

Srinagar Hits 35.2°C, 2nd Highest This Season

Rains Expected To Bring Relief From July 2

MeT Warns Of Flash Floods, Landslides

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Kashmir continued to reel under intense heat on Tuesday, with Srinagar recording a maximum temperature of 35.2 degrees Celsius, the season's second-highest, even as the Meteorological Department forecast widespread rainfall and a gradual fall in temperatures from Wednesday.

According to the MeT Department, the prevailing heatwave conditions are likely to persist till Tuesday before easing with the arrival of monsoon winds and the influence of a western disturbance.

The weather office has forecast light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places across Jammu and Kashmir from July 1 to July 5, with isolated areas expected to receive heavy rainfall, intense showers, thunderstorms and strong winds between July 2 and July 4.

Officials said monsoon winds are expected to enter Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, bringing early morning and evening showers to the Jammu division and parts of the Kashmir Valley. The combined impact of the advancing monsoon and a western

disturbance is expected to provide significant relief from the prolonged spell of heat, particularly between Thursday and Saturday.

Several areas, including Poonch, Rajouri, Shopian, Budgam and Kulgam, are likely to receive widespread rain and thundershowers, while isolated rainfall is also expected along the Reasi-Banihal-Ramban axis and in Gulmarg, Uri and Sonamarg. A few places in Poonch, Rajouri, Budgam, Shopian and Kulgam could witness brief but intense showers accompanied by thunderstorms and gusty winds.

The department warned that heavy rainfall between July 2 and July 4 could trigger flash floods, landslides and mudslides in vulnerable areas, particularly in parts of the Jammu division and adjoining areas of south Kashmir. Temporary waterlogging in low-lying areas is also likely on July 2 and 3.

It advised people to avoid venturing near rivers, streams and landslide-prone areas during periods of intense rainfall and to remain indoors during thunderstorms as far as possible. The department also cautioned



With temperatures remaining high, boys cool off in an irrigation canal at Chattergam on the outskirts of Srinagar on Tuesday. KO Photo by Abid Bhat

VB-GRAM Act To Come Into Force Today

Centre Says All Ready For Rollout

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Viksit Bharat -- Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025 will come into force from July 1, with the Centre on Tuesday stating that all arrangements have been made for its implementation.

The Ministry of Rural Development said the Act provides a statutory guarantee of up to 125 days of wage employment to eligible rural households, compared to the 100 days provided under the existing rural employment framework.

The ministry said an interim allocation of Rs 95,692.31 crore has been made to states and Union Territories to ensure a smooth transition, timely wage payments and uninterrupted implementation of works under the new framework.

Union Rural Development Minister | More on P6

RFID Tracking, Convoys, 2,100 Toilets: J&K Ready for Amarnath Yatra

» LG To Flag Off First Batch From Bhagwati Nagar On July 2

» Accommodation Arranged For 55,000 Pilgrims Across Jammu

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday said all arrangements have been put in place for the annual Amarnath Yatra, with accommodation for nearly 55,000 pilgrims, enhanced security measures, RFID-based tracking and extensive logistical support ahead of the



pilgrimage beginning on July 3. Lieutenant Governor Manoj

Sinha, who is also the Chairman of the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board (SASB), will flag off the first batch of pilgrims from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu at 4 am on July 2.

The 57-day pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre-high Amarnath cave shrine will commence simultaneously on July 3 via the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam

HMVs Barred on NH-44 After 7 PM From Today

Ahead of the commencement of the annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026, traffic authorities have issued a fresh advisory regulating vehicular movement on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44), with restrictions on heavy motor vehicles (HMVs) coming into effect from July 1. | More on P6

Summer Break For Kashmir Schools From July 6 To 19

Observer News Service

The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday announced a 14-day summer vacation for all government and recognised private schools across Kashmir division, with the break scheduled from July 6 to July 19. An order issued by the Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) said the decision was taken with the approval of the competent authority. "It is ordered that all the Government and recognised Private Schools up to Higher Secondary level functioning in the Kashmir Division shall observe summer vacation with effect | More on P6

HC Pulls Up Govt, Quashes 5 PSA Detentions

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has quashed the preventive detention of five persons under the Jammu & Kashmir Public Safety Act (PSA) and ordered their release from their custody.

In one of the cases, the Court quashed the detention order as the authorities failed to produce the complete detention record, including the latest order extending his detention.

"The Home Department of the Government of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir appears to be reckoning and reeling under an impression as if the summoning of detention record by the High Court in a habeas corpus writ petition is a mere formality to be complied with by handing over a photostatic copy of the record through a Clerk to the Government Advocate for onward transmission | More on P6

2nd Marriage Without Divorce May Amount To Bigamy: HC

Says Enticing Married Woman For Illicit Relationship Offence; Refuses To Quash Abduction FIR

Observer News Service

Srinagar: While refusing to quash an FIR in an alleged abduction case, the High Court of J&K and Ladakh observed that enticing a married woman away for an illicit relationship is a punishable offence under Section 84 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and that contracting a second marriage without dissolution of the first may amount to bigamy under Section 82 of the BNS.

A Bench of Justice M. A. Chowdhary made the observations while dismissing a petition seeking quashing of an FIR registered in an alleged abduction case, holding that the complaint



disclosed cognizable offences and required a full-fledged investigation.

The petition had been filed by Ruksana Bano, a resident of Baramulla, and Nikhil Chokker of West Delhi, challenging FIR registered by Police under Sections 87 and 49 of the BNS.

According to the petitioners, Ruksana, an adult woman, had voluntarily left Kashmir after allegedly being subjected to physical assault,

threats and a forced marriage by her relatives and the family of her first husband. Ruksana claimed she escaped with the help of friends, travelled to New Delhi of her own free will and was never abducted by anyone.

The complainant, father of Ruksana's first husband, opposed the plea, contending that she was legally married to his son and had been abducted from her matrimonial home with the assistance of two local persons at the instance of co-petitioner Nikhil Chokker.

During the proceedings, the High Court recorded Ruksana's statement through virtual mode. She maintained that she had not been | More on P6

J&K Crosses 3,000 Organ, Tissue Donation Pledge Registrations

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir has recorded 3,066 organ and tissue pledge registrations as India crossed the five lakh mark in donor pledges, with Jammu district accounting for nearly half of the Union Territory's total registrations.

According to official data, Jammu district has registered 1,436 pledges, representing around 47 per cent of the UT's total. Kathua follows with 354 registrations, while Rajouri (200), Doda (148), Udhampur (141), Poonch and Samba (106 each), Baramulla (97), Reasi (87), Kupwara (71), Anantnag (55) and Srinagar (48) have also recorded significant numbers. The remaining registrations have come from other



districts.

The figures indicate that the highest number of registrations has been made by people in the 18 to 30 years age group, followed by those aged 30 to 45 years. Participation declines in the 45 to 60 years category, while senior citizens account

for the fewest pledges, reflecting growing awareness among younger people about organ donation.

Daily Excelsior reported that men account for the majority of registered donors, while women make up nearly one-third of the total registrations.

Most individuals have pledged to donate both organs and tissues, with comparatively fewer opting to donate only organs or only tissues.

Among the organs pledged, the liver has received the highest number of registrations at 2,170, followed by the heart (2,081), lungs (1,974), pancreas (1,887), intestine (1,860) and kidney (649). Among tissues, blood vessels top the list with 1,824 pledges, followed by bone (1,793), skin (1,779), cartilage (1,707), cornea (603) and heart valve (528).

The steady rise in registrations has been attributed to sustained awareness campaigns by the State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (SOTTO), J&K. Through workshops, | More on P6



JKSDM
JAMMU AND KASHMIR
SKILL DEVELOPMENT MISSION



सरकार जम्मू
Government of
Jammu & Kashmir



PMKVY | 4.0
PRADHAN MANTRI KAUSHAL VIKAS YOJANA

Invitation of Applications from Hospitals and Allied Health Institutions of J&K for Conducting Caregiver Training Programmes under PMKVY 4.0



The Jammu & Kashmir Skill Development Mission (JKSDM) invites applications from recognized Hospitals and Allied Health Institutions of J&K having associated hospitals/healthcare facilities for conducting Caregiver Training Programmes under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 4.0.



Hospitals and Allied Health Institutions possessing the requisite clinical infrastructure, training ecosystem in healthcare service delivery are encouraged to participate in the implementation of Caregiver Training Programmes under PMKVY 4.0. The selected institutions shall conduct classroom training and facilitate On-the-Job Training (OJT) in accordance to guidelines prescribed under PMKVY 4.0.



Implementing institutions shall be eligible for payment of training cost as per the scheme norms and guidelines.



Interested Hospitals and Allied Health Institutions may assess the feasibility of conducting Caregiver Training Programmes and submit their applications in the prescribed format. Detailed guidelines, eligibility criteria, application format, and other relevant information are available on the JKSDM website:

<https://skill.jk.gov.in>



for further details contact
WhatsApp/contact **9419076406**

issued by
Mission Director
J&K Skill Development Mission
Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir

DIPK-2701/26 Dated: 30-06-2026



To place an advertisement
CALL +91-194 2502327
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No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Study Links Gene-Protecting Protein To Differences In Male, Female Biology

Press Trust of India

A protein responsible for protecting genes and regulating gene activity could help explain why male and female bodies respond differently to disease and ageing, according to new research.

Researchers from Mass General Brigham, a US-based integrated healthcare system, and Spain's Josep Carreras Leukaemia Institute said the biological reasons behind sex-based differences in disease development and ageing remain poorly understood.

Scientists have increasingly been examining sex chromosomes to better understand what may drive these differences.

Findings published in the journal Nature show that SIRT7, a protein involved in how cells respond to stress and ageing, plays a critical role in maintaining the health of the X chromosome, one of the two sex chromosomes that determine biological sex. Females typically carry two X chromosomes (XX), while males carry one X and one Y chromosome (XY).

In female cells, one of the X chromosomes is normally switched off to keep gene activity balanced.

The researchers conducted experiments in mice and found that when SIRT7 is absent, that balance breaks down. The inactive X chromosome becomes overly silenced, while the active X chromosome becomes excessively active.

According to the researchers, this overactivity disrupts normal gene regulation and makes the active X



“A protein involved in how cells respond to stress and ageing, plays a critical role in maintaining the health of the X chromosome, one of the two sex chromosomes that determine biological sex.

chromosome more vulnerable to DNA damage and genome instability. The effects were found to be strongest in females. Female animal models lacking SIRT7 showed greater DNA damage, poorer health and shorter lifespans compared with males.

“(An) increased (active X chromosome) expression leads to genome imbalance and (an) augmented X-chromosome upregulation,” the authors wrote.

The researchers said SIRT7 appears to safeguard X chromosome integrity by keeping the active X chromosome

stable and maintaining balanced gene activity. The team said the findings provide new insight into why ageing, disease risk and biological responses can differ between the sexes.

By uncovering how the X chromosome is regulated, the study could help inform future approaches to treating conditions that affect females and males differently, they said.

“We propose that the sex bias in SIRT7 biology can be explained in part by unequal effects on the sex chromosomes,” the authors wrote.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the name of my ward has been inadvertently recorded as Tazim Gulzar in the Aadhaar Card, which is incorrect. The actual and correct name of my ward is Tazim Ahmad Bhat.

I, Gulzar Ahmad Bhat, F/o Tazim Ahmad Bhat, R/o Dragad, Shopian, have sworn an affidavit affirming that Tazim Ahmad Bhat is the true and correct name of my ward. The correction is being made for all official records and purposes.

If any person has any objection to this correction, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority within the stipulated period. Otherwise, no objection shall be entertained thereafter.

Sd/-
Gulzar Ahmad Bhat
F/o Tazim Ahmad Bhat
R/o Dragad, Shopian fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that my name has been inadvertently recorded as **Mohammad Amin Sodagar** in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. **8507 5231 9997** which is incorrect.

My actual and correct name is **Mohd Amin Sodagar** S/o **Gh Mohi-Ud Din Sodagar** R/o **Arhama, Tehsil & District Shopian** as recorded in my service records and school records. This notice is being published to affirm my correct name and parentage and to facilitate correction of the same in my Aadhaar records and all other official records, wherever applicable.

If any person has any objection to this correction, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority within the prescribed period. Thereafter, no objection shall be entertained.

Sd/-
Mohd Amin Sodagar
S/o Gh Mohi-Ud Din Sodagar
R/o Arhama, Tehsil & District Shopian fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that my name has been inadvertently recorded as Mohammad Amin Sodagar in my Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. 8507 5231 9997 which is incorrect.

My actual and correct name is Mohd Amin Sodagar S/o Gh Mohi-Ud Din Sodagar R/o Arhama, Tehsil & District Shopian as recorded in my service records and school records.

This notice is being published to affirm my correct name and parentage and to facilitate correction of the same in my Aadhaar records and all other official records, wherever applicable.

If any person has any objection to this correction, the same may be conveyed to the concerned authority within the prescribed period. Thereafter, no objection shall be entertained.

Sd/-
Mohd Amin Sodagar
S/o Gh Mohi-Ud Din Sodagar
R/o Arhama, Tehsil & District Shopian fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Parveda Akhtar, W/o Amir Ahmad Manhas, R/o Shadab Karewa, Tehsil & District Shopian, hereby notify that my name has been wrongly recorded as Fareda Akhtar in my Aadhaar Card bearing No. 9821 2283 3837. My correct and actual name is Parveda Akhtar.

If any person has any objection to the above correction, the same may be submitted before the concerned Aadhaar Enrolment/Update Centre within the prescribed period. Thereafter, no objection shall be entertained.

Sd/-
Parveda Akhtar fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Saqib Hussain Paswal, S/o Ghulam Qadir Paswal, R/o Kathohallan Keller, Shopian, hereby notify that the Aadhaar records of my brother have been wrongly entered as Sahib Hussain Paswal, D.O.B 05/05/2015, S/o Ghulam Qadir Paswal.

As per the school records of Govt. Middle School Nagbal Kathohallan, the correct particulars are:
Correct Name : Shoiab Ahmad Paswal
Correct D.O.B: 25/12/2016
Father's Name: Ghulam Qadir Paswal

This notice is published for correction of the Aadhaar records. If any person has any objection, the same may be submitted before the concerned Aadhaar Enrolment/Update Centre within the prescribed period; thereafter no objection shall be entertained.

Sd/-
fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mohd Nasir Shamas, Father of Hasnain Nasir, a student of Class 8th bearing Admission No. 0628 at G.D. Goenka Public School, Srinagar, hereby notify the general public that I intend to correct the parentage name recorded in the school records of my son from "M. Nasir Shamas" to "Mohd Nasir Shamas"

Any person having any objection may submit the same in writing to the authorities of G.D. Goenka Public School, Srinagar, within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection received thereafter shall be entertained.

Mohd Nasir Shamas
F/o Hasnain Nasir
House no 8, New colony sector B Nigeen Hazratbal

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old name) Masrat Jamsheed to (new name) Masarat Jamsheed. In future i will be known as (new name) Masarat Jamsheed .

If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact passport office srinagar, within & 7 days.

After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the Indian Passport bearing Passport No. M4632861, belonging to Abdul Jabbar Wani, S/o Gulam Rasool Wani, R/o Daragam, Pattan, has been lost/misplaced and is not traceable despite diligent search.

Any person who finds or has any claim, objection, or information regarding the said passport is requested to contact the undersigned or the concerned Passport Authority within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, it shall be presumed that no objection exists, and the holder shall proceed with the formalities for the re-issue/duplicate passport before the Passport Office, Srinagar.

Abdul Jabbar Wani
S/o Gulam Rasool Wani
R/o Daragam, Pattan fko

OFFICE OF THE NAIB TEHSILDAR KALANTRA

Subject: Application of Bashir Ahmad Ahanger S/o Noor Mohd Ahanger R/o Dandmoh Tehsil Kreeeri for the issuance Of OBC Certificate in favor of his daughter Nighat Bashir.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the Subject cited above, the applicant has submitted the file in the office of the undersigned for the issuance of OBC Certificate. In this connection, a report of Patwari halqa has been sought which reveals that the applicant is currently residing in the village Dandmoh of Tehsil Kreeeri. The family strength of applicant is 6 having annual income of Rs. 41000/= the details of the family of the applicant are as follows:

S. No	Name of the Family Member	Relation-ship with the Head of the Family	Age in Years	Occupation	Annual Income
1.	Bashir Ahmad Ahanger	Self	50	Black-smith	-
2.	Haseena Begum	Wife	45	House-wife	-
3.	Abid Ahmad	Son	25	Labor	-
4.	Amir Ahmad	Son	24	Student	-
5.	Nighat Bashir	Daughter	19	Student	-
6.	Basharat Bashir	Son	17	Student	-

Therefore, through this Public Notice objections are being sought from the public, if any person has any objection, he/she can submit their objections in the office of the undersigned within 07 days (Seven days) positively from the date the notice has been published. No objection shall be entertained after the stipulated time.

fko Naib Tehsildar Kreeeri

NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC THE JAMMU & KASHMIR STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION CERTIFICATES-KD, NEW CAMPUS BEMINA SRINAGAR ATTENTION PLEASE

I have passed /appeared in SSE/HSE-I/HSE-II (Class 10th,11th) under Roll No's. 117021083 /217004017 Session A/R Year 2025. Through the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education. The error has been committed by the Institution against my D-O-B as 03-03-2010 instead of 03-07-2010. Now I have applied for correction / rectification of error in 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 Deputy Secretary, Certificates-KD 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 be recorded as under:



Name: TAWHEEDA JAN,
Fathers Name: GHULAM MOHAMMAD BHAT,
Mothers Name: AMEENA
Date of Birth: 03-07-2010,
Residence:- PALLAR BUDGAM.
Mobile: 7006295711 mcb

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM

Subject:- Necessary Correction/change in address in data to the License No. JK-0420240002108 issued in favour of SAJID SAJAD MIR Parentage SAJAD HUSSAIN MIR

Whereas an application has been received by one SAJID SAJAD MIR Parentage SAJAD HUSSAIN MIR wherein he claimed that the Name has been wrongly recorded in the records of Driving Licenses as SAJID SAJAD MIR which needs to be changed as SAJID SAJAD MIR Also the D-O-B is entered in license as 25-06-2003 which needs to be changed as 14-11-2005.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any in this regard shall reach in written in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper. After expiry of stipulated time no objection will be entertained.

mcb Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from (old name) Mumin Reyaz Shah S/o Reyaz Ahmad Shah to (new name) Mumin Riyaz Shah S/o Riyaz Ahmad Shah. In future i will be known as (new name) Mumin Riyaz Shah S/o Riyaz Ahmad Shah.

If anybody is having any objection he/she may contact passport office srinagar, within & 7 days. After 7 days no objection will be accepted.

Media line advt

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Shah Nawaz Ahmad Mir, F/o Sheharyar Ahmad Mir, R/o Village Wachi, Tehsil Zainapora, District Shopian, J&K, hereby notify that the name of my minor son has been wrongly recorded as Mir Sheharyar Ahmad in the Aadhaar Card bearing Aadhaar No. 7604 5113 6640. His correct and actual name is Sheharyar Ahmad Mir. If any person has any objection to the above correction, the same may be submitted before the concerned Aadhaar Enrolment/Update Centre within the prescribed period. Thereafter, no objection shall be entertained.

Shahnawaz Ahmad Mir F/o Sheharyar Ahmad Mir
R/o Village Wachi, Tehsil Zainapora, District Shopian fko

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KULGAM
01931-260028 @CEOMCKULGAM eomc-kulgam@jk.gov.in

Subject: Auction of Hoardings contract at MC Kulgam, for a period of 03 Years.
AUCTION NOTICE.
Auction Notice No: MC/KGM/2026/ 92
Dated: 29 /06/2026.

For and on behalf of Lt Governor of J&K UT, term E-tenders (in single cover system) are invited from the interested persons / parties for Auction of Hoarding sites at Municipal Council Kulgam, for a period of 03 Years, 2026-27, 2027-28 & 2028-29 w.e.f. 15.07.2026. The Minimum reserved bid is fixed Rs.6,06,964/- (Rupees Six Lacs Six Thousand & Nine Hundred and Sixty Four Only). For the 1st year i.e. 2026-27, and there will be Enhancement of 10% on the contract amount of 2026-27 for 2027-28 & further 10% for the year 2028-29. The information is as under:

Sl No	Date of issue of Tender Notice	Time
1	29.06.2026	From 04:00 PM
2	From 29.06.2026 to 06.07.2026	
3	29.06.2026	From 05:00 PM
4	06.07.2026	upto 02.00 PM
5	06.07.2026	at 04.00 PM in the Office of CEO MC Kulgam.
6	Submission of CDR.	The bidder shall be bound to accompany his bids offers with Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs. 12,139/= @ 2% of the Minimum Reserve Bid of each amount drawn from any Nationalized bank, pledged to the Accounts Officer, Municipal Council Kulgam, (without which offers shall be liable for rejection)
7	Mode of Payment	10% to be deposited on spot as token money and 65% of the total bid amount shall be deposited by the highest bidder before taking over the possession, and balance 25% of the bid amount has to be deposited within three months for which an irrevocable bank guarantee from a nationalized/scheduled bank is to be submitted, separately.

DIPK-NB-920/26 dated: 30-06-22026 Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Kulgam.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL & HOSPITALS DIVISION SRINAGAR
-----Telefax:- 0194-2496089
Gist of e-tender
e-NIT No: M&HDS/TS /2026-27/30/e-tendering,
Dated: 29.06.2026

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work: -

Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In rupees)	Time of completion (In days)	AA Accorded Vide No:	TS No	Earnest Money	Position of Funds
Replacement of Bed Head Panel at various locations at Govt Chest Disease Hospital Srinagar.	1.98	100	15	07 MCS of 2026 Dt:23.04.2026	M&HDS/TS/09 Of 17/26	5% of the stimate cost	Available with intending Department
SITC of nitrous oxide and oxygen manifold in trauma operation theatre at Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar	0.50	100	10	07 MCS of 2026 Dt:23.04.2026	02 of 06/26 (Sd Ist)	5% of the stimate cost	Available with intending Department

- Downloading of Bids:- The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 29.06.2026 (16.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 29.06.2026 (18.00 hrs)
- Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site 29.06.2026 (18.00 hrs) to 06.07.2026 (13:00hrs) in two (02) covers.
- Opening of Bids :- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 06.07.2026 at 15.00 (hrs)

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
M&HD, Srinagar

No: M&HDS/TS/1715-19 DIPK-2714/26 Dated:30.06.2026

KU Hosts Book Release Ceremony of 'Durr-e-Naayaab'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Department of Urdu, University of Kashmir (KU) organised the release of Durr-e-Naayaab (The Rare Pearl), a biography authored by Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, at Main Campus here.

The event brought together eminent academicians, literary personalities, students, scholars and writers to celebrate a work that chronicles the life, public service and enduring legacy of veteran political leader late Shaheed Wali Mohammad Itoo.

The book release function

University of Kashmir for honouring the rich legacy of my late father by releasing this book at this premier institution and highest seat of learning," she said.

Calling Durr-e-Naayaab perhaps the most meaningful contribution she could make to society, the Minister said the biography represented years of painstaking research, reflection and emotional commitment. She remarked that if she was ever asked to identify her greatest contribution beyond public life, she would point to this book, which documents the values, struggles and unwavering commitment of a leader



was presided over by Vice-Chancellor KU Prof. Nilofer Khan, while Sakeena Itoo attended the programme as the Chief Guest and author of the book.

Addressing the gathering, Sakeena Itoo expressed her gratitude to the Department of Urdu and the University of Kashmir for organising the release of Durr-e-Naayaab at the UT's premier institution.

Describing the occasion as deeply meaningful, the Minister said that she considered it a tribute to the enduring legacy of her late father and appreciated the University's initiative in bringing the work before the academic community. "I thank the Department of Urdu and the

whose life was devoted to public service.

She added that the work was compiled after years of sustained effort and drew extensively upon family archives, personal memories and historical records.

Reflecting on the emotional journey behind the book, Sakeena Itoo said that writing the biography of a person with whom one shares a deep emotional bond was one of the most difficult literary exercises. She recalled that many forgotten anecdotes were revived through her mother's recollections, which helped reconstruct significant episodes of her father's life.

Plumber Critically Injured After Electrocuting, Fall from Height

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A plumber sustained critical injuries after he was reportedly electrocuted and fell from a height while carrying out plumbing work at a residential house in the Barzulla area of Srinagar on Tuesday.

The injured man was initially taken to the Bone and Joint Hospital and was later referred to SMHS Hospital for specialised treatment.

According to the house owner, the plumber was work-

ing at his residence when he reportedly came into contact with an electric current. The electric shock was followed by a fall from a height, resulting in a serious head injury.

Hospital sources identified the injured as Noor Mohammad, aged around 45 to 50 years. His complete address and parentage were not immediately known.

As per KNT, doctors at SMHS Hospital said the injured man's condition was critical.

Police have taken note of the incident and further investigation is underway.



Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026 Div Com Kashmir Reviews Facilities for Yatris at Srinagar Airport

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In preparation for the annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Tuesday conducted a comprehensive review of the arrangements put in place at Srinagar International Airport to ensure a safe, seamless, and hassle-free travel experience for pilgrims.

During the inspection, the Divisional Commissioner assessed the facilities established for Yatris, including dedicated eKYC counters, Yatra Facilitation Centre, passenger reception areas, and other essential facilities available at the airport.

On the occasion, senior officials from the Civil Administration, Air-

port Authority, Jammu and Kashmir Police, and the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) briefed the Divisional Commissioner on the preparedness and coordination measures undertaken by their respective departments to facilitate the smooth movement of pilgrims at the Airport.

Speaking on the occasion, the Div Com stressed the need for coordination and robust communication mechanisms to ensure the timely resolution of issues and uninterrupted services for the pilgrims.

Pertinently, in a major step towards facilitating the seamless and pilgrim-friendly Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2026, the local Administration have substantially augmented

the registration infrastructure across Kashmir.

The total number of pilgrim facilitation counters has been increased from 54 in 2025 to 131 in 2026, which includes a significant increase in E-KYC counters from 21 to 59, RFID counters from 20 to 32, and on-spot registration counters from 13 to 40.

The additional registration facilities have been established at key locations including Pantha Chowk, Srinagar International Airport and Railway Station Nowgam.

During the visit, the Div Com was accompanied by DC Budgam Athar Aamir, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Budgam, and other officers from the concerned departments.

Div Com inspects functioning of ICCC Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: With just couple of days remaining for the commencement of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2026, the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg visited Integrated Command Control Centre (ICCC), Srinagar to assess the functioning of the surveillance & monitoring centre for ensuring smooth conduct of annual religious pilgrimage.

During the visit, the Div Com watched glitch-free streaming of visuals of Yatra camps and routes. On the occasion, he also interacted with the deployed staff and assessed data compilation during the day besides availability of department-wise information regarding on ground services, logistics and essential commodities.

Speaking on the occasion, the Div Com highlighted the importance of the ICCC for inter-departmental coordination and synchronization of collective efforts of agencies for

Teams Of Various departments are deployed at the centre to monitor cameras round-the-clock for foolproof arrangements and ensuring best facilities to the pilgrims

successful conduct of yatra. He said that the camera network helps administration in prompt dissemination of messages

and undertake appropriate actions during vagaries of weather.

While terming ICCC as a nerve centre of Yatra monitoring, the Div Com said that teams of various departments are deployed at the centre to monitor cameras round-the-clock for foolproof arrangements and ensuring best facilities to the pilgrims.

He informed that weather related updates will also be shared by IMD through display screens installed enroute and camps for real-time information.

The Div Com informed that Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor has already taken comprehensive review of arrangements during his visit to Baltal and Nunwan base camps.

Leveraging on the previous record influx of Yatris, the Div Com asked devotees to come with much fervor for the pilgrimage and requested them to share their feedback with the administration on 01942740003 for improvement in facilities.

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 941993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 2452222, 2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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

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

PRAYERS

FAJR 3: 37
ZUHR 12:33
ASR 5: 34
Magrib 7: 50
ISHA 9: 31

HIJRI CALENDAR
15 Muharram
1448

This Day In History

- 69 - Roman General Vespasian is first proclaimed Emperor by troops in Egypt, during year of the four emperors
- 251 - The Battle of Abrittus is won by the Goths against the Romans. Roman Emperors Decius and Herennius Etruscus are killed
- 1097 - 1st Crusaders defeat Sultan Kilidj Arslan of Nicea
- 1200 - In China, sunglasses are invented
- 1253 - Battle at Westkapelle-Floris the Guardian beats Gwijde van Dampierre
- 1543 - England & Scotland sign Peace treaty of Greenwich
- 1674 - Spain, France & Netherlands form Triple Alliance
- 1690 - Army of Protestant King William III defeats deposed Roman Catholic King James II in Battle of Boyne in Ireland
- 1747 - Battle at Lafeld: France beat British/Dutch army
- USA
- 1776 - 1st vote on Declaration of Independence for Britain's North American colonies
- 1798 - Napoleon's fleet reaches Alexandria, Egypt
- 1810 - Louis Napoleon abdicates as king of the Netherlands
- 1839 - Abdul-Medjid succeeds Mahmud II as Sultan of Turkey
- 1862 - Battle of Malvern Hill [Poindexter's Farm], day 7 of 7 days battles, Union forces repel Confederate attack, Tactical Union victory (US Civil War)
- 1890 - Great Britain and Germany sign Zanzibar-Helgoland Treaty
- 1896 - Wilfrid Laurier sworn in as 1st French speaking Prime Minister of Canada
- 1905 - Albert Einstein introduces his theory of special relativity
- 1910 - Union of South Africa becomes a dominion

BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF PR. DISTRICT JUDGE PULWAMA

1.Masroora Akhter V/S Public at large
D/O Wali Mohd Malik
R/O Newa Pulwama
2.Kumail Abbas S/O Mohd Abbas Malik
R/O Gangoo Pulwama
(Caveators/applicants) (Caveatee/non- applicant)

In the matter of: Caveat application on behalf of caveators for affording an opportunity of being heard to the caveators before passing any order in favour of caveatee/non-applicant.

May it please your Honour
The caveator submits as under:-
1. That the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited has invited applications for installation of a petrol pump at Gudoora Pulwama (within 02 kms from District Court Pulwama towards Newa on NH-444) and besides the other candidates the caveators have also submitted the application form for allotment of the said petrol pump and the caveators were declared as successful candidates at the time of draw of lots and accordingly LOI has been issued by the said oil company in favour of the caveators.
2. That the caveators have apprehension that the candidates who have been not allotted the said petrol pump or any other person will institute a suit against the caveators with respect to the allotment of said petrol pump on the basis of wrong facts.
In the premises it is so prayed that in case any suit relating to the above mentioned petrol pump is instituted by any person, the caveators may be given an opportunity of being heard before passing any order against the caveators in the interest of justice.
fko CAVEATORS THROUGH COUNSEL

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly spelled in my JKBOSE Certificate as Saqibrasool while the correct spelling is Saqib Rasool. Now I have applied for the correction of the same. If anybody has any objection in this regard he/she may file them in the concerned office within seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Saqib Rasool
S/O Ghulam Rasool Teli fko

NOTICE
It is hereby informed that in my J&K Bank account bearing No 023104100000332 my name has been incorrectly recorded as Afreen Mushtaq Bhat. However, my correct name, as per my Aadhaar Card is Afreen Mushtaq. I request that the necessary correction be made. In this regard, if anyone has any objection, they may convey the same to J&K Bank, Business Unit Nawa Kadal within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections will be entertained after this period.
Afreen Mushtaq D/o Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat
R/o Kaka Sathu Nawa Bazar.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas, I Rafiq Ahmad R/o Sathu Barbarashah, Kashmir, intend to apply in the Department of Tourism for registration of my proposed Home Stay unit under the name and style "M/s Grand Humzah" situated at Behind Flour Mill, Sathu Barbarashah, Srinagar Kashmir, under the Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.
Whereas, I shall submit all the relevant records and documents to the Department of Tourism, as per the prescribed checklist, prior to registration of my unit as a Home Stay.
Now, as per the J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of the general public, financial institutions, banks, organizations, etc., for objection, if any. The same should reach the Deputy Director, Tourism Registration (email: ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice. No objections received beyond the period of 7 days shall be entertained.
S/d: Rafiq Ahmad
R/o Sathu Barbarashah, Srinagar ss

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KULGAM
01931-260028 @CEOMCKULGAM eomc-kulgam@jk.gov.in
Subject: Auction of Adda Entry Fee / Terminal Tax collection contract for the year 2026-27, 2027-28 and 2028-29 (03 Years) at MC Kulgam.
AUCTION NOTICE.
E - NIT No: MC/KGM/2026/91
Dated: 29/06/2026.
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, term e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited from the interested persons/parties for Auction of Adda Entry Fee / Terminal Tax of Municipal Council Kulgam, for the year 2026-27, 2027-28 and 2028-29 w.e.f.15.07.2026. The Minimum reserved bid is fixed Rs.84,82,100/- Lacs (Rupees Eighty Four lacs Eighty Two Thousand One Hundred Only), for the 1st Year i.e. 2026-27 and there will be enhancement of 10% on the contract amount of 2026-27 for 2027-28 and 10 % for the Year 2028-29:- The details of Entry Fee collection posts is as under:-
1 Date of issue of Tender Notice 29.06.2026 from 04:00 PM
2 Period of downloading of bidding documents From 29.06.2026 to 06.07.2026
3 Bid submission Start Date 29.06.2026 from 5:00 PM
4 Bid submission End Date 06.07.2026 upto 02.00 PM
5 Date & Time of opening of Bids (Online) 06.07.2026 at 04.00 PM in the Office of CEO MC Kulgam.
6 Submission of CDR. The bidder shall be bound to accompany his bids offers with Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs. 1,69,642/= @ 2% of the Minimum Reserve Bid of each amount drawn from any Nationalized bank, pledged to the Accounts Officer, Municipal Council Kulgam. (without which offers shall be liable for rejection)
7 Mode of Payment 10% to be deposited on spot as token money and 65% of the total bid amount shall be deposited by the highest bidder before taking over the possession, and balance 25% of the bid amount has to be deposited within three months for which an ir-recoverable bank guarantee from a nationalized/scheduled bank is to be submitted, separately.
DIPK-NB-918/26 dated: 30-06-2026
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Kulgam

KASHMIR OBSERVER®

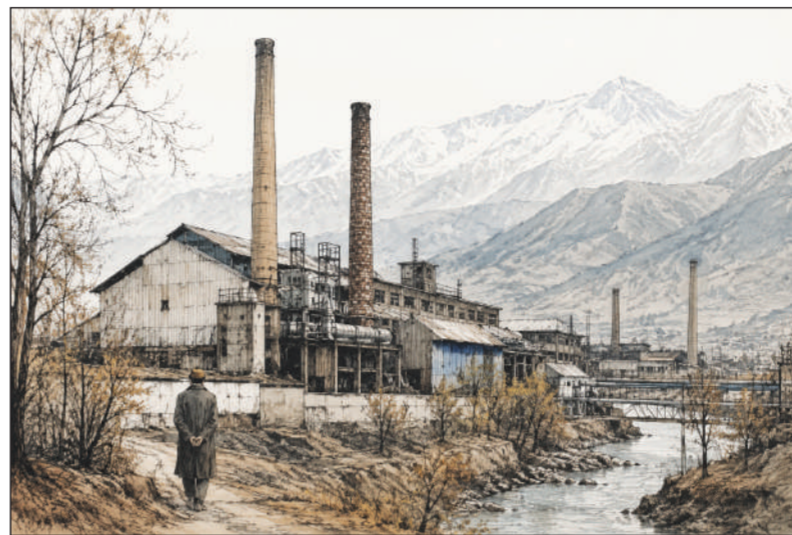
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Heal Kashmir's Sick Industry

Financial relief keeps balance sheets moving, while Kashmir's economy needs a revival model that diagnoses why factories fail and brings viable enterprises back into production.



Faisal Kawoosa



Industrial revival in Jammu and Kashmir has long been treated as a banking exercise.

Loans turn bad, recovery proceedings begin, one-time settlement schemes appear, assets change hands and balance sheets improve.

Banks eventually close files, government departments count another intervention, and the economy gains very little.

That cycle explains why industrial sickness has remained a recurring feature instead of becoming a solvable problem in Kashmir.

Large numbers of micro, small and medium enterprises now fall under the category of "sick" units, although stakeholders cite different estimates.

Some place the figure close to 90 percent in one form or another.

Whatever the precise number, the conclusion remains the same: a region that already entered industrialisation later than much of India has watched a significant share of its productive capacity lose momentum.

That reality places enormous pressure on Jammu and Kashmir's limited lending ecosystem, led mainly by J&K Bank, while weakening employment, production and investment at the same time.

Financial restructuring alone cannot repair that damage because the problem extends far beyond unpaid loans. A functioning industrial unit represents far more than the money borrowed to establish it.

Government allocates land at concessional prices, develops roads, power infrastructure and water supply, and creates an industrial ecosystem around the enterprise. Workers build livelihoods around those investments. Local production reduces dependence on imported goods while contributing to the Union Territory's Gross State Domestic Product.

Once a factory shuts its gates, those public investments lose value together with the economic activity they were meant to generate.

Current policy continues to view industrial sickness through the narrow lens of loan recovery. Banks understandably pursue outstanding dues because public money remains at stake. Asset sales often recover only part of the original exposure, leaving lenders with losses anyway.

That process also leaves factories idle, machinery unused, workers unemployed and industrial land blocked for years.

Economic recovery never begins because productive activity

never resumes.

A stronger strategy begins with a simple question: why did individual units fail in the first place?

Public discussion usually points to external disruptions. Jammu and Kashmir endured the devastating floods of 2014, prolonged political unrest in 2016, the constitutional transition of 2019 and the global pandemic soon afterward.

Those events disrupted businesses on an enormous scale and interrupted investment plans throughout the region. Their economic consequences remain visible today.

External shocks, however, rarely tell the complete story.

Sound industrial policy demands careful diagnosis of individual enterprises instead of broad assumptions about an entire sector.

Some businesses probably collapsed because circumstances overwhelmed viable operations, others may have suffered from weak financial planning, poor governance, outdated business models or ineffective management.

Distinguishing one category from another creates the difference between intelligent intervention and repeated failure.

Management research consistently identifies poor leadership among the principal causes of business collapse. Business history also supplies numerous examples of firms that survived because leadership changed direction before it became too late.

Successful pivots rarely depend on replacing all physical assets. Management identifies stronger markets, adjusts products, improves operations and extracts greater value from existing resources.

Those lessons apply as much to Kashmir's manufacturing sector as they do anywhere else.

Such analysis also shifts the objective of rehabilitation.

Authorities should focus less on assigning blame than on identifying workable solutions. Management consultants routinely diagnose operational weaknesses before recommending corrective action. Industrial policy should follow

the same discipline.

Treating all sick units as identical produces generic rescue packages that overlook the actual causes behind failure.

Suppose careful assessment concludes that even 10 percent of sick MSMEs primarily suffer from management problems rather than structural collapse.

Conservative estimates suggest that roughly 1,800 enterprises could return to production.

Even if those units employed only five people apiece, nearly 9,000 jobs could reappear.

Actual employment figures would likely prove much larger once scientific evaluation measures the full industrial ecosystem surrounding those businesses.

That possibility demands a different institutional framework.

Government, lenders and industry departments should build operational partnerships rather than temporary financial settlements. Enterprises identified as commercially viable but managerially weak could move under professionally supervised operating boards. Existing promoters would continue participating with reduced equity and shared authority. Professional managers or specialist firms would receive ownership stakes tied to performance while drawing salaries for running operations.

J&K Bank and other lenders would extend working capital against measurable business targets instead of financing uncertainty. Government would simplify regulatory obstacles that frequently burden struggling enterprises during revival.

Such collaboration aligns incentives far better than the present system.

Promoters preserve part of the enterprise they originally established. Professional operators gain rewards linked directly to successful turnaround. Banks improve prospects for recovering loans through revived commercial activity rather than distressed asset sales. Government finally sees industrial policy produce employment, manufacturing

output and economic expansion rather than paperwork.

Selection of professional operating partners should follow an open evaluation process where competing applicants present detailed revival plans.

Successful bidders could receive operating rights for five or ten years with clearly defined performance benchmarks. Those partners would later choose either to exit or remain shareholders depending on commercial outcomes.

Local promoters would continue contributing valuable knowledge of regional markets and business conditions while experienced operators strengthen governance and execution.

Such a framework also changes how financial institutions view industrial revival. Banks possess both capital and institutional influence. Their role therefore extends beyond debt collection. They can become active participants in restoring productive capacity, provided the revival process rests on credible management structures rather than hope alone.

Professional oversight reduces operational risk and creates stronger confidence for additional lending.

Kashmir cannot build an industrial future by liquidating industrial failure. Recovering fractions of unpaid loans while productive assets gather dust represents an expensive bargain for society.

Land, infrastructure, public subsidies, employment and manufacturing capacity together form a much larger investment than the outstanding value of bank credit.

Public policy should protect that broader investment with the same determination shown toward recovering financial assets.

Jammu and Kashmir's industrial story still holds enormous potential, though potential alone creates nothing.

Revival begins when institutions stop treating factories as distressed collateral and start treating them as productive enterprises capable of returning to growth.

That shift would strengthen local manufacturing, expand employment, increase contribution to GDP and build a stronger economic foundation for India's Viksit Bharat vision.

Success in one of the country's most challenging industrial environments would strengthen the national economy through proof that thoughtful diagnosis, professional management and coordinated public action accomplish far more than another recovery notice ever could.

The author is the chief analyst and co-founder of Techarc, and a leading voice on India's technology industry. He advises businesses and policymakers on emerging trends, and serves on the jury of the GLOMO Awards at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona.

KO VIEW

Kashmir's Next Economy

Kashmir already possesses the ingredients to become India's first mountain innovation hub.

The question is whether the government will build an ecosystem that converts scientific research and youthful ambition into companies capable of solving problems far beyond the Himalayas.

Kashmir's economy still leans heavily on tourism, horticulture and handicrafts. Those sectors remain valuable, though they also face mounting pressure from climate shifts, changing consumer demand and seasonal disruptions.

Economic diversification has therefore become a practical necessity rather than a development watchword.

Public employment alone cannot absorb a growing pool of educated young people, while migration continues to drain talent that local institutions spent years producing.

Government policy has finally begun moving in a more productive direction. Earlier this year, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade signed a partnership with the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute to strengthen startup incubation, mentorship, investment networks and access to international markets.

That initiative builds on the Union Territory's Startup Policy 2024-27, which expands incubators, seed funding and institutional support for entrepreneurs. Decision-makers have also identified agri-tech, food processing and eco-tourism as sectors with substantial growth potential.

Facts and figures already point toward an economy capable of much more.

Jammu and Kashmir recorded exports worth nearly \$230 million during 2024-25, while the latest Startup Ecosystem Ranking places growing emphasis on entrepreneurship rather than dependence on conventional employment.

Those figures reveal an economy beginning to widen its base, though sustained success depends on turning startups into globally competitive businesses rather than celebrating registration numbers alone.

Scientific institutions provide Kashmir with an advantage that few regions possess.

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology has built an innovation ecosystem that reports more than 100 funded startups, over 120 granted patents and nearly 28 crore raised by incubated ventures.

That record demonstrates a simple truth: research generates economic value when laboratories connect with investors, manufacturers and markets instead of remaining confined to academic journals.

Mountain regions also present commercial opportunities that much of the world increasingly seeks.

High-altitude agriculture, precision horticulture, water management, biodiversity science, disaster forecasting, renewable energy and remote healthcare represent expanding fields as climate pressures intensify in mountain communities worldwide.

Kashmir understands those conditions through lived experience, scientific research and institutional knowledge. That combination creates an advantage difficult to replicate elsewhere.

Successful innovation clusters grow through long-term collaboration rather than headline announcements.

Bengaluru flourished because universities, entrepreneurs, investors and industry reinforced one another over decades. Kashmir can pursue its own version, grounded in mountain science rather than software outsourcing.

Capital, broadband connectivity, intellectual property protection and stronger university-industry partnerships would give talented graduates stronger reasons to build companies at home instead of pursuing opportunity elsewhere.

India's innovation map remains incomplete while the Himalayas remain absent from its economic imagination.

Kashmir has reached a point where scientific knowledge can become commercial strength. National investment should now follow that possibility with conviction.

The Heart of Medicine

Doctor's Day marks an opportunity to ask whether medicine still places healing people alongside treating disease.



Dr. Fiaz Maqbool Fazili

There came a point in my career when medicine stopped looking familiar.

Years spent as a surgeon taught me how to diagnose, operate and make difficult clinical decisions. But sitting outside a consultation room as the caregiver of a close family member taught me something far more profound.

Medical school had prepared me to stand beside an operating table, but life placed me on the other side of the consultation door, waiting with investigation reports in my hand and hope tied to a doctor's response.

Like millions of families, I found myself staring at my phone after sending a WhatsApp message to the treating doctor. Then the blue ticks appeared.

The clinical facts hadn't changed, but my emotional state had. My anxiety eased the moment someone acknowledged my concern. Hope returned before any medicine was prescribed.

Healing began with a simple human gesture. That experience transformed my understanding of medicine more deeply than any conference or textbook ever could.

Doctors treat disease, while patients remember how doctors made them feel.

But while Doctor's Day celebrates doctors, I keep wondering: what kind of doctor do people hope to meet when they fall ill?

Credentials, fellowships and academic titles certainly count, but presence counts even more.

A reassuring smile can calm fear before a fever falls, while gentle words restore confidence

before investigations confirm a diagnosis.

Countless doctors live that ideal every day through humility, compassion and unwavering commitment to patient welfare. They remain the strongest foundation of our healthcare system.

Medicine, however, shares the weaknesses found in any profession.

Commercial pressures tempt some physicians into viewing people through the lens of financial return instead of human suffering. That shift damages far more than individual patients.

Trust forms the foundation of medicine, and trust weakens when ethics surrender to commerce.

And sadly, dedicated physicians pay the price for conduct they never embraced.

At the same time, medical science keeps advancing at astonishing speed. Artificial intelligence assists diagnosis, robotic surgery expands surgical possibilities, and precision medicine transforms treatment plans with extraordinary sophistication.

But patients still voice one complaint more often than almost any other: "The doctor didn't listen."

Scientific excellence alone cannot fill that gap.

Communication stands at the centre of healing because patients rarely possess the expertise to judge clinical knowledge. They judge honesty, patience, kindness and respect. Those qualities remain with them even after they forget the names of medicines.

Doctors have a beautiful Urdu word for this human quality: *Khulq*. English never captures its full meaning.

Kindness, humility, patience, empathy



and gracious speech all live inside that single expression.

When someone says, "Doctor sahib ka bahut achha Khulq hai," they honour far more than technical competence. Professional excellence wins recognition. *Khulq* wins trust, gratitude and heartfelt prayers.

Heartfelt communication therefore belongs beside diagnosis and treatment as a core clinical skill.

Listening carefully, explaining illness in language families understand, discussing benefits and risks honestly, obtaining informed consent, answering anxious questions patiently and preparing relatives when treatment shifts

toward comfort all influence outcomes.

Those human interactions hold therapeutic value because they reduce fear and strengthen confidence.

Families especially remember the hardest conversations, even as laboratory values fade from memory, and medication schedules become blurred with time.

People recall whether the doctor sat beside them, listened carefully, spoke truthfully with compassion and remained present through uncertainty.

Medical education spends years teaching anatomy, pathology and pharmacology. But

communication and empathy often receive far less attention.

Young doctors learn those qualities from senior colleagues. Strong mentors pass on habits that strengthen patient relationships. Detached role models pass on habits that weaken them.

Patients today participate actively in decisions about their care. They seek understandable explanations, respectful dialogue and genuine partnership. Doctors guide rather than dictate.

They educate rather than intimidate, and acknowledge fears instead of brushing them aside.

Behind every patient stands someone's mother, father, spouse or child. And behind every investigation lies anxiety. Several extra minutes spent listening often prevent misunderstanding, complaints and mistrust far more effectively than another prescription.

But it's equally true that modern healthcare places immense pressure on physicians.

Overcrowded clinics, staff shortages, administrative burdens and burnout test even the most dedicated doctors.

These realities explain many frustrations, but they also highlight medicine's defining strength: humanity.

Faith traditions recognise this.

In Islam, physicians are honoured for relieving suffering, while healing ultimately belongs to God, a belief that keeps humility at the heart of medicine.

The Hippocratic Oath comes alive through everyday acts of care.

So Doctor's Day is also a time for introspection.

When illness enters my family, what kind of doctor would I hope to meet?

My answer is simple: skilled hands treat, but compassionate hearts heal.

The author is a senior consultant surgeon, who writes frequently on healthcare reforms. He can be reached at drfiazfazili@gmail.com.

The Legacy of Master Ali Mohammad

He began with four students in a converted cowshed and left Kashmir with one of its most enduring educational legacies.



Dr. Ashraf Zainabi

Some people establish schools. Master Ali Mohammad established belief.

That distinction explains why his death reaches far beyond the campus he founded in Naik Bagh, Nowgam.

Kashmir has lost an educator whose life challenged one of modern education's strongest assumptions: money builds schools.

His work showed that trust builds them first.

My mind never goes to the present-day FEI School when I think of him. It returns to 1988, when the institution opened inside a converted two-room cowshed.

Four students enrolled during its first year, seven came the next.

Few looking at a campus serving nearly 1,500 students could imagine those beginnings.

Those numbers tell the school's story far better than its buildings.

Institutions born through hardship develop habits that investment alone cannot produce.

Parents did not send their children because the school promised prestige. They came because they believed the man standing at its centre. That confidence spread through families rather than advertisements.

One successful student encouraged another admission, one satisfied parent convinced the next. Reputation travelled through lived experience, and the school expanded on credibility rather than

promotion.

Growth never altered the principles that launched the institution. Private education became increasingly expensive while many families struggled to keep pace. FEI School continued charging less than one-quarter of the fees collected by many established private schools.

That decision separated Master Ali Mohammad from much of the sector. Education remained a public calling even inside a privately managed institution.

But lower fees never diluted academic standards.

Students from FEI consistently competed with, and often outperformed, peers studying in schools charging several times more.

That record exposed an uncomfortable truth: educational excellence grows through committed teachers, disciplined classrooms and consistent leadership far more often than impressive architecture or expensive facilities.

Master Ali Mohammad embodied that consistency for decades.

His own life strengthened the argument he asked others to believe.

A severe heart stroke pushed him into a struggle that would have ended many careers. Recovery demanded unusual determination, and retirement presented an obvious path, but he chose another one.

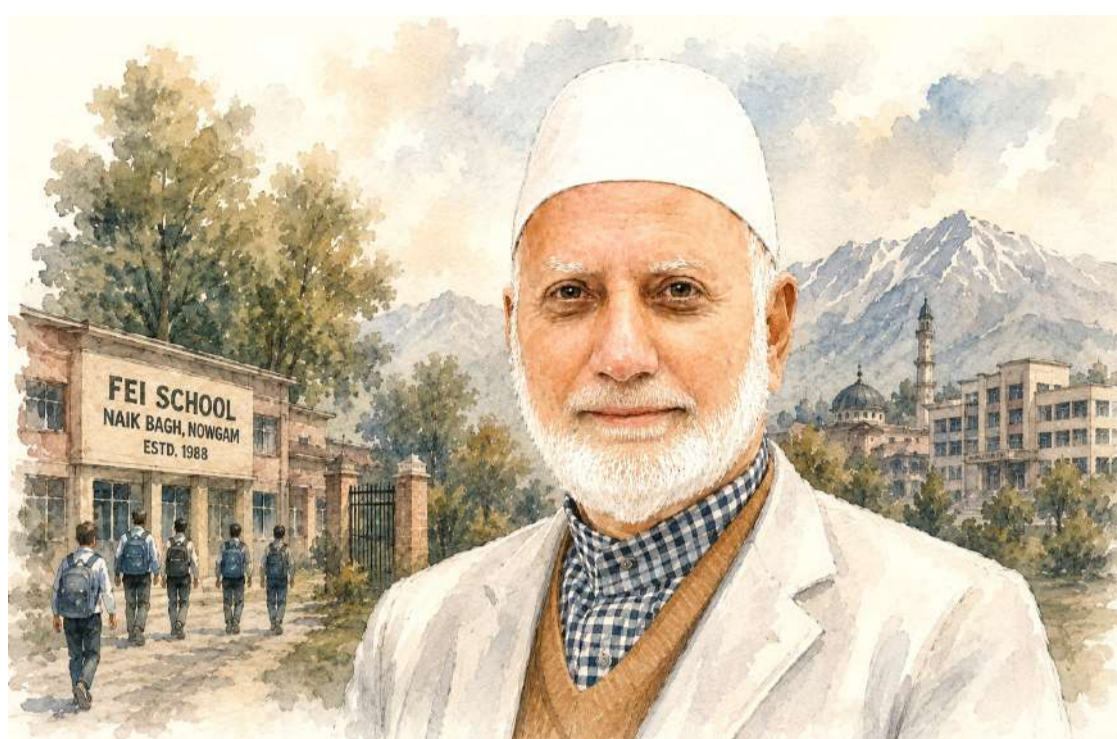
He returned to the school he had spent decades building because teaching remained his purpose rather than his occupation. Students who heard him speak about perseverance eventually watched him live it.

Double pneumonia later placed another enormous burden on his health. Physical strength declined, although his commitment to education held firm.

He remained connected to his mission until his final breath.

Death closed his life, but it never diminished the example he left behind.

Public debate about education usually centres on regulations, examination systems, infrastructure, technology and rankings. Those



KASHMIR NOW SPEAKS FREQUENTLY ABOUT SMART CLASSROOMS, DIGITAL BOARDS, POLISHED CAMPUSES AND MODERN TRANSPORT. Those investments improve learning conditions, though they never replace the person leading the classroom. Master Ali Mohammad spent almost four decades demonstrating that technology supports education, but teachers define it. His career remained a sustained argument against the growing belief that education succeeds through branding, scale or commercial ambition.

discussions influence schools, though they never explain why one institution transforms lives while another simply grants certificates.

The decisive force has always been the educator.

A motivated teacher changes an ordinary classroom, while an indifferent one weakens even the finest campus.

Master Ali Mohammad understood that truth long before decision-makers began discussing educational reform.

His generation measured achievement differently.

Annual profits never defined success, students did. Many children who passed through FEI became doctors, engineers, teachers,

entrepreneurs and government officers. Many became the first graduates in their families. Their accomplishments changed the direction of entire households.

Schools prepare children for examinations, but great schools widen opportunity for communities.

That wider influence explains why people who knew him rarely

described him only as a teacher.

He founded an institution, mentored generations and became a community leader without chasing any of those titles. Respect followed years of disciplined work, while recognition simply caught up.

Kashmir now speaks frequently about smart classrooms, digital boards, polished campuses and modern transport. Those investments improve learning conditions, though they never replace the person leading the classroom.

Master Ali Mohammad spent almost four decades demonstrating that technology supports education, but teachers define it.

His career remained a sustained argument against the growing belief that education succeeds through branding, scale or commercial ambition.

The campus at Naik Bagh stands as visible evidence of his work, though his larger legacy cannot be photographed.

It lives in thousands of former students who left those classrooms with confidence, discipline and purpose.

Buildings can be reproduced, and business strategies do invite imitation, but a lifetime spent placing service above profit remains much harder to recreate.

Master Ali Mohammad began with four students inside a converted cowshed and ended with one of Kashmir's most respected educational institutions.

That journey alone would secure his place in the valley's educational history.

His greater achievement, however, lies elsewhere.

He proved that one teacher, armed with credibility, patience and an unwavering sense of purpose, could change the future of thousands.

Kashmir mourns a founder today, but history will remember a standard.

— The author is a teacher and researcher based in Gowhar Pora Chadoora, J&K. He can be reached at bhatashruf@gmail.com.

The Heart of a School

How dedicated educators made government school classrooms the first choice over coaching centres.



Dr Mushtaq Rather

Still remember that day at Higher Secondary School Salia in Anantnag. The students stood silently at first. Then one by one, their eyes welled up. Some were trying to hold back tears, others couldn't.

It wasn't a farewell party or a results day. It was a routine transfer of lecturers: something we in the education department are quite used to.

But what I witnessed that day wasn't routine at all.

Students were crying—openly, emotionally—for their teacher, Basharat Hussain. In a time when the bond between students and teachers often feels like a faded relic, this felt extraordinary.

And it made me reflect: what makes a teacher unforgettable? What kind of teacher moves a generation?

I've spent years as an educator in Mattan, Anantnag. Over time, I've watched our roles evolve.

Gone are the days when teaching meant standing at the blackboard, talking while students silently copied. Today, we wear many hats—mentor, guide, sometimes even a parent. We deal with not just content, but emotions, dreams, doubts.

And we're expected to keep up with a world that moves faster than ever before.

Take Basharat Hussain. He's not just

a physics lecturer, he's an IIT graduate who chose to return to Jammu and Kashmir and teach in a government school.

What's remarkable is not just his qualifications, but how he used them. Despite teaching medical stream students, he managed to win over those from the humanities too. He made physics feel alive. More than that, he made students stay.

In Kashmir, it's common for senior secondary students to skip school and head straight to coaching centres. But Basharat reversed that trend. His classes were packed.

Students came back to the school classroom, and they stayed. One student from a remote tribal village even scored 97% in the medical stream without attending a single private tuition. That's not just an academic success, it's a shift in mindset.

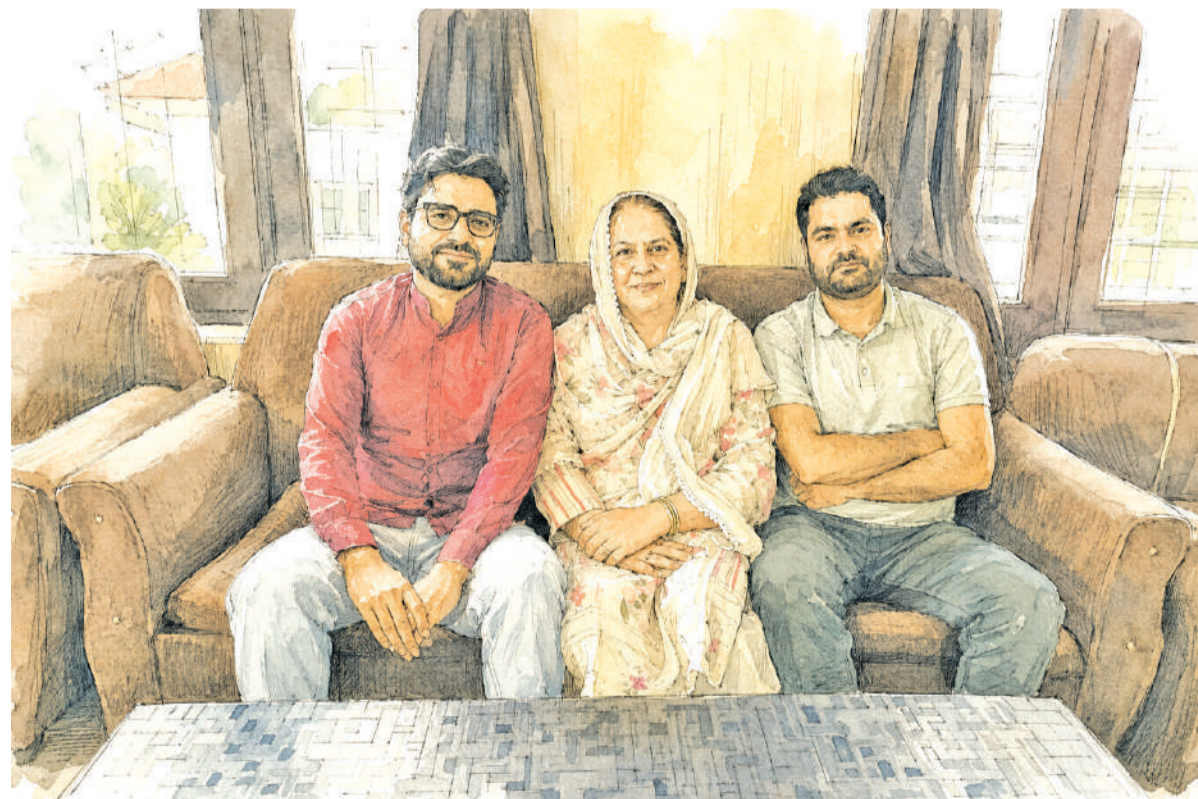
What did he do differently? He made learning real. He didn't stick to the textbook. He brought in examples that students could touch and feel. He asked questions that didn't always have right answers. He gave students the space to speak, and listened when they did.

He wasn't alone in this effort. Nadeem Salam, who teaches botany at the same school, worked politely but powerfully. His calm presence, his regular use of digital tools, and his dedication to fieldwork turned the subject from dry theory to living knowledge.

His students didn't just memorize plant parts, they saw them, touched them, studied them in real time. Learning became a shared experience, not a solitary task.

Then there's Riyaz Ahmad Bhat, the English lecturer. His classes were legendary: crowded, buzzing with energy.

He knew how to hold a room. More importantly, he knew how to turn even the quietest student into a speaker. His methods weren't flashy. But they were grounded. He encouraged collaboration, allowed debate, and brought



stories alive. Students didn't just learn English, they found their voice.

These teachers didn't follow a manual. They didn't rely on the same old chalk-and-talk. They experimented. They failed. They tried again. They reflected on what worked. They asked themselves hard questions: Did my students really learn today? Could I have done better? Did I listen enough?

That self-reflection, that quiet questioning, is the sign of a real educator.

Modern education throws up new challenges every day. We're told we must teach 21st-century skills—critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication. But how do we do that in overcrowded classrooms, with patchy infrastructure and tight schedules?

The answer, I believe, lies in attitude. We can't fear change. We can't wait for perfect conditions. We have to meet students where they are. We must use technology, yes, but not just for show. We must mix the old and the new. Teach with chalk, but also with code. Use AI if it helps. Step outside the classroom. Let students build knowledge, not just receive it.

The New Education Policy (NEP 2020) and National Curricular Framework for School Education 2023 talk about this shift, from behaviorist to constructivist models of teaching.

It means treating students not as empty vessels, but as co-creators of knowledge. It means listening more than speaking. Creating more than assigning.

It's a tough job. I won't pretend otherwise. We juggle syllabi, pressure from parents, administrative work, and our own personal lives. But I've seen firsthand how much difference one teacher can make. Not by being perfect, but by being present.

When I walked through HSS Salia on that transfer day, I saw not just emotion, I saw legacy. I saw students crying because they knew they were losing not just a teacher, but a guide, a mentor, someone who saw them not as roll numbers but as individuals.

— The author is an educator and columnist from Mattan, Anantnag. He can be reached at aroushfatimamar15@gmail.com.

What's remarkable is not just his qualifications, but how he used them. Despite teaching medical stream students, he managed to win over those from the humanities too. He made physics feel alive. More than that, he made students stay.

Delhi-Ladakh Dialogue GoI Team to Meet LAB, KDA Leaders in Leh on July 2

Agencies

Srinagar: The Union Government's representatives are set to meet leaders of the Ladakh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) on July 2 in Leh to sort out differences that have arisen after the May 22 meeting between the two sides, sources disclosed.

Sources said that a team of representatives from the Centre is likely to meet both bodies spearheading the agitation for constitutional safeguards in Ladakh. "The team is likely to be headed by a senior official in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)," they said, adding that these will be informal talks, given that formal discussions are held only at the level of the sub-committee and the high-powered committee constituted for Ladakh.

Differences have emerged between the two sides over the minutes of the last sub-committee meeting held in New Delhi on May 22, in which both sides appeared to have built consensus over key issues. After draft minutes of the meeting were shared with LAB and KDA, both bodies alleged that crucial points relating to the primacy of elected representatives over the bureaucracy agreed upon in the May 22 meeting were omitted.

Ladakh Chief Secretary Ashish Kundra, however, clarified that the draft record was only intended to facilitate discussion. He said that if anything had been left out, the groups could raise it with him and it would be conveyed to the government.

After the May 22 meeting, LAB and KDA leaders claimed that they had reached an in-principle understanding with the Government of India on restoring democracy in Ladakh and providing constitutional safeguards on the lines of Article 371 A, F, and G.

IUST Convenes 11th Academic Council Meeting

Observer News Service

Awantipora: The Islamic University of Science and Technology convened the 11th Meeting of its Academic Council under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, with eminent academicians from across the country participating in deliberations on key academic initiatives, institutional priorities, and the University's long-term growth strategy.

The meeting was chaired by Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo Vice Chancellor, IUST, and attended by distinguished academicians and senior university functionaries, including Prof. Talat Ahmad, Former VC, University of Kashmir; Prof. Mehraj Ud Din Mir, Former VC, Central University of Kashmir; Prof. Mohammad Mubin, VC, Cluster University Srinagar; Prof. Ashok Aima, Former VC, Central University Jaamu; Prof. Shobha Bagai, University of Delhi; Prof. Madhav Govind, JNU, New Delhi; and Prof. Ranjan Rawal, CEPT University, Ahmedabad. Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Malik, University of Kashmir; Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, Dean Academic Affairs IUST, Prof. Shameem A Shah Registrar, Finance Officer, Dean Research, Controller of Examinations, Dean Outreach, Deans of various schools, and various other officers.

At the outset, Prof. Romshoo shared a report on the University's progress, informing the members about the various initiatives undertaken, achievements made, and future plans in the pipeline. Prof. Romshoo said, "IUST is committed



to building a future-ready academic ecosystem that responds to the rapidly evolving landscape of higher education. The introduction of new-age academic programmes and emerging areas of study reflects our endeavour to equip students with relevant knowledge, contemporary skills, and the capacity to drive innovation in a knowledge-based economy."

He further said, "The steady rise in student enrolment is a strong affirmation of the confidence reposed in the University. We remain equally committed to enhancing the quality of teaching and research, fostering interdisciplinary learning, and creating an enabling environment where every learner

can realise his or her full potential."

The meeting was coordinated by Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Sheikh Aijaz, who presented the agenda. Speaking on the deliberations, he said, "The decisions taken by the Academic Council represent a significant step in broadening the University's academic portfolio. The emphasis on Student-centric support mechanism, frontier disciplines, and curriculum innovation, is fully aligned with the NEP2020 and the evolving needs of society & industry."

The Council approved a series of significant academic initiatives aimed at strengthening IUST's teaching, research, and innovation ecosystem. Among the major decisions,

the Council approved the establishment of a CoE for Semiconductors and Quantum Materials, aligned with the national Semiconductor and Quantum Missions, to promote innovation, and technology development, in semiconductors and Quantum technology.

The Council also approved the introduction of B.Tech. in Cyber Security, M.A. in Mass Communication with AI, a five-year Integrated Law Programme, a Master's Programme in Medical Laboratory Science (MMLS), and the establishment of a Department of Earth Sciences, among other initiatives, thereby expanding the University's academic offerings in emerging and strategically significant disciplines.

Fake Army Supply Order in Jammu

Chargesheet Filed Against Man in Rs 10 Crore Fraud

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A chargesheet was filed against a man on Tuesday for allegedly duping two brothers of Rs 10 crore by claiming to have secured an Army contract and using a forged supply order to obtain bank credit facilities, officials said.

The chargesheet was filed before a local court against Puneet Rasutra of Rehari, Jammu, in connection with the multi-crore cheating and forgery case registered on the complaint of Munish Bhatia, a resident of Canal Road in 2019, a spokesman of the Crime Branch said.

According to Bhatia, the accused induced him and his brother to mortgage their property as collateral security for availing bank loans by falsely claiming to have secured an Army contract worth Rs 16 crore. The accused allegedly produced a forged supply order purportedly issued by 107 Engineer Regiment to obtain an additional overdraft facility of Rs 4 crore from J&K Bank, Trikuta Nagar Branch.

The spokesman said the investigation conducted by the Crime Branch Jammu established that the purported Army supply order was fake and forged, as the concerned Army authorities confirmed that no such work order had ever been issued.

The complainant and his brother reportedly suffered a loss of about Rs 10 crore and had to liquidate the outstanding liabilities to get their mortgaged property released, he said. He said the investigation further revealed that the accused, acting in furtherance of a criminal conspiracy, used forged and fabricated documents to fraudulently obtain huge credit facilities, thereby causing huge wrongful loss to the complainant and the bank.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Srinagar Hits

that lightning, strong winds and isolated hailstorms cannot be ruled out during the active weather phase.

The weather system is expected to have a greater impact over the Jammu division and south Kashmir, while central and north Kashmir are likely to receive comparatively less rainfall.

The forecast has raised hopes of relief after several days of unusually hot weather across the Valley, with temperatures remaining well above normal for this time of the year. Srinagar, June 30: Kashmir continued to reel under intense heat on Tuesday, with Srinagar recording a maximum temperature of 35.2 degrees Celsius, the season's second-highest, even as the Meteorological Department forecast widespread rainfall and a gradual fall in temperatures from Wednesday.

According to the MeT Department, the prevailing heatwave conditions are likely to persist till Tuesday before easing with the arrival of monsoon winds and the influence of a western disturbance.

The weather office has forecast light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places across Jammu and Kashmir from July 1 to July 5, with isolated areas expected to receive heavy rainfall, intense showers, thunderstorms and strong winds between July 2 and July 4.

Officials said monsoon winds are expected to enter Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, bringing early morning and evening showers to the Jammu division and parts of the Kashmir Valley. The combined impact of the advancing monsoon and a western disturbance is expected to provide significant relief from the prolonged spell of heat, particularly between Thursday and Saturday.

Several areas, including Poonch, Rajouri, Shopian, Budgam and Kulgam, are likely to receive widespread rain and thundershowers, while isolated rainfall is also expected along the Reasi-Banihal-Ramban axis and in Gulmarg, Uri and Sonamarg. A few places in Poonch, Rajouri, Budgam, Shopian and Kulgam could witness brief but intense showers accompanied by thundershowers and gusty winds.

The department warned that heavy rainfall between July 2 and July 4 could trigger flash floods, landslides and mudslides in vulnerable areas, particularly in parts of the Jammu division and adjoining areas of south Kashmir. Temporary waterlogging in low-lying areas is also likely on July 2 and 3.

It advised people to avoid venturing near rivers, streams and landslide-prone areas during periods of intense rainfall and to remain indoors during thunderstorms as far as possible. The department also cautioned that lightning, strong winds and isolated hailstorms cannot be ruled out during the active weather phase.

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Summer Break For

from July 6 to July 19, 2026," the order reads. The vacation will apply to all government and recognised private educational institutions up to the Higher Secondary level across the Kashmir division.

The announcement comes amid the ongoing

summer season and follows a proposal submitted by the Directorate of School Education Kashmir seeking approval for the annual summer break.

Schools are scheduled to reopen on July 20, following the conclusion of the 14-day vacation.

RFID Tracking,

route in Anantnag district and the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

Addressing a press conference in Jammu, Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar said comprehensive arrangements had been made across the Jammu division to ensure a smooth and hassle-free pilgrimage.

"As of now, arrangements have been made to accommodate around 55,000 pilgrims across the Jammu division. Facilities for accommodation, food, sanitation, healthcare, transport and security have been put in place so that no pilgrim faces any inconvenience," Kumar said.

Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti said security had been strengthened further this year, with escorted convoys and strict traffic regulations in place.

Pilgrims entering Jammu and Kashmir through Lakhapur between 6 am and 8 am will be escorted to Jammu under security cover, while those arriving later will have to halt due to security restrictions, he said.

Authorities have directed pilgrims to use only the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, with movement through alternate routes such as the Mughal Road and Dhar Road barred for Yatra traffic. Mini-convoys will also operate between Udhampur and Banihal according to a fixed schedule, subject to weather and road conditions.

Accommodation centres have been established from Lakhapur to Banihal, including government lodging facilities, temporary shelters and accommodation arranged with the support of civil society organisations. Free community kitchens (langars) have also been set up along the route.

On-the-spot registration for pilgrims will begin on Wednesday at the Tawi River Front in Jammu, where the registration centre has been shifted to reduce congestion within the city. Officials said registrations would be carried out according to the daily quota fixed by the Shrine Board.

Mandatory RFID cards for tracking and security will be issued at designated centres, including Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu Railway Station, Tawi River Front, Udhampur, Chanderkote, Banihal, Lakhapur and Samba. Pilgrims who have completed online registration and e-KYC have been advised to collect the cards before proceeding to the base camp.

Separate registration facilities have also been arranged for sadhus at Geeta Bhawan and Purani Mandi temple, while general pilgrims will register at the Tawi River Front and Mahajan Sabha.

Officials urged pilgrims to strictly follow Shrine Board guidelines and carry mandatory health certificates. Elderly pilgrims and those suffering from cardiac or respiratory ailments have been advised to undertake the pilgrimage only after obtaining medical clearance.

Pilgrims travelling in private vehicles have been asked to report at Bhagwati Nagar by 10 pm on the eve of their scheduled departure to complete security checks and other formalities. Drivers have also been advised to ensure their vehicles are fully fuelled before joining the escorted convoy and avoid driving under fatigue or the influence of intoxicants on

the mountainous Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

The administration said nearly 2,100 toilets have been installed along the pilgrimage route and a traffic advisory has been issued for non-Yatra vehicles to ensure smooth movement.

Officials said pilgrims can register through three authorised modes: online via the Shrine Board portal after e-KYC, advance registration at around 165 designated bank branches across the country, or on-the-spot registration subject to the daily quota. A token system has also been introduced to regulate the rush during the initial days of the pilgrimage.

To facilitate pilgrims waiting for their scheduled departure, sightseeing bus services to religious and tourist destinations around Jammu have also been arranged in collaboration with the Tourism Department and the Jammu Municipal Corporation.

Responding to reports of a stampede during token distribution, the administration denied any such incident, saying there was only a brief rush on the first day as pilgrims sought early registration tokens.

VB-GRAM Act

Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the government's priority was to ensure that "no eligible rural worker remains without work even for a single day". He said the Centre and states had worked together to complete administrative, financial and technical preparations for the rollout.

The government said existing e-KYC-verified job cards will remain valid until the new Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Cards are issued.

The gram panchayats will continue to play a key role in implementation of the scheme, with focus on areas such as natural resource management, water conservation, agriculture and allied activities, rural infrastructure and women's empowerment, it added.

According to the ministry, 29 states and Union Territories have made budgetary provisions for the Act, while 24 states have notified their VB-G RAM G state schemes.

The rollout of the new law comes amid criticism from opposition parties and rural employment activists, who have raised concerns over changes in the existing rural employment guarantee framework. They have questioned if the new system could affect the demand-driven nature of employment, the role of states and panchayats, and whether adequate financial resources would be available for implementation.

The government has maintained that the new framework will strengthen rural livelihood security, improve asset creation and provide a more comprehensive approach to employment generation.

The national launch of the VB-G RAM G Act will be held on July 2 at Mukkavaripalli village in Obulavaripalle mandal of Andhra Pradesh's Tirupati district, according to the ministry.

The event will include the distribution of Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Cards and the release of awareness material related to the mission.

CRPF Constable

of the accused and was inconsistent with any hypothesis of innocence.

The court also observed that the accused failed to provide any satisfactory explanation for the circumstances in which his wife sustained the fatal injuries while in his exclusive company. It held that the defence version was neither probable nor supported by evidence capable of creating reasonable doubt.

Consequently, the court convicted Shankara Naik under Section 302 IPC and sentenced him to undergo imprisonment for life besides imposing a fine in accordance with law.

HMVs Barred

According to the advisory, no movement of HMVs will be allowed from Qazigund towards Jammu and from Jakheni in Udhampur towards Srinagar after 7 pm on July 1. However, Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) will be permitted to ply on the highway till 11 pm.

The first batch of Amarnath pilgrims is scheduled to leave the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu on July 2.

The Traffic Police said that after the movement of the Yatra convoy on July 2, up-direction LMVs, private cars and passenger service vehicles will be allowed from Nagrota towards Udhampur once the tail of the up convoy crosses Jakheni.

Similarly, down-direction LMVs, private cars and passenger service vehicles will be allowed from Qazigund towards Jammu after the tail of the Baltal-bound convoy crosses Marog. Commuters have been advised to follow daily traffic advisories for exact cut-off timings.

The advisory further states that HMVs will be allowed to ply on alternate days during the Yatra period, depending on the prevailing traffic situation. No heavy vehicle will be permitted to move from either Qazigund or Jakheni after 7 pm.

The Traffic Police has advised operators transporting fresh produce, perishable goods and livestock to plan their journeys accordingly to avoid inconvenience.

It also said that after the notified cut-off timings, intra-district movement of local commuters will be facilitated only after verification of valid photo identity cards, which all commuters have been advised to carry during the Yatra period.

The authorities appealed to the public to plan their travel in advance and cooperate with the Traffic Police and other agencies to ensure the smooth and safe conduct of the annual pilgrimage.

HC Pulls Up Govt,

to the Court, without the Commissioner/Secretary, Home Department.....first verifying the record file to ensure that the detention record in its entirety is made available for the perusal of the constitutional court which in turn is under a constitutional obligation to safeguard the personal liberty of citizens, be it an undertrial, a detainee, or a free citizen," said a bench of Justice Rahul Bharti while allowing a petition filed on behalf of Mudasar Ahmad Mir challenging his detention dated 3 December 2024, issued by the District Magistrate, Srinagar. He was lodged in Central Jail Kot Bhalwal, Jammu.

Holding that continued preventive detention could not be legitimized in the absence of the order authorizing the latest extension of custody, the court quashed Mir's detention and directed his immediate release from the concerned Jail "to which effect the Superintendent concerned to act in accordance."

The court also quashed the detention order dated 28 October 2025 against Nazir Ahmad Dar, a resident of Srinagar.

The court observed that the District Magistrate Srinagar, took nearly two months to act on the detention dossier submitted by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Srinagar, before issuing the PSA detention order.

It held that preventive detention requires prompt action, but in the present case the

District Magistrate offered no explanation for the delay either in the detention order or in the grounds of detention. The court said the unexplained gap indicated that the dossier had been processed as a routine matter rather than one warranting urgent preventive action, rendering the exercise of powers under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978, legally flawed and unsustainable.

The High Court also quashed separate preventive detention orders against Ishtiyaq Ahmad Malik, issued by the District Magistrate, Anantnag, on 26 April 2025; Fayaz Ahmad Lone, detained under an order passed by the District Magistrate Pulwama, on 7 May 2025; and Uneeb Naseer Mir, whose detention was ordered by the District Magistrate Srinagar, on 3 May 2025.

2nd Marriage Without

kidnapped, was residing in Delhi voluntarily, apprehended danger to her life if she returned to Kashmir, and intended to seek divorce from first husband. She also alleged that her marriage with him had been forced.

The police, in its status report, informed the Court that Ruksana had telephonically stated she had travelled to Delhi of her own choice and wished to record her statement there due to safety concerns. However, the investigating agency submitted that the probe had remained incomplete because of the interim stay granted by the High Court and sought permission to continue the investigation.

The Court also took note of documents placed on record by the complainant, including an Arya Samaj marriage certificate and photographs, indicating that Ruksana had allegedly married Nikhil Chokker in Delhi on May 28, 2025, while her earlier marriage with Baramulla resident was still subsisting.

Observing that the material on record disclosed issues requiring investigation, the Court said, "It is settled legal position that enticing away a married woman with intention to engage her in illicit sexual intercourse with someone else is a recognized criminal offence under Section 84 of the BNS, akin to Section 498 of the repealed IPC."

The Court further observed that if the second marriage was contracted without dissolution of the earlier marriage, it would also constitute the offence of bigamy under Section 82 of the BNS.

Holding that the complaint could not be treated as an abuse of the legal process warranting quashing of the FIR, the Court dismissed the petition and vacated the interim stay on investigation.

At the same time, the Court directed that the investigating agency may record Ruksana's statement at a place where she feels safe, taking note of her apprehension regarding her personal security, and proceed with the investigation in accordance with law.

J&K Crosses

public outreach programmes, educational activities and organ donation drives across the Union Territory, the organisation has been encouraging people, particularly young adults, to pledge their organs and tissues while dispelling myths surrounding organ donation.

Nationally, more than five lakh people have registered as organ and tissue donors. Maharashtra leads the country with 1,16,690 registrations, followed by Rajasthan with 92,641, while the Union Territories of Ladakh and Lakshadweep have recorded the lowest numbers, with 39 and 11 registrations, respectively.

Private Hospitals to Continue Ayushman Bharat Services after Govt Assurances

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a significant relief for thousands of patients dependent on private healthcare institutions across Union Territory, the Jammu and Kashmir Private Hospitals and Dialysis Centres Association (JKPHDA) announced that it has deferred its proposed strike for two weeks following assurances from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY)/SEHAT Scheme regarding the release of long-pending payments.

According to KNO, the decision was taken after a meeting convened by the CEO of the ABPMJAY/SEHAT Scheme at his office chambers, which was also attended by the Chief Accounts Officer. The meeting came amid growing concerns that suspension of services by private hospitals would severely affect patients requiring dialysis, chemotherapy, emergency surgeries

and intensive care.

The JKPHDA delegation, led by its General Secretary, Dr Masood-ul-Hassan, attended the meeting under the directions of Faizan Mir, President (Kashmir Region), and Sandeep Mengi, President (Jammu Region). The delegation also included Executive Members Dr Ibrahim Guru, Sajad Lone, Dr Mushtaq Purzgar, Dr Nazira, and Dr Bilal.

During the meeting, the Association highlighted the severe financial strain faced by empanelled private hospitals due to nearly six months of unpaid claims under the Ayushman Bharat/SEHAT Scheme. They said the delay in reimbursement had pushed several hospitals to the brink of financial collapse, making it increasingly difficult to sustain critical healthcare services for economically weaker patients.

According to the Association, the CEO gave a patient hearing to all the issues aised and assured that the genuine concerns of the

hospitals would be examined at the highest level and resolved in a time-bound manner.

As an immediate confidence-building measure, the CEO assured the delegation that the process of releasing pending payments to empanelled hospitals would begin on Tuesday.

Dr Masood-ul-Hassan said the Association's primary concern has always been patient welfare rather than confrontation.

"We are not here to fight. We are here to treat. We thank the CEO for his patient hearing and swift assurance. Our hospitals were on the verge of collapse due to six months of unpaid dues. The CEO's commitment to release funds gives us hope. In the larger interest of poor patients of Jammu and Kashmir, we are deferring our strike by two weeks,"

he said.

Dr Hassan, however, made it clear that the Association would closely monitor the implementation of the assurances over the next fortnight.

"We will closely watch the disbursement over the next 14 days. Our dialysis and cancer patients cannot wait. If the assurances translate into action on the ground, we will continue services without disruption. If not, we will be compelled to review our decision," he added.

The Association also appealed to patients not to panic, assuring them that all healthcare services under the Ayushman Bharat/SEHAT Scheme—including dialysis, chemotherapy, surgeries, ICU care and other treatments—would continue uninterrupted in private hospitals across Jammu

and Kashmir during the two-week period. Patients have been advised to visit their respective hospitals as per their scheduled appointments.

JKPHDA also expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister, Health Minister, Lieutenant Governor, and Secretary Health for facilitating the dialogue between the Association and the authorities. It further acknowledged the role played by the media and civil society in drawing attention to the financial crisis confronting private hospitals and its potential impact on patient care.

The Association said it hopes the assurances given by the authorities will translate into concrete action, ensuring both the financial sustainability of private hospitals and the uninterrupted delivery of healthcare services to beneficiaries of the Ayushman Bharat/SEHAT Scheme across the Union Territory. It had earlier announced that they will stop all services under the scheme from July 01.



RTO Kashmir Urges Public to Avoid Office Visits

SRINAGAR: With temperatures soaring and the prevailing heatwave across Kashmir, the Regional Transport Officer (RTO), Kashmir, on Tuesday issued an advisory urging the general public to avoid unnecessary visits to the RTO office in Srinagar unless absolutely essential.

A public notice issued by the Office of the Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir, a copy of which was accessed by Kashmir Observer, reads the people facing any issue, grievance or requiring assistance related to RTO services have been advised to use a dedicated WhatsApp facility instead of visiting the office.

The notice said members of the public can send complete details of their grievance or service request through WhatsApp on: 9622002432. "The office will make every effort to resolve the issue within 48 hours. If any additional information or documents are required, the applicant will be informed through a reply on WhatsApp," it said.

The RTO has further appealed to the public to make maximum use of the WhatsApp facility and avoid unnecessary visits to the office during the ongoing heatwave to minimise exposure to extreme weather conditions. (Observer News Service)

Police Bust Suspected Inter-District Drug Network

ANANTNAG: In one of the biggest narcotics seizures in south Kashmir this year, Anantnag Police on Tuesday arrested a suspected inter-district drug trafficker and recovered 2.613 kilograms of heroin, commonly known as brown sugar, with an estimated international market value of around 20 crore.

The recovery was made during routine naka checking at Halmulla, where a police team intercepted a suspicious Maruti Ignis vehicle (registration No. JK09B-2808) for inspection.

During the search of the vehicle, police recovered four packets containing heroin. The driver was identified as Ishiyak Ahmad Moghal, a resident of Prada, Tangdar, who was immediately taken into custody.

Police said that during the course of investigation, the accused was served a notice under Section 50 of the NDPS Act before his personal search was conducted in accordance with the prescribed legal procedure. During the search, one more packet containing heroin was recovered from his possession, taking the total recovery to 2.613 kilograms.

A case under FIR No. 195/2026 has been registered under Sections 8 and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, and further investigation has been initiated.

Officials said investigators are working to establish the source of the contraband, identify its intended destination and unravel the entire network involved in the alleged smuggling operation, including both suppliers and recipients.

As per KNT, Police described the seizure as a significant blow to the narcotics trade and reiterated their resolve to act against drug trafficking. They also appealed to the public to share credible information about narcotics-related activities to help curb the menace. (Observer News Service)

ACB Files Charge Sheets in Two Separate Corruption Cases

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday filed charge sheets in two separate corruption cases before Special Anti-Corruption Courts in Baramulla and Srinagar after completing investigations and securing the requisite prosecution sanctions.

In the first case, the ACB filed a charge sheet before the Court of Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Baramulla, against five accused, including a former District Development Commissioner (DDC) of Bandipora, in connection with the alleged fraudulent regularisation of a temporary order in the district administration.

According to the ACB, the investigation found that official records were allegedly manipulated to facilitate the unauthorised regularisation of the employee, enabling him to receive government salary, promotions and other service benefits. The agency alleged that the irregularities resulted in wrongful gain to the beneficiary and a corresponding loss to the government exchequer.

Those chargesheeted in the case include the then DDC Bandipora Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh (retired), the then Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Sumbal (retired), former Head Clerk Mohammad Ramzan Ganaie (retired), Establishment Clerk Tariq Ahmad Khan, presently serving as Senior Assistant, and beneficiary Nisar Ahmad Itoo, who is currently serving as a Junior Assistant.

The Baramulla court has taken cognizance of the charge sheet, admitted the accused to bail and fixed August 13, 2026, as the next date of hearing.

In the second case, the ACB filed a charge sheet before the Court of Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Srinagar, against two police personnel in connection with an alleged bribery case at the Traffic Check Post (TCP) Sonamarg.

The case originated from a complaint alleging that 9,000 was demanded from a truck driver to allow a loaded vehicle to proceed towards Ladakh. During a trap laid by the ACB, one of the accused policemen was allegedly caught red-handed while accepting the bribe, and the tainted money was recovered from his possession. The investigation, according to the ACB, established the involvement of both accused in the alleged conspiracy.

The Srinagar court has accepted the charge sheet, and the matter has been listed for hearing on July 28, 2026. (Observer News Service)

Shehlat Foundation Launches Campaign for a Pollution-Free J&K



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Shehlat Foundation formally launched its "Pollution-Free Jammu & Kashmir" campaign with a cleanliness drive at the scenic Shrinz Fall in Kandi, Baramulla. The drive was led by Chairman Mohammad Rafiq Lone and Vice Chairman Ghulam Abass (IIS), Former Director, CBC J&K and Ladakh, along with a team of dedicated volunteers.

The campaign aims to create awareness among citizens about their individual and collective responsibility towards protecting the environment. Volunteers cleaned the tourist spot and appealed to visitors and local residents to refrain from littering and to actively participate in preserving the region's natural beauty.

Speaking on the occasion, the office bearers of Shehlat Foundation said that Jammu & Kashmir has been blessed by Almighty Allah with lush green meadows, crystal-clear rivers and streams, majestic glaciers, deep valleys, and breathtaking waterfalls that attract visitors from across the world. Protecting these priceless natural assets is not only our duty but also a responsibility towards fu-

ture generations.

The speakers said that there is a need to supplement the efforts of the government to keep our streets, lanes, by lanes and tourist destinations neat, clean with hygiene.

The Foundation emphasized that a clean environment is the cornerstone of a healthy and prosperous society. It called upon every citizen to avoid pollution, reduce waste, participate in community-led cleanliness drives, and adopt environmentally responsible practices in daily life.

The Foundation also urged senior citizens, community leaders, educational institutions, and youth to come forward and lead by example in building an environmentally conscious society. "Only through collective efforts can we preserve our ecosystem and ensure a cleaner, greener, and healthier Jammu & Kashmir," the speakers said.

The Pollution-Free Jammu & Kashmir campaign will continue across different districts through awareness programmes, cleanliness drives, and community participation, reinforcing the message that environmental protection is everyone's responsibility.

J&K Bank Marks One Year of Mission YUVA with Massive Credit Drive

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Committed to promoting entrepreneurship, self-employment, and inclusive economic growth across Jammu & Kashmir, J&K Bank celebrated the successful completion of one year of the J&K Government's flagship Mission YUVA programme yesterday by observing a UT-wide 'Mission YUVA - Mega Disbursal Day', undertaking a focused credit delivery drive across its branch network.

There UT-wide campaign culminated with MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee pressing the symbolic button during a virtual event held at the Bank's corporate headquarters in presence of Chief General Manager Ashutosh Sareen, General Manager (RAM) Rakesh Magotra, DGMS Tanveer Hussain and Arjun Singh Rathore along with other senior officers. Besides Divisional Heads, Zonal Heads and Cluster Heads from Jammu as well as Kashmir also joined the proceedings virtually from their respective locations.

Under the flagship youth employment program, the Bank has so far sanctioned over 28400 cases to the tune of more than Rs 1300 Cr, reaffirming its pivotal role in facilitating timely access to finance for aspiring entrepreneurs across Jammu and Kashmir. During the massive credit drive today, the Bank made disbursement in 2828 cases.

Expressing satisfaction over the progress achieved during the first year of Mission YUVA, MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee con-



gratulated and appreciated every member of the Bank's workforce for their commendable contribution towards the successful implementation of the programme.

He said, "My heartfelt thanks to each one of you for your unwavering support and cooperation in making this remarkable progress possible," he said, adding that the achievements under Mission YUVA have further strengthened the Bank's partnership with the Government of Jammu & Kashmir in promoting entrepreneurship and employment generation."

While reviewing the roadmap ahead, the MD & CEO underlined two key priorities for the second year of Mission YUVA. He said that the success of the programme must now be measured not merely by the number of disbursements but by the tangible outcomes generated through the enterprises established under the scheme.

He stressed that the beneficiaries should be able to build sustainable businesses, generate steady revenues and create meaningful livelihood opportunities, which remain the primary objectives of Mission YUVA.

Heatwave: Doctors Advise Staying Hydrated

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: With temperatures rising sharply across Jammu and Kashmir, health experts have urged people to remain cautious and adopt preventive measures to protect themselves from heat-related illnesses, warning that prolonged exposure to extreme heat can lead to serious health complications.

Health officials have advised residents to stay well hydrated, avoid unnecessary outdoor activities during peak daytime hours, wear light clothing, and seek immediate medical attention if symptoms of heat exhaustion or heatstroke develop.

Speaking to KNO, Dr Mushtaq from the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir (DHSK) said the prevailing heatwave demands extra vigilance, particularly among children, elderly persons, outdoor workers, and individuals suffering from chronic illnesses.

"The public should increase their intake of fluids such as plain water, Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS), buttermilk (lassi), lemon water, fresh homemade juices and other natural drinks to prevent dehydration. During hot weather, the body's requirement for fluids increases significantly, and people should not



wait until they feel thirsty before drinking water," Dr Mushtaq said.

He advised people to avoid carbonated soft drinks, packaged sugary beverages, and excessive consumption of tea and coffee, as these can contribute to dehydration rather than replenish lost fluids.

Dr Mushtaq urged people to avoid stepping outdoors during the hottest part of the day unless absolutely necessary. "If you have to go outside, wear light-coloured, loose-fitting cotton clothes, cover your head with a cap or scarf, carry an umbrella whenever possible, and use sunscreen to protect against harmful ultraviolet rays," he said.

He said individuals sleeping under ceiling fans or spending long hours in hot environments should increase their fluid intake

because excessive sweating and evaporation result in significant water loss from the body.

The DHSK Director further advised people to maintain proper food hygiene during the summer season, as cases of food-borne and diarrhoeal illnesses tend to rise during periods of intense heat.

"People should avoid consuming stale or uncovered food, particularly from roadside outlets. Fruits and vegetables must be washed thoroughly before consumption, and special care should be taken while preparing food for children and elderly family members," he said.

Dr Mushtaq also highlighted the warning signs of heat-related illnesses and urged people not to ignore symptoms such as excessive tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea,

vomiting, confusion, mental disorientation or fainting.

"If anyone develops these symptoms, they should immediately move to a cool place, drink fluids if conscious, and seek medical attention without delay. Early intervention can prevent serious complications," he added.

Dr Murtaza Khan, the general physician at DHSK, said increasing temperatures, coupled with the growing impact of climate change, are making heat-related illnesses more common.

"Heatstroke occurs when the body's cooling system fails, and body temperature rises to dangerous levels. If not treated promptly, it can become life-threatening. Early recognition of symptoms such as fatigue, vomiting, dizziness, confusion or altered consciousness is essential, and patients should be taken to the nearest health facility immediately," he said.

Doctors appealed to people to minimise strenuous physical activity during peak heat hours, ensure adequate hydration throughout the day, regularly monitor vulnerable family members, particularly children and senior citizens, and remain alert to the signs of dehydration and heatstroke as the region continues to experience unusually high temperatures.

DC Baramulla Reviews Progress under Vibrant Villages Programme

Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, S.F. Hamid undertook a field visit to several Vibrant Villages, including Tulawari, in the border Sub-Division Uri to assess the progress of developmental works and review implementation of the Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP).

During the visit, the DC inspected various development works and assessed the availability of essential public services across the Vibrant Villages. He interacted with local residents, heard their grievances, and directed the concerned officers to redress their concerns on priority.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL & HOSPITAL DIVISION, SRINAGAR (ERSTWHILE MECHANICAL HOSPITAL & CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR)

Contact No: 0194-2496089, Email Id: exen-mechospsgr@jk.gov.in,

Sub- Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC) for Thyssenkrupp make lift installed at IPD SMHS Hospital Srinagar.
Ref: - This office NIT No: M&HDS/TS/2026-27/24/e-tendering, Dated: -17.06.2026

EXTENSION 01

In view of No response, the critical dates of above subject work tendered vide above referred e-NIT are extended as follows: -

S.No	Description	Date and Time
1.	Last Date of Bid Submission	07.07.2026 (13:00 hrs)
2.	Date of Bid Opening	07.07.2026 (15:00 hrs)

All other Terms and Conditions of the NIT shall remain the same.

No: M&HDS/TS/1738-41
Date: 30.06.2026

DIPK-2693-26
DT: 30/06/2026

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
M&H, Srinagar

Khamenei's Funeral to Span Iran, Iraq in Historic Farewell

Neelufar Raminfar

TEHRAN – Iran has announced an elaborate, week-long funeral programme for the late Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, in what officials describe as an unprecedented cross-border farewell spanning two countries and six of Shia Islam's holiest cities.

The ceremonies, officially titled "The Send-off to Iran's Leader of Martyrs", will begin in Tehran on July 3, pass through the holy city of Qom, cross into Iraq for commemorative processions in Najaf and Karbala, and conclude with the burial in Mashhad in eastern Iran on July 9.

Officials say the programme has been designed in accordance with the guidance of the Supreme National Security Council, the Leader's Office and the wishes of the late leader's family.

Announcing the arrangements at a press conference, Ali Akbar Pour Jamshidian, Secretary of the National Funeral Committee and Deputy Interior Minister for Security and Law Enforcement, said representatives from more than 90 countries are attending the ceremonies.

He said more than 30 governments had formally requested to attend the funeral, making it one of the largest international gatherings hosted by Iran in recent years.

"The ceremonies will be held in Iraq and three Iranian provinces in accordance with the decisions of the

Supreme National Security Council, the Leader's Office and the wishes of the martyr's family," Jamshidian said.

The Iranian government has constituted a National Committee for the Farewell and Funeral Ceremonies under the chairmanship of the First Vice President, with the Interior Ministry serving as its secretariat.

Iraq has also established a national organising committee headed by the Iraqi Prime Minister's Office following extensive consultations between senior Iranian and Iraqi officials, including meetings involving Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi with Iraq's President, Prime Minister and parliamentary leadership.

Unlike previous state funerals in Iran, the ceremonies will extend beyond the country's borders, retracing the spiritual geography of Shia Islam by linking the shrines of Imam Ali in Najaf, Imam Hussain in Karbala and Imam Reza in Mashhad.

According to the official schedule, July 3 will witness an official tribute ceremony in Tehran attended by foreign heads of state, senior government officials and international religious leaders.

Public farewell ceremonies will commence at 6 a.m. on July 4 at Tehran's Grand Mosalla, followed by mass funeral prayers over the bodies of the late leader and members of his family on July 5.

The main funeral procession will take place on July 6 along an east-



west route through the Iranian capital, beginning from Damavand Street and passing through Imam Hossein Square, Enghelab Square and Azadi Square before moving on to the holy city of Qom the next day.

The following day, July 8, the body will be flown to Iraq, where an official state reception is expected at either Baghdad or Najaf airport with the participation of senior Iraqi officials.

Funeral processions and commemo-

rative ceremonies will then be held in the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, with the coffin of the late leader being ceremonially taken to the revered shrines of Imam Ali and Imam Hussain.

Jamshidian said the inclusion of Iraq honours Khamenei's long-cherished wish to visit the two holy shrines during his lifetime, a wish that remained unfulfilled for security reasons.

He added that Iraqi religious authorities, tribal leaders and govern-

ment officials had specifically requested that the late leader's body be brought to the sacred sites in recognition of his religious stature.

The final stage of the funeral will take place on July 9 in Mashhad, where Ayatollah Khamenei and members of his family will be buried near the shrine of Imam Reza, in accordance with his will.

Officials said the ceremonies are intended to demonstrate Iran's

national strength, reinforce unity among the Iranian people and the wider Islamic world, and serve as an occasion to renew allegiance to the country's new leadership.

Jamshidian said broad participation was expected from Islamic countries, including Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Afghanistan and other neighbouring states, which he said would further strengthen solidarity across the Muslim world.

To facilitate the movement of millions of expected mourners, Iranian authorities have declared staggered public holidays across different provinces.

The Interior Ministry has appealed to people to use public transport to minimise traffic congestion. Tehran's metro network will operate round the clock throughout the ceremonies.

Authorities have also said there will be no internet restrictions during the funeral events.

Reflecting widespread international interest, more than 300 foreign journalists have already sought accreditation to cover the ceremonies, while numerous Iranian and international documentary filmmakers have applied for permission to document what officials describe as a historic farewell.

The cross-border funeral, stretching from Tehran through Iraq's holiest cities to Mashhad, is expected to be one of the most extensive and symbolically significant state funeral ceremonies in the history of the Islamic Republic.

PM Modi Calls Pezeshkian, Hails Iran-US Deal

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a telephonic conversation on Tuesday with President of Iran Masoud Pezeshkian, who briefed him on the recent developments in West Asia and the way forward.

The prime minister said he reiterated in his interaction with the Iranian leader the importance of freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz for India and the world.

Modi welcomed the understanding reached and reiterated India's consistent position that all issues must be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy, a statement issued by the Prime Minis-

ter's Office (PMO) said.

Modi reiterated the need for continued efforts to ensure lasting peace and stability in the region and for safeguarding freedom of navigation and commerce.

During the telephonic conversation, the President of Iran briefed Prime Minister Modi on the recent developments in West Asia and the way forward, the statement said.

Modi also wrote on 'X': "Spoke with the President of Iran, Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian, on the recent developments in West Asia. Welcomed the progress made in the negotiations and expressed hope that continued efforts will lead to lasting peace in the region. Reiterated the importance of freedom of

navigation in the Hormuz Strait for India and the World."

Earlier, Iranian President Pezeshkian had invited Prime Minister Modi to the burial ceremonies for Iran's late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to be held next week.

According to reports, the government is planning to send Bihar Governor Atanand Kumar and Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita to the ceremonies as representatives of India. The burial ceremonies will be held from July 5 to 9.

On June 18, the US and Iran signed the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to restore peace in West Asia and advance negotiations on regional security and other contentious issues.

The peace process was negotiated through mediators that included Pakistan and Qatar, who initially got a two-week ceasefire agreement on April 8. The ceasefire was later extended till the completion of the talks.

The peace deal led to the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow waterway through which roughly one-fifth of the world's total energy supplies pass in normal times.

Shipping movements through the strait had been severely disrupted since February 28, when the US and Israel launched joint attacks on Iran, triggering retaliatory strikes. It had led to energy crisis in several countries.

Late Brazil Goal Ends Japan's World Cup Dream

AP

HOUSTON: The heartbreak was all too familiar for Japan at the World Cup.

The country's national team hung in until the very end Monday but was eliminated from the tournament – the third straight time Japan has had the lead in the knockout round and lost. This year, it was to five-time champion Brazil 2-1 on a late goal in injury time.

After four previous losses in such matches at World Cups, Japan is still searching for its first knockout victory.

"We were not able to achieve our goal this time but

then we can aim for the next World Cup or maybe even one after that," Japan coach Hajime Moriyasu said through a translator. "We should work toward that goal, which is what we've been doing."

Four years ago, Japan led early but eventually fell to Croatia on penalty kicks in the round of 16. The Samurai Blue suffered a similar fate in the same round in 2018 when they led Belgium 2-0 in the second half but lost 3-2 on a stoppage time goal.

"I don't think history would be gentle to us," Moriyasu said. "But if we are to overcome today maybe we will see a time where history

will change."

Things looked good early for Japan on Monday. Kaishu Sano put his team ahead in the 29th minute, but Casemiro equalized on a header in the 56th and Gabriel Martinelli scored the winning goal late in injury time.

Japan goalkeeper Zion Suzuki finished with four saves. He declined to answer questions in English after the tough loss despite a strong showing against one of the best teams in the world.

Japan has only beaten Brazil once in 15 matches, with two games ending in draws. The lone victory came in a friendly in October.

M I Securities

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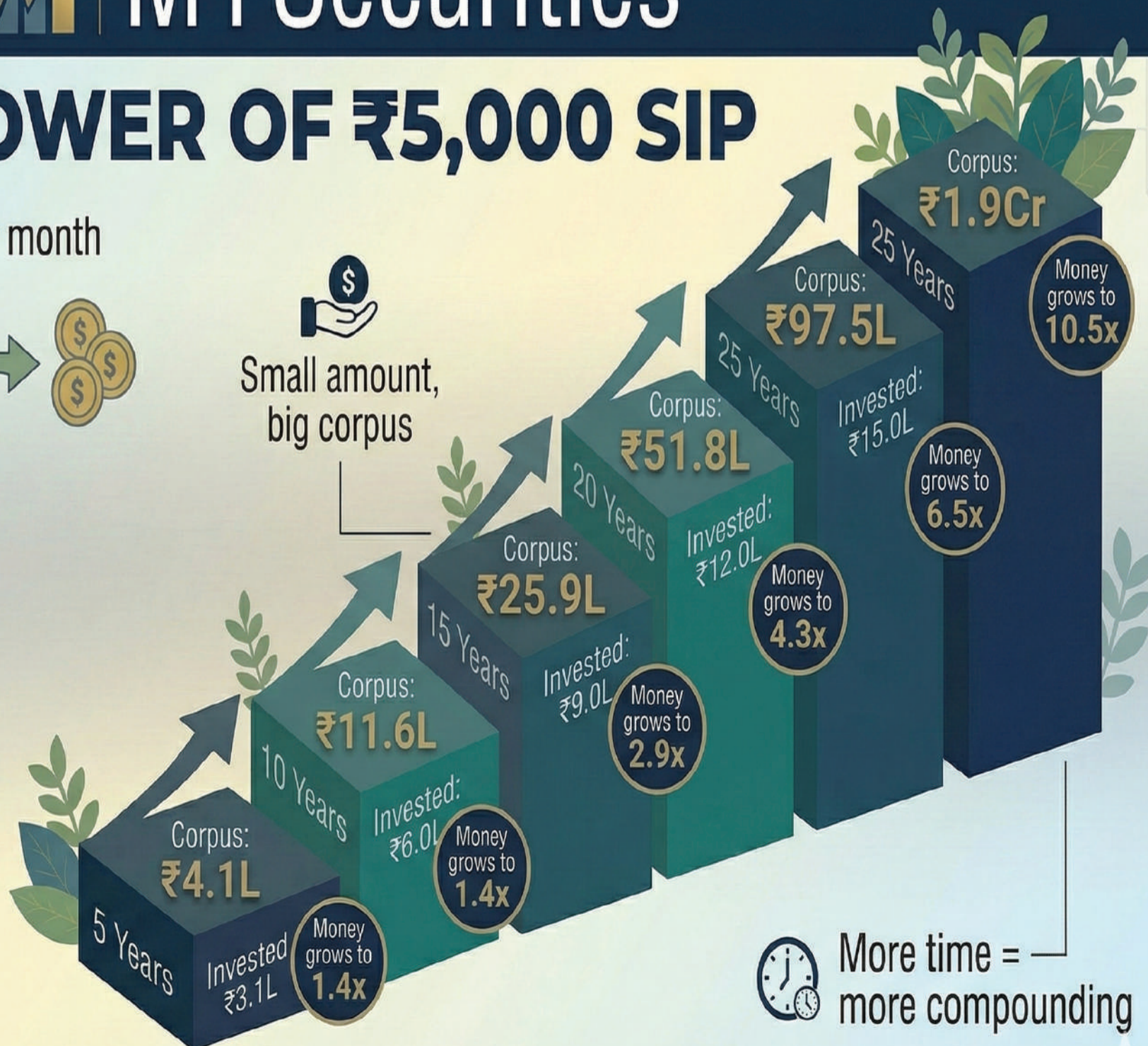
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Step 2: You reinvest your total investment growth

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

Small amount, big corpus



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