

The response has been backed by an affidavit filed by SMC Commissioner Faz Lul Hasbeeb (IAS), stating that the information provided is based on official records and no material facts have been concealed.

The matter is under consideration before the NGT.

KU-NTM Begins Workshop on Translation in Kashmiri & Sanskrit

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A three-day skill development workshop on "Translation in Indian Languages—Kashmiri and Sanskrit" began at the Main campus of the University of Kashmir (KU). The workshop is being organised by the varsity's Department of Kash-

miri in collaboration with the National Translation Mission (NTM), Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore.

It aims to build translation skills among participants, promote linguistic exchange, and encourage the use of Indian languages in academic and literary contexts.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Vice-Chancellor, KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, said, "Translation plays an important role in connecting languages and knowledge systems. Strengthening such skills can help make academic and literary content more accessible across linguistic boundaries."

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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

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

PRAYERS

FAJR	4: 16
ZUHR	12: 28
ASR	5: 16
Magrib	7: 15
ISHA	8: 43

HIJRI CALENDAR
10 Zil-Qadah
1447

This Day In History

- 1920- Azerbaijan SSR joins USSR (1st time)
- 1925- Kurdish rebels surrender to Turkish army
- 1925- Netherlands & Great Britain return to gold standard
- 1937- 1st animated cartoon electric sign displayed (NYC)
- 1949 - Former Philippine First Lady Aurora Quezon, 61, assassinated while en route to dedicate a hospital in memory of her late husband; her daughter and 10 others also killed
- 1951 - Mohammad Mosaddegh elected Prime Minister of Iran by the Parliament of Iran (Majlis)
- 1952 - WW II Pacific peace treaty takes effect
- 1956 - Last French troops leave Vietnam
- 1958 - Great Britain performs atmospheric nuclear test at Christmas Island
- 1958 - Vanguard TV-5 launched for Earth orbit (failed)
- 1965 - US marines invade Dominican Republic, stay until October 1966
- 1967 - Muhammad Ali refuses induction into army & stripped of boxing title
- 1969 - Charles de Gaulle resigns as president of France
- 1971 - Samuel Lee Gravely Jr becomes 1st black admiral in US Navy
- 1972 - Courts award 1968 Kentucky Derby prize money to 2nd place winner due to the winner being given drugs before the race
- 1973 - Over 6000 Mk. 82 500 pound bombs detonate over 18 hrs in a railyard in northern California. 5500 structures damaged, town of Antelope destroyed, with every building reduced to foundations. Leads to Transportation Safety Act (1974)
- 1975 - South-Vietnam Gen Duong Van Minh sworn in as president till April 30
- 1977 - Andreas Baader and members of terrorist group the Red Army Faction (Baader-Meinhof Gang) jailed for life after a trial lasting nearly 2 years in Stuttgart, Germany
- 1977 - The Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure is signed.
- 1983 - Argentine government declares all 15-30,000 missing persons dead

भारतीय खेल प्राधिकरण
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
खेल विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
(An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)
(युवा कार्यक्रम और खेल मंत्रालय के तहत एक स्वायत्त निकाय)
(Human Resources Division -II)

HEAD OFFICE, GATE NO.10 (EAST GATE),
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU STADIUM,
LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003
Date: 10-04-2026

File No. 01-04001(03)/4/2026-66

Sports Authority of India Recruitment DIRECTOR (ON DEPUTATION) basis

The Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, invites applications for 16 Posts of Director in Pay Matrix Level-12 on deputation basis for a period of 3 years at its Head Office, New Delhi and various field units. Eligible officers may submit applications in the prescribed format, along with required documents, to the Director (Human Resources Division-II), SAI, J.N. Stadium Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003. Last date for receipt of applications is 10-05-2026 (5:00 PM). Detailed advertisement, eligibility criteria, proforma and instructions will be available on the SAI website (www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in).

Cbc 47103/11/0004/2627

भारतीय खेल प्राधिकरण
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
खेल विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
(An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)
(युवा कार्यक्रम और खेल मंत्रालय के तहत एक स्वायत्त निकाय)
(Human Resources Division -II)

HEAD OFFICE, GATE NO.10 (EAST GATE),
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU STADIUM,
LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003

HEAD OFFICE, GATE NO.10 (EAST GATE),
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU STADIUM,
LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003
Date: 21-04-2026

File No. 01-04001 (03)/4/2026-66

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA RECRUITMENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR (ON DEPUTATION) BASIS

The Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, invites applications for 20 Posts of Deputy Director in Pay Matrix Level-11 on deputation basis for a period of 3 years at its Head Office, New Delhi and various field units. Eligible officers may submit applications in the prescribed format, along with required documents, to the Director (Human Resources Division-II), SAI, J.N. Stadium Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003. Last date for receipt of applications is 21-05-2026 (5:00 PM). Detailed advertisement, eligibility criteria, proforma and instructions will be available on the SAI website (www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in).

Cbc 47103/11/0006/2627

J&K Bank
IAPM Department
Zonal Office Pulwama.

POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices dated 24.07.2025, thereby calling upon 1.Fayaz Ahmad Dar Son of Mohd Abdullah Dar Resident of Batpora Shopian Proprietor of M/s Dar General Store (Borrower) 2. Mohd Abdullah Dar Son of Ghulam Mohammad Dar Resident of Batpora Shopian (Mortgagor) 3. Intiyaz Ahmad Sheikh Son of Abdul Rehman Sheikh Resident of Batpora Shopian (Guarantor) and 4. Khalid Ul Islam Son of Mohammad Yaseen Zargar Resident of Batpora Shopian (Guarantor) to repay an amount of Rs.27,74,101.40 (Rupees Twenty Seven Lacs Seventy Four Thousand One Hundred One and Paise Forty only) being the balance outstanding as on 31.12.2025 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower/mortgagor/Guarantor having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower/mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank has taken Symbolic possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 24th April 2026.

The said borrower/mortgagor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank for the amount to Rs. 28,23,425.40/- (Rupees Twenty Eight lacs Twenty Three thousand Four Hundred Twenty five and Paise Forty), being balance outstanding in the borrowers cash credit loan account as on 31.03.2026 together with future interest thereon from 01.04.2026 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

Description of the Immovable Property
Land measuring 273 Sq. Fts along with double storeyed shop (14 * 19.5) constructed thereupon, falling under Khasra No. 107 min, Khata No. 196, Khewat No. 54 situated at Mouza Batapora Tehsil and District Shopian standing in the name of Mohd Abdullah Dar Son of Ghulam Mohammad Dar Resident of Batpora Shopian.

Place: Shopian
Dated: 24.04.2026

Mohamad Ashraf Mir
Authorized Officer

PUBLIC NOTICE
I GULZAR AHMAD BHAT S/O ABDUL AHAD BHAT R/O NOWPORA CHADOORA BUDGAM am applying for contractor Card-Dee class in the office of the JKPCD chief office Bemina Srinagar anybody having any objection may please contact above mentioned department within a period of seven days after that No objection will be entertained ab

PUBLIC NOTICE
I GULZAR AHMAD BHAT S/O ABDUL AHAD BHAT R/O NOWPORA CHADOORA BUDGAM am applying for contractor Card-Dee class in the office of the JKPCD chief office Bemina Srinagar anybody having any objection may please contact above mentioned department within a period of seven days after that No objection will be entertained ab

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified that in Regularization Order No. 910-DSEK of 2014 dated 02.07.2014, my name and qualification were wrongly recorded as "Khurshid" and "B.A." due to clerical error. The correct particulars are: Name "Khurshid" and Qualification "B.Sc.", as per initial orders dated 12.02.2009 & 14.02.2009 and official records. Hence, the corrected details shall be treated as valid for all purposes. Any person having any objection to the above correction may file the same along with valid documentary proof within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter. fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Tawqeer Ahmad Mir S/o Gh. Mohammad Mir R/o Dowlatapora, Tehsil Kreeeri, District Baramulla, have applied for issuance of D Class Contractor Card in R&B Division Baramulla. Any person having objection may file the same in the said office within 7 days from publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter and the case will be processed accordingly. Applicant: Tawqeer Ahmad Mir Date: 25.04.2026 Place fko

KASHMIR OBSERVER™

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of Kashmir Observer LLP
Printed at: K.T Press Pvt. Ltd 120-Electronic Complex, Industrial Estate, Rangreth-Budgam
Published from: 5-Boulevard Srinagar J&K
Editor-in-Chief: Sajjad Haider
Managing Editor: Bilal Handoo
News Editor: Farzana Nisar
Online Editor: Syed Hamid
Head Layout & Design: Muntazir Yaseen,
Digital Media Head: Amir Ali Shah
Distribution & Advertising: Firdous Ahmad
RNI Registration No: 69503/98
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja
Switchboard: (0194) 2502327 | +91 1947969705
Editorial: (0194) 2502327
Email: editor@kashmirobsvrvr.net

The Iran War Could Break MAGA

In this open letter to Donald Trump, the writer presents the Iran conflict as a turning point for both the MAGA movement and America itself, warning that continued escalation could deepen national fracture.



Wajahat Qazi



“You, Donald Trump, rose to the occasion, pledging to redeem and restore America to a pristine condition that worked to the advantage of Americans. You were doing great, but suddenly evil whispered in your ear, and you attacked Iran.”

You were doing great, but suddenly evil whispered in your ear, and you attacked Iran.

The costs and consequences of this choice are obvious now: economic malaise in the US, a possible impending recession, and a loss of support for you and the MAGA movement.

Overlying this is the very real and distinct possibility of a civil war in America. This is not, and should not be, the ultimate outcome of your hard-won gains and quest.

Now, Mr. Trump, a few words on Iran may be pertinent here.

Two principles define its raison d'être: Esteghal and Azadi. The former means sovereignty and the latter freedom. This is what Iranians live by.

Think of the price they have paid for these very legitimate principles: an eight-year war in which Saddam acted as a proxy, decades of sanctions, hybrid wars, assassinations, terrorism, and so on.

Now, in the latest sordid saga, despite being on the back foot and weak on a range of metrics, including military power, economic weaknesses induced by sanctions, and being surrounded by hostile neighbours, Iran has resisted ably and fiercely.

It is a civilization-state inspired by faith-driven values. Don't continue to listen to the scurrilous demonization of Iran motivated by its enemies.

To repeat, it is you and your political philosophy that are paying the price, not the ones who gave you misleading advice.

Mr. Trump, while the costs and consequences of this war continue to percolate across America, it is still not too late. There are still some prudent options available to you.

One, craft an able and prudent exit strategy that allows both the US and Iran to claim victory.

Two, in specific terms, reduce the US exposure and footprint in the Middle East. This will allow you to recover

some of the immense opportunity costs that this military deployment and re-configuration are imposing on the US. It will also help you refocus.

Three, use US power and influence to stop the carnage in Gaza and Lebanon.

Four, from a broader and more structural perspective rooted in international relations theory and practice, let the international system be defined by difference and heterogeneity. Let other states pursue their national interests.

Five, above all, focus on America and the welfare of Americans in the broadest and most expansive sense of the word, politically, economically, individually, and socially. An allied approach to this would be to reach out to all Americans and reassure them of your commitment to the country.

In the synthesis and interstices of these suggestions lies redemption. It does not lie in war, warmaking, or rhetorical and military escalation.

These things drain and dissipate, and then there is "the pity of war".

I will conclude by postulating the inverse of Clausewitz's dictum. Military theory posited that "war is a continuation of diplomacy". But as my able Australian mentor once said, "All war is bad politics."

So, Mr. Trump, elevate the primacy of prudent and ethical politics over war. The starting point for this has to be exiting Iran and letting the country be.

The natural corollary to this will be a grand American reset, refocus, and rejuvenation that redounds to the welfare of your countrymen and women.

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

KO VIEW

The Crisis of Taste in Modern Kashmir

Kashmir once understood beauty as a form of intelligence. Old homes in Srinagar combined craftsmanship with practical design. Carved walnut windows filtered light during winter afternoons. Courtyards created shared family spaces. Pherans reflected climate and culture at the same time. Wazwan represented hospitality through discipline and balance rather than excess. Public aesthetics grew from lived experience and cultural confidence.

A different culture now dominates much of the valley. Giant concrete houses rise behind flashy gates and reflective glass. Wedding halls resemble film sets designed for drone footage and Instagram reels. Cafés copy Dubai interiors with artificial flowers, neon signs, and imported décor disconnected from Kashmir's landscape and history. Public taste increasingly celebrates visibility and spectacle.

Architecture reveals the shift with disturbing clarity. Traditional Kashmiri construction methods evolved through centuries of earthquakes and brutal winters. Research published in 2023 on Srinagar's vernacular architecture found that techniques such as Taq and Dhajji-Dewari conserved heat and adapted effectively to seismic conditions. Those structures also created stronger neighbourhood interaction through shared layouts and human-scale design.

Modern construction often ignores climate, geography, and local memory in pursuit of status. Large concrete structures consume more energy during winter and weaken visual harmony within old neighbourhoods.

Architects and conservation scholars in Kashmir increasingly argue that social media aesthetics and Gulf-inspired real estate trends now drive construction far more than environmental sense or cultural understanding.

Wedding culture exposes another layer of this crisis. Marriage ceremonies once centered on family gatherings and community traditions. Present-day weddings frequently resemble public competitions built around display. Designer stages, cinematic photography, imported rituals, and extravagant trams consume staggering amounts of money.

A 2024 analysis in local media documented rising debt among middle-class families struggling to finance these performances. Environmental groups in Kashmir estimate that peak wedding season generates enormous quantities of wasted food, plastic, and disposable decoration materials daily.

Celebration increasingly serves online attention rather than cultural meaning.

Social media accelerated this transformation with astonishing speed. Instagram turned visibility into social power. Young Kashmiris encounter endless streams of curated lifestyles that celebrate consumption as sophistication. Algorithms now influence fashion, interiors, tourism, and even speech patterns. Public culture increasingly values imitation over originality and noise over refinement.

This crisis extends far beyond decoration or personal preference. Taste influences architecture, environmental choices, civic behaviour, and social imagination. A society that loses faith in its own aesthetic instincts gradually loses faith in itself.

Kashmir still possesses one of South Asia's richest artistic inheritances through crafts, poetry, cuisine, music, and built heritage. Cultural confidence can still return through thoughtful adaptation rooted in place and memory.

Modern life never demanded cultural surrender. Progress gains meaning when societies absorb new influences without abandoning their own voice.

Kashmir now faces a defining choice between borrowed spectacle and authentic self-understanding. That choice will determine whether the valley remains culturally distinct or fades into a landscape of expensive imitation with nothing original left to say.

CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

Future Funds

Financial literacy in Kashmir must begin in classrooms, where children learn to save, invest and secure their future.

Irshad Mushtaq

Kashmiri children grow up amid beauty, ambition and economic pressure. Families juggle seasonal incomes, rising medical costs, shrinking government jobs and a growing push toward self-employment. Every one of those realities points toward a simple conclusion: financial literacy belongs in every classroom in Jammu and Kashmir.

Money education deserves the same importance as mathematics or science because money decisions influence every household. Poor financial choices lead families into debt, fraud and years of hardship. Sound financial habits create stability, confidence and opportunity.

Research from Jammu and Kashmir already shows limited public understanding of investment and financial planning. National policy also supports financial education from school onward. The National Centre for Financial Education runs the "Money Smart School Program" across India, though Kashmir still treats financial awareness as an occasional activity instead of a structured subject.

That approach must change. Children understand money best through practical lessons. A piggy bank teaches discipline and delayed spending. A savings account introduces banking, ATM safety and digital payments. Fixed deposits explain patience and compounding. Mutual funds show how small SIPs can build wealth over time. Stock-market simulations teach research, risk and long-term thinking instead of reckless speculation.

Protection matters as much as growth. Kashmiri families often depend on one earning member, which makes insurance education essential. Students should understand how term insurance protects a household after tragedy and how health insurance shields savings during medical emergencies. These ideas affect real families every day.

Schools already possess a clear roadmap. Early classes can teach needs versus wants and basic saving habits. Middle school students can learn budgeting and banking. High school students can study taxation, entrepreneurship, investing and fraud prevention. Local examples tied to orchards, tourism, handicrafts and remittances would make those lessons feel real and relevant.

Parents, mosques, NGOs and financial professionals also have a role. Children absorb money habits at home long before adulthood arrives.

Kashmir's future economy will depend on young people who understand how to earn wisely, spend carefully and protect their families from financial shocks. A region that prepares its children for exams must also prepare them for life.

— The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial educator.

I woke up to the news that there was an assassination attempt of sorts on you. Intriguingly, the attempt happened at the same hotel where another Republican president, Ronald Reagan, was shot.

It is easy to concede to a conspiracy theory, which, however, over the years, has proven to be uncannily true, that the attempt had the hallmarks of an orchestrated false flag operation to bolster your flagging political fortunes against the backdrop of US midterms.

But, to be fair, let's give you the benefit of the doubt. The attempt may have been real. If it was real, what conclusions should you draw from it?

One, your country is in the midst of an unprecedented crisis. It appears to be at a "tipping point", almost on the verge of a civil war.

While America is no stranger to assassinations and violence of a political nature, from Abraham Lincoln to John F. Kennedy and so on, in a world defined by a technological and communications revolution, states or deep states have to literally dance on their toes to create conditions such as these. While deep states never get to cop the blame, the faces of power, which are, in any case, ephemeral, pay the price.

If your country is at the cusp of a civil war, then it is time for you to assert leadership that is sober, ethical, and pragmatic. What would this mean and imply?

First, rise above partisan interests and the misleading advice given to you. It appears, from a distance, that after your presidencies, first in 2016 and then in 2024, you have been gaslit.

Bad advice has been consistently passed on to you. The culmination of this terribly bad advice was the war of aggression on Iran. It defies common sense and practical wisdom. But no matter how powerful a US president is, he is human and prone to flaws and foibles.

Dear Donald Trump, you were led up the primrose path into the war on Iran. Those who fed you this advice had nothing at stake. They will fade into oblivion and write books about it after a while. But the real price will be, and is being, paid by you.

How? Allow me to remind you of your MAGA agenda here.

By sheer grit and determination, with skills honed in the rough and tumble of the business world in America, you tapped into the discontent and cri de coeur of your people. Liberalism-informed globalism had drained the foundational energy of your country and its people. The ultimate victims of globalist

gangsterism were "ordinary" Americans, who faced job losses, a loss of hope and faith in the country, the attendant fentanyl epidemic, and the dissipation of American sovereignty.

The ultimate beneficiaries of globalism were a tiny mercenary elite who profited at the expense of most Americans.

You, Donald Trump, rose to the occasion, pledging to redeem and restore America to a pristine condition that worked to the advantage of Americans.

Letter to Editor

Kashmir Schools Must Teach Skills That Lead to Jobs

Jammu and Kashmir has spent years debating unemployment, migration and economic stagnation. Politicians speak about investment, officials talk about development, and families debate about jobs. But students still leave school with certificates that rarely connect to the demands of the real world.

Vocational education provides a practical answer, and Kashmir's education system finally has a chance to treat it as a central mission rather than a side program.

The region introduced vocational education in schools in 2016 with courses such as Tourism and Hospitality, Retail, Healthcare and Information Technology. More trades followed in 2019, including Automotive, Electronics, Plumbing, Apparel and Beauty & Wellness.

Schools now offer subjects linked to logistics, media and banking. Students in cities, villages and remote areas have started gaining access to practical learning that speaks directly to the economy around them.

That progress deserves recognition. It also demands a far bigger push.

A student who studies tourism in Ganderbal, automotive repair in Banihal or healthcare support in Kupwara enters adulthood with something valuable: usable knowledge. Employers seek workers who can communicate, solve problems, manage customers and understand modern workplaces. Vocational education teaches those skills early, before students step into an uncertain job market.

Traditional schooling in Kashmir still revolves around memorization and examination scores. Students often spend years studying theories without touching the tools, systems or industries they hope to enter later. That model leaves thousands of young people frustrated and disconnected from employment opportunities.

Vocational education closes that gap. The strongest programs combine practical training with employability skills. Students learn communication, leadership, financial management, entrepreneurship and teamwork alongside

technical subjects. A tourism student learns customer interaction. A retail student understands profit and loss. A healthcare trainee develops professional conduct and speaking skills. Those lessons matter in every workplace.

Kashmir now needs vocational streams in every higher secondary school, with at least one or two dedicated options similar to science, commerce and humanities. Schools should introduce vocational subjects from Classes 9 to 12, with classrooms built around practical exposure.

A 70 percent practical and 30 percent theory model would finally align education with employment.

Infrastructure matters too, as many schools still operate without modern labs, training equipment or dedicated vocational spaces. Students cannot master electronics without proper tools or hospitality training without functional demonstration units. Government investment in vocational buildings and high-tech labs would produce results far beyond exam statistics.

Teacher training deserves equal attention. Vocational instructors should spend time every year inside industries and professional institutions. A trainer connected to current market practices teaches students with confidence and relevance.

Industry partnerships can strengthen this entire effort. Businesses should help design curricula, offer internships and guide training standards. Schools and industries working together would create a pipeline from classroom to career.

Kashmir's young people do not seek empty promises. They seek opportunity, stability and a future they can build with their own hands.

Vocational education gives them exactly that.

Sincerely,

Arfat Wani
waniarfat143@rediffmail.com

Why Kashmiri Marriages Are Breaking

Inside Srinagar's family courts, matchmakers, and police stations, a generation learns that checklists kill love.



Haziqah Showkat

The corridor outside Srinagar's family court smells of damp wool and stale tea. On a cold March morning, Rehana adjusts her dupatta while her lawyer, Has-eena Akhtar, arranges papers inside a worn leather briefcase.

Rehana spent six years inside a marriage that demanded everything and gave slim comfort. She cooked, cleaned, earned a salary, and raised two children. Her husband's family always wanted more. "Household chores are easy," she said. "She should adjust further."

Rehana finally walked out. Her case joins a flood of matrimonial petitions swamping Kashmiri courts.

Advocate Akhtar sees this discord daily. "Couples arrive with egos larger than their commitment," she tells me inside a cramped chamber near the courthouse. "Wives file domestic violence complaints over small disputes. Husbands hurl suspicion and abuse over equally minor issues. Both sides focus on ego while marriage demands coexistence plus cooperation."

She points to a nearby stack of files. Each folder represents a home where love surrendered to demands.

The numbers tell a stark story. Mufti Nasirul Islam, grand mufti of Jammu and Kashmir, estimates divorce cases jumped roughly thirty percent since 2012. Courts that handled five or six divorces monthly now see ten, with reconciliation efforts succeeding rarely.

By 2025, Kashmir posts three to five divorce filings every single day. The 2011 census recorded Jammu and Kashmir's divorce incidence at a mere 0.34 percent. That figure now belongs to another era entirely.

I travel to downtown Srinagar to meet Ghulam Qadir, a matchmaker who has arranged marriages for three decades. His office sits above a bakery on Nawhatta Road. Dairies pile high on his desk, each page filled with names, occupations, and demands.

Qadir sips kehwa from a cracked cup and explains the shift.

"Parents used to seek character and compatibility," he says. "Today they bring spreadsheets. The groom must earn a specific salary. The bride must possess a particular degree. Both families want immediate nuclear households, separate kitchens, limited interference. They expect paradise on a government salary."

His observation aligns with broader research.

A 2024 study on evolving marriage traditions among Muslims in Jammu and Kashmir documents how education and employment aspirations now delay unions significantly.

The average marriage age reached 31.5 years for men and 27.8 years for women, far exceeding national averages.

Another study identifies three primary drivers behind this delay: completion of education, unemployment, and financial preparation.

Young Kashmiris spend years building careers, but enter matrimony with expectations that money alone satisfies poorly.

At a city police station, an inspector scrolls through complaint logs on a computer screen. Domestic dispute calls consume an increasing share of police time.

"We receive allegations that range from genuine cruelty to trivial disagreements," the station incharge says. "A mother-in-law's sharp comment becomes a police case. A husband's late return from work triggers a harassment complaint."

The cop cites Supreme Court rulings that cautioned against automatic arrests in matrimonial disputes, including the 2014 Armesh Kumar judgment, which demanded proper investigation before detention.

The court recognized that laws designed for protection sometimes transform into tools for harassment.

The SHO opens a file on his desk. A local teacher married a business-



POOR FAMILIES FACE ENORMOUS FINANCIAL BURDENS AFTER MARRIAGE," HE SAYS. "Husbands appear overwhelmed at managing expenses. Wives demand more than the budget allows. The pressure explodes."

man last year. The wedding cost her family eighteen lakh rupees. Within two months, she returned to her parents' home citing emotional distance.

The husband counters that she demanded a separate house immediately after marriage while he faced business losses.

Both parties now exchange criminal complaints. The file grows thicker. The marriage itself ended within weeks.

This economic dimension haunts every marital discussion.

Kashmir Observer previously reported how families routinely spend between ten and thirty lakh rupees on ceremonies, gold, and furniture. Parents view these expenses as investments in stability. When marriages end within days

or weeks, the financial devastation compounds the emotional pain.

I meet Abrar Hussain, another lawyer practicing at the District Court, inside a tea stall near the High Court. He attributes much of the crisis to what he calls "emotional illiteracy."

"People plan weddings with precision," Abrar says. "They select photographers, venues, and menus. They omit planning the actual marriage. Communication skills elude them, apology remains a foreign concept, and listening becomes a lost art."

He points to a 2026 study on social media and marital dynamics among Kashmiri couples, which found that excessive online usage creates "technoference," trust erosion, and addiction patterns when

He describes a case last month where a bride demanded her husband delete every female contact from his phone. He declined.

She filed a domestic violence complaint. The marriage ended before their first anniversary.

Bhat's mediation records reveal a notable thread: family interference.

"Marriages here involve entire households trying to control the relationship," he says. "Parents interfere, siblings influence decisions, and personal conflicts become family wars."

This matches Advocate Abrar's observation about extended family members pursuing vested interests ahead of solutions.

The systemic picture extends beyond individual actions. Mudasir Ahmad, a social activist, notes that poverty and unemployment in Kashmir place enormous strain on households.

"Poor families face enormous financial burdens after marriage," he says. "Husbands appear overwhelmed at managing expenses. Wives demand more than the budget allows. The pressure explodes."

Youth often grasp marriage's gravity poorly, he adds, letting ego end partnerships before they mature.

Back at the family court, Rehana signs her final papers. Her children wait outside with an aunt. She tells me she feels lighter, though the future remains uncertain.

"I gave everything," she says. "Everything always proved smaller than my effort."

Her words capture the central tragedy.

Marriage in Kashmir once rested on patience, compromise, and mutual growth. But today, many couples approach the institution with demands above understanding, checklists above compassion, and ego above emotional maturity.

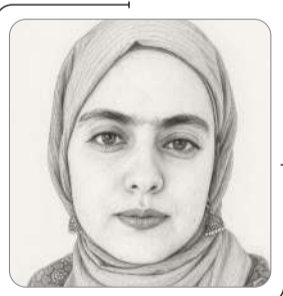
Rehana steps into the afternoon light. Behind her, another couple enters the courthouse, holding hands, still believing their love will beat the odds.

The corridor smells the same, the tea grows colder, and the cycle continues.

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

A Woman's Weekend

This personal essay explores the hidden emotional and domestic labour that often defines women's weekends in the valley.



Insha Irshad

It is Friday. I close my books, shut my laptop and pack my bag, with a sense of relief, excited to spend weekend at home.

Weekends are much-awaited by people who live away from home for study or work. As one of them, I begin counting down to this moment from Monday itself, drawn by the promise of rest and leisure.

But over time, I have begun to question this assumption: Is the weekend truly a time of rest for a working woman?

For me, it is not. On Saturdays, I become a different person. I am no longer the woman I am during the working days at the university. With the arrival of the weekend, my role shifts from a public and professional self to a domestic one, from a worker to a caregiver at home.

The shift is deeply felt. It is a transition between two different ways of being.

In varsity, life is as fast as time. While at home, it is as slow as the last light of day. The structured and disciplined routine of campus life filled

with lectures, readings, and discussions gives way to an entirely different routine.

At home, the expectations are softer, but heavier. The day no longer unfolds around intellectual pursuits, but around responsibilities and roles as a daughter, a sister, and an aunt to a newborn who needs constant love and care.

My life at work is driven by intellectual engagement. I am encouraged to think freely, form my own opinions, and express them without hesitation. I ask questions, exchange ideas, and engage with conversations that deepen my understanding of the world around me.

My opinions hold weight, my voice finds space, and my time largely belongs to me. That world nurtures my intellectual independence.

At home, this independence takes on a quieter and more restrained form. Life revolves around care, belonging, and shared responsibilities.

The day revolves around the needs of others and the routines that demand participation rather than reflection. There is comfort in this life, along with a sense of rootedness and continuity, but it also demands another kind of labour.

Time and space are no longer entirely my own. They are shared, negotiated, and influenced by the routines of family life.

My days at university begin with work, followed by lectures, talks over tea with colleagues, discussions with professors, and hours spent in the library. One task leads to another, with a swiftness to think, read and respond. The mind remains occupied throughout the day, keeping me intellectually alert.



The day at home begins with familiar and continuous tasks: helping around the house, preparing meals, attending to family needs, adjusting to routines, and setting things in order.

These responsibilities derive the flow of the day and leave little that feels entirely my own. The freedom I associate with weekends gradually gives way to a different sense of duty.

Relationships become central to how life is lived and understood. Life is guided by an ethic of care, where responsibility and attentiveness to others determine everyday existence.

This idea resonates with Nel Noddings in Caring: A Feminine Approach to Ethics and Moral Education: "We are not isolated individuals but re-

lational beings, and our moral life is grounded in caring. Caring is the very bedrock of all successful education."

Time at home is measured through roles fulfilled and responsibilities managed. Even moments of rest come with the awareness of unfinished tasks waiting nearby.

Discussions at home take a different tone, often centred on everyday concerns and practical needs rather than ideas and exploration. They sustain family life, relationships, and the small demands of daily living.

In this space, I notice my voice changing too. It becomes gentler and more accommodating, guided by the need to listen, adjust, and respond to others.

At home, I cook meals, often without a moment to sit and taste them fully. At the university, I find the time and space to stop and savour, though at a cost. What an irony.

On Monday, I pick up my bag from the same place where I left it on Saturday, though the time spent at home makes it feel as if much longer has passed. The university begins to feel like a fresh start once again.

Neither of these spaces feels complete on its own. Each defines a different part of me. The university gives me the freedom to think, question, and dream beyond familiar horizons, while home grounds me in relationships, care, and belonging.

My identity no longer feels fixed. In

RELATIONSHIPS BECOME CENTRAL TO HOW LIFE IS LIVED AND UNDERSTOOD. Life is guided by an ethic of care, where responsibility and attentiveness to others determine everyday existence.

one space, I exist as a thinking subject. In another, I exist as a relational one.

I move constantly between these worlds, adjusting myself to their different expectations and becoming more aware of who I am in the process. It becomes a silent conversation with the self.

For many women balancing work and home, weekends simply mark a transition from one role to another, from one form of labour to another, from the intellectual to the relational.

The challenge lies in holding these identities together without losing oneself in the process.

— The author holds a Master's degree in Political Science and is currently engaged in academic research as a Research Assistant on an ICSSR-funded project and as a PhD scholar.

SSP Calls For High Degree Of Surveillance On Terror Supporters In Reasi

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A senior police official reviewed the operational preparedness of security forces, directing them to maintain surveillance on anti-national elements and overground workers to prevent any disturbance to peace in the Reasi district.

According to an official statement, during his visit to the mountainous belt of the district on Sunday, Reasi Senior Superintendent of Police Mukund Tibrewal, inspected police posts,

police units and minority pickets in Thanole, Narkote, Ladha, Panassa and Chakalhawala in Amas sub-division.

Reviewing deployment patterns and operational strategies at Narkote, the SSP directed personnel to maintain a structured roster for long-range patrols to enhance vigilance in the area. He also stressed the use of technology-driven policing and better coordination with local communities and Village Defence Guards, particularly in remote and hilly areas.

Seven Rebel AAP MPs Officially Merge With BJP

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Rajya Sabha Chairman C P Radhakrishnan on Monday officially accepted the merger of seven Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MPs with the BJP, reducing the strength of Arvind Kejriwal's party in the Upper House to three.

After this transition, the BJP's strength in the Upper House has increased to 113.

Raghav Chadha, Ashok Mittal, Harbhajan Singh, Sandeep Pathak, Vikramjit Sahney, Swati Maliwal, and Rajinder Gupta are the seven MPs who merged with the BJP.

The Rajya Sabha website now

shows that the seven MPs are part of the BJP list of members.

Of the total seven MPs representing Punjab in Rajya Sabha, six are with the BJP and only one remains with AAP.

In Delhi, of the total three MPs two now remain with the AAP and one with the BJP. Sanjay Singh and N D Gupta (both AAP) and Swati Maliwal (BJP) represent Delhi in Rajya Sabha.

The seven MPs petitioned the Rajya Sabha Chairman on Friday to be treated as BJP MPs after the merger, sources said, adding the petition has been accepted. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju welcomed the seven MPs into the NDA, and said they

have bid goodbye to the "Tukde-Tukde INDI Alliance".

"Hon'ble Chairman Rajya Sabha Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan Ji has accepted the merger of 7 AAP MPs with BJP. Now, Raghav Chadha ji, Sandeep Pathak ji, Ashok Mittal ji, Harbhajan Singh ji, Swati Maliwal ji, Rajinder Gupta ji and Vikramjit Singh Sahney ji are Members of BJP Parliamentary Party," he said on X.

"For a long time I've observed that these 7 Hon'ble MPs have not resorted to abusive languages and never created any indiscipline and Un-Parliamentary conducts," Rijiju said in a post on X.

"Welcome to nation building NDA under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji and good bye to Tukde-Tukde INDI Alliance," the minister said.

The AAP had earlier on Sunday termed their merger as "unconstitutional" and said they have moved a petition before the RS Chairman seeking the termination of the membership of the seven MPs, who had switched sides.

AAP MP Sanjay Singh had said that he has submitted a petition to Chairman Radhakrishnan seeking the disqualification of the seven party MPs in the Upper House who recently quit

the AAP and announced their merger with the BJP.

On Friday last, the AAP suffered a jolt when the seven Rajya Sabha MPs quit and announced their merger with the BJP, alleging that the Kejriwal-led party had strayed from its principles, values and core morals.

Chadha announced on Friday that exercising the provisions of the Constitution, more than two-thirds of the AAP MPs in Rajya Sabha have merged with the BJP.

He said seven MPs signed the document, which was submitted to the Chairman of Rajya Sabha and he personally handed over the signed documents. (Agencies)

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

German Chancellor

and the economic costs on Germany's already-struggling economy mount amid the energy crunch, Merz has become increasingly critical of the war and of what he depicts as Washington's lack of a strategy for ending it.

The U.S. "quite obviously went into this war without any strategy," Merz said, warning that the conflict could degenerate into a quagmire.

Merz's comments came after a chaotic weekend for US-Iran diplomacy. US President Donald Trump abruptly scrapped a planned trip by special envoy Steve Witkoff and his son-in-law Jared Kushner to Pakistan, pulling back from what had been billed as a potential jumpstart to fragile Iran talks.

Merz said Iranian officials were "obviously negotiating very skilfully" and appeared "clearly stronger than one thought", adding that "an entire (American) nation is being humiliated by the Iranian leadership", particularly by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

Merz urged a rapid end to the war, warning that the fallout was already hitting Germany's economy.

"It is, at the moment, a pretty tangled situation," he said. "And it is costing us a great deal of money. This conflict, this war against Iran, has a direct impact on our economic output."

Germany has rejected US calls for NATO to join the conflict, insisting that "it is not NATO's war", while leaving open the possibility of a limited role to secure the Strait of Hormuz — including use of German minesweepers — only once fighting ends.

With the Strait of Hormuz still largely closed to commercial shipping, oil has held above \$100 per barrel, driving up costs across the board in Europe.

Merz made the comments as concerns are growing across Europe over the wider impact of the conflict, including energy disruptions and economic instability. DPA/ Reuters/ TANS

Putin Praises

leadership before arriving in Russia, met Putin in St Petersburg and thanked him for supporting Iran, the state-owned TASS news agency reported.

"Russia is ready to do everything in its power to ensure that peace in the Middle East is achieved as soon as possible," Putin said during his meeting with Araqchi, which was also attended by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

Revealing that he received a message from Iranian Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei last week, Putin asked Araqchi to convey his "gratitude for this message and best wishes for his health and well-being".

He praised the Iranian people for fighting "bravely and heroically" for their sovereignty, Al-Jazeera reported.

"We really hope that, based on the courage and desire for independence, the Iranian people, under the guidance of the new leader, will weather this difficult period of trials and peace will come," Putin said.

He also stressed that Russia "intends to maintain" its strategic relations with Iran.

Araqchi said that the world witnessed Iran's strength in countering the US during the recent war and that the Islamic Republic is a "stable and powerful establishment".

"With their courage, the Iranian people succeeded in resisting the US aggression and will be able to endure it," he said.

He said that it became clear that Iran has "great friends and allies" like Russia and conveyed "warmest greetings" from Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei and President Masoud Pezeshkian to the Russian leader.

Araqchi said relations between Moscow and Tehran represent a "strategic partnership at the highest level" and will continue to develop "regardless of circumstances".

"We are grateful to you for the solid and strong positions in support of the Islamic Republic of Iran," he said.

Araqchi arrived in Russia after his whirlwind trip to Islamabad, which, according to him, was "very productive" and involved "good consultations" with Pakistan's Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir, amid uncertainty over the second round of peace talks to resolve the war in West Asia.

"We held good consultations with our friends in Pakistan. The trip was successful. We assessed the outcome of our recent (meetings) and discussed in what direction and under what conditions talks can move on," Araqchi said in a video posted on his Telegram channel upon his arrival in St Petersburg.

Referring to the second round of talks between the US and Iran to resolve the conflict in West Asia, Araqchi said: "Developments have taken place in the negotiations."

"Despite some progress in earlier rounds, the talks failed to reach their objectives due to the Americans' approach, the excessive demands they made, and the wrong approaches they adopted. Therefore, it was necessary to consult

with our friends in Pakistan to review the latest situation," Iran's official news agency IRNA quoted him as saying.

He said that the trip to Pakistan was a good opportunity to review developments related to the US-Israeli war against Iran, expressing confidence that "these consultations and co-ordination between the two countries will be highly significant".

Pointing to the Pakistani mediation efforts, the foreign minister said the United States' unreasonable demands, shifting positions, threatening rhetoric and frequent breaches of its commitments have hindered progress in diplomacy.

Araqchi arrived at St Petersburg's Pulkovo Airport early Monday, where he was welcomed by Russian officials and Iran's ambassador to Russia, Kazem Jalali, the report said.

The first round of peace talks between Iran and the US, held on April 11 and 12, failed to bring the desired result for the parties to the conflict.

The Iranian minister arrived in Islamabad for the second time on Sunday after a short visit to Oman, where he held talks with Sultan Haitham bin Tariq al-Said on security in the Strait of Hormuz and diplomatic efforts to end the Iran-US conflict.

After Araqchi left Pakistan for Oman on Saturday, President Donald Trump announced that US negotiators Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner would no longer be going to Islamabad for talks with Iran, contending that Washington held all the cards on the matter.

Trump on Sunday reiterated that the US and Iranian officials can talk by phone for a peace solution to the conflict.

On Tuesday, Trump extended the two-week ceasefire with Iran indefinitely to give Tehran more time to prepare a unified proposal to end the war, just hours before the truce was set to expire.

The war began when the US and Israel jointly attacked Iran on February 28, killing Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and several top commanders. The retaliation by the Islamic Republic extended the war to the entire Gulf region.

J&K Gets 4,568

women and youth in rural areas.

Chouhan also outlined housing support under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), stating that nearly five lakh families in J&K have been surveyed or have applied for assistance. Eligible households living in kutcha houses will be provided permanent homes after verification. "No poor family should remain without a roof," he said.

In the horticulture sector, the Minister announced the establishment of a Clean Plant Centre worth over 100 crore to provide disease-free and high-quality planting material for apple and other fruit growers. He noted that ageing orchards and declining productivity in parts of Kashmir require scientific replantation and improved inputs.

To support this, financial assistance will also be extended to private nurseries, with 2 crore earmarked for small nurseries and 4 crore for larger ones. A team of agricultural scientists will visit J&K to assess issues such as declining saffron production, orchard productivity and crop suitability, and recommend measures to enhance farm incomes.

On concerns regarding imported apples, Chouhan said the Centre remains committed to protecting domestic growers. He noted that while India produces around 26 lakh metric tonnes of apples, demand continues to outstrip supply.

The Minister said the government is pursuing a multi-pronged strategy for J&K, focusing on roads, agriculture, irrigation, skill development and rural enterprise. Schemes such as PM-Kisan, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, e-NAM, MGNREGA and micro-irrigation initiatives are being strengthened to support farmers and rural communities.

He reiterated that the aim is to ensure inclusive and sustained development. "No village in Jammu & Kashmir will be left behind in the race for development," Chouhan said.

Ladakh Gets 5

kilometres bordering China and Pakistan, with a population of 2.74 lakh, according to the 2011 census.

"The development is aligned with Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a developed and prosperous Ladakh," Saxena said in the post.

The LG added that this "transformative decision, already approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs in August 2024, under the leadership of Minister of Home Affairs Amit Shah, would strengthen grassroots governance, decentralise administration & ensure faster delivery of public services to the people of Ladakh, especially those in remote and far-flung areas".

"Creation of new districts, apart from

bringing governance closer to citizens, will create new avenues for growth, employment and entrepreneurship," the Ladakh LG added.

Asserting that aspirations of the people of these areas have been fulfilled, he said, "I reaffirm my commitment to ensuring that every citizen of Ladakh benefits from this historic decision, as we move together towards a brighter, stronger and more prosperous future."

The Centre bifurcated the erstwhile state of J-K into two Union territories — Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh — on August 5, 2019, when it also abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution that gave special status to the erstwhile state.

After being declared a Union Territory, Ladakh came under the direct administrative control of the Union Home Ministry. —PTI

HC Quashes PSA

petition in the high court, challenging his detention and seeking Rs 5 crore as compensation. On February 23, the high court had reserved its order in the case.

In his 87-page order, the judge said, "...the impugned detention order issued by District Magistrate, Doda is quashed with direction to the respondents to release the petitioner/detenu forthwith from his preventive detention in the instant case."

The court underscored the distinction between 'law and order' and 'public order', observing that the material on record did not justify invoking preventive detention.

It noted that the alleged activities of the detenu do not amount to "public disorder" and held that there was "no live link or proximity between the alleged criminal activities and the need for passing of the impugned detention order".

On the nature of cases cited against Malik, the court said they largely pertained to routine law and order issues, including election-related matters, adding that "almost all the criminal cases pertain to normal law and order violations not justifying the detention under PSA".

"In the facts and circumstances of the case, this court is not of the opinion that the impugned detention order is based on malafides or emotions and instead there appears to be non-application of mind, as the court has here-inbefore opined that ground was not made out for framing an opinion by the learned detaining authority that the petitioner/detenu has either acted or is likely to act in a manner prejudicial 'public order' distinguishable from 'law and order'," the court's order said.

The court found absence of any credible apprehension of threat to public order, stating it was "not of the opinion that there was any apprehension that the detenu is likely to act in any manner prejudicial to the 'social disorder'."

Reiterating constitutional safeguards, the court observed that preventive detention is "a permissible exception to the precious fundamental right guaranteed under Article 21" and "cannot be allowed to be misused for any reasons beyond the scope of the special legislation".

Reacting to the verdict, Chief Minister Abdullah said, "He (Malik) should never have been detained under PSA, in fact he should never have been detained at all."

"His detention was a gross misuse of this law (PSA) and totally unjustified. I hope the people responsible for this detention learn a valuable lesson from the decision of the Hon'ble High Court & reflect on the way these laws are being abused in J&K," he said in a post on X.

Tarigami, in his post on X, said the high court has delivered justice in the case.

"He was wrongly booked under the draconian law that has been repeatedly misused in the past and continues to be misused, once again highlighting the urgent need for its revocation," the CPI(M) leader said.

Meanwhile, celebrations broke out in Malik's home constituency in Doda soon after news about the court's order spread.

Hundreds of his supporters burst firecrackers and raised slogans in his favour, hailing the court's decision.

Earlier in the day, AAP spokesperson Appu Singh Slathia said the verdict bolsters "our faith in judiciary". Slathia was part of Malik's legal team.

Shopton Seminary

Falah-e-Aam Trust, the order said.

Authorities have accused the institute of "serious legal, administrative and financial irregularities", including questionable land acquisition, lack of mandatory registration with competent authorities, and attempts to evade statutory oversight.

"The cumulative facts and circumstances, supported by intelligence inputs and field verification, provide sufficient grounds to reasonably believe that the premises are being used for the purposes of an unlawful association," the order said.

The administration said the institution's claim of innocence and non-involvement in

unlawful activities was found "unsustainable", adding that available material suggested it was aware of such activities and failed to prevent misuse of its premises.

The notification authorises the District Magistrate concerned to take possession of the institute's premises and assets.

Authorities have also been directed to ensure relocation and admission of students into government schools within the district.

Officials said the move is part of a broader crackdown on institutions allegedly linked to banned organisations, with several such establishments in the Kashmir Valley already shut following adverse reports.

Decisive Blow

terrorism won't be tolerated. The government had acted firmly against terrorism and crushed it with an iron fist."

He also attacked West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, accusing her government of being soft on terrorism. "The PM Modi led regime has taken decisive action against terror, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Shah cited the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, stating that the move had strengthened the country's fight against terrorism and integrated Jammu and Kashmir more closely with the Union.

The Union Home Minister said the Centre's approach marked a shift from previous governments, asserting that strong measures had been taken to counter terror threats.

"Modi Ji ended Article 370, which was protected by the Congress and its ally TMC. Modi Ji dealt a decisive blow to terrorism through a surgical strike, airstrike, and Operation Sindoor. But the TMC and the Congress fed biryani to terrorists when they were in power," Shah said. He also hit out at Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge over remarks against PM Modi.

"PM Modi who ended terrorism, Congress's president calls him a terrorist. Due to his proximity to Rahul Gandhi, the public conduct of Kharge Ji has deteriorated. Form a BJP government in West Bengal, and we will end terrorism here too," he said.

"Kharge Ji, the more you abuse Modi Ji, the more the lotus will bloom," Shah added.

The Home Minister said there is a strong wave in favour of the BJP and once voted to power, it would "push back all infiltrators". (KNO)

Let Every Household

to enlist as a warrior in this cause."

The Lieutenant Governor said every section of society must embrace the spirit of the campaign so that April 27 is remembered as a day when "the flame of hope, unity, and determination was kindled in Udhampur."

He also highlighted the need for compassion towards those battling addiction. "Rehabilitation must restore dignity and reintegrate them into the community," he said, adding that awareness campaigns should help families identify early signs of drug abuse.

Sinha said the campaign would unfold in phases, focusing on awareness, prevention, and community participation, while also underlining the role of women and youth in leading the movement.

On the occasion, he flagged off an anti-drug awareness bike rally, launched Mini-Olympics under the campaign, handed over sanction letters to individuals who have recovered from substance abuse, and felicitated winners of the Nasha Mukta Ideas Championship.

Reiterating his call for unity, the Lieutenant Governor said the success of the campaign depends on sustained public participation and collective resolve to build a drug-free Jammu and Kashmir.

J&K Emerging As

he said the new stadiums, equipped with modern shooting ranges and multi-purpose indoor courts, are designed to nurture talent and "cultivate the champions of tomorrow."

Highlighting broader development, the Lieutenant Governor said that under the leadership of Narendra Modi, Jammu and Kashmir is emerging as a sports powerhouse, with high-quality infrastructure no longer confined to major urban centres.

He also interacted with youth from Marh and Akhnoor through a virtual platform, reiterating his commitment to inclusive sports development and encouraging greater participation among young aspirants.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon citizens, particularly women and youth, to support the 'Nasha Mukta Jammu Kashmir' campaign. He urged people to report cases of substance abuse and assist in the rehabilitation of affected individuals, adding that the police and civil administration are working to dismantle drug trafficking networks.

The indoor stadiums, developed by the District Administration Jammu in collaboration with HDFC Bank under its CSR initiative, are

equipped with a modern rifle shooting range, badminton and table tennis courts, facilities for indoor games such as carrom and chess, and a reading room for youth and local residents.

Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Dr Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner Jammu; Vidhu Shekar, Additional Deputy Commissioner Jammu; and representatives of HDFC Bank attended the inauguration at Lok Bhavan.

Surinder Bhagat, Member of Legislative Assembly from Marh, and Mohan Lal Bhagat, MLA Akhnoor, along with senior officials, prominent citizens and locals from Marh and Jaurian, also joined the event through virtual mode.

Minibus Operators

operators say their passenger numbers have nearly halved.

"We wait for long hours, but the buses don't fill up like they used to," said another driver, who has been in the trade for over a decade.

"Fuel prices are rising, maintenance costs are high, and loans still need to be paid. How are we supposed to manage?" he added.

Transport unions argue that the competition is inherently unequal.

The recent protests by the All J&K Transport Welfare Association reflect a frustration that has been building for months. The expansion of smart bus routes into areas like Pulwama and Sopore, they say, directly cuts into routes that once sustained their livelihoods.

"I barely earn 200 a day, and most of it goes to medicines. There are other drivers struggling even more than I am," said another driver.

Despite the discontent, there appears to be little clarity on how this transition is being managed. There is no publicly outlined rehabilitation plan for affected operators, nor any structured effort to integrate them into the evolving system.

"I've spent 50 years driving, yet have nothing to show for it. I took a 2 lakh loan for this bus, but haven't been able to repay even 50,000," another driver said.

Commuters, meanwhile, find themselves navigating a system in flux.

While many prefer smart buses, they are not always a complete substitute. Coverage gaps and waiting times mean that private minibuses still play a crucial role, especially for daily wage workers and those travelling on tighter schedules.

"I can't rely only on smart buses. If I wait too long, I'll be late for work. Private buses are still more practical for me," said Wajid, a daily commuter.

This dual dependence highlights a deeper issue: even as one system expands, the other remains necessary yet increasingly strained.

For now, the city's roads reflect a widening divide. On one side are modern, efficient buses symbolising progress. On the other are ageing minibuses, and the people who depend on them, struggling to keep pace.

As the smart bus network continues to grow, the challenge is no longer about proving its success. It is about addressing its consequences.

Until then, for many operators, the road ahead remains uncertain.

Need More Capacity

development, Omar said the enhanced capacity of the train would allow more passengers to travel, improving connectivity and supporting tourism.

"It will definitely give a boost to tourism. So far, capacity has been limited, with only an eight-coach train running between Katra and Srinagar. Now it will be a twenty-coach train, which means more passengers will be able to travel," Omar told reporters.

He added that both the frequency and capacity of train services should increase further. "We would like to see more such services. If there are any issues or suggestions, they will be taken up during the official function on April 30 in the presence of the concerned minister," Omar said.

On the startup ecosystem, Omar acknowledged that Jammu and Kashmir lags behind several states that began their initiatives earlier, but said the region can learn from their experiences. He noted that the startup policy announced in 2024 has laid the groundwork, with budgetary support now in place.

"We are trying to build an ecosystem for startups here," Omar said, adding that a demand for an incubation centre was raised during his recent visit to the Government College of Engineering and Technology in Jammu. "We will work on establishing an incubation centre there this year," he said.

Earlier in the day, the Chief Minister inaugurated the School of Architecture building at the college, marking a step towards strengthening technical education infrastructure in the region. Minister Sakina Itoo and MLA Nagrota Devyani Rana were also present on the occasion.

Karnataka, J&K Explore Bioenergy Collaboration

Observer News Service

BENGALURU – In a move reflecting growing inter-state cooperation on renewable energy, a Karnataka delegation led by S.E. Sudheendra met Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday to discuss opportunities for collaboration in the bioenergy sector.

During the meeting, Sudheendra, who chairs the Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board and also serves as Vice President of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee, highlighted Karnataka's push toward renewable energy under Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. He said the state has prioritised bioenergy within its broader clean energy strategy, with a focus on converting agricultural, municipal, and other waste streams into usable energy.



He also referred to initiatives led by Priyank Kharge, Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and IT-BT, to promote biogas production from diverse waste sources. Sudheendra outlined the state's existing bioenergy action plan and ongoing efforts to frame a new policy aimed at strengthening the sector.

According to him, the proposed policy seeks to attract investment in biomass-based energy segments such as bio-briquettes, bio-pellets, bio-

diesel, compressed biogas, and green hydrogen, while creating a supportive ecosystem through incentives and regulatory facilitation.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who is on a visit to Bengaluru, expressed interest in Karnataka's model and said Jammu & Kashmir has also prepared a draft bioenergy policy along similar lines. He noted that the Union Territory is focusing on scaling up the bioenergy sector through commercialisation, private participation, and targeted incentives.

Kashmir Falls in High-Risk Asian Esophageal Cancer Belt, Experts Warn

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Kashmir continues to witness a relatively high burden of esophageal cancer, with medical experts attributing the trend to a mix of cultural practices, environmental exposure, and improved diagnostic capabilities over time.

Speaking to KNO, Dr Shahid Wani, Head of the Oncology Department at Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag, said that Kashmir forms part of the well-known "Asian esophageal cancer belt"—a geographical stretch with a high incidence of esophageal squamous cell carcinoma. The belt extends from the Caspian littoral of Iran, particularly Golestan Province, through Central Asia to northern China, with Kashmir sharing similar disease patterns.

Dr Wani explained that the prevalence of esophageal cancer in the Valley was likely high even decades ago, but remained underreported due to limited diagnostic facilities. "Today, with better screening and advanced medical infrastructure, more cases are being detected, which gives an impression of a rising trend," he said.

Among the major contributing factors, the doctor highlighted the widespread consumption of Noon Chai (salt tea), a staple in Kashmiri households. He noted that drinking the beverage at very high temperatures—especially during the harsh winter months—can lead to repeated thermal injury to the inner lining of the oesophagus and stomach.

"Chronic exposure to extremely hot beverages damages the mucosal lining,

which over time can increase the risk of developing oesophageal and even gastric cancers," he said.

The oncologist also pointed to traditional food storage practices as a potential concern. Improper drying and storage of vegetables can result in fungal contamination, leading to the production of mycotoxins. Among these, aflatoxins—classified as Group 1 carcinogens—are known to cause serious health risks, including cancer. "While aflatoxins are more strongly linked to liver cancer, their presence in contaminated food highlights the broader issue of carcinogenic exposure in daily diets," he said.

Tobacco consumption in various forms—particularly smoking and the swallowing of tobacco juices—was identified as another major risk factor. These practices expose the gastrointestinal tract to carcinogens, significantly increasing the likelihood of oesophageal and gastric cancers.

Addressing concerns around the use of pesticides and fungicides, Dr Wani acknowledged that these substances contain carcinogenic chemicals. However, he said that there is currently no conclusive evidence linking their use to the higher incidence of esophageal cancer in Kashmir.

"To understand this, one can compare with Punjab, where pesticide use is significantly higher, yet the prevalence of oesophageal cancer is around 5 cases per lakh population. In contrast, Kashmir reports 20 to 40 cases per lakh population," he said, suggesting that other environmental and lifestyle factors may play a more dominant role.

Cloudy Weather, Rain Likely in Kashmir

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Meteorological Department on Monday forecast generally cloudy weather with spells of light rain and thundershowers across Jammu and Kashmir over the next two days, while parts of the Jammu region are likely to experience heat wave conditions.

According to the MeT Centre Srinagar, scattered to many places in the Union Territory are expected to receive light rain or thundershowers accompanied by gusty winds and possible hailstorm towards afternoon or evening

hours on April 27 and 28. The department, as reported by KNO, said the weather is likely to remain partly cloudy on April 29 and 30, with brief spells of light rain or thunder at a few places, mainly during late afternoon hours.

From May 1 to 2, conditions are expected to remain largely dry, although brief showers in the afternoon cannot be ruled out. Another spell of generally cloudy weather with light rain or thundershowers at scattered places is likely between May 3 and 4, while the period from May 5 to 8 is expected to remain mostly dry, with

isolated brief showers.

The MeT department has issued an advisory asking farmers to suspend farm operations on April 28 in view of the expected weather activity.

At the same time, hot and dry weather conditions are likely to persist in parts of the Jammu division, particularly in Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Reasi and Udhampur districts, over the next 24 hours. The department warned of heat wave conditions at isolated places on April 27 and advised people to avoid heat exposure during peak hours and stay hydrated.

Court Order on Malik Reinforces Rule of Law: AIP

SRINAGAR: Senior leader and spokesperson of the Awami Ittehad Party (AIP), Firdous Baba, on Monday termed the decision of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh to quash the Public Safety Act (PSA) detention of Doda MLA Mehraj Malik as a significant and welcome development, stating that it reflects the judiciary's commitment to upholding constitutional safeguards.

In a statement issued here, Baba said the ruling underscores that preventive detention laws cannot be misused or applied arbitrarily, and that individual liberty remains a cornerstone of democratic governance. He described the judgment as a reaffirmation that justice must prevail over procedural excesses and that personal freedoms cannot be curtailed without strict adherence to established legal principles.

"The verdict strengthens democratic institutions and helps restore public confidence in the rule of law," Baba said, adding that such interventions by the judiciary reinforce accountability in the application of extraordinary laws like the PSA.

Referring to the case of Engineer Rashid, Baba said the judgment offers renewed hope regarding his continued incarceration. He argued that the principles applied in Mehraj Malik's case should equally guide the consideration of Rashid's matter, which is currently pending before the Delhi High Court.

"Both are public representatives entrusted by their constituencies, and the same standards of legal scrutiny, fairness, and constitutional protection must be extended," he said.

Baba urged the Delhi High Court to ensure that justice in Rashid's case is not only delivered but also seen to be delivered. The matter is scheduled for hearing on April 28, 2026.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR UT

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER FLOOD SPILL CHANNEL DIVISION NARBAL PIN No.193401

Fax/Phone: 01951-260223 | Email: javidahmakur.80821@jk.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
e- NIT No. 07 of 2026-27 Dated: 27 /04/2026

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders (in Single Cover System) on item rate (percentile) basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors for the following works to be received by the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (₹. In Lacs)	Earnest Money (₹.)	Cost of T/Doc. (₹.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	M.H Account
01	Balance work of Reconstruction of damaged sluice gates for various nallahs on Soibugh side of Hokersar Wetland including strengthening of peripheral bunds.	₹.49.23 Lacs	98460/-	2500/-	60 days	AA&BEE	UT Capex

Position of AAA =Accorded, Position of TS = Sanctioned ,Position of funds: (100% Budgetary provision 2026-27 & 2027-28)
The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	27-04-2026
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	27-04-2026 from 1800 Hrs
3.	Bid submission Start Date	27-04-2026 from 1800 Hrs
4.	Bid Submission End Date	15-05-2026 upto 1400 Hrs
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	16-05-2026 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.
6.	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	The bidder has to provide 3% of contract Cost as Performance Security & Addl. performance security as per circular issued by the J&K Finance Department vide No. FD-Code/441/2021-02-158 dt:08/08/2025 within 3 days after opening of Financial Bid.

Note:-

- The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall if any found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected
- As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Sectt. Finance department vide No.OM No.A/24(2017)-651 dtd. 07-06-2018 which reads as under:-
a) Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of E-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared 1st Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids .
b) The Cost of tenders should be collected by uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/Receipt.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0701 -Rev. Misc) and Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Executive Engineer Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal failing which the tender will be rejected out rightly. The issuing date of CDR/FDR uploaded must be between issuing date to Bid Submission end date of NIT. CDR/FDR (Earnest money/Bid security) and relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.
- All other terms and conditions same as laid down in the GFR Manual for Procurement of works 2022 with upto date amendments, PWD Form-25 Double shall also remain in force.

No. FSCDN/CS/ 513-34
Dated: 27 /04/2026
DIPK-798-26
DT: 27/04/2026

Sd/-
Er. Javid Ahmad Kurpal
Executive Engineer
Flood Spill Channel Division Narbal.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
GOVERNMENT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES IN EDUCATION
CLUSTER UNIVERSITY, SRINAGAR
M.A Road Srinagar | Tele-Fax:- 0194-2479807,
(NAAC RE-ACCREDITED GRADE "A" (CGPA 3.24)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expression of Interest (EOI) is invited from reputed Book suppliers/Vendors Publishers registered members under UTN National Level Publishers Distributors & Suppliers for the supply of Textbooks, Reference Books and Periodicals/Journals for College Library for the financial year 2026-27. The interested bidders having documents complete in all respects have to submit a CDR of Rs.10,000.00 (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) pledged in favour of Principal, Govt. College of Education (IASE), M. A. Road, Srinagar should reach to the office of undersigned by or before 5th of May 2026. The complete set of documents including terms and conditions for bidders shall be available in office of the undersigned and can also be downloaded from the college website www.goekmr.edu.in .

No: GCOE/IASE/26/874
Date:27/4/2026

(Sd)
Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naz
Principal

DIPK-806-26
DT: 27/04/2026

J&K Bank
Serving To Empower

IAPM Department
Zonal Office Pulwama.

POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas, Authorized Officer of Jammu & Kashmir Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices dated 22.09.2022 thereby calling upon 1) Mst. Uzma Khalid/O: Gh. Ahmad Tak R/o: Chadroo Mohalla, Trali Bala Tehsil Tral District Pulwama (Borrower) 2) Mr. Ghulam Ahmad Tak S/O Abdul Samad Tak R/O Trali Bala Tehsil Tral District Pulwama (Mortgagor/Guarantor) to repay an amount of Rs.12,68,000/- (Rupees Twelve lacs Sixty- Eight Thousandand paise zeroonly)being the balance outstanding as on 31.08.2022 in the account of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon. The said borrower/mortgagor/guarantors having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower/mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of J & K Bank, has taken possession of the mortgage property described below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 22ndof April 2026.

The said borrower/mortgagor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of J&K Bank for the amount of Rs. 20,68,877.25, being balance outstanding in the borrower's Loan account as on 31.03.2026 together with future interest thereon from 01.04.2026 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

Description of the Immovable Property

Land Measuring 04 Kanals and 03 ½ Marlas falling under Khasra No. 705/295-min (10 ½ Marlas) Khata No. 345 and Khewat No. 135, Khasra No. 704/295-min (10 ½ Marlas), Khata no. 345 and Khewat no. 135, Khasra No. 579/550/529-min (03 Kanals and 02 ½ Marlas) Khata No. 504 and Khewat No. 211 Situated in Mouza Hurdmir , Tral Pulwama standing in the name of Mr. Ghulam Ahmad Tak S/O Abdul Samad Tak R/O Tral-I-Bala Tehsil Tral District Pulwama.

Abdul Rashid Dar
Authorized Officer
J&K Bank

Place: Pulwama
Dated: 22.04.2026

J&K Bank
Serving To Empower

IAPM Department
Zonal Office Pulwama.

POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Jammu & Kashmir Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices dated 24.07.2025, thereby calling upon 1) Mr. Aasif Iqbal Khan S/o: Late Mohammad Yaqoob Khan R/o: Tak Mohalla (Near Tak Masjid) Shopian Proprietor of: M/s Khan Bros., (Borrower/Mortgagor) 2) Mr. Javid Iqbal Khan S/o: Late Mohammad Yaqoob Khan R/o: Tak Mohalla (Near Tak Masjid) Shopian (Mortgagor/Guarantor), 3) Mr. Zahoor Ahmad Shah S/o: Mohammad Khalil Shah R/o Meemender Shopian. (Guarantor) to repay an amount of Rs.129,14,231.13/- (Rupees one Crore twenty-nine lacs fourteen thousand two hundred thirty one rupees and thirteen paise only) being the balance outstanding as on 30.06.2025 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower/mortgagor having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower/mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank has taken possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 24thApril 2026.

The said borrower/mortgagor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank for the amount to Rs.1,34,01,253.13/-(Rupees One Crore Thirty Four Lacs One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Three and Paise Thirteen), being balance outstanding in the borrowers loan accounts as on 31.03.2026 together with future interest thereon from 01.04.2026 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

Description of the Immovable Property

Land measuring 01 Kanal 10 Marlas, falling under Khasra No. 122-min, Khata No.07 Khewat No.03 Situated at Batpora-Shopian, standing in the name of the Javid Iqbal Khan and Asif Iqbal Khan S/o: Late Mohammad Yaqoob Khan R/o: Tak Mohalla (Near Tak Masjid) Shopian. S/o: Late Mohammad Yaqoob Khan R/o: Tak Mohalla (Near Tak Masjid) Shopian.

Mohamad Ashraf Mir
Authorized Officer
J&K Bank

Place: Shopian
Dated: 24.04.2026

Rumours Spark Panic Fuel Buying; Govt Says Supplies Adequate



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Rumours triggered panic buying of petrol and diesel in parts of the country, leading to an "exceptional" surge in demand, the government said, adding that fuel stocks remain sufficient to meet requirements.

In Andhra Pradesh, rumours of imminent price rise led panic buying in several towns, leading to shortage and more than 400 petrol pumps running dry on Sunday, according to reports.

"We have observed exceptional growth in certain areas... 30-33 per cent in demand for fuels like diesel. That is the reason why certain retail outlets faced issues," said Sujata Sharma, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, at a news briefing. She, however, hastened to add that the oil companies are addressing the problem. "There is no issue of availability. We have enough stocks."

Despite panic buying being observed at certain re-

tail outlets due to rumours, PSU Oil Marketing Companies are ensuring adequate stocks of petrol and diesel at their outlets.

"PSU retail outlets are

WE HAVE OBSERVED EXCEPTIONAL GROWTH IN CERTAIN AREAS... 30-33 per cent in demand for fuels like diesel. That is the reason why certain retail outlets faced issues,"

operating normally," she said. "Citizens are advised to avoid panic purchase of petrol, diesel and LPG as the government is making all efforts to ensure availability of petrol, diesel and LPG.

While she did not elaborate on the rumours, a chatter about prices being hiked after the final phase of voting in West Bengal is com-

pleted on April 29 may have triggered the panic buying.

Despite a surge in international oil prices, retail petrol and diesel rates in India have remained unchanged as state-owned oil companies absorb the impact. Analysts, however, are questioning how long the oil companies could hold prices without government support.

Sharma said India has maintained adequate supplies of petrol, diesel and cooking gas despite ongoing geopolitical tensions.

Refineries are operating at high capacity with sufficient crude inventories, ensuring stable supplies of petrol and diesel. To shield consumers from rising global oil prices linked to the Middle East crisis, the government has cut excise duty on petrol and diesel by Rs 10 per litre while raising export levies on diesel and aviation turbine fuel.

Retail fuel prices remain unchanged at public sector outlets, the government said, adding that adequate stocks are available despite isolated instances of panic buying triggered by rumours.

India, New Zealand Ink 'Once-in-a-generation' Trade Deal

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: India and New Zealand on Monday inked a "once-in-a-generation" trade pact, giving duty-free access to 100 per cent of domestic exports, including textiles, leather footwear, and gems and jewellery, in the island nation.

The pact is expected to be implemented by the end of this year as it requires New Zealand Parliament's approval. In India, the Union cabinet approves a trade pact.

For the second time in a trade deal, India has received FDI (foreign direct investment) commitment of USD 20 billion in over 15 years. A similar commitment of USD 100 billion was made by four-European nation bloc EFTA in its pact with India.

The India-New Zealand pact, signed by Commerce and Industry Minister Piy-



ush Goyal and visiting New Zealand's Trade and Investment Minister Todd McClay here, is expected to help double bilateral trade in goods and services to USD 5 billion in five years.

"The investment commitment of \$20 billion by New Zealand will further strengthen our cooperation

in agriculture, manufacturing, innovation and technology, paving the way for a more prosperous and dynamic future for both countries," Modi said in a social media post.

Describing it as a "once-in-a-generation agreement", New Zealand's Prime Minister Christopher

Luxon said it would provide exporters with unprecedented access to 1.4 billion people and to an economy set to become the world's third-largest.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said that this is India's ninth agreement in the past few years, with 38 developed countries.

"At the heart of the agreement is the empowerment for exports, agricultural productivity, student mobility, skills, investment and services," Goyal said.

McClay, who is leading a 40-member delegation, said it is a high-quality FTA. "FTA reduces friction, provides certainty, sets clear rules and makes it easier for businesses to build relationships," he added.

Back home, the Luxon government's coalition partner, the New Zealand First, has publicly opposed

the deal. Christopher Luxon (New Zealand's Prime Minister) has, however, secured the backing of the main opposition Labour Party for the agreement.

"Well, we have a majority in our Parliament to pass this agreement. All the trade agreements that have been presented to our Parliament have enjoyed a super majority of the two largest parties in Parliament," McClay said, when asked whether the pact could face hurdles in securing parliamentary approval.

The trade agreement, negotiations for which were concluded in December 2025, provides duty-free access for 100 per cent of India's exports to New Zealand, covering all tariff lines or product categories such as textiles, apparel, leather, footwear, gems and jewellery, engineering goods, and processed foods.

SFI Opposes RSS Centenary Event at Jamia Millia

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The SFI unit of Jamia Millia Islamia has demanded the withdrawal of permission for the programme celebrating the 100th anniversary of RSS, claiming that the function is a "direct provocation and an affront to minority students' dignity and safety".

"SFI JMI Unit strongly and unequivocally condemns the administration for permitting and facilitating the RSS-affiliated organisation Yuva to hold a programme on our campus to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the RSS, which is happening on 28th April," the organisation said in a statement.

Condemning the university administration for permitting the event, the Students' Federation of India shared a poster of the event, which is part of 'Yuva Kumbh', called to cel-



ebrate 100 years of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.

According to Yuva Kumbh's official social media page, it is described as "Yuva Kumbh unites youth to learn, lead and serve, celebrating 100 years of nation-first thought and the RSS's century of service."

A JMI student and SFI member, Atikur Rehman, told PTI that there have been a series of events held at Delhi University colleges for 100 years of RSS.

"The events have been widely protested against. Now this programme has been called in our college as well,

and there is a clear ideological divide," Rehman said.

The SFI statement further reiterated, "Celebrating its (RSS) centenary on a campus that houses thousands of minority students is a direct provocation and an affront to their dignity and safety."

SFI has demanded the immediate withdrawal of permission for the event, a formal explanation from the administration on why permission was given, and an assurance that no communal and divisive organisations will be given space on the university campus in the future.

Bahrain Strips 69 Nationals of Citizenship for Praising Iran

AP

DUBAI, APR 27: Bahrain revoked citizenship rights of 60 people for praising Iran in its war against US and Israel.

Bahrain's interior ministry said the move also applied to the families of individuals accused.

The ministry said it revoked citizenship rights "of those who expressed sympathy and praise for Iran's hostile and criminal acts".

Bahrain is among several countries in the region that tightly controlled information about Iranian strikes during the war, arresting residents and foreigners who filmed them.

The Sunni-ruled monarchy, like Iran, has a majority Shia Muslim population and saw pro-Iran demonstrations early in the conflict. Authorities arrested protesters and those who filmed demonstrations en masse, charging dozens with misusing social media, inciting hatred or treason, an offence that can carry the death penalty.

The country is also one of several in the Gulf with laws allowing courts to strip citizenship from people convicted of certain crimes, potentially rendering them stateless.

Such measures in Bahrain, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar have drawn criticism from rights groups, which say the laws are tools of repression, used to squash and punish dissent.

MI Securities

POWER OF ₹5,000 SIP

Step 1: You invest ₹5,000 every month

Step 2: You reinvest your total investment growth

Duration (Years)	Total Invested Amount
5	3.0L
10	6.0L
15	9.0L
20	12.0L
25	15.0L
30	18.0L

Small amount, big corpus

More time = more compounding

Mutual fund investments are subject to market risks. Read all scheme related documents carefully before investing.