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## Before 30, Kashmiri Youth Are Losing Their Best Years

Educated young people in Kashmir enter adulthood with degrees, debt and shrinking paychecks, while the most valuable years for building financial security pass them by.

Irshad Mushtaq

Srinagar: Rain tapped softly against the windowpanes as Fatima folded her degree certificates into a plastic file and placed them back inside a cupboard in her family's home on the outskirts of Srinagar. Her mother had ironed her clothes that morning for another interview. Her father had pressed a few hundred rupees into her

hand for transport and lunch. The job offer came two weeks later.

6,000 a month. Fatima read the message twice before placing the phone face down on the table. Years of study had led to a salary that barely covered travel expenses, mobile bills and small household needs. Her parents had imagined something larger when they borrowed money for

her education. She had imagined something larger too.

A government office clerk in her neighbourhood earned nearly ten times more that amount. Some private tutors in the area made more during exam season.

"People kept telling us education changes a family's future," she said one evening as relatives gathered in the sitting room after dinner. "Sometimes it feels



like the future never arrived."

Stories like Fatima's fill homes throughout Kashmir, where degrees hang on walls beside mounting loan payments and growing frustration. Parents still speak about education with reverence. Families still place their strongest hopes in schools, colleges and competitive exams. Young people still study late into nights.

Economic | More in P6

## Court Acquits 7 In 2003 SRO-43 Fraud Case

M Ahmad

Srinagar: A court here has acquitted two brothers and five other accused persons, including revenue officials, in a fraud case registered by the Crime Branch in 2003 over alleged irregularities in compassionate appointments under SRO-43. Three of the accused died during the course of the trial, which lasted more than 20 years after the chargesheet was filed in December 2005.

The Court of City Judge Srinagar while acquitting the accused observed that the prosecution had failed to establish the involvement of the accused beyond reasonable doubt.

"This court is of the view that the prosecution has failed to connect the accused with the commission of crime, as under criminal law a person cannot be convicted unless the evidence produced conclusively proves involvement beyond reasonable doubt," the court said.

The court further held that "serious doubts" had emerged in the prosecution case and reiterated that suspicion, however grave, cannot substitute proof required for conviction.

According to the prosecution, one Irfan Ahmad was granted a government job under SRO-43 on November 22, 2002 by the Deputy | More in P6

## Jammu On High Alert As Security Tightened

Agencies

Jammu: Security agencies across Jammu were placed on high alert on the first anniversary of 'Operation Sindoor', launched in response to the gruesome April 22, 2025, Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 civilians, mostly tourists dead.

According to the details, special prayers were held at Gurdwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha in the bordering Poonch district to pay homage to those killed in Pakistani shelling.

Devotees gathered at the gurdwara to pray for peace and remember the victims, while condemning attacks on civilian areas and religious places during the cross-border shelling.

Twelve people were killed and 34 others injured in artillery and mortar shelling in Poonch — the worst-hit border district — shortly after India launched Operation Sindoor in the early hours of May 7 last year.

As per officials, security arrangements were significantly intensified across the border Union Territory, with intelligence agencies directing law enforcement units to heighten vigilance in sensitive areas.

Meanwhile, the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Jammu and Kashmir Police launched a large-scale search operation across Jammu city and adjoining areas. Continuous search drives were carried out in vulnerable locations, while SOG commands maintained close surveillance on suspicious activities.

Officials said vehicle checking, identity verification and area domination patrols were intensified in several localities as part of the enhanced security grid.

Security | More in P6

## Op Sindoor Anniversary: No Safe Haven for Terror Camps, India Warns

» Military Says Window For Action Against Cross-Border Terror Remains Open

» India Has Every Right To Defend Itself; MEA

Observer News Service

New Delhi: Marking one year of Operation Sindoor, India on Thursday issued a strong warning to Pakistan, asserting that no terror sanctuary across the Line of Control is safe and that Indian forces retain the freedom to strike terrorist infrastructure at a time and manner of their choosing.

The message came on the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, India's military response to the Pahalgam terror attack carried out on May 7 last year.

Addressing a media briefing, senior military officials who led the operation said the campaign marked a decisive shift in India's counter-terror doctrine and demonstrated the country's willingness to carry out calibrated military action against cross-border terrorism.



"No sanctuary across the Line of Control is safe. We will hit everything. We will go after everything," said Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, currently Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Strategy), who had served as Director General of Military Operations during the operation.

"The conditions, the timing and the method will be ours," he added.

'Operation Sindoor Was Just the Beginning'

Operation Sindoor was launched in response to the Pahalgam terror attack and involved | More in P6

### Armed Forces Will Protect Nation At Any Cost: LG

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said Operation Sindoor was a declaration of India's resolve and the commitment of its armed forces to | More in P6

### A Benchmark For Modern Warfare: DM

As India marked the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday hailed the mission as a benchmark for modern warfare, citing its | More in P6

### 'Epochal Mission' Against Terror: HM

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said that Operation Sindoor stands as an "epochal mission" of India that will always remind the country's enemies of the infallible striking power of the armed forces. | More in P6

## Op Sindoor Showed India's Preparedness & Resolve: PM

Pahalgam Attack Was Met With Befitting Precision, Says Prez Murmu

Observer News Service

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said Operation Sindoor reflected India's firm response against terrorism and its unwavering commitment to safeguarding national security.

On the first anniversary of the military offensive targeting terror and military infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, Modi said India continues to remain steadfast in its resolve to defeat terrorism and dismantle its support network.

In a post on X, the prime minister said that a year ago, Indian armed forces displayed "unparalleled courage, precision and resolve" during Operation Sindoor.

He said the forces gave a fitting response to those responsible for the attack on innocent civilians in Pahalgam and that the entire nation salutes the armed



forces for their valour.

"Operation Sindoor reflected India's firm response against terrorism and an unwavering commitment to safeguarding national security. It also highlighted the professionalism, preparedness and coordinated strength of our armed forces," Modi said.

He added that the operation showcased growing synergy among India's security forces and underlined the strength that self-reliance in the defence sector has brought to national security.

President | More in P6

## ACB Registers DA Case Against Senior JKAS Officer

KO Weeb Desk

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Thursday registered a disproportionate assets case against a senior JKAS officer, alleging that he amassed assets worth crores beyond his known sources of income.

The case has been registered against Zafar Iqbal, a JKAS officer presently posted as Chief Accounts Officer in the office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in Srinagar.

According to an ACB spokesperson, the case was initiated after a secret verification into allegations that the officer had accumulated substantial movable and immovable assets disproportionate to his legitimate income.

"The verification revealed that the accused public servant, while holding different official postings, allegedly abused his position to | More in P6

## E-Challans Valid Only Through Authenticated Devices: Srinagar Court

Quashes 5 Traffic E-Challans, Flags Violations of CMVR Rules

Agencies

Srinagar: A Special Mobile Magistrate Court in Srinagar has quashed multiple traffic e-challans issued against a Srinagar-based vehicle owner, holding that the challans were not issued in accordance with mandatory provisions of Rule 167A of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules (CMVR), 1989.

The judgment was passed by Special Mobile Magistrate (Traffic) Kashmir, Shahbir Ahmad Malik, in a case filed by Arsh Syed of Chanapora, Srinagar, against the Traffic Police City Srinagar. The court disposed of the challans on May

5 after examining the legality and procedure adopted in issuing them.

The petitioner had challenged five e-challans issued between January and March this year for alleged violations including disobedience of traffic signals and driving on footpaths or tracks in breach of rules.

According to the court record, the petitioner argued that the challans were arbitrary, vague, mechanically generated, and unsupported by proper evidence. He also questioned the legality of issuing electronic challans through photographs allegedly captured using mobile phones rather than officially authorized electronic enforcement devices.

Advocate Mudassir Shafi, appearing for the petitioner, argued that | More in P6

The War Wasn't Distant. It Passed Overhead'

## At India's Edge, A Village Lives With Memories of Op Sindoor

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: A year after Operation Sindoor turned the quiet border village of Simari into the frontline of a military offensive, the echoes of artillery fire still linger in the memories of its residents.

Nestled in the Tangdhar sector of north Kashmir, the small village sits along the banks of the Krishan Ganga river, which separates India from Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. On one side of the roaring waters lies Simari. On the other, PoK. The distance is so narrow that voices can travel across the river.

It was from this frontier hamlet, surrounded by the towering Shamshabari



mountains, that Indian Army units launched artillery fire on the intervening night of May 6 and 7, 2025, marking the beginning of Operation Sindoor, India's response to the terror

attack in Pahalgam. Today, Simari appears calm again. Fields are green, villagers move through their routines, and children walk to school. | More in P6

## J&K Bank, Police Strengthen Partnership With Welfare Package

Revised MoU Expands Insurance, Financial Security Cover For Personnel & Families

Observer News Service

Srinagar: J&K Bank on Thursday signed an addendum to its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jammu and Kashmir Police, significantly expanding welfare, insurance and financial security benefits for police personnel, Special Police Officers (SPOs) and their families.

The agreement was signed at Police Headquarters in Peerbagh in the presence of senior officers from both institutions, including Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat and the



Bank's Managing Director and CEO Amitava Chatterjee. Special DG Syed Javid Mujtaba Gillani, ADGP Headquarters Manish K Sinha, Chief General Manager Ashutosh Sareen and General Manager Rakesh Magotra were also present during the signing ceremony.

Enhanced Welfare Measures Introduced

Under the | More in P6



# Nutritional Support To 2.8 Mn TB Patients Could Avert 120,000 Deaths Yearly: Study

Press Trust Of India

Providing food baskets to 2.8 million people with tuberculosis in India could avert over 120,000 deaths yearly, according to a study.

"For less than the cost of many biomedical interventions, we could prevent over 100,000 TB (tuberculosis) deaths a year," senior author Pranay Sinha, assistant professor of medicine at the US Boston University's school of medicine and an infectious disease physician at the Boston Medical Center, said.

Researchers in collaboration with India's National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) found that food support is a cost-effective way to improve health outcomes for people with TB in 94 per cent of the study's

simulations. The findings are published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) Global Health.

Undernutrition could be the single greatest modifiable risk factor for TB, contributing to immune suppression, treatment failure, and death, the researchers said.

"Undernutrition isn't just a complication of TB - it's one of its root causes. While we wait for effective vaccines for TB, food is the vaccine we already have, and providing food baskets to households affected by TB could be one of the most impactful things we do for TB elimination," Urvashi Singh, former Deputy Director General of the NTEP, said.

In 2020, the Revised National TB Control Programme (RN-TCP) was renamed as NTEP, aimed at eliminating the bacterial infectious disease in India.

The study compared stan-



ard care with a household-level nutritional food-basket intervention. The researchers also looked at previously published studies, including systematic reviews.

"Nutritional support was projected to avert 10, 470 DALYs (years of poor health) per 10,000 PWTB (persons with TB). When scaled to India's 2.8 million annual TB cases, this corresponds to approximately 120,120 TB deaths

averted nationwide under full coverage," the authors wrote.

Each of the health gains would cost an estimated USD 141, which the researchers said is well below India's benchmark of USD 550 and suggests that the intervention could be a good investment.

"What this study shows is that scaling up in-kind nutritional support in India isn't just

the right thing to do - it's also an excellent investment," Sinha said.

First author Julia Gallini, a doctoral candidate in biostatistics at Boston University, said. "This work bridges the gap between clinical evidence and policy. We wanted to give NTEP and global health policymakers a clear, quantitative picture of what nutritional support could achieve nationally. The numbers make a compelling case." An August 2023 study, published in The Lancet journal, showed that nutritional support with proteins and multivitamins reduced new TB cases by nearly half among family members of patients in India. The RATIONS trial enrolled household contacts of 2,800 patients with confirmed tuberculosis across 28 TB units of the NTEP in four districts of Jharkhand.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to general public that I have applied for Correction in name of my contractor card titled M/S KHAN ENGINEERING WORKS PROP: FROM SAJID MAJED KHAN S/O ABDUL MAJID KHAN TO SAWJED MAJED KHAN S/O Abdul Majeed Khan R/O New Colony Batamalo Srinagar (Card No. 2472/A/2011) in the office of Chief Electrical, Inspector, PDD J&K Govt. as per Adhar, Pan and GST, if anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

7006829624 ab  
7006829624

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to general public that I have applied for Correction in name of my contractor card titled M/S KHAN ENGINEERING WORKS PROP: SAWJED MAJED KHAN S/O Abdul Majeed Khan R/O New Colony Batamalo Srinagar in the office of Chief Engineer, CI&D wing JKSPDC Kashmir Bermana as per Adhar, Pan and GST bearing registration No. 923/AA/CE/KCC/PDC/2009, if anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

7006829624 ab

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the information of the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded as "Khushboo Jan" instead of "Khushboo Yaseen" in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 8694 8194 2659.

That my correct and actual name is Khushboo Yaseen D/o Mohammad Yaseen Mir R/o Batapora Shopian, Tehsil and District Shopian.

Now, I have applied before the concerned authorities for correction of my name from Khushboo Jan to Khushboo Yaseen in the official records/documents.

If anybody has any objection in this regard, he/she may file the same before the concerned authority within a period of seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Khushboo Yaseen  
D/o Mohammad Yaseen Mir  
R/o Batapora Shopian  
Tehsil & District Shopian fko

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my motor cycle Yamaha fascino bearing regd no JK01 AD0431 between Munawarabad to Nowshehra. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Farooq Ahmed Bhat  
S/O Abdul Ahad Bhat  
R/O Munawarabad srinagar FKO

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the information of the general public that the electricity connection bearing Consumer ID No. 0213030017570, presently registered in the name of Wali Mohammad Mir (Deceased) S/o Mohammad Ismail Mir, is proposed to be transferred in favour of:

Shameema Begum W/o Late Wali Mohammad Mir  
R/o Goripora Darpora Sopore

The applicant for the said transfer is: Shameema Begum W/o Late Wali Mohammad Mir R/o Goripora Darpora Sopore. If anybody has any objection regarding the transfer of the said electricity connection, he/she may file the same before the office of EXEN/AE, JK PDD Sopore within a period of seven (07) days from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objection shall be entertained.

Applicant  
Shameema Begum  
W/o Late Wali Mohammad Mir  
R/o Goripora Darpora Sopore FKO

## THE JAMMU & KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION NEW CAMPUS, BEMINA, SRINAGAR PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/appeared in SSE (Class 10<sup>th</sup>) under Roll No. 312456 Session/Year:-Annual Private 2016 rough 3121456 Through The Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the Parents / Institution against MY DATE OF BIRTH AS 05-03-2002 INSTEAD OF 09-06-1999

Now I have applied for correction at The Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education, New Campus, Bemina, Srinagar. If any person has any objection in this regard may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates Kashmir Division within seven days from the date of publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period, no objection will be entertained.

This is published for the information of the general public. The correct particulars are mentioned as under:-  
Name:- SHAGUFTA BASHIR  
Father's Name:- BASHIR AHMAD BHAT  
Mother's Name:- SHABNUM BEGUM  
Date of Birth:- 09-06-1999  
Residence:- MAIL-KREERI  
Mobile No:- 7006723495 FKO

## Office of the Naib Tahsildar Bomai

1, Masarat Manzoor D/o Manzoor Ahmad Lone R/o Lattishart Tehsil Zaingair District Baramulla do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath as under:-

That I am permanent resident of UT of J&K. That in my Aadhaar card bearing number 74321107024 my name has wrongly been recorded as Masrat Manzoor instead of Masarat Manzoor and my DOB has also wrongly been mentioned in my said Aadhaar card as 06-01-2004 instead of 04-07-2006 and now I solicit this affidavit to the concerned authorities that necessary correction be recorded in my Aadhaar card as per above details so that I may not suffer. If the above information is proved false I shall be personally responsible for the same.

FKO

## GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, SRINAGAR

10-KARAN NAGAR, SRINAGAR KASHMIR, 190010  
(ACADEMIC SECTION)

Subject: Engagement of Senior Residents on Academic Arrangement Basis in various Disciplines of Government Medical College, Srinagar.

Reference: i) This office Advertisement No. 06 of 2026 Dated. 09.04.2026.

OFFICE ORDER No: 511 -RA of 2026

DATED: 06.05.2026

Pursuant to this office Notification No. 16-RA of 2026 Dated. 28.04.2026, the following not In-service candidates are provisionally engaged as Senior Residents in the disciplines shown against each on Academic Arrangement Basis under S.O. 364 of 2020 Dated. 27.11.2020 and Government Order No. 383-JK (HME) of 2024 Dated. 20.06.2024, initially for a period of one year, which is extendable upto (03) years on basis of good performance to be certified by the concerned HOD. However, the selection of the candidates is made purely on temporary basis in anticipation of the Character & antecedents report by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), J&K in view of extreme exigency & urgency expressed by concerned HODs. In case of adverse report with regard to character and antecedents of any candidates received from Additional Director General of Police, CID or the candidate leaves the job before receipt of CID verification, such candidate shall have no claim for Senior Residency benefits i.e. Experience certificate and Salary:-

| S.No. | Name of Candidate         | Qualification | Discipline       |
|-------|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 01.   | Dr. Shafia Mehraj         | MD            | Anaesthesiology  |
| 02.   | Dr. Fatima Yousuf         | MD            | Anaesthesiology  |
| 03.   | Dr. Zameer Ahmad Khanday  | MS            | CVTS             |
| 04.   | Dr. Irfan Nazir           | MD            | General Medicine |
| 05.   | Dr. Firdoushi Khatun      | MD            | Medical Oncology |
| 06.   | Dr. Mufti Moin            | MD            | Medical Oncology |
| 07.   | Dr. Mahak Maqbool         | MD            | Medical Oncology |
| 08.   | Dr. Aamir Abdullah Dar    | MD            | Medical Oncology |
| 09.   | Dr. Waseem Hussain Mirza  | MD            | Neurology        |
| 10.   | Dr. Mohammad Aamir Suhail | MD            | Radio-Diagnosis  |

The appointment of the aforementioned Doctors is further subject to the following terms and conditions:-

1. The selected candidates are supposed to submit their joining report along with an affidavit in the office of the undersigned duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate to the effect that:-

a. They are not In-service candidates, the information if found wrong the selectees shall be punished under Rules which includes confiscation of the Registration of the Doctors.

b. They will not participate in any kind of strike during the period of their tenure engagement. In the event they proceed on strike, their tenure engagement shall be terminated without any notice as this service is covered under ESMA Act.

c. They shall remain disciplined during the whole tenure; any kind of misconduct shall make them liable for termination without any prior notice.

d. They are not involved in any criminal activity or there is no FIR pending or registered in any criminal department or police station against them.

e. They shall not claim any experience certificate, in case they leave Senior Residency before completion at least of six months.

f. They will not indulge in any private practice. In case they are found doing private practice their appointment shall be liable for termination without any notice.

g. They shall not claim for further extension beyond three years tenure under any circumstances.

h. In case of adverse report with regard to their character and antecedents received from Additional Director General of Police, CID or the candidate leaves the job before receipt of CID verification, they shall have no claim for Senior Residency benefits i.e. Experience certificate and Salary.

2. The above Doctors shall have to execute an agreement with the institution on the prescribed format (Form A) with regard to the various terms and conditions applicable during academic arrangement same can be downloaded from the official website of Government Medical College, Srinagar.

3. The appointees are required to join within (21) days from the date of issuance of this order failing which the order shall be deemed to have been cancelled.

4. The Senior Residents appointed on Academic Arrangement Basis shall be paid as per S.O. 364 of 2020 Dated 27-11-2020

5. The Senior Residents appointed on Academic Arrangement Basis shall be entitled leaves as per the Government Order No. 451-JK (HME) of 2024 Dated. 08.07.2024.

No: GMCS/RA/SR/1329-36/MC

Principal/Dean  
Govt. Medical College  
Srinagar

DIPK-1104/26

Dated: 07.05.2026

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)  
(मानव संसाधन प्रभाग - II)

ईस्ट गेट संख्या-10, जे. एन. स्टेडियम परिसर,  
लोधी रोड, सीजीओ कॉम्प्लेक्स, नई दिल्ली - 110003  
East Gate. No. 10, J N Stadium Complex,  
Lodhi Road, CGO Complex,  
New Delhi-110003

File No.: 01-04001(03)/2/2025-HO - Personnel Division/253 Date: 01-04-2026  
CORRIGENDUM

Sub: APPOINTMENT TO THE POST OF JUNIOR ENGINEER ON DEPUTATION BASIS IN SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA REG EXTENSION IN CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS BY 30 DAYS.

In SAI is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, invites application from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Junior Engineer on deputation basis continuation to the advertisement of even number dated 25-02-2026, the closing date for submission of applications for the post of Junior Engineer is hereby extended by 30 days (i.e up to 10-05-2026) (05.00 PM). The remaining clauses stand valid. The application complete in all aspects should reach to the O/o "Director (HRD-II), Room No. 210 2nd Floor, Sports Authority of India, Jawaharal Nehru Stadium (Gate-10), Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 on or before 10-05-2026 or on mail sai.persdiv.recruitment@gmail.com". The details and application form is available on website of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports www.yas.nic.in and SAI i.e. www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR (HRD-II)  
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA  
HEAD OFFICE

cbc47103/11/0010/2627

## ALAMDAR MODEL SCHOOL TARRHAMA (ZONE RUNZER)

SUBJECT: DETAILS OF MANAGING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

| S. NO. | NAME   | QUALIFICATION | OCCUPATION              | AADHAR NO    | DESIG                        | CONTACT    | Photograph |
|--------|--|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1      | JAVAI AHMAD BHAT S/O GHULAM RASOOL BHAT R/O TARRHAMA           | M.A, B.ed     | PVT. JOB                | 488224636532 | SCHOOL CHAIRMAN              | 7889910594 |            |
| 2      | SHAMA R/O TARRHAMA MIRBIR, AHMAD S/O GH MOHAMMAD MIR R/O HARAD | M.A, B.ed     | BUSINESS                | 219754178315 | SECRETARY                    | 7051985574 |            |
| 3      | FAROOQ AHMAD BHAT S/O QADIR BHAT R/O TARRHAMA                  | 10+2          | BUSINESS                | 445489278499 | VICE CHAIRMAN                | 9797080645 |            |
| 4      | NAZIA ALI W/O AAYAZ AHMAD MIR R/O TARRHAMA                     | M.A, B.ed     | PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL | 510513392396 | PRINCIPAL/ MEMBER            | 9541966324 |            |
| 5      | BISMA BASHIR D/O BASHIR AHMAD MIR R/O TARRHAMA                 | M.A           | TEACHER OF THE SCHOOL   | 804317742534 | STAFF REPRESENTATIVE/ MEMBER | 7006057371 |            |
| 6      | HILAL AHMAD BABA S/O ABDUL RASHID BABA R/O TARRHAMA            | 10th          | FARMER                  | 217750211987 | PARENT/ MEMBER               | 9797563662 |            |
| 7      | MOHAMMAD SADAT S/O MOHAMMAD RAMZAN BHAT R/O TARRHAMA           | 10TH          | PVT. JOB                | 244046577665 | PARENT/ MEMBER               | 6006272726 |            |

## SALE OF PROPERTY

Approx 27 Marla's of land with House is for immediate sale at Srinagar's prime location **GOLE MARKET, KARAN NAGAR, SRINAGAR**. Interested person's may contact below Mobile number between 10.00 am to 6.00 pm.

"BROKERS ARE EXCUSED"

MOB.NO.  
**7006339326 / 9103356611**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class 10th) under Roll No. 121005014, Session: Annual Regular Oct-Nov 2025 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed against my mother's name as Afroza instead of Afroza Bano, now I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education Sub Office Magam if 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: Aijaz Hussain Mir  
Father's Name: Altaf Hussain Mir  
Mother's Name: Afroza Bano  
Date of Birth: 07/10/2011  
Residence: Dangar Pora Magam  
Mobile No. 9906112319 bmg\_r

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class 10th) under Roll No. 221006003, Session: Annual Regular Oct-Nov 2025 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed against my mother's name as Afroza instead of Afroza Bano, now I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education Sub Office Magam. 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: Zainub Zehra  
Father's Name: Altaf Hussain Mir  
Mother's Name: Afroza Bano  
Date of Birth: 07/10/2010  
Residence: Dangarpura Magam  
Mobile No. 9966112319 bmg\_r

## Media Studies HoD at AS College Relieved after Harassment Allegation

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Authorities on Thursday removed the Head of the Department of Media Studies at Amar Singh College following an alleged harassment complaint filed by a student.

Top officials of Higher Education Department informed KNO that HoD, Department of Media Studies had been 'disassociated' from all academic affairs of the Department with immediate effect, pending the outcome of the inquiry.

In the meantime, Principal of Amar Singh College Srinagar in an order said, "In response to the demonstra-

tion held by the students of the College regarding the alleged harassment of a female student, Dr Parvaiz Ahmad Lone, HoD, Department of Media Studies, is disassociated from all academic affairs of the Department with immediate effect, pending the outcome of the inquiry."

It also said that the Proctorial Board has been entrusted with conducting a transparent and time-bound inquiry into the matter and shall submit its report within two days.

"In the meantime, Prof Nusrat Sayed shall look after the affairs of the Department of Media Studies till the completion of the investigation," it reads.

## DC Inspects Upgradation works on Vicharnag Temple, Khankah-e-Naqshband Sahib (RA)

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Akshay Labroo conducted an on-site inspection of the ongoing upgradation and renovation works at Vicharnag Temple and Khankah-e-Naqshband Sahib (RA) being executed under the Heritage Conservation Scheme of the Government to preserve the rich cultural, spiritual and architectural heritage in the District.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mir Imtiyaz Ul Aziz, Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, IAS Probationer, Alfred Thomas, Superintending Engineer, R&B, Circle North, Shabir Ahmad, Executive Engineers of R&B, SMC, PHE, PDD, UEED, Tehsildar, Eidgah, Officers of Archives

& Archaeology and other concerned Departments.

At the ancient Vicharnag Temple, a site of immense historical and religious significance located in the Nowshera area of the District, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed on-site appraisal of the revival, restoration, and conservation works being undertaken under the Government scheme to preserve the heritage character of the monument.

On the occasion, the DC reviewed the different project components at the site and directed the Officers to ensure strict adherence to set timelines and quality of the work as envisioned under the project guidelines. He directed the Officers to further expedite the pace of works and take technically feasible measures for efficient drainage mechanisms at the important heritage site.



Security forces conduct a vehicle inspection with a sniffer dog during an anti-drug checking operation at a checkpoint. KO Photo Abid Bhat

## AERA Conference on Resilient Himalayan Agriculture Begins

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Agricultural Economics Research Association (AERA) Regional Conference on "Building Resilient Himalayan Agriculture: Climate, Markets, and Inclusive Livelihoods" was inaugurated at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Kashmir.

The two-day conference, organised by SKUAST-K's Institute of Business & Policy Research (IBPR) in collaboration with Agricultural Economics Research Association (AERA) and International Food Policy Research Institute, has drawn leading experts from across academia, government, and development sectors to deliberate on the pressing challenges and emerging opportunities in Himalayan agriculture.

Over the course of the next two days, the conference will host

a series of thematic technical sessions and research presentations covering critical areas such as climate resilience, agri-market reforms, digital transformation, farmer producer organisations (FPOs), and inclusive livelihood strategies. The deliberations are expected to generate actionable policy recommendations and strategic insights aimed at strengthening the resilience, competitiveness, and inclusivity of Himalayan agriculture, thereby contributing to sustainable rural transformation.

In his address, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai reaffirmed the university's commitment to advancing impactful research and policy engagement tailored to the unique challenges of the Himalayan region. He emphasized that the role of academic institutions must extend beyond knowledge generation to

include active participation in policy formulation and field-level implementation. He highlighted SKUAST-K's ongoing efforts in promoting climate-smart agriculture, sustainable resource management, and farmer-centric innovations.

Guest of Honour, Dr BN Tripathi, SKUAST-J provided a strategic institutional perspective, emphasizing that the transformation of Himalayan agriculture hinges on strong inter-institutional collaboration and innovation ecosystems. He elaborated on the need to build efficient agri-value chains that reduce post-harvest losses, enhance value addition, and improve market access for farmers in remote regions. He further stressed the role of universities and research institutions as catalysts for technology dissemination, skill development, and agri-entrepreneurship.

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- Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)
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**HIJRI CALENDAR**  
20 Zil-Qadah  
1447

| PRAYERS |       |
|---------|-------|
| FAJR    | 4:02  |
| ZUHR    | 12:27 |
| ASR     | 5:18  |
| Magrib  | 7:22  |
| ISHA    | 8:54  |

### This Day In History

- 1360 - Treaty of Brétigny signed by English & French, ending the first phase of the Hundred Years' War
- 1541 - Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto discovers the Mississippi River
- 1741 - France & Bavaria sign Covenant of Nymphenburg
- 1846 - 1st major battle of Mexican War fought at Palo Alto, Texas
- 1871 - British-US treaty ends Alabama dispute
- 1895 - China cedes Taiwan to Japan under Treaty of Shimonoseki
- 1901 - A British appointed commission estimates today that some 1,250,000 Indians have died after a severe drought, lasting since 1899
- 1902 - Mount Pelée on the French overseas island of Martinique erupts, wiping out the city of Saint-Pierre, killing 30,000 and leaving only two survivors
- 1905 - Union of Unions organizes in Russia under the chairmanship of Paul Miliukov and joins liberal groups demanding parliamentary government and universal suffrage

## DIG Imtiyaz Hussain Mir's Father Passes Away in Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Haji Mohammad Sultan Mir, father of senior police officer DIG Imtiyaz Hussain Mir, passed away on Thursday after a brief illness, family sources said. He was a resident of Iskanderpora in central Kashmir's Budgam district.

Family members said he breathed his last at the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura earlier in the day, where he had been undergoing treatment. He was later laid to rest at his ancestral graveyard in his native village, where a large number of people attended the fu-

neral prayers. Funeral prayers were led by prominent cleric Agha Syed Muhammad Hadi al Musawi. News of his demise was widely mourned across official, social and public circles. Senior police officers, civil administration officials, colleagues, relatives and members of civil society expressed grief and extended condolences to the bereaved family. Prayers were offered for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to the family to bear the loss.

DIG Imtiyaz Hussain Mir, a decorated 1999-batch Jammu and Kashmir Police Service (JKPS) officer, is currently serving as Director of the State Disaster Re-

sponse Force (SDRF) in Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Awami Itihaad Party (AIP) Chief Spokesperson Inam Un Nabi also expressed profound grief over the demise. In his condolence message, he described the deceased as a noble and respected individual, praying that Almighty Allah forgive his shortcomings, grant him the highest place in Jannat-ul-Firdous, and bestow patience upon the bereaved family, especially DIG Imtiyaz Hussain Mir.

He also conveyed condolences and solidarity on behalf of incarcerated Member of Parliament from Baramulla, Er Rashid, as well as the AIP leadership and workers.

## Government of Jammu and Kashmir (UT) Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir

### Look after of Sacrificial (Qurbani) Animals (Sheep & Goat)

A large number of Animals mostly Sheep and Goat are used for Qurbani purposes on Eid-ul-Azha in Kashmir Division and many people prefer to purchase the sacrificial animal well ahead of Eid and maintain them at their places. It has been observed that due to lack of rearing experience, people cannot provide appropriate feed to the animals with the result they become indisposed and un-fit for Qurbani purposes. In this regard following tips are laid for all the concerned people for proper maintenance and upkeep of the valued sacrificial animals so that these animals remain sound and healthy for Qurbani:-

- Animals bought from outside the UT should not be given Pelleted Feed while local merino should not be given more than 500 grams of feed. Special care should be taken not to overfeed the animals. While green and dry grass can be given to these animals without any concern.
- Water should not be given after concentrate feed/Pelleted feed, while water can be given two hours prior to or two hours after feeding.
- Animals should not be taken for grazing on dewy grass in the morning and evening.
- Medications should not be administered without an expert's advice.

Ailing animals can be brought to Small Ruminant Hospital, Lal Mandi Srinagar or any nearest Sheep Extension Centre for Treatment.

### In case of requirement of any assistance contact the concerned District Sheep Husbandry Office on the following given phone numbers

|                |            |                |            |
|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| DSHO Anantnag  | 7006977148 | DSHO Baramulla | 7889958645 |
| DSHO Budgam    | 7780858367 | DSHO Bandipora | 7006349758 |
| DSHO Ganderbal | 7889419370 | DSHO Kulgam    | 9469726313 |
| DSHO Kupwara   | 7780856867 | DSHO Pulwama   | 7006766395 |
| DSHO Srinagar  | 7006777063 | DSHO Shopian   | 7780858367 |

Issued by:  
**Information and Publicity Wing,  
Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir**

DIPK-1107/26  
dated: 07-05-2026

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

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

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

This office has received a written application from Manzoor-ul-Islam S/o Khazir Mohammad Malik R/o Tarzoo Sopore, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Birth & Death certificate in favour of ward Namely 1. Tajamul Firdous Ganie - DOB: 16-07-2017 2. Fozia Firdous Ganie - DOB: 10-08-2014 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.

Naib Tehsildar  
Executive Magistrate Bomial  
fko

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

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

#### Public Notice

This office has received a written application from Firdous Ahmad Ganie S/o Ghulam Rasool Ganie R/o Adipora, Tehsil Zaingeer for issuance of Death certificate in favour of Gulzar Ahmad Malik, who expired on 17-04-1997 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.

Naib Tehsildar  
Executive Magistrate Bomial  
fko

### NOTICE

In school records the mothers name of my ward has been wrongly mentioned as SAQIBA IMTIYAZ while as the correct and actual mothers name is SAKIBA SIDIQ. Now the necessary correction is to be made. In this regard if any body is having any objection may convey to Principal G D Goenka Public School Lal Bazar Srinagar within a period of seven days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat  
F/o: Ibrah Imtiyaz Bhat  
R/o: Shahi Hamdan Colony Rathpora  
Eidgah Srinagar

### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhaar Card as AUZARE S/o Manzoor Ahmad. However, as per my matriculation and other educational records, my correct name is UZAIR MANZOOR NAJAR S/o MANZOOR AHMAD NAJAR.

Therefore, I hereby declare that my correct name shall be UZAIR MANZOOR NAJAR S/o MANZOOR AHMAD NAJAR, and the same may be considered for all official, legal, and personal purposes.

Any person having any objection to this correction may contact the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public that my name has been wrongly recorded in my school records as Umbreena Zernil. The same has now been corrected by the concerned authorities as UMBREEN ZERNEIL. I solemnly declare that both names refer to one and the same person. If any person has any objection in this matter, he/she may notify the same before the Tehsildar Srinagar North within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. After the expiry of 7 days, no objection shall be entertained.

UMBREEN ZERNEIL  
D/O GHULAM MOHAMAD ZERNEIL  
Media line advt

## KASHMIR OBSERVER™

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# Kashmir's Tectonic Reality Check

Science has mapped Kashmir's seismic danger with growing precision, while policy and construction practices continue to move at a slower pace.



Dr. Afroz Ahmad Shah



and economic calculation. Seismic zonation influences far more than technical maps. Hazard classifications affect construction costs, insurance pricing, infrastructure planning, land valuation, and urban expansion. Higher seismic classifications demand stricter building standards, deeper engineering oversight, and larger financial commitments.

Scientific consensus therefore collides with economic pressure.

Kashmir already faces the consequences of that gap between evidence and implementation.

Srinagar and surrounding urban centers continue expanding rapidly through floodplains, river corridors, and unstable slopes. Multi-story buildings rise through dense neighbourhoods with uneven regulatory enforcement. Large sections of the built environment still depend on non-engineered construction methods that perform poorly during strong shaking.

Ground conditions inside the Kashmir Basin create additional danger.

Thick sediment deposits amplify seismic waves, increasing shaking intensity far beyond regional averages. Basin-edge effects can intensify damage in localized zones. Slope instability raises the possibility of landslides and ground failure during earthquakes.

Many hazard assessments still lack the detailed microzonation needed to capture these variations with precision.

That omission matters enormously in a place like Srinagar, where neighbourhoods only a few kilometers apart may experience very different levels of damage during the same earthquake.

Critical infrastructure presents another major concern. Hospitals, schools, bridges, power systems, water networks, and transport corridors form the backbone of disaster response. Many facilities throughout Kashmir have never undergone comprehensive seismic evaluation. A major earthquake would therefore strike emergency systems at the exact moment people depend on them most.

Earthquake risk never emerges from geology alone. Disaster follows the interaction of hazard, exposure, and vulnerability. Kashmir currently carries high levels of all three.

Scientists have also identified several poorly studied faults within the basin itself, including the Kashmir Basin Fault and the Tunda Fault. Many remain insufficiently mapped despite their capacity to generate damaging earthquakes. Stronger geological, geophysical, and geodetic investigations could improve understanding of these fault systems and strengthen future planning decisions.

Financial preparedness remains equally weak. Earthquake insurance coverage throughout

much of the Himalayan region remains extremely limited. Many households rely on personal savings or government assistance after disasters. Property insurance often includes earthquake coverage only as an optional extension, which keeps participation low. Affordability concerns and limited public awareness deepen the problem.

That financial exposure creates long-term consequences after major earthquakes. Families struggle to rebuild homes. Small businesses collapse under reconstruction costs. Public finances absorb enormous repair burdens. Governments divert development funds toward emergency rebuilding projects. Recovery becomes uneven, slow, and deeply unequal.

Insurance systems could help reduce that burden. Mandatory coverage for critical facilities, subsidized household insurance, and public-private risk pools would distribute financial exposure more effectively. Insurance-linked building incentives could also improve compliance with seismic standards by rewarding safer construction practices.

Engineering solutions already exist. Scientific understanding continues improving. Policy frameworks remain available. Kashmir's central challenge lies in converting knowledge into sustained action.

That requires detailed urban microzonation studies, stronger enforcement of seismic building codes, expanded monitoring networks, continuous fault mapping, and institutional coordination that survives political transitions. Public awareness campaigns and community preparedness programs also deserve sustained investment.

Earthquake readiness grows through repeated practice, local participation, and public trust.

The Himalaya will continue generating earthquakes. Nothing in geology suggests otherwise. Kashmir therefore faces a clear choice. Leaders can treat seismic risk as a recurring headline after distant tremors, or they can treat it as the defining planning challenge of a tectonically active region.

The ground beneath Kashmir has already delivered its message many times. Science has translated that message with growing clarity. Public policy now faces the responsibility of listening before another major rupture turns scientific foresight into public tragedy.

*The author is a National Geographic Explorer and Senior Assistant Professor of Structural Geology at Universiti Brunei Darussalam, where he leads the Geosciences programme. He can be reached at afroz.shah@gmail.com.*

### KO VIEW

## Concrete Kashmir

Rainwater once passed through Srinagar with ease. Wetlands absorbed excess water, streams connected neighbourhoods to lakes, and open land gave the city breathing space. Construction crews now pour soil into marshes, apartment blocks rise beside flood channels, and roads clog before midday. A city built around water now struggles each season to contain it.

Urban expansion has reached nearly every corner of Kashmir. Srinagar has spread into Budgam, Ganderbal and Pulwama with little discipline or public planning. Shopping complexes stand on land where paddy fields once absorbed rainwater. Residential colonies rise on floodplains. Concrete expands faster than drainage systems, sewage networks or public transport. Government departments clear projects, while the larger city disappears in fragments.

Floods in 2014 exposed the cost of this approach. Water entered homes, hospitals and markets with terrifying speed. Large parts of Srinagar remained submerged for days. Environmental experts pointed to damaged wetlands and blocked flood channels as major factors behind the disaster. Authorities announced stricter planning rules after the floods. Excavators returned within months, and construction gathered pace once again.

Dal Lake and the wetlands surrounding Srinagar once acted as natural buffers during heavy rainfall. Encroachment has weakened that protection year after year. Hokersar, a major wetland near the city, has shrunk under pressure from roads, settlements and dumping. Residents witness the effects during every spell of heavy rain. Streets flood within hours, traffic freezes for long stretches, and sewage water enters homes in low-lying neighbourhoods.

Traffic tells another story about a city growing without direction. Srinagar's roads were built for a much smaller population and lighter movement. Thousands of new vehicles enter the streets each year while public transport remains weak and unreliable. Flyovers and road-widening projects bring temporary relief, though the deeper problem continues untouched. Strong cities function through planning that links housing, transport, commerce and environmental protection into one clear system. Kashmir's urban expansion proceeds through scattered decisions and political pressure.

Tourism has placed another burden on the city. Hotels, guesthouses and restaurants continue to rise around lakes and hillsides with minimal environmental safeguards. Investors pursue quick profits while civic systems struggle to supply water, manage waste and regulate traffic. Visitors arrive for Kashmir's landscape, while unchecked construction steadily damages the scenery that supports the economy.

Public officials often describe development through the language of roads and buildings. A functioning city depends on much more than visible construction. Effective planning protects wetlands, preserves open spaces, improves drainage, strengthens public transport and enforces building laws without political influence.

Kashmir still has time to change course. Authorities can map floodplains, stop illegal encroachments and place environmental limits on future construction. Urban planners, engineers and local communities can guide expansion before another disaster forces action through catastrophe.

### CASH COURSE

Read This Before You Buy Anything

## The Startup Mindset

From Srinagar to Shopian, Kashmir's emerging ventures are powered by skills and mental resilience.

Irshad Mushtaq

In a world driven by ideas and innovation, skill alone is no longer enough. To succeed in business or investment, one must also train the mind to think with clarity and act with purpose.

This holds especially true in places like Kashmir, where a new generation is exploring entrepreneurship and financial markets while learning to battle uncertainty.

Skill development lays the groundwork for this transformation. Whether it's mastering digital tools, understanding finance, or building leadership qualities, skills help young professionals move beyond dependence on government jobs.

In recent years, Kashmir has seen a surge in startups and small ventures, from tech services in Srinagar to eco-tourism projects in Shopian. Their success stories share a common thread: strong skills matched with resilient minds.

The psychological side of business often goes unnoticed. Entrepreneurs face self-doubt, investors confront risk, and both must make decisions amid volatility.

This is where mental preparedness becomes as vital as any professional training. A clear, calm, and strategic mind can turn challenges into opportunities and prevent hasty choices that lead to loss.

Education systems and training institutes in Kashmir need to adapt to this reality. Courses that blend business knowledge with psychological insight can prepare youth for the modern economy.

Success, in the end, is less about luck and more about learning. Those who sharpen their skills and strengthen their mindset create value that lasts.

The author is a Srinagar-based reputed financial educator.

A renewed debate over India's revised seismic zoning rules has brought an uncomfortable Himalayan reality back into focus.

Kashmir as part of Himalayas sits atop one of the world's most active earthquake zones, where immense tectonic pressure continues to build beneath the mountains. Geologists have warned about this for decades, and newer hazard models, fault mapping, and tectonic studies have only sharpened the science behind those warnings.

But while scientific understanding has advanced with growing precision, public policy and urban planning continue to lag behind the restless ground beneath the valley.

The Kashmir Basin exists because continents continue to collide. Massive pressure between the Indian and Eurasian plates drives constant crustal deformation through the Himalaya. That pressure bends rock, lifts mountains, shifts faults, and stores enormous seismic energy beneath the region.

Every fold in Kashmir landscape tells part of that story.

Earthquakes therefore belong to the geology of Kashmir itself. They built the basin and continue to modify it. Scientists describe the region as an intermontane depression controlled by a dense network of thrust faults linked to the Main Himalayan Thrust system. Strain accumulates over decades and centuries before releasing through powerful earthquakes capable of devastating entire mountain regions within minutes. History already provides grim evidence.

The 1905 Kangra earthquake killed more than 20,000 people. The 1934 Bihar-Nepal earthquake flattened towns across the eastern Himalaya. The 1950 Assam earthquake triggered landslides, flooding, and widespread destruction.

Then came the 2005 Muzaffarabad earthquake, which killed nearly 80,000 people and destroyed schools, hospitals, roads, and homes throughout northern Pakistan and parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Many people in Kashmir still remember that morning. Entire hillsides collapsed, roads disappeared under debris, and villages lost generations within seconds. Rescue teams struggled to reach remote mountain settlements because damaged transport links cut communities off from the outside world.

That disaster exposed a central problem in Himalayan earthquake preparedness. Long gaps between major earthquakes create a false sense of security. Human memory works on short timelines, while tectonic systems operate through centuries of strain accumulation.

Ground movement continues even during calm decades. Locked segments beneath the Himalaya continue storing energy regardless of political cycles, construction booms, or public attention spans.

Recent revisions proposed under IS 1893 attempted to address this scientific reality.

Updated seismic design provisions sought to incorporate modern probabilistic hazard assessments, improved mapping of active faults, and stronger understanding of Himalayan tectonics.

Scientists increasingly view the Himalayan belt, including Jammu and Kashmir, as a region with consistently high seismic potential rather than a mosaic of moderate and severe risk pockets.

The proposed revisions later stalled before full implementation.

That hesitation reveals a difficult political



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## Why Our Schools Fear Questions

I can still picture myself sitting in my 10th-grade classroom in Srinagar, the blackboard covered with neat notes written in white chalk. The teacher said, "This will all show up on the exam," and suddenly, every pen in the room began to move faster.

They weren't writing out of curiosity or reflection, but out of fear of forgetting, losing marks, and disappointing someone waiting at home.

That moment stayed with me. It revealed something about how we, as a society, mistake remembering for understanding.

From our earliest years, we are trained to value correctness over curiosity. The child who asks why is often silenced with a familiar reply: "Because it's in the syllabus."

We grow up believing success lies in how accurately we can reproduce

a paragraph on paper, not in how deeply we understand it. We are rewarded for memorizing what others have said, and punished for thinking differently. The discovery, the joy of learning, fades away in the process.

By the time we enter adulthood, we've mastered the art of remembering. We can recall definitions, dates, and formulas with ease. But, once the exam ends, the information evaporates like chalk dust on that same blackboard. All those hours of cramming amount to nothing more than an empty sense of achievement.

We love to quote Einstein's line that education is the "training of the mind to think," but our classrooms still revolve around memory. Students are rarely encouraged to connect ideas or see learning as something personal. Examinations remain the measure of worth, while

creativity becomes casualty.

Education should never feel like a contest of recall. It should make us think, question, and feel. It should push us to wonder why a story is told the way it is, or why an equation works, or why our society behaves as it does. True learning demands curiosity.

But we've been made to believe that questions slow us down and that thinking differently is risky. So we memorize poems without feeling their pain, and we define democracy without practicing its spirit.

Our world today holds more information than any textbook ever could. And yet, we struggle to think for ourselves. If our classrooms valued imagination as much as accuracy, perhaps learning would feel less like a burden and more like becoming.

Teachers would act as guides, not

gatekeepers. Exams would test the depth of our thought, not the speed of our recall.

I've come to believe that learning happens not when we remember something, but when we feel it. It could be a line from a poem that echoes your own longing, or a teacher's story that alters the way you see the world.

Education takes root in our empathy, values, and sense of justice. It is what makes us human in the truest sense.

If our education system could understand this, it might finally set us free. Teaching what to think creates followers, but teaching how to think creates free minds.

Sincerely,

Afreen Bashir  
afreenbashir111@gmail.com

# Somnath and the Idea of India

As Somnath marks 75 years since its reconstruction, Prime Minister of India recalls the sacrifices, political resolve and civilisational faith that transformed a ruined shrine into one of modern India's most enduring symbols.



Shri Narendra Modi

At the start of 2026, I had gone to Somnath for the Somnath Swabhiman Parv, marking a thousand years since the first attack on the Somnath Temple. Now, I will be back in Somnath on 11th May to mark 75 years since the inauguration of the restored Temple by the then President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad. In less than half a year, it is a privilege to be attending two important milestones relating to Somnath and its journey from ruin to renewal or what we describe as from Vidhvans to Srijan.

Somnath gives us a civilisational message. The vast sea before it evokes timelessness. The waves tell us...that no matter how fierce the storms are or how turbulent the tides are, one can always rise again with dignity and strength. The waves return to the shore, as though reminding every generation that the spirit of the people can never be subdued for long.

Our ancient scriptures say: प्रभासं च पटिक्रम्य पृथिवीक्रममभवत्। It means, a Pradakshina of the divine Prabhasa (Somnath) is equal to a Pradakshina of the whole earth itself! While people have come here to pray, they have also experienced the remarkable continuity of a civilisation whose flame could never be extinguished. Empires rose and fell, tides changed, history moved through conquest and upheaval, yet Somnath continued to endure in our consciousness.

It is time to remember the countless greats who stood firm in the face of tyranny. There were Lakuli-

sha and Soma Sarman, who transformed Prabhasa into a great centre of philosophy. Chakravarti Maharaja Dharasena IV of Vallabhi built the Second Temple there centuries ago. Bhima Deva, Jayapala and Anandapala will always be remembered for defending civilisational honour against invasions. It is said that Raja Bhoja too helped with the reconstruction. Karna Deva and Siddharaja Jayasimha played a vital role in restoring Gujarat's political and cultural strength. Bhava Brihaspati, Kumarapala Solanki and the Pashupata Acharyas rebuilt and sustained the shrine as a great centre of worship and learning. Vishaladeva Vaghela and Tripurantaka protected its intellectual and spiritual traditions. Mahipaladeva and Ra Khangar were instrumental in reviving worship after destruction. Punyashlok Ahilyabai Holkar, whose 300th birth centenary is being marked, ensured the continuity of devotion in the most difficult of times. There were the Gaekwads of Baroda, who safeguarded the rights of pilgrims. And of course, our soil is blessed to have nurtured brave personalities like Veer Hamirji Gohil and Veer Vegdaji Bhil, whose sacrifice and courage have become a part of Somnath's living memory.

In the 1940s, when the spirit of freedom swept across India and the foundations of a new republic were being laid under the leadership of towering figures like Sardar Patel, one thing continued to trouble him deeply...the condition of Somnath. On 13th November 1947, during Diwali time, he stood next to the dilapidated ruins of the temple with sea-water in his hands and said, "On this auspicious day of the (Gujarati) New Year, we have decided that Somnath should be reconstructed. You, people of Saurashtra, should do your best. This is a holy task in which all should participate." On one clarion call of Sardar Patel, it was not only the people of Gujarat but also the people of the whole of India that responded enthusiastically.

Unfortunately, fate did not allow



**I URGE MY FELLOW INDIANS TO TRAVEL TO SOMNATH IN THIS SPECIAL TIME.** When you stand on the shores of Somnath, let its ancient echoes speak to you. You will not only be overwhelmed by devotion but will also feel the strong pulse of a civilisational spirit that refuses to fade, that is unbroken and unyielding.

Sardar Patel to witness the fulfilment of the dream he had so passionately championed. Before the restored Somnath Temple could open its doors to devotees, he had departed from this world. Yet, his impact continued to be felt over the sacred shores of Prabhas Patan. His vision was championed by Shri KM Munshi, ably supported by the

Jamsaheb of Nawanagar. In 1951, when the Temple was complete, it was decided to call the President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, for the ceremony. Overcoming strong objections from the then Prime Minister Pandit Nehru, Dr. Prasad graced the ceremony, thus making it even more special and historic. My mind also goes back to Oc-

tober 2001, when I had just taken over as Chief Minister. On 31st October 2001, the Jayanti of Sardar Patel, the Gujarat Government had the honour of organising a programme to mark 50 years since the Somnath Temple opened its doors. It also coincided with the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Sardar Patel. The then Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the then Home Minister Shri LK Advani attended the programme.

During his speech on 11th May 1951, Dr. Rajendra Prasad said that the Somnath Temple proclaims to the world that anything with unparalleled faith and love cannot be destroyed. He expressed hope that this Temple will live in the hearts of people. He also said that the restoration of the Temple was a fulfilment of Sardar Patel's dream, but taking that spirit forward, it is important that we restore prosperity to the lives of people. These are important and inspiring messages he gave.

This is the path we have been walking for over a decade. I consider it my good fortune that, inspired by the principle of 'Vikas Bhi,

Virasat Bhi', from Somnath to Kashi, Kamakhya to Kedarnath, Ayodhya to Ujjain, Trimbakeshwar to Srisailem, our team has had the opportunity to equip our spiritual centres with the latest facilities while at the same time preserving their traditional character. This, along with efforts to improve connectivity, ensures more people can visit them. It boosts the local economy, secures livelihoods and deepens the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.'

The struggles and sacrifices of those who laid down their lives to protect Somnath and those who rebuilt it time and again will never be forgotten. Countless individuals from different corners of India contributed to restoring its glory. They saw every part of Bharat as sacred, bound together by a sense of oneness that transcended geography. In a world often marked by divisions, this spirit of unity is more relevant than ever. Somnath will continue to stand tall in all its glory because the sense of unity and shared civilisational consciousness lives on in the hearts of every Indian. As a tribute to this, remembering the extraordinary courage of a thousand years, there will be special Pujas at Somnath for the next thousand days. It is gladdening to see several people donating for these Pujas as well.

I urge my fellow Indians to travel to Somnath in this special time. When you stand on the shores of Somnath, let its ancient echoes speak to you. You will not only be overwhelmed by devotion but will also feel the strong pulse of a civilisational spirit that refuses to fade, that is unbroken and unyielding. You will experience Bharat's unconquerable spirit and understand why, despite every effort, our culture remained undefeated and you will have the opportunity to behold the vision of eternal triumph. It will surely be unforgettable.

Jai Somnath.

— Shri Narendra Modi is the Prime Minister of India and is also the Chairman of the Shree Somnath Trust.

## Your Story Is Not Over

A survivor's reflection on suicide, shame, masculinity, and why Kashmir must learn to talk about mental health.



Musaib Bilal

I tried to take my life at sixteen, and again at eighteen. Both times I felt I had run out of room for pain, shame, and the weight of feeling unworthy.

I believed I was a waste, burden, and undeserving of space.

The first time, I was drowning in the chaos of adolescence. My grades were slipping, friendships were thin, and mask of perfection was cracking.

The second time, the ache was heavier, more suffocating. Years of unspoken grief had built a wall around me. I thought I was too far gone.

But here I am, writing this. That, in itself, is proof. Survival and healing are possible. Life can be rebuilt.

People don't end their lives because they hate living. They do it because they want their pain to stop.

Suicide is rarely about a single event. It grows out of layers: mental illness, stress, shame, isolation, trauma, money worries, and heartbreak.

These forces converge until hope seems to vanish.

Behind every attempt there is a cry for help to end the misery.

The way we speak about suicide adds another wound. The label "pagal" is thrown around with ease.

That one word erases the human story, the years of silent battles, and the weight of trauma.

It turns a life into a caricature and

a family into a whisper. This stigma not only dishonours the dead but also silences the living. People who might reach out stay silent, afraid of ridicule, and being treated as broken.

Stigma also shapes the way support works. Those who open up are often dismissed with casual remarks or quickly labelled "depressed," as if naming it is enough. They are treated as outsiders instead of people in need of care.

Every struggling person requires understanding. They need a listener who will sit with their pain without judgment. Breaking stigma means building a culture where seeking help is seen as strength.

Kashmir's outer realities make inner battles even harder.

Joblessness here is among the highest in the country, draining men of their sense of identity and dignity. Addiction to opioids and prescription drugs is rising, trapping young people in cycles of dependency.

Decades of discord have left invisible scars on our psyches. Children grow up with uncertainty, families carry generational trauma, and many households lack the emotional scaffolding to support their young.

Add broken family structures, domestic violence and societal pressures, and despair begins to feel like a permanent atmosphere.

Mental-health services are thin, underfunded, and often out of reach. Together, these forces create a climate where suicide feels like an exit door.

Another hard truth: suicide here, as elsewhere, disproportionately claims men's lives.

Almost three out of four suicides in India are by men. It's not because men feel less pain but because they are taught to hide it.

Boys grow up hearing they must be strong, that tears are shameful, and that vulnerability is weakness. Anger is allowed, grief is not.

This bottling up is lethal. Without



**MEN INHERIT A VERSION OF MASCULINITY THAT OFFERS NO SPACE FOR FEAR, GRIEF OR CONFUSION.** They are expected to provide without being taught how to process the burden. Friendships rarely move beyond the surface. Confessing depression invites dismissal.

ways to express emotion, many men carry their pain alone until it crushes them.

There's also what some call the

"male loneliness epidemic."

Male friendships are often built around activities, jokes or political talk, not around sharing feelings.

Without a space to confide in, men bear their troubles in silence.

When loneliness combines with unemployment, family pressure or addiction, hopelessness takes hold. Without emotional resilience or a support network, suicide starts to look like relief.

Changing this culture begins with language. We must teach boys that crying is not weakness, asking for help is human, and strength is not measured in stoicism.

We must create spaces for deeper friendships and communities where men can lean on each other. Giving men the words to describe their feelings will save lives. Real courage lies in letting the pain out.

The shame around male vulnerability runs deep in the valley. Homes shaped by conflict and economic strain reward toughness and ridicule softness. Tears are mocked, silence is praised.

Men inherit a version of masculinity that offers no space for fear, grief or confusion. They are expected to provide without being taught how to process the burden. Friendships rarely move beyond the surface. Confessing depression invites dismissal.

This cocktail of cultural silence, lack of resources and rigid masculinity is costing lives.

Shifting it requires bravery from families, schools and communities. Families must let boys cry. Schools must allow conversations about feelings. Communities must swap judgment for empathy.

Kashmiri men deserve better than silence. They deserve friendships that hold their pain and a society that sees vulnerability as part of being human, not a humiliation.

The numbers are grim. Globally, suicide is among the top causes of death for young people. In India, two-thirds of suicides happen between the ages of 18 and 45. Jammu and Kashmir faces a sharp rise in attempts and fatalities, mostly among youth.

Behind each number is a story: a young man collapsing under despair, a young woman fading in isolation, and a family left searching for answers.

I look back at my sixteen- and eighteen-year-old selves and wish someone had said: You are human, and worthy of life.

If you are struggling today, hear this: you are not alone. There is help, hope, and future beyond the pain.

Your story is not over.

— The author is a mental-health advocate. He can be contacted at musaibilal.216061@gmail.com.

## Before 30, Kashmiri

reality meets those ambitions with shrinking opportunities, low wages and long periods of waiting.

Official Periodic Labour Force Survey data cited in Parliament showed Jammu and Kashmir's unemployment rate at 6.1 percent during 2023-24, nearly double the national average of 3.2 percent. Urban female unemployment reached 27.2 percent during the same period, placing young women among the hardest hit.

Statistics explain part of the crisis, daily life explains the rest.

Morning queues form outside recruitment offices whenever government vacancies appear. Coaching centers fill with graduates preparing for exams that may produce a few hundred posts for tens of thousands of applicants. WhatsApp groups circulate notices for interviews that often lead to salaries between 5,000 and 10,000 a month.

A generation that expected adulthood by 25 often reaches 30 while still depending on parents for essentials.

Ali remembers the day he became the first graduate in his family. Relatives visited with sweets, while neighbours congratulated his parents. His younger brother began talking about attending university one day.

"Everyone believed life would change after graduation," he said.

Ali spent the next several years applying for jobs, travelling between districts for interviews and standing in recruitment lines that stretched outside office gates before sunrise. Temporary assignments came and went. Promises from employers dissolved after weeks. Friends slowly left for cities like Delhi, Chandigarh and Bengaluru.

Pressure settled inside the household with growing force. Parents who once spoke proudly about his degree began asking cautious questions about income. Marriage discussions stalled, savings never began, and investment plans remained theoretical.

Experts describe the years before 30 as financially decisive because time gives savings room to grow. Economists and financial planners often point to the power of compounding, where modest investments build significant wealth over long periods.

Delayed employment changes that equation entirely.

A young worker who begins investing at 24 enters adulthood with time on his side. Someone who starts at 34 enters with heavier family expenses, rising social obligations and less room for error.

Financial advisers in Kashmir say many educated young people miss the most valuable decade for building stability.

"If your first stable income arrives after 30, the financial impact extends far beyond those lost years," said a Srinagar-based investment adviser who works with first-generation salaried workers. "Emergency savings become weak, investments begin late, and dependence on loans increases."

The arithmetic behind that delay reveals the scale of the problem.

A person investing 6,000 monthly for 20 years at an assumed annual return of 12 percent could accumulate roughly 59 lakh.

Someone able to invest 20,000 monthly under the same conditions could build nearly 2 crore over that period.

Income gaps during early adulthood often widen into wealth gaps later in life. Low salaries create another obstacle, as many graduates in Kashmir enter workplaces that offer compensation far below living costs. Private schools, coaching centers and small firms frequently recruit degree holders for wages that barely sustain transportation and food expenses. Young women face especially sharp barriers.

Families often encourage daughters to pursue higher education, though many employers continue offering salaries that leave little room for independence. Several women interviewed for this story described hiding their earnings from relatives because the amounts felt embarrassing after years of study.

Education loans deepen the pressure inside many households.

Government Economic Survey data placed education credit in India at roughly 1.19 lakh crore during 2023-24. Kashmiri families increasingly borrow for professional degrees, coaching programs and private colleges. Many see education as the clearest path toward stability in a region where private industry remains limited and government employment holds enormous social prestige.

Parents sell land, mortgage jewelry and exhaust savings to finance degrees they believe will secure a family's future.

Some students graduate into labour markets that provide little return on that investment.

College administrators acknowledge the disconnect privately. Placement cells at many institutions struggle to attract companies offering competitive salaries. Students frequently graduate with academic credentials that employers consider disconnected from market needs.

Economists and educators say the crisis extends beyond unemployment figures. Financial literacy remains weak among many first-time earners. Discussions about budgeting, emergency funds, insurance and long-term investing rarely enter classrooms.

Young people often complete degrees without understanding salaries, debt burdens or investment planning.

"Families ask whether a course sounds prestigious," said a career counselor in Srinagar who advises college students. "Very few ask what the actual earning path looks like after graduation."

Employers also face growing scrutiny over wage practices. Young graduates describe salaries that fail to match qualifications, while businesses argue that weak economic conditions limit hiring capacity.

Policymakers increasingly frame unemployment as a security issue or development challenge. Financial experts argue that the crisis also belongs in another category: long-term household financial health.

Late earnings lead to delayed savings. Delayed savings increase dependence on credit during emergencies. Weak investments reduce wealth

accumulation during middle age. Retirement planning becomes harder long before retirement arrives.

Several economists in Kashmir describe the problem as generational. Parents financed education believing it would lift entire households into greater stability. Many young graduates now enter adulthood with rising debt and little capacity to support aging family members.

Even optimism has begun changing form.

Earlier generations often imagined education as a direct route into secure employment. Younger Kashmiris speak instead about side businesses, online freelancing, skill certifications and migration.

Late one evening in Srinagar, Ali sat with friends near a roadside tea stall discussing job applications and exam notifications. One planned to leave for the Gulf within months. Another had started learning digital marketing online after years of preparing for government recruitment tests.

Ali listened carefully before speaking. "We studied to begin life early," he said. "Most of us still feel like we are waiting for permission to start."

Traffic rolled slowly past the market as shopkeepers pulled down metal shutters for the night. Groups of students moved through the nippy air carrying backpacks and folders filled with certificates, recommendations and resumes.

Many still believed education could transform their future.

Many still hoped the next interview would finally open the door.

Kashmir's deepest economic struggle lives inside that waiting.

## Court Acquits

Commissioner Srinagar following the death of his mother in cross-firing at Hawal Srinagar on 21 May 1990. However, the prosecution alleged that his two brothers, Ishtiyaz Ahmad and Imtiaz Ahmad, had already secured government jobs under the same provision on account of the same death. Under SRO-43, only one member of a family is eligible for compassionate appointment.

The prosecution also stated that the family had received ex-gratia relief of Rs 1 lakh from the government. It alleged that the three brothers, in connivance with officials of the Deputy Commissioner's office and with the help of fabricated documents and false witnesses, managed to secure three separate government jobs.

Following the allegations, the Crime Branch registered an FIR on October 25, 2003 under Sections 420, 468, 471 and 120-B RPC and launched an investigation.

After completion of the investigation, the Crime Branch filed a chargesheet against Irfan Ahmad, Imtiaz Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad (since deceased), then Patwari Abdul Rashid (deceased), then Girdawar Mohammad Yaseen, local residents Bashir Ahmad and Mohammad Bashir Khan (deceased), who was then In-charge Relief Section in the DC Office Srinagar.

During the trial, the prosecution examined 29 witnesses, including revenue officials, Crime Branch personnel and forensic experts. However, the court found material contradictions in the testimonies and held that the evidence was insufficient to prove charges of forgery, cheating, criminal conspiracy or use of forged documents.

Also, it transpired that Ishtiyaz Ahmad had been appointed four months prior to her mother's death. The court observed that the prosecution failed to prove that Imtiaz Ahmad had actually obtained appointment under SRO-43 or that Irfan Ahmad had secured employment fraudulently in conspiracy with government officials.

Consequently, the court acquitted all the accused of offences under Sections 420, 468, 471 and 120-B RPC.

ACB Registers

acquire huge assets in his own name as well as in the names of his family members and relatives," the spokesperson said.

The ACB said a prima facie case of criminal misconduct was established against the officer, who was serving as Treasury Officer, Gandhi Nagar Jammu, at the relevant time.

Following the verification, the ACB registered a case at Police Station ACB Central, Jammu under Section 13(1)(b) read with Section 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, and launched an investigation.

During the probe, the agency obtained search warrants from the Court of Special Judge Anti-Corruption, Jammu, following which raids were conducted at multiple locations linked to the accused.

Searches were carried out at his residential premises in Bathindi Jammu and Gursai Mendhar in Poonch district, besides his official residence at Sanat Nagar Srinagar.

The spokesperson said the searches led to the recovery and seizure of several incriminating documents related to movable and immovable properties.

Further investigation in the case is underway.

## Jammu On High

agencies are maintaining special vigil at crowded markets, religious places, bus terminals and key entry points to the city. Round-the-clock surveillance is also being carried out through CCTV cameras and other monitoring systems installed across various parts of Jammu.

Officials said all activities are being monitored in real time from central control rooms to ensure immediate response to any suspicious movement.

According to a police official, security agencies are also closely monitoring cross-border drone activity and suspicious movements in the wake of the recent twin blasts in Punjab.(KNO)

## Op Sindoore Showed

Droupadi Murmu said Operation Sindoore reflected India's unwavering resolve against terrorism and demonstrated the country's preparedness to respond firmly to threats against its sovereignty and citizens.

The President paid tribute to the armed forces and described the mission as a symbol of India's determination to combat terrorism.

"Operation Sindoore stands as a defining testament to India's unwavering resolve against terrorism and all forces that threaten our

sovereignty and the safety of our citizens," Murmu said in a post on X.

She said the operation's success highlighted the courage and professionalism of the country's armed forces.

"The extraordinary success of this mission reflects the unmatched courage and determination of our armed forces. The brutal attack at Pahalgam was met with befitting and exemplary precision," the President said.

Murmu also issued a strong message to those seeking to threaten the country.

"Those who seek to threaten Bharat must know that our nation stands vigilant, united, and prepared to respond with strength," she said.

The President further saluted the soldiers involved in the operation.

"Today, the nation salutes the indomitable bravery, sacrifice and professionalism of our soldiers," she added.

Operation Sindoore was carried out by Indian defence forces between May 7 and May 10, 2025, targeting terrorist and military infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The operation was launched in retaliation to the April 22, 2025 terror attack in Pahalgam in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed by terrorists.

## Op Sindoore Anniversary

coordinated strikes by the Army, Air Force and Navy on nine terror infrastructure sites in Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Kashmir.

According to military officials, around 100 terrorists were killed in the strikes.

The operation triggered a brief but intense military escalation between India and Pakistan, with Islamabad launching retaliatory attacks that were largely thwarted by Indian forces. Hostilities ended on May 10 after talks between military officials through hotline channels.

Lt Gen Ghai described the operation as a turning point in India's anti-terror strategy.

"Operation Sindoore was not an end. It was just the beginning," he said, adding that India's fight against terrorism would continue with "professionalism and utmost responsibility."

India Says Conflict Ended on Its Terms

The Army officer said India achieved its strategic objectives quickly without allowing the conflict to spiral into a prolonged war.

"In an era of prolonged conflicts around the world, we struck hard, achieved clearly defined objectives and then decided to cease hostilities when the Pakistanis were compelled to negotiate," he said.

"The objectives were achieved through a calibrated shot and sharp shock that disrupted the enemy's command and control without locking India into a long conflict."

Lt Gen Ghai also said some terror camps had shifted deeper inside Pakistan after the strikes, but stressed that distance would not guarantee safety.

Air Force Highlights Precision Strikes

Air Marshal A K Bharti, now serving as Deputy Chief of the Indian Air Force, highlighted the role of air power in the success of the operation.

"We struck and decimated nine terrorist camps. We struck 11 of their airfields and destroyed 13 of their aircraft either on the ground or in the air," he said.

He claimed one high-value airborne target was destroyed from a distance exceeding 300 kilometres.

Bharti said Pakistan failed to inflict major damage on Indian military or civilian infrastructure during the confrontation.

"Victory is measured by hard facts, not narratives and rhetoric," he said.

The Air Marshal also noted that the Indian military continued to closely monitor activities involving both Pakistan and China.

Navy Says Pakistan Forced Into Defensive Posture

Director General of Naval Operations Vice Admiral A N Pramod said the Indian Navy's forward deployment during Operation Sindoore forced Pakistani naval forces into a defensive posture.

"The operation validated India's ability to respond to asymmetric provocation with deliberate, precise and proportionate force," he said.

He also highlighted the role of indigenous technologies, including drones and homegrown military platforms.

India Reiterates Right to Self-Defence

Separately, the Ministry of External Affairs reiterated India's right to defend itself against terrorism sponsored from across the border.

"The world knows that cross-border terrorism has long been an instrument of state policy for Pakistan," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said during his weekly briefing.

"We in India have every right to defend ourselves against terrorism," he added.

Jaiswal said India would continue working with the international community to strengthen the global fight against terrorism.

Military Highlights Indigenous Capability

The military leadership also underlined how Operation Sindoore showcased India's growing indigenous defence capabilities.

Lt Gen Ghai referred to the use of systems such as BrahMos and Akash missiles, indigenous surveillance equipment, targeting systems and ammunition during the operation.

The officials said the armed forces were continuing to modernise combat capabilities through acquisitions of advanced platforms, weapons and emerging technologies.

## Armed Forces

protect the country's sovereignty and integrity at any cost.

Paying tributes to the armed forces on the first anniversary of Operation Sindoore, Sinha said the operation reflected India's determination to dismantle terror networks and secure a terror-free Jammu and Kashmir.

"Operation Sindoore is a declaration etched in resolve that our brave armed forces are committed to protect country's sovereignty and integrity at any cost. It is testament of India's firm resolve and we are committed to dismantling the terror network and securing a terror-free J&K," Sinha said in a post on X.

"As we mark the anniversary of #OperationSindoore, we bow in reverence to the men and women in uniform whose unwavering

resolve and extraordinary courage delivered a fitting response to the enemy who targeted innocent civilians at Pahalgam," he added.

India launched Operation Sindoore on May 7 last year in response to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed.

Under the operation, Indian forces carried out airstrikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The strikes triggered heightened tensions between India and Pakistan, with Pakistan launching retaliatory attacks, most of which were thwarted by the Indian military.

The hostilities ended on May 10 after military officials of the two countries held talks through the hotline mechanism and reached an understanding to halt further military action.

## A Benchmark

unmatched precision and seamless tri-services synergy

The operation stands as a powerful symbol of national resolve and preparedness to deal with national security challenges, he said in a message.

In response to the Pahalgam terror attack, India launched Operation Sindoore on May 7 last year carrying out airstrikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir eliminating at least 100 terrorists.

"On the anniversary of Operation Sindoore, we salute the valour and sacrifices of our armed forces, whose courage and dedication continue to safeguard the nation," Singh said.

"Their actions during the operation reflected unmatched precision, seamless jointness and deep synergy across services, setting a benchmark for modern military operations," he said.

The defence minister said the operation stands as a "powerful symbol of national resolve and preparedness, showing that our armed forces are always ready to act decisively when it matters most."

"It also stands testament to India's steady advance towards achieving #Atmanirbharta, enhancing capability while reinforcing resilience," he said.

Singh will carry out a comprehensive review of India's national security challenges and the military's combat readiness at a joint commanders' conference in Jaipur on Thursday.

The conference will provide a pivotal forum to evaluate the challenges in emerging domains of cyber, space and cognitive warfare and chart a roadmap for capability development for resilient and future ready force with a decisive edge, the defence ministry said. (PTI)

## 'Epochal Mission'

In a message X on the first anniversary of the Operation, he said history will remember it as the day of precise striking power of the armed forces, meticulous intelligence of the country's agencies, and resolute political will rising together as one to destroy each and every address of terror across the border that dared to cast an evil shadow on citizens at Pahalgam.

"This day will continue to bring the dreadful message to our enemies that no matter where they hide, they cannot escape. They are always within our sight and the fierce wrath of our firepower. On this day, I salute the unparalleled valour of our forces," he said.

In response to the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22 in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed, India launched Operation Sindoore on May 7 last year, carrying out airstrikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The action triggered a rapid escalation in tensions with Pakistan launching retaliatory strikes, though most of them were thwarted by the Indian military.

The hostilities ended with an understanding on halting the military actions on May 10 following talks over the hotline between army officials of the two sides. (PTI)

## E-Challans Valid

the impugned challans were issued in violation of Rule 167A of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules and lacked proper evidentiary backing."

The court observed that the prosecution failed to produce witnesses or sufficient evidence to substantiate the alleged violations despite being given opportunities to do so. The judgment noted that merely producing photographs of a vehicle without clearly establishing the offence did not satisfy the evidentiary threshold required under law.

In its detailed order, the court referred extensively to Rule 167A of the CMVR, which governs electronic monitoring and enforcement of traffic violations. The magistrate observed that e-challans can only be issued through officially authenticated electronic enforcement devices approved by the government and operated in accordance with prescribed legal standards.

The court also cited provisions requiring that each e-challan must contain mandatory information including clear photographic evidence, details of the offence, date, time, place of occurrence, and certification under the Indian Evidence Act regarding the electronic record.

Referring to Supreme Court directions in S. Rajasekaran versus Union of India and others, the magistrate said electronic challans must be based only on footage generated through authorized enforcement devices and not through personal mobile phones or unofficial methods.

The judgment further observed that allowing challans through personal mobile phones could open the door to misuse, manipulation of evidence, and procedural irregularities.

After examining the material on record, the court held that the prosecution failed to establish that the impugned challans were issued through officially authenticated electronic enforcement devices as required under Rule 167A. The court consequently quashed all five challans issued against the petitioner.

The court also directed Traffic Police authorities to strictly comply with mandatory legal requirements while issuing future e-challans and ensure that challans are generated only through officially authenticated electronic enforcement systems for offences specifically covered under Rule 167A. [KNT]

At India's Edge,

But beneath the surface, memories of those

nights remain fresh.

"We didn't just hear about the war, we lived through it," said Ghulam Qadir, one of the few villagers willing to speak. "The skies were lit by shells. For days, we stayed inside community bunkers."

Home to around 500 residents and nearly 80 houses, Simari stands at what locals proudly describe as the country's edge. Traditional mud-and-timber homes stand beside newer concrete structures, reflecting both isolation and gradual change.

The village's middle school carries a distinction few places in the country can claim. It houses Polling Booth Number One, with a painted slogan outside reading: "Democracy starts from here."

Residents take pride in that identity.

"We are not the last village," Qadir said sharply when asked about life at the border. "We are the first village of the country and the torch bearers of democracy."

Despite being physically separated from much of the region by fencing and military infrastructure, villagers see themselves as deeply tied to the nation. Many depend on the Army for livelihood, working as labourers or assisting troops stationed in the area.

The fear of conflict, however, remains part of everyday life.

For another resident, Iqbal, the most frightening moments during the operation were not the shelling but the drones that crossed overhead from across the border.

"The Army opened fire many times to stop them," he recalled. "Some of the drones or objects fell in our area and were later removed."

He credited the Army for helping villagers during the tense days that followed the operation.

Reaching Simari is itself difficult. Around eight kilometres from the Teetwal tourism belt, the route winds through damaged roads, landslide-prone stretches and streams rushing down mountain slopes.

The people here speak Pahari, and their customs and culture differ noticeably from Kashmir's central districts.

While commemorative events across the country marked one year of Operation Sindoore this week, in Simari the anniversary passed more quietly, with people carrying on their daily routines under the shadow of a border that can shift from silence to conflict overnight.

Operation Sindoore saw India carry out strikes on nine terror locations in Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. Officials said around 100 terrorists were killed in the operation.

## J&K Bank, Police

revised understanding, the Bank has broadened the insurance and welfare framework available to police personnel while continuing a range of exclusive banking facilities.

The updated package includes special insurance cover for personnel killed in anti-national or terrorist incidents, enhanced ex-gratia relief for martyrs and disabled personnel, loan-linked protection cover, child higher education support, girl child marriage assistance, air ambulance support and transportation of imported medicines.

Additional support measures include family transportation assistance and repatriation support during emergencies.

The MoU also continues to provide several banking concessions, including zero-balance salary accounts, free digital banking services, concessional loan facilities, waiver of processing charges, overdraft facilities, instant loan disbursement mechanisms and concessional locker services.

"Partnership Rooted in Welfare and Dignity" Speaking on the occasion, Amitava Chatterjee described the relationship between the Bank and the police department as "deeply valued and time-tested".

"J&K Police stands at the forefront in maintaining law and order, ensuring public safety and preserving social harmony in Jammu and Kashmir, often at tremendous personal and institutional cost," he said.

"Today's addendum to the MoU is another important step in deepening a partnership rooted in welfare, dignity and financial security for the brave men and women of J&K Police."

He said the welfare measures reflected the Bank's gratitude and institutional commitment toward police personnel and their families.

"The peace and normalcy that Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing today has come at the cost of immense sacrifice by the brave personnel of J&K Police and their families," Chatterjee added.

He also appreciated the support extended by the police department to the Bank in tackling cyber frauds and digital financial crimes.

DGP Appreciates Bank's Support

DGP Nalin Prabhat said the agreement reflected a collective commitment towards the welfare and financial stability of police personnel and the families of fallen officers.

"The spirit of sacrifice demonstrated by J&K Police personnel in safeguarding lives and maintaining peace deserves to be meaningfully reciprocated through strong institutional support systems," he said.

"There can be no better institution than J&K Bank to lead this initiative and ensure that the families left behind by our martyrs are cared for with dignity and security."

Prabhat also urged officers across different police formations to ensure that personnel were made aware of the benefits incorporated under the revised understanding.

"Two Vital Institutions Coming Together" ADGP Headquarters Manish K Sinha also praised the partnership, saying both institutions played a critical role in the region.

"Like J&K Police, J&K Bank too has been playing a transformative role in the financial domain by powering the engines of the J&K economy," he said.

"In this backdrop, two of Jammu and Kashmir's most vital institutions have come together to strengthen the financial security and welfare ecosystem for brave personnel and their families."

Earlier, General Manager Rakesh Magotra gave a detailed presentation on the enhanced welfare framework devised under the revised MoU.

# Excluding Elected Govt from Security Loop Hurts Intelligence: CM Omar

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Warning against "working in silos", Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has highlighted the disconnect between the security apparatus and the people's representatives and asserted that the region's security challenges cannot be resolved only through a purely military lens.

Talking to PTI here about the after effects of last year's Pahalgalam massacre of 26 people by terrorists, Abdullah spoke about the complexities of counter terrorism and revival of tourism and argued that keeping the elected government "totally disconnected" from the law-and-order machinery hampers the cross-flow of vital information.

"The problem is that you're trying to deal with a security situation purely as a security situation. That is never going to be the case. The causes of terror and the effects of terror both have linkages to the wider community."

"And therefore, when you operate in silos, when the elected government and the elected representatives are kept totally disconnected from the law and order apparatus, then you will end up with



this situation," the chief minister said while referring to busting of terror modules recently by the Srinagar police that remained elusive for many months.

In a sharp observation on the disconnect between the law and order machinery and the people's representatives, Abdullah said that the existing gap is so wide that even basic professional courtesies, like a police officer saluting an elected official, have become a source of professional anxiety.

"Today, a police officer thinks twice before saluting an MLA, a minister, or a chief minister... First, the poor guy is worried whether he should salute. Then, if he gathers the courage to do so, he looks to his right and left and thinks: 'Did anyone see me? Will my job be in danger?' This is the situation you're dealing with," he said, laughing at the paradox.

He added that when the police don't even know whether they should be part of a civil function of the elected government, the cross-flow of information also becomes a bit problematic.

"And again, I make the point, you cannot deal with terror or law and order purely from the security prism. Take, for example, what the LG (Manoj Sinha) is doing these days with the Nasha Mukht Abhiyan. Drug (trafficking) is primarily a security problem. It is primarily an enforcement problem of stopping drugs from entering Jammu and Kashmir."

"But why is he doing foot marches? Why is he involving the general population? Because it's not just a law and order problem, right? It's a societal problem with law and order aspects. Same is true for terror. It is a law and order, it is a security problem. But it is not exclusively a security problem," he said.

On the rise of terror modules and intelligence gathering, Abdullah shared a stark reality regarding his own access to sensitive data and said, "I get my intelligence from Twitter (X)," while highlighting the exclusion of the elected government from the security loop.

He said that treating ter-

ror purely as a security issue, without involving the wider community via their representatives, is a flawed strategy.

The chief minister also touched upon the delicate task of reviving tourism, which faced a setback after the "unfortunate" incident at Baisaran, Pahalgalam, on April 22 last year. While domestic arrivals have increased, he noted that the sector remains a "victim of the geopolitical situation" and added that the conflict in Iran had a "dampening effect" on bookings with many potential travellers fearing Covid-style lockdown.

Refusing to focus solely on "numbers and arrivals", Abdullah said he wants to avoid the "hype" that contributed to the volatile situation last year. "Confidence (of tourists) takes time...you can't bring it back in a week or a month. While people are more confident than they were last year, we realise that more needs to be done."

The chief minister said that his government remains aware of the "limitations" it operates under but is committed to chipping away at the atmosphere of fear to ensure that both trekkers and domestic tourists return to the valley in healthy numbers.

# Congress MLAs Attend Dinner Hosted by Deputy CM

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Amid its frosty relations with the National Conference, Congress legislators on Thursday evening attended a dinner hosted by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary.



Sources told KNO that Congress president Tariq Hamid Karra, along with three MLAs of the party, attended the dinner hosted by Choudhary at his official Fairview residence here.

The most surprising guest at the dinner was

MLA Langate Sheikh Khurshid, who is part of the Kashmir-based opposition.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah, and legislators of the NC also attended the dinner.

# Div Com Kashmir Reviews Eid-ul-Adha Arrangements



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** In preparation for the forthcoming Eid-ul-Adha celebrations, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg on Thursday convened a high-level meeting to review and finalize arrangements for the smooth and peaceful observance of the festival across the Kashmir Division.

During the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner directed the KPDCI officers, to ensure uninterrupted power supply at prominent religious shrines including Hazratbal Shrine, Kalashpora, Jenab Sahab Saura, Ziyarat Sharief Kabamarg and Khiram in Anantnag, Ziyarat Sharief Makhama, and Aham-i-Sharief in Bandipora.

He further instructed the concerned departments to maintain adequate and uninterrupted supply of potable drinking water and to address any water-related issues promptly.

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring availability of essential commodities during the festive days, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned authorities to maintain sufficient stocks of rice, atta, sugar, and other daily essentials throughout the Valley.

To meet the anticipated demand for sacrificial animals, the Director Sheep Husbandry was asked to ensure adequate availability across Kashmir Division

ahead of Eid-ul-Adha. Wakf authorities were also directed to properly regulate designated sale locations for sacrificial animals to prevent traffic congestion and inconvenience to the general public.

The Divisional Commissioner stressed the need for extensive market inspections to curb overpricing and prevent the sale of sub-standard goods. He called for close coordination among enforcement agencies to ensure fair pricing and adequate availability of essential commodities, particularly mutton and poultry.

In order to maintain cleanliness and create a festive atmosphere, special sanitation drives were directed to be carried out in and around mosques, shrines, marketplaces, and residential areas. The Srinagar Municipal Corporation was instructed to deploy adequate manpower for door-to-door collection of animal hides.

For smooth vehicular movement during the festival, traffic authorities were directed to implement effective traffic management plans around major mosques and marketplaces.

The Divisional Commissioner also instructed the Health Department to deploy medical teams at major shrines and mosques to provide immediate healthcare assistance in view of the expected large gatherings.

# Over 51 Lakh Join 'Nasha Mukht' Drive in 25 Days: Div Com

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir on Thursday said that the ongoing 'Nasha Mukht Abhiyan' has turned into a mass movement across the Kashmir Valley over the last 25 days, with more than 51 lakh citizens participating in over 58,000 awareness programmes.

Speaking to KNS, the Div Com Kashmir Anshul Garg, (IAS) said the campaign has witnessed a "massive people's movement," reflect-

ing strong public support against drug abuse.

The officer said that 58,533 awareness programmes have been conducted across the Valley so far, drawing participation from over 51 lakh residents.

As part of the anti-drug initiative, authorities have activated 1,752 youth clubs. Additionally, 928 anti-drug sermons were delivered in mosques and other religious institutions to spread awareness about the harmful effects of narcotics, he said.

# J&K Seeks FIR Against Pandit Leader over Facebook Post

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir administration has written to the police, seeking the registration of an FIR against a Kashmiri displaced persons' leader for making allegations of illegal allotment and accepting bribes against the relief commissioner in a Facebook comment.

According to an official communication issued by the Office of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants), Jammu, he was allegedly instigating people against the Special Relief Ration Scheme notified by the government and encouraging them to resort to violence and create public disorder.

The communication was addressed to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu. Sunil Bhat, it said, made the allegations in the comment section of a video posted by Valley Express News on social media.

"It has come to the notice of this office that one Sunil Bhat has posted a derogatory comment on Facebook social media site on the video post of Valley Express News, wherein he has mentioned that Relief Commissioner has made an illegal allotment of shops and received a bribe for allotments."

"The comments of Sunil Bhat have tarnished the image of relief organisations in general and the relief and rehabilitation commissioner in particular," the letter said.

The communication fur-

ther alleged that through his social media activity and other sources, Bhat was instigating people against the Special Relief Ration Scheme notified by the government and encouraging them to resort to violence and create public disorder.

"As such, I am directed to kindly immediately lodge an FIR against Sh. Sunil Bhat," the letter issued by Assistant Commissioner (Relief) Kailash Devi said.

According to PTI, the administration maintained that the allotment of shops at Jagti migrant camp was carried out in a transparent manner on the recommendations of a committee of senior officers.

It also said that the department was open to any inquiry or investigation by any government agency into the allotment process and would cooperate fully.

On Wednesday, displaced Kashmiri Pandits protested here against the Jammu and Kashmir administration's move to integrate their relief rations into the National Food Security Act (NFSA). Minor clashes broke out between demonstrators and police as they attempted to march towards the Relief Commissioner's office.

Community leaders described NFSA as a "black law" and a "trap" for Kashmiri Pandits, alleging that its implementation would dilute their distinct identity as displaced persons and affect their rehabilitation rights.

# After Pahalgalam, Rules Tightened for Pony Operators in Gulmarg

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Gulmarg Development Authority (GDA) has introduced a strict "one person, one trade" policy in Gulmarg, banning multiple trade licences and stopping ponywallas from using hired labourers.

The move comes a day after the Pahalgalam Development Authority (PDA) rolled out a similar "one licence, one horse" policy in Pahalgalam to regulate pony services and reduce overcrowding.

GDA Chief Executive Officer Tariq Hussain told KNO that the new rules are aimed at reducing congestion and protecting Gulmarg's environment. "The policy of 'one person one trade' is imperative to provide ample opportunities to the unemployed and to every deserving service provider," he said.

Under the new rules, each registered person will be allowed to keep only one pony and pony entry will be allowed only through designated points.

The authority has also regulated traffic movement in the resort. Light motor vehicles will have to park in designated market parking areas, while heavy vehicles will remain parked at the children's park.

The CEO said any person holding multiple trade licences will be barred from doing business immediately. He added that association heads will be responsible for ensuring implementation of the orders.

Earlier, the PDA enforced a "one license, one horse" policy in Pahalgalam, saying the move was aimed at bringing discipline and accountability to pony services.

## THE J&K BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

Tele/ Fax: 0194-2433760, 2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar); 0191-2479371, 2470102 (Jammu)  
Website: <https://www.jkbopee.gov.in> | Email: [jak.bopee@jk.gov.in](mailto:jak.bopee@jk.gov.in)

**Subject:** Admission to GNM Lateral Entry Course-2026 in Government/Private Colleges/Institutions of the UT of J&K/Ladakh: Invitation of online applications thereof.

**NOTIFICATION NO. 057-BOPEE OF 2026  
DATED 06-05-2026**

Online Applications are invited from eligible/desirous candidates who intend to appear in the Entrance Test for admission to GNM (L.E.) Course for the academic session-2026 in Government/Private Colleges/Institutions of the UT of J&K. The selection of the candidates to such courses shall be regulated by the J&K Board of Professional Entrance Examination Act, 2002 and the Rules and Regulations there under; Jammu & Kashmir Reservation Act, 2004 as amended vide J&K Re-organization Act, 2019, J&K Reservation Rules, 2005 as amended vide S.O. 69 dated 28-02-2020, S.O. 249 dated 23-07-2021, S.O. 277 dated 13-08-2021, S.O. 176 dated 15-03-2024 read with S.O. 305 dated 21-05-2024 and subject to further amendments, if any, made by the Competent Authority, from time to time and the guidelines as contained in the e-Information Brochure-2026.

**Important Information:**

1. Receipt of online application forms: w.e.f. 07-05-2026 (11:00 A.M. onwards).
2. Last date for filling the online application forms: 20-05-2026 (Midnight).
3. Fee of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) to be paid online through Credit Card/Debit Card/Net Banking.
4. The e-Information Brochure can be downloaded from the BOPEE website, viz. [www.jkbopee.gov.in](http://www.jkbopee.gov.in)
5. The syllabus for the examination/test is available in the e-Brochure.
6. Date of Common Entrance Test: To be notified separately.
7. The candidates, in their own interests, are advised to go through the Information Brochure before filling up the Online Application Form. The Board shall not be responsible for any act of omission or commission in filling up of the Online Application Form by the candidate(s). It is incumbent upon the candidates to go through the information contained in the e-Information Brochure and agree to the conditions contained therein.
8. The candidates are further advised to remain in touch with the J&K BOPEE website [www.jkbopee.gov.in](http://www.jkbopee.gov.in). The Board does not undertake any responsibility for any delay caused in publication of Notices/Notifications in the Print Media (Newspapers) as delay, if any, in such publication(s) is not within the control of the Board, notwithstanding that the Board notifies the same on its official website and forward the same for publication in the newspapers simultaneously on the date of issue of the said Notifications/Notices etc.
9. The Entrance Examination to be conducted by the Board shall be offline, comprising 120 Multiple Choice Questions based on the FMPHW/MMPHW/ANM course, with a duration of 2 hours.

**Online Application forms:**  
The procedure for filling up of Application Form and eligibility, etc. of the candidates has been given in detail in the e-Information Brochure.

**Help Desk:**  
The applicants can also contact the Help Desk of the I.T. Section of the BOPEE during office hours and on working days only on +91 191-2479157 / +91 194-2433590 and or email- at [helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com](mailto:helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com) for any assistance/guidance in this regard.

**Submission of Online Application Forms:**  
The interested candidates are required to upload the following scanned original / self-attested certificates in PDF format with a size from 100-200 KB along with the Application Form:-

- (i) Domicile of UT of J&K/UT of Ladakh as the case may be (For Candidates of UT of Ladakh, ST certificate issued by the Competent Authority of Ladakh shall be treated as Domicile Certificate);
- (ii) Qualifying marks cards of FMPHW/MMPHW;
- (iii) Date of Birth Certificate (only Matriculation Certificate issued by the Board of School Education); and
- (iv) Valid Reserved category certificate, if any,
- (v) Any other documents, as required.

However, it is for the information of all the concerned that the afore-titled documents, as required for submission of the application form, shall be considered provisional and subject to change(s), if any, as may be notified by the Government subsequently.

**Eligibility:**  
The candidates applying for admission to the GNM (L.E.) course must fulfil the following eligibility criteria;

**A candidate must:**

- (i) Be a domicile of the UT of J&K/UT of Ladakh, as the case may be (For Candidates belonging to UT of Ladakh, ST certificate issued by Competent Authority of Ladakh shall be treated as Domicile certificate)
- (ii) Have a Diploma in FMPHW/MMPHW/ANM course registered with the State Allied and Healthcare Council/ Nursing Council, and there will be no age bar for such candidates.
- (iii) Registered ANM with 40% Marks.
- (iv) Be medically fit.

**Syllabus:**  
The candidates applying for the course mentioned above are advised to go through the syllabus for the Common Entrance Test referred in Annexure A to this Notification, which shall comprise 120 Multiple Choice Questions based on the FMPHW/MMPHW/ANM course, with a duration of 02 hours.

**Note-1**  
The eligibility is bare minimum/provisional and shall be subject to such changes/benchmarks as may be fixed by the Competent Authority concerned. The Board shall, on receipt of any such communication from the authority concerned, notify the same, which shall govern the eligibility criteria.

**Original Documents required to be submitted to the Institution at the time of Admission:-**

- a) Marks certificate of the qualifying examinations, i.e. FMPHW/MMPHW/ANM;
- b) Date of birth (Matriculation / Secondary School Certificate) from a recognised Board;
- c) Domicile Certificate for candidates belonging to the UT of J&K and ST certificate as a Domicile for candidates belonging to the UT of Ladakh;
- d) Category Certificate, if any;
- e) Any other document, as may be required by the Institution.

**Venue for Conduct of Examination:**  
The Common Entrance Examination shall be conducted offline at Jammu/Srinagar Centres simultaneously as may be decided by the Board.

**Issuance of Admit Cards and Date of Test (if test is conducted):**  
Information regarding availability/issuance of Online Admit Cards, Venue and date of the Common Entrance Test will be issued separately in due course of time.

**Note-II**

- I) The sports category candidates must indicate their sports category on the Application Form. They are also required to submit their Sports Certificate(s) to the office of the Secretary, J&K Sports Council, to determine their sports points, which shall later be officially forwarded by the Council to the BOPEE. The J&K BOPEE shall, however, not be responsible for the non-inclusion of any candidate in the list forwarded by the Sports Council or any delay on their part for submission of sports points to the BOPEE.
- II) The candidates having more than one reserved category certificate can get the benefit of only one category indicated and uploaded along with the Application Form, which in no case shall be changed afterwards.
- III) The CDP category candidates are advised to write their priority (01-08) in the online Application form issued by the competent authority.
- IV) The online submitted Application Form is purely provisional and is liable to be cancelled at any stage, subject to the final verification of the documents and even at any stage, where such a document is proved to be fake/false.
- V) Candidature of those candidates who may have uploaded the wrong category or submitted an incorrect/wrong application form during the online process, shall be liable to be rejected without any further notice to such candidates.
- VI) Mere submission of the Application Form and appearance of the aspiring candidate in the Entrance Test shall not confer any preferential right/claim for admission upon the intending applicants but shall be subject to the fulfilment of the eligibility criteria and the qualification prescribed for the said course.

**Annexure-A to the NOTIFICATION No. 057-BOPEE of 2026 Dated 06-05-2026**  
**Detailed Syllabus of Common Entrance Test for GNM (Lateral Entry) candidates:**

| Subjects                    | Topics   | Marks distribution |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Anatomy and Physiology      | Organization of Body Systems                   | 20                 |
|                             | Circulation of Blood and Composition of Blood. |                    |
|                             | Process of Digestion and Absorption            |                    |
|                             | Regulation of Body Temperature                 |                    |
|                             | Physiology of Hearing                          |                    |
| Community Health Nursing-I  | Process of Reproduction                        | 20                 |
|                             | Health and Disease                             |                    |
|                             | Health Team and its functions                  |                    |
|                             | Health Agencies                                |                    |
|                             | Nurse's Role in Community                      |                    |
| Community Health Nursing-II | Immunization                                   | 20                 |
|                             | National Health Programme                      |                    |
|                             | Family Welfare Programme                       |                    |
|                             | Classification of Food                         |                    |
|                             | Relation of Nutrition to Health                |                    |
| Nutrition                   | Administration of Drugs                        | 20                 |
|                             | Minor Ailments                                 |                    |
|                             | Vital Signs                                    |                    |
|                             | Basic Nursing care and needs of the patient    |                    |
|                             | Assessment of the Patient                      |                    |
| Nursing Art and First Aid   | Therapeutic Nursing Care and Procedures        | 20                 |
|                             | Wound Dressing                                 |                    |
|                             | Reproductive System                            |                    |
|                             | Obstetrical Nursing                            |                    |
|                             | Foetal Development Nursing                     |                    |
| Midwifery                   | Management of Pregnant Women                   | 20                 |
|                             | Stages of Labour                               |                    |
|                             | Drugs used in Obstetrics                       |                    |
|                             |  |                    |
|                             |  |                    |
| Total=                      |  | 120                |

E & O E

No. BOPEE-Exam/25/2025 (7681381) Sd/-  
Dated 06-05-2026 (Prof. Gurvinder Raj Verma)  
DIPK-NB-402-26 Controller of Examinations, J&K, BOPEE  
DT: 07/05/2026

# Rs 1,445 Crore Inducements Seized During Recent Polls

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Inducements worth Rs 1,445 crore have been seized during the recent elections to five assemblies, with Tamil Nadu topping in cash seizures and West Bengal in liquor and drugs, the Election Commission said on Thursday.

The figures represent a 40.14 per cent increase in seizures as compared to the 2021 assembly polls in these states/UT, when the seizures amounted to Rs 1029.93 crore.

West Bengal saw the highest increase in the seizures of 68.92 per cent, and Tamil Nadu saw an increase



in seizures of 48.40 per cent in 2026 compared to the corresponding figures during the 2021 elections.

According to the data shared by the poll authority, while nearly 155 crore illicit cash was recovered in the four states and Union Territory of Puducherry, liquor worth Rs 183.33 crore

(around 70 lakh litres) was also seized. Cash, liquor, drugs, precious metals and other inducements such as sarees, clothes, pressure cookers, utensils and even television sets are doled out to electors to induce them to vote for a particular party.

Drugs worth nearly Rs 3,338 crore were recovered from the states and Union territory with West Bengal topping the recoveries at Rs 30.28 crore. No drug recoveries were reported from Puducherry.

Polls to elect new governments in West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry were held in April, and votes were counted on May 4.

## Bahrain Expels Three Mps For Criticizing Monarchy's Security Policies

Agencies

Bahrain's parliament has stripped three lawmakers of their seats in the latest crackdown by the minority regime against dissent, after the trio publicly criticized the monarchy's controversial citizenship revocations and security policies.

In a vote in Manama on Thursday, the Bahraini House of Representatives revoked the memberships of Abdulnabi Salman, Mahdi al-Shuwaikh, and Mamdouh al-Saleh after the trio publicly lambasted the Bahraini regime for stripping citizenship from dozens of Bahrain nationals accused of sympathizing with Iran.

On April 27, the Bahraini interior ministry said the Persian Gulf kingdom had revoked the citizenship of 69 individuals and their families for "expressing support for Iran's (retaliatory) attacks" against US and Israeli military assets across West Asia amid their war of aggression against the Islamic Republic.

The ministry noted at the time that the individuals had published posts on social media platforms "glorifying and sympathizing with" regional resistance movements.

During the unprovoked war of aggression by the US and Israel against Iran, that began on Febru-



ary 28 and lasted for the next 40 days, Iran's Armed Forces repeatedly pounded American assets and military sites in the Persian Gulf island country with drones and missiles.

The Bahraini parliament on Thursday claimed that the expulsion of three lawmakers were constitutional and legal actions against their stances allegedly conflicting with what it claimed to be national principles and state sovereignty.

The motion to expel the lawmakers reportedly secured unanimous approval from members present after being endorsed by 37 MPs.

Critics, however, see the move as another sign of shrinking political space in Bahrain, where even elected representatives risk punishment for challenging royal decrees by the Al Khalifah regime or questioning state policies.

## Two Ex-Chinese Ministers Sentenced to Death for Corruption

BEIJING: Two former Chinese defence ministers, Wei Fenghe and Li Shangfu, were sentenced to death with a two-year reprieve over graft charges on Thursday, official media reported. Wei and his successor Li, who worked under President Xi Jinping's watch, were expelled from the ruling Communist Party in 2024. Wei served as Defence Minister from 2018 to 2023, and Li barely served a few months as his successor.

Li, a Chinese aerospace engineer who headed the People's Liberation Army's all-important Rocket (Missile) Force, was personally picked up for the top defence post by Xi himself. (PTI)

## Crimes by Foreigners Up by 54% in Delhi in 2024: NCRB

NEW DELHI: Delhi registered 201 crimes by foreigners in 2024, up from 130 in 2023, according to the latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data.

The national capital accounted for the highest number of such cases among union territories, the data released on Wednesday showed.

In 2022, Delhi reported 256 cases involving foreign nationals. While the figure dipped sharply in 2023, it rose again in 2024, by over 54 per cent year-on-year.

The chargesheeting rate in Delhi stood at 99 per cent in 2024, higher than the national average of 96.7 per cent, indicating a high rate of completion of police investigations in such cases. (PTI)

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